

Ceantar Bardasach Carraig Mhachaire Rois – Baile na Lorgan
Comharile Cantae Mhúineachain



The Municipal District of Carrickmacross – Castleblayney
Monaghan County Council

Minutes of proceedings of June 2015 monthly meeting of The Municipal District of Carrickmacross – Castleblayney held in the Civic Office, Riverside Road, Carrickmacross, Monaghan on Monday 29th June 2015 @ 5pm and reconvened meeting held on Monday 6th July @ 5pm in the Civic Offices, Carrickmacross

Present: Cathaoirleach PJ O’Hanlon, Cllrs Aidan Campbell, Colm Carthy, Jackie Crowe, Noel Keelan, Padraic McNally

Also in attendance: Paul Clifford, Director of Services, Cathal Flynn, Co-ordinator, Amanda Murray, Teresa McGuirk.

Apologies:- John Lennon

1. Confirmation of the Minutes of May 2015 monthly meeting

On the proposal of Cllr McNally and seconded by Cllr Crowe the minutes of the meeting held on 25th May 2015 were adopted.

2. Matters arising

Statistics for fatal accidents on the N2 for 2013 and 2014 were circulated to members. During a detailed discussion regarding safety issues on this road the following Notice of Motion was proposed by Cllr O’Hanlon, seconded by Cllr McNally and agreed by all.

- *That the Gardai, the National Roads Authority, Roads Section of Monaghan County Council and Fire Service representatives are called to the next Municipal District meeting in relation to the serious issue of road safety on the N2”.*

The work of the Carrickmacross Tidy Towns Committee was acknowledged. However it was reported that a number of their floral displays in the town had been recently vandalised. Cllr Carthy proposed the following Notice of Motion. This was seconded by Cllr Keelan and agreed by all.

- *“That the Carrickmacross-Castleblayney Municipal District looks into the provision of CCTV in the town of Carrickmacross. Seek quotes and undertake public consultation process to find out costs of CCTV and whether the public would like to know that their streets will be monitored to try and stop the threat of anti-social behaviour”.*

Cllr Carthy

- Invited members to the Official Launch of South Monaghan Easter 1916 Centenary Committee's local history booklet scheduled for 23rd July.

Cllr McNally

- Condemned anti social behaviour in the town and encouraged people to use Gardaí Confidential line to report those who carry out these actions

Cllr Campbell

- Thanked the Coordinator and staff for providing the recent reception for a French contingent from Marseillan, France

3. Correspondence

Correspondence was received from

1. Brendan Smith TD – re meeting with Members of District along with copies of replies received regarding the closure of Bose factory
2. Brendan Smith TD – copies of reply regarding the North-South Interconnector
3. Private Secretary to the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform – forward our letter regarding funding for local roads to the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport
4. Caoimhghín Ó Caoláin TD – regarding meeting with the Members
5. Shevlin's Bar – requesting permission to hold a mini festival on 4th and 5th of July
 - Cllr Keelan proposed the approval of the request subject to any conditions imposed by the executive and supported by Gardaí. This was seconded by Cllr Campbell.
6. Aughnamullen East Community Pipe Band – requesting support for 40th Anniversary celebrations
 - To be brought to the Finance Committee for consideration
7. Steadfast Shoes Brass Band – request Council re consider application for funding under 2015 grants
 - To be brought to the Finance Committee for consideration
8. Private Secretary to the Minister for Justice and Equality – acknowledge receipt of our letter of 3 June 2015 regarding the enactment of the Gambling Control Bill
9. Carrickmacross Coarse Angling and Junior Development Club – request use of Lisanisk Lake area for Summer Camp 2015.
 - Cllr Keelan proposed the approval of the use of the Council's ground at Lisanisk Lake for the summer camp. This was seconded by Cllr Carthy.

Additional Correspondence received from

1. Castleblayney Country Music Festival – Request permission to hold festival in August
 - Further information to be submitted prior to consideration of the request.
2. Heather Humphreys TD – regarding roads funding and the Bose Factory
3. Heather Humphreys TD – acknowledge our letter regarding the North South Interconnector

Members acknowledged replies received from a number of our Oireachtas members, thanked them for their efforts in trying to get replacement employment in the factory, for agreeing to meet with the Municipal District Members and asked that the item would be kept high on their agenda.

