

**Ceantar Bardasach Carraig Mhachaire Rois – Baile Na Lorgan  
Comhairle Contae Mhuineacháin**



**The Municipal District of Carrickmacross – Castleblayney  
Monaghan County Council**

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**Minutes of proceedings of July 2018 monthly meeting of The Municipal District of Carrickmacross – Castleblayney held in the Civic Offices, Riverside Road, Carrickmacross, Co. Monaghan on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2018 at 10.30 a.m.**

Present: - Cathaoirleach Carthy

Cllrs. P.J. O'Hanlon , Pdraig Mc Nally, Jackie Crowe, Noel Keelan, Aidan Campbell.

In attendance: - Paul Clifford, Director of Services; Gareth Mc Mahon Coordinator, John Lennon, District Engineer; Amanda Murray, Staff Officer; Deirdre Power , A/Assistant Staff Officer; Michael Fisher , Northern Standard.

**1. Confirmation of Minutes**

On the proposal of Cllr. Mc Nally and seconded by Cllr. Keelan the minutes of the monthly meeting held on the 25<sup>th</sup> June 2018 were adopted.

On the proposal of Cllr. Mc Nally and seconded by Cllr. Crowe the minutes of the AGM held on the 25<sup>th</sup> June 2018 were adopted.

On the proposal of Cllr. O'Hanlon and seconded by Cllr. Keelan the minutes of the meeting with Oireachtas members held on the 25<sup>th</sup> June 2018 were adopted.

**2. Matters arising**

*Replies to queries:*

Cllr. Crowe enquired about the York Street Castleblayney crossing

Coordinator Gareth Mc Mahon replied the project would take a number of weeks with further safety audits.

Cllr. McNally enquired about works at Ivy Lane

Cllr. O'Hanlon informed the meeting after meeting with District Engineer John Lennon that plans for the Steadfast Junction would take longer than expected.

Cllr. McNally enquired about the Flood Risk Assessment for Annadrummond

District Engineer John Lennon said works were due to begin shortly

Cllr. Keelan requested an invitation for Minister Humphries to attend the next MD meeting

Cllr. Mc Nally asked about the barrier for the linear park

District engineer John Lennon replied that the barrier had been ordered.

Cllr. Mc Nally asked for an update on a meeting with the Rates Section.

Coordinator Gareth Mc Mahon replied the Valuation office will hold information meetings in September.

### 3. Correspondence

- Correspondence received from Carol Lambe Monaghan Co. Council concerning the proposed greenway from Carrick to Dundalk through Inniskeen .  
Director of Services Paul Clifford said a feasibility study would cost in the region of €20,000.  
After a lengthy discussion Cllr O'Hanlon proposed seconded by Cllr. McNally and unanimously agreed by all

**“that the monies would be allocated from the MD fund for the study”**

Cllr. Keelan enquired about correspondence received from a concerned Ascail Dubh resident regarding the installation of a barrier .

District Engineer John Lennon replied a consultant had been appointed and a report will be presented to the MD.

Correspondence was received from residents at Beagh, Carrickmacross concerning the unauthorised development.

Cllr. O Hanlon said a formal complaint case will go before the court for decision and he reminded the meeting that the council did not instigate the situation.

Coordinator Gareth McMahan said that as the matter was still with the Courts, the Council's hands were tied. He said that, when and if, the Council were in a position to do so, works to reinstate the road would be carried out without delay.

### 4. Consideration of Co-ordinators monthly report

#### Issues Raised Discussed

Cathaoirleach Carthy said that visibility issue's at Priest's Cross and O'Reilly's cross needed to be addressed with signs and road markings.

District Engineer John Lennon said an Engineer would investigate the matter.

Cllr. Carthy asked the MD to examine the new junction on the Drumconrath road as large vehicles had problems at the junction.

Cllr. Carthy asked that Lurgans Hill is added to the footpath and lighting prog 2018

Cllr. O Hanlon proposed seconded by Cllr Mc Nally and unanimously agreed by all

**“ that this council acknowledge the work of the St Louis Sisters by holding a reception in the not too distant future”**

Cllr O'Hanlon asked when Hedge Cutting would be completed within the MD

District Engineer John Lennon replied Urban Hedge Cutting was due to begin on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> July 2018

Cllr. Keelan enquired about the second phase of works on the Drumconrath road

Cllr. Keelan asked that roads at Lisdoonan and Inniskeen villages are considered should funding become available.

