

**Minutes of the Municipal District of Muinebheag Meeting
held VIRTUALLY on Microsoft Teams
on Wednesday 3 February 2021 at 4.00 pm**

Members present : Cllr Arthur McDonald (Cathaoirleach)
remotely Cllr Michael Doran
Cllr Andy Gladney
Cllr Tommy Kinsella
Cllr William Quinn

In attendance: Pádraig O’Gorman, Director of Services,
remotely Jerry Crowley, Senior Executive Engineer,
Josephine Kavanagh, Senior Executive Officer,
Martha Jane Duggan, Sports Co-Ordinator,
Brian O’Donovan, Senior Executive Officer,
Maria Ahearne, Meeting Administrator, S/Staff Officer.

1. Confirmation of Minutes of Municipal District of Muinebheag held on 2 December 2020.

Resolved on the proposal of Cllr Kinsella seconded by Cllr Doran that the Minutes for the meeting of the Municipal District of Muinebheag on 2 December 2020 be confirmed and taken as read.

2. Matters Arising

Nothing to note.

3. Congratulations

The Cathaoirleach asked for any congratulations to be sent to the Meeting Administrator.

4. Business Prescribed by Statute, Standing orders or Resolutions of the Municipal District Members

a) Surfacing Section of Road Works Programme 2021

The District Engineer presented the surfacing section of road works programme 2021, which was prepared subject to funding being similar to last year, adding that the addition/removal of jobs was dependant on confirmation of Department funding.

Mr Crowley said he would look at including a request from Cllr Quinn to consider the addition of road between Ballynasilloge Cross Roads and Ballymartin.

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Approved Restoration Improvement Programme 2021 - MMD Area

Road Number	Location Description	Surface Works					Project Allocation using DEPT rates/sq.m
		Total Length (m)	Average Width (m)	Total Area (Sq.m)	PO	Chip Depot Location	
Rates/unit (inc Vat)							
R724	Royal Oak Road	500	6.4	3,200			€80,000
R705	Kilcruit - Kilgraney	1,700	6.5	11,050			€165,750
R705	Upper Main Street, Borris	350	10.0	3,500			€88,000
R702	Kyle X - Ballyine	1,800	6.0	10,800			€162,000
L7120	Old Leighlin - Milebush	1,000	3.5	3,500			€70,000
L7004	Killoughternane - Flanders