However Cllr O'Hanlon expressed his disappointment at the level of responses received asking that a letter be issued, with a specific date identified, again requesting a meeting with the Oireachtas members in Dublin and stating that all six members should make up the delegation. It was agreed that the letter should issue from Monaghan County Council (as per agreement at the last meeting of the full County Council). Cllr O'Hanlon proposed the following Notice of Motion. This was seconded by Cllr Keelan and agreed by all. .

- *“That the councillor from the Carrickmacross-Castleblayney Municipal District seek an urgent meeting with the five TD’s from the area to discuss roads funding and the Bose facility and to have Minister Richard Bruton and Minister Paschal Donohue present”.*

4. Consideration of Coordinators monthly report

Review of works – members comments / issues raised

Cllr Campbell

- Welcomed the temporary public toilets at Lough Muckno. Will be great help due to large numbers using park
- Complimented the restoration of gates at Hope Castle
- Thanked Coordinator and staff for their work on completing ‘The Nest’ in Lough Muckno
- Acknowledged the pending work on one of the gatehouses at the entrance to Muckno estate
- Sought details on the timescale for the work. In reply Mr Flynn stated that Clients Reps had been selected for the project. It is hoped to have all tender documentation prepared by end of July
- Acknowledged the work done for the regeneration of Castleblayney; recent public meetings were well attended and a committee has been set up to development business in the town
- Complimented Castleblayney Tidy Towns Committee on painting the Courthouse/Market House
- Complimented Mr Flynn for his years work in the District.

Cllr Keelan

- Welcomed the recent social inclusion week exhibition ‘Here I Am’ in Carrickmacross
- Enquired as to the current status of the Inniskeen walking strategy. In reply Mr Flynn stated that proposals had been prepared which will be presented to the Finance Committee for their consideration
- Expressed his concerns regarding the proposed closure of a section of the N53 in County Louth as there were also a number of proposed road closures for County Monaghan in the same period.
- Proposed the following Notice of Motion which was seconded by Cllr Carthy and agreed by all.
 - *“That this Municipal District of Carrickmacross-Castleblayney write to the Roads Section of Louth County Council, to the National Roads Authority and to the Chairperson of Louth County Council requesting that a section of the N53 roadway from Dundalk to Castleblayney not be closed in the coming weeks during these upgrading works”. This road closure would be a major inconvenience for all”.*

Cllr O’Hanlon

- In supporting Cllr Keelan’s proposal asked that the Coordinator would also make contact with Louth County Council as a matter of urgency response back.
- Expressed his concerns that the timing of works on Barford junction would clash with the schools reopening. Mr Clifford explained that a number of difficulties with landowners had delayed the project
- Commended the works undertaken by the coordinator and engineer

Cllr Crowe

- Acknowledged the installation of temporary public toilets in Lough Muckno and asked if an application for permanent toilets had been submitted.
- Thank john for velocity patcher coming to the area.
- Acknowledged the work of the Director of Services in securing funding for gatehouse
- Asked if the contracts had been awarded for the Local Road Restoration Improvement and what the timescale for works was. In reply Mr Flynn stated that a letter had issued to the contractor; the 8 week programme of work is expected to commence in the next few weeks.
- Congratulated all involved in the setting up of Castleblayney Regeneration Committee

Cllr McNally

- Asked that the road drainage and road maintenance programmes for next year be put high on the agenda for the next Road Area Meeting (possibly September meeting)
- In welcoming the Cloughvalley play park + MUGA raised concerns regarding Health and Safety measures undertaken by contractors
- Asked that as the velocity patcher is available to the District that every road with pothole be seen to
- Welcomed the painting of the Market House by the local Tidy Towns Committee and asked regarding the possibility of getting grant aid to upgrade the building

Cllr Carthy

- Expressed his delight at the completion and opening of the MUGA and play park in Cloughvalley – great to see so many using the facilities
- Welcomed the work carried out in Valley Close in conjunction with Housing Section and at the Barford Meats junction

As the ceremony for the presentation of funding under the Community Grants Scheme 2015 was to commence at 7pm the meeting was then adjourned @ 7pm. It was agreed to reconvene on Monday 6th July @ 5.30pm in the Civic Offices.