Cllr Mc Nally enquired about the next stage of the Public Realms

Cllr. Mc Nally asked that bad surfaces on roads from the football field to Inniskeen village are addressed.

Cllr. Mc Nally asked for a minimalised report on the Dungalley Road .

Cllr. Mc Nally asked for the Shirley house lane area to be tidied

Cllr. Campbell welcomed the forthcoming public realm reports and wished the Regeneration committee every success on the forthcoming Big Tom Festival in September.

Cllr. Crowe enquired when the MD would meet the Drumillard Community Group

Coordinator Gareth Mc Mahon replied that the group had to agree a date and would contact the MD

#### 4. Questions

Questions raised by Cllr. Colm Carthy for July 2018 meeting of Carrickmacross/Castleblayney Municipal District Council:

1. Has the executive added a ramp to the lower end of Farney Street (between Steadfast Junction and school crossing at St Joseph's Terrace) to the safety measures planned for the Dundalk/Donaghmoynes junction design?

**Response**

The ramp on Farney Street will be completed as part of the safety measures at the Dundalk/Donaghmoynes junction.

2. Have the MD completed the 'traffic count' on the old Ardee road (60km zone – Tullynaskeagh East) and, if so, has it ascertained if excessive speed is occurring?

**Response**

A traffic count was carried out between the 11/5/18 to the 18/05/18, in the 50km zone. High levels of speeding violations were recorded.

3. Has the MD carried out any further works on the drainage at the southern end of Carrickmacross Main Street (between O'Neill street entrance and Farney Street exit) to deal with the sewerage smell in the area?

**Response,**

The District Office has referred this question to the Irish Water, for a response.

4. Has the council considered my proposal to add a Timber barrier along the green area across from the Carrickmacross Fire Station (adjacent to the Newbaze Plant) to prevent illegal access/parking?

**Response**

The District Office does not intend installing a timber barrier at this location. Vehicles illegally parked will be removed in accordance with Monaghan County Council procedures.

5. What is the up-to-date position on road marking, loading bay and disabled parking on Farney street, Carrickmacross?

**Response**

As part of the public realm and economic plan for Carrickmacross Town a parking review is being undertaken by GVA and the review includes Farney Street. The District Office will consider new road markings on Farney Street, when the recommendations of the review are known.

The District Office is currently reviewing a request for a disabled parking space on Farney Street. The introduction of a disabled parking space will require amendments to the current parking bye-laws for Carrickmacross Town.

Questions raised by Cllr. Jackie Crowe for July 2018 meeting of Carrickmacross/Castleblayney Municipal District Council:

6. In the interest of health and safety and the concern of pedestrians crossing the busy roadway at York Street. Has this Municipal council an update on its road safety audit to install a pedestrian crossing in York Street Castleblayney adjacent to the bus stops to ensure safe crossing for people exiting from the buses?

**Response:**

The District Office is preparing an application to the National Transport Authority seeking funding to appoint a consultant to develop the proposed accessible bus stop and pedestrian crossing on York Street to detail design stage. A stage 1 road safety audit has been completed by McMahon Associates on the preliminary design. The recommendations in this audit will help to develop the detail design stage.

7. In regard to Drumillard playpark in Castleblayney, has this MD sourced the proposed goal posts for the park and other ancillary works to be carried out?

**Response**

The District Office is currently procuring a contractor to complete the works.

8. Would this MD give a progress report on the low cost safety improvement works on the R181 Shercock Road, Castleblayney adjacent to Our Lady's Secondary and Primary schools?

**Response:**

The contractor will commence on the 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2018 following a pre-construction works meeting with representatives of Our Lady School. The contractor estimates the civil works will take three weeks. New speed reduction measures i.e. pedestrian crossings, speed ramps road markings and advance warning signs on the Shercock Road will form part of the pavement overlay contract and will be completed for the opening of the new school year.

9. With the site investigation works and initial draft tender documents completed for the new Castleblayney Fire Station Completed. What is the next stage towards the progress of the start of the works to the construction of the station?

**Response**

M&E and structural drawings have been completed and forwarded to consultant for review in advance of Quantity Surveyor completing the Bill of Quantities. It is planned to go to tender for Castleblayney Fire Station in mid-August and progress to construction stage by the end of the year.

10. Would this MD give an update in regards to ongoing design works on a scheme to alleviate annual flooding at Annadrummond, Castleblayney.

**Response:**

The District Office has submitted a Part 8 planning application for flood alleviation works on the Annadrumman Road to Monaghan County Council for approval. A non-coastal minor works application will be submitted to the Office of Public Works seeking funding once the Part 8 application is approval.

Questions raised by Cllr. Noel Keelan for July 2018 meeting of Carrickmacross/Castleblayney Municipal District Council:

11. In relation to the rural regeneration fund recently announced will this council make an application for Inniskeen village for the provision of walking routes / footpath links including the provision of a footbridge

across the river fane and other village enhancements as requested by the local community organizations?

Response:

Response:

Monaghan County Council will prepare a Community Plan in respect of Inniskeen Village to determine the needs and priorities of the village in Autumn 2018. The Community Plan involves consultation with residents and communities and will form the platform upon which funding can be accessed to deliver prioritised projects and initiatives to the village.

Monaghan County Council has committed significant resources to the village in 2018, funding the renovation work on the Patrick Kavanagh Centre and proposed new exhibition in 2019.

12. For the information of the general public what funding is available for the provision of footpaths and public lighting throughout the Carrickmacross / Castleblayney area in 2018, what is the funding requirement for the planned Programme of works?

Response:

Carrickmacross-Castleblayney Municipal District received this year €42,098 for Signs/Lines/Footpaths and €13,330 for Public Lighting. We estimated that the cost to install all the additional footpaths and public lighting requested by the elected members at €250,000 and € 300,000 respectively.

13. Has there been any further progress in relation to the provision of a CCTV camera system in Carrickmacross town and its environs?

Response:

The provision of CCTV camera systems has been suspended across Monaghan County Council until the full ramifications of the Data Protection Regulations are assessed and a policy put in place.

14. In relation to parking and litter fines in the Carrickmacross / Castleblayney town area where does the money collected from these fines go, how much approximately is collected from these fines annually?

Response,

The District Office has referred this question to the Finance Section, Monaghan County Council for a response.

15. In relation to the poor state of repair of some of our county and regional road network in the area how many complaints have still to be addressed in this regard?

Response:

**322** road complaints have been received by the District Office since the start of 2018, with **43** to be completed.

Questions raised by Cllr. Padraig Mc Nally for July 2018 meeting of Carrickmacross/Castleblayney Municipal District Council:

16. (a) Regarding traffic calming on the Castleblayney and Ballybay roads,

what recommendations has been proposed by the Consultant to slow down the traffic inside of the speed limit

(b) What has the Consultant proposed for the section between Inver College and Monaghan Street.

**Response:**

Roadplan has submitted their completed road safety report to the District Office for approval. The District Office is currently reviewing the report and will be in a position to present it to the elected members at Septembers meeting.

17. Has this MD examined the possibility of a ramp as proposed by myself, halfway between the entrance on to Farney Street from the Dundalk road and St. Joseph's National School entrance where the lollipop man operates, with a view to reducing the speed of traffic approaching the childrens crossing.

**Response**

The ramp on Farney Street will be completed as part of the works at the Dundalk/Donaghmoyne junction.

18. Can this MD make a special case for funding under town and village

renewal, for the resurfacing of the approach roads to the villages of Inniskeen, Lisdoonan, Drumgossat and Corduff?

**Response:**

The aim of the scheme is economical development and successful proposals will demonstrate close collaboration between communities and business interests. The Department of Rural and Community Development clearly outlines the types of activities that can be supported. The closing date for expression of interests for funding under Town & Village Renewal was 29th June 2018

19. Where is this MD at with the proposals for additional off road walk and cycle ways in particular, the walk from Castleblayney road to the Donaghmoyne road parallel to the N2.