Minutes of Reconvened Meeting held on Monday 6th July 2015 @ 5.30 in the Civic Offices, Riverside Road, Carrickmacross, Monaghan

Present: Cathaoirleach PJ O’Hanlon, Cllrs Aidan Campbell, Colm Carthy, Jackie Crowe, Noel Keelan, Padraic McNally

Also in attendance: Paul Clifford, Director of Services, Cathal Flynn, Co-ordinator, Amanda Murray, Teresa McGuirk.

5. Consideration of Names for New Roads in Carrickmacross

Details of suggested names received from members of the public were circulated to members. Following a detailed discussion

Cllr McNally proposed the adoption of ‘Ross Carraig Road’ as the new name for the road linking the roundabout on the Castleblayney Road to the roundabout on the Ballybay Road, Carrickmacross. This was seconded by Cllr Carthy and agreed by all.

Cllr Keelan proposed the adoption of ‘Ascall Naomh Louis’ as the new name for the access road from Oriel Road, Carrickmacross through the convent lands industrial sites, ending at the Carrick Aces running track. This was seconded by Cllr McNally and agreed by all.

It was further agreed that both signs should be in Irish and English and should be erected as soon as possible.

6. Consideration of requests for funding

Following a meeting of the Finance Committee

- Cllr Keelan proposed that the Council support the purchase of Audio Visual Equipment for the Patrick Kavanagh Centre in the amount of €2,600. This was seconded by Cllr McNally and agreed by all.
- Cllr Crowe proposed that the council support a request from Castleblayney Care Housing Association in the amount of €300. This was seconded by Cllr Campbell and agreed by all.
- Cllr McNally proposed the council support a request from Aughnamullen East Community Pipe Band for their 40th Anniversary celebrations in the amount of €500. This was seconded by Cllr Keelan and agreed by all
- Cllr McNally proposed that the council support a request from Steadfast Shoes Brass Band in the amount of €650. This was seconded by Cllr Keelan and agreed by all.
- Cllr O’Hanlon proposed that the council support a request from St Michaels Regional Community Development Group, Donaghmoynce in the amount of €300 in support of costs towards insurance for their playground. It was agreed that the group be informed that this was a once off payment.

7. Notices of Motion

The following Notice of Motion was proposed by Cllr Carthy and seconded by Cllr Keelan and agreed by all.

“That this Municipal District seeks to stop the walking of dangerous dogs throughout the urban areas of Carrickmacross and Castleblayney town without a leash and mussel. We call on dog owners to be aware of the dangers posed by certain dogs and the need to be safety conscious”.

The following Notice of Motion was proposed by Cllr McNally and seconded by Cllr O’Hanlon and agreed by all. It was agreed that the motion be circulated to other Local Authorities for their attention.

“That Carrickmacross/Castleblayney Municipal District immediately calls on the Minister for Agriculture Simon Coveney, to intervene to ensure that maps that are being used for the new GLAS Environmental Scheme, are the same as those used for the REPS Scheme which ends this year as there are serious discrepancies in the maps being used presently”.

8. Questions

The following questions were asked by Cllr McNally

1. (a) - Has this Municipal District received a response from the consultants regarding the upgrade of the Cavan/Dundalk Road especially the section between Shercock and Ballykelly?
(b) – Are the consultants recommending that an access is developed to link this road to the M1 Motorway

Response – (John McKernan, Head of Roads) The Roads Section has forwarded these queries to the consultants working on the scheme and is awaiting a response

2. Has Monaghan County Council chosen a Contractor to resurface the roads on our 2015 program for the Carrickmacross/Castleblayney Municipal District?
(b) When is work due to commence?

Response: The Roads Section, Monaghan County Council has completed the tender assessment stage and will be in a position to commence the restoration maintenance programme in the Municipal District of Carrickmacross-Castleblayey in the coming weeks. A letter of intent has issued to the preferred bidder.

3. When will works commence on the Barford Meats Junction?

Response: The District Office has prepared tender documents for the Barford Meats Junction. The contract is at procurement stage. The call for submissions was advertised on e-tenders on the 25th June 2015. A contractor will be appointed following detailed tender assessment and analysis in July with a construction stage commencement date of mid August 2015.

4. When does Carrickmacross/Carrickmacross MD expect to have more detailed plans available for the proposed link road from the By-Pass in Castleblayney to the Dundalk Road as committed to by the Roads Office in Monaghan County Council?

Response: (John McKernan, Head of Roads) The Roads Office is currently examining options for the progression of the design of this project in the next few months

The following questions were asked by Cllr Carthy

1. Can this Council confirm if it has plans, in the near future, to carry out repair works on the footpaths around Carrickmacross Town?

Response: The Municipal District office prepared tender documents for the repair of footpaths in Carrickmacross and Castleblayney. A contractor has been procured through LA Quotes. It is planned that the repairs to footpaths will commence on the 13th July 2015. Footpath repairs in Castleblayney (Monaghan Road, York Street & Shercock Road). Footpath repairs in Carrickmacross include sections in Derryolam Park, Drummond Etra, Valley Close, Monaghan Street, Highfield, and Donaghmoyne Road

2. Has the Council looked into providing a footpath out the Drumconrath Road (previously highlighted) approximately 1km?

Response: The District Office has no provision in the 2015 budget to provide a public footpath on the Drumconrath Road. Consideration will be given to Cllr Carthy's proposal in 2016.

3. Has the Council been successful in seeking funding for the safety works required on the Donaghmoyne Road (a ramp from Cloughvalley entrance to footpath adjacent to Cluain Alainn estate entrance)?

Response: A Low Cost Safety Scheme application has been made for the Donaghmoyne Road to the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport. No decision on the application has been received by the District Office

4. Has the Council added the need for ramps in Foxfield Housing Estate to its list of works to be carried out in the near future?

Response: The Municipal District Office will commence the installation of speed limit signage at Foxfield Housing Estate in accordance with the Design Manual for Urban Roads and Streets along with the introduction of a 30 km/h speed limit. There are no other works proposed by the Municipal District at this time.

The following questions were asked by Cllr Keelan

1. In welcoming the improvement works that have been carried out recently at Essexfort Junction, what further works are planned and in particular to improve the visibility for traffic exiting onto the Dundalk to Carrickmacross Regional Road (R178) coming from Inniskeen Village?

Response: The District Office has reviewed the junction onto the Dundalk Road from Inniskeen Village. There are no plans to carry out any additional works at this junction in 2015

2. In commending the District Council for works that have been carried out to date at Lisanisk, when is it hoped to carry out other works, such as the extension to the footpath link, the provision of an additional public light, the putting in place of a 50km speed limit, and the dropping of a number of kerbs to allow access to the rear of a dwelling as requested by the Residents Association?

Response:

- The District Office has no provision in the 2015 budget to extend the footpaths and public lighting at Lisanisk. Consideration will be given to Cllr Keelan's proposal in 2016.

- Minor adjustments to existing kerb lines will be completed as part of the footpath repair works schedule to start shortly in Carrickmacross Town.
- The Department of Transport has issued 'Guidelines for the Setting and Management of Speed Limits in Ireland in 2015'. Monaghan County Council sought clarification on how 'pending proposals' (including the Lisanisk Road) are to be addressed under the new Guidelines. A reply is awaited from the Department of Transport

3. What is the up to date position in relation to the provision of much needed traffic calming measures for Inniskeen Village given that these measures have been requested by local Residents Associations, school management and concerned parents of young children some time ago in the interest of road safety especially adjacent to the school.

Response: An application was made for road safety proposals in Inniskeen village to the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport. The Inniskeen Village proposal was not approved for funding under the Low Cost Safety Improvement Scheme.

4. When is it hoped to have additional drainage put in place on the Donaghmoyne Road adjacent to Ascail Dubh housing development as requested by the Residents Association.

Response: The District Office will provide minor additional drainage on the Donaghmoyne Road adjacent to Ascail Dubh. The drainage in question will be completed before year end.

5. In relation to Inniskeen village, when is it hoped to complete the public lighting programme from the village out to the Inniskeen Grattan's GAA grounds, and also will this council put in place a public light at the area known as McGee's corner.

Response: The District Office proposes to install four new LED public lights between Inniskeen Village and Grattan's GFC football grounds in 2015. Consideration will be given to Cllr Keelan's proposal to install a new public light at Magee's Corner, subject to funding and the approval of the elected members.