**Response:**

The TII are currently reviewing a request from the Carrickmacross Castleblayney District Office to construction a walkway from the Donaghmoyne Road to the Castleblayney Interchange, adjacent to N2. We expect a response from the TII shortly.

## 6. Notice of Motions

Motion by Cllr. Mc Nally for July 2018 meeting of Carrickmacross/Castleblayney Municipal District Council:

*“In light of what has been one of the worst droughts ever, this MD now calls on the Minister for Agriculture to immediately make hardship funding available to assist the farming community given the severe shortage of fodder quantified by some as up to 5 million tonnes. This will not or cannot be made up now with at least 60% of the growing season already passed”.*

Cllr. O’Hanlon requested a letter to go to Minister Creed

## 7. Votes of Sympathy / Congratulations

Votes of Sympathy were passed with the following:

Irene Roche on the death of her mother Junlaw Zou

Jimmy and Bridie Gallogley on the death of their daughter Bernie Gallogley

Peadar Callan and family on the death of Oliver Callan

Mc Hugh Family on the death of Pat Mc Hugh

### Congratulations were expressed to

Monaghan County Under 17 Minor Team and the Banty and Management Team on winning the Ulster Championship and wish them good luck in the Semi Finals.

Muckno Mania Committee on successful weekend in Castleblayney

Castleblayney Show Committee on forthcoming 2018 show

## 8. Any Other Business

Coordinator Gareth Mc Mahon in response to the Drumconrath Road Junction the MD would review when the lining goes down.

District Engineer John Lennon agreed to discuss concerns from the residents of Lurgans Hill

Coordinator Gareth Mc Mahon said the consultants involved with the Public Realms would give a presentation of their findings and Council would determine the projects for future funding.

Coordinator Gareth Mc Mahon agreed to hold receptions for the local Footballers in September and the St. Louis Sisters in October.

Coordinator Gareth Mc Mahon said a 3 year Road Programme meeting would take place in September at which the critical roads will be addressed.

Cllr Mc Nally enquired about the Regeneration of Derelict houses in the town and he asked the MD to investigate the status of Breffini House.

Coordinator Gareth Mc Mahon replied Breffini house had been issued with a notice and funding may be available on a pilot project for town centre dereliction

Cllr. Mc Nally asked for an update on the Flood Risk Assessment for the Magheraboy Road

District Engineer John Lennon replied that RPS Consultants had been procured and would have a preliminary report available followed by a final draft.

Cllr. Keelan asked about the speed limit in the Drumgosset area .

Coordinator Gareth Mc Mahon said a speed limit review would take place shortly.

Cllr. O’Hanlon asked for contact to be made with owners of derelict site at Magheross, Ardee Road, Carrickmacross concerning the dangerous hoarding which has become a serious safety issue.

Cllr. O’Hanlon asked for an update on the ramp at Highfield

District Engineer John Lennon said the MD were currently waiting on a Traffic Calming Policy.

It was proposed by Cllr. O’Hanlon seconded by Cllr. McNally to send a letter to Roads Section and request that they contact Transport Infrastructure Ireland requesting a safety audit on the N2 at the dangerous junction (after Mc Caugheys shop)

Cathaoirleach Carthy asked that environment section are contacted concerning broken glass at Gallows Hill which also requires a bin for the area.

Cathaoirleach Carthy asked for the fence at the Convent Hill beside Fionn Barra to be repaired

Cathaoirleach Carthy asked that Environment section are informed of a vermin problem at Lough Na Glack

Cathaoirleach Carthy asked for letters to go to the Chamber of Commerce and Dusty O'Neills commending them on the new initiatives for recyclable coffee cups and straws .

Cllr. Mc Nally asked what was the delay for the design works at Tullyvarra , the junction beside Jimmy Cunninghams shop.

Coordinator Gareth Mc Mahon replied that delays were due to land acquisition

Meeting concluded at 1.20pm.

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**Cathaoirleach**

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**Meetings Administrator**

Date: 24<sup>th</sup> September, 2018