The following questions were asked by Cllr O'Hanlon

1. Will this Municipal District consider the provision of a public footpath to link the Nuremore Hotel to the existing public footpath on the Dundalk Road?

Response: The District Office has no provision in the 2015 budget to extend the public footpath on the Dundalk Road to the Nuremore Hotel. Consideration will be given to Cllr O'Hanlon's proposal in 2016

2. What plans has this Municipal District to provide a public footpath on the Drumconrath Road, Carrickmacross

Response: The District Office has no provision in the 2015 budget to provide a public footpath on the Drumconrath Road. Consideration will be given to Cllr O'Hanlon's proposal in 2016

3. The allocation of funding for local and regional roads 2015 is €7.1million (the lowest amount in the last 12 years) was received by Monaghan County Council in early February. It is now early June, four months later, no paving works has even started.

a. When will the Paving Work start in the Carrickmacross/Castleblayney District?

b. When is it expected that these works will be completed?

Response: The Restoration Maintenance Programme will commence in the Municipal District of Carrickmacross-Castleblayney in the coming weeks. The 12 local roads and 3 regional road sections in the Municipal District will be completed within the 8 week timeframe provided for under the works contract.

9. Director of Services Orders

<u>33/2015</u>	Lagan Asphalt – PSCS – Resurfacing of Coal Pit Road
<u>34/2015</u>	Close Castleblayney By-Pass to facilitate Spring Clean Litter Pick
<u>35/2015</u>	NC Plant Hire – PSCS – Local Road Drainage 2015
<u>36/2015</u>	NC Plant Hire – PSDP - Local Road Drainage 2015

10. Votes of Sympathy / Congratulations

The following votes of sympathy were passed. A minutes silence was observed with all present standing

- John McEneaney and Family on the death of his sister Mary Conroy
- Josie Ross on the death of her mother Mary Healy
- The McCabe Family on the death of Collette Tierney
- Michael Conlon and Family on the death of Margaret (Peggy) Conlon

11. Any Other Business

Cllr McNally

- Reported that the road surface in St Macartan's Villas was in a bad condition and asked that a costing be prepared for the repair of the road.
- Asked that a number of potholes on the Castleblayney Road (near the allotments) would be repaired
- Enquired if any reply had been received from Irish Water regarding an open day at the new water plant. Mr Flynn agreed to follow this up
- Proposed that Municipal District meetings be held in other venues around the District at least once every 6 months in order show members of the public that the District covered a larger area than just the two towns of Carrickmacross and Castleblayney. This was agreed.
- Enquired as to the level of progress made on the repair/restoration of the Annacroft Road by a local landowner. In reply Mr Flynn stated that the road has been restored by the landowner and Monaghan County Council will provide final surface in the coming weeks
- Enquired as to the progress on traffic calming measures for Inniskeen Village. In reply Mr Flynn stated that an application made last year had been rejected by the department. A second application can be made

Cllr Carthy

- Requested that the timing of the light changes on the pedestrian lights on Main Street be reviewed as they turn to amber immediately the button is pressed. It was reported that the lights would be repaired by the contractors on their next visit.
- Asked that the executive would forward copies of answers to member's questions by email. It was agreed that all members would receive a copy by email.

Cllr Keelan

- Commended works undertaken at the Essexfort Junction
- Suggested that additional works were required on the Dundalk side of the junction in the interests of safety
- Asked that the application for traffic calming works in Inniskeen Village be resubmitted

Cllr O'Hanlon

- Asked that additional bike racks be provided in the town – Mr Flynn agreed to review potential sites

As this was the final meeting to be attended by Mr Flynn as Coordinator for the District members all in turn thanked him for his help and support over the past year which was always carried out in a courteous and professional manner. Members wished Mr Flynn well in his promotion.

Members also thanked member of the press, Mr Michael Fisher, Northern Standard for his professional and refreshing reporting of the business of the district over the last number of months and wished him well for the future.

This concluded the business of the meeting at 6.50pm

Next month's meeting – Scheduled for Monday 27th July 2015 @ 10am

Cathaoirleach

Meetings Administrator

Date: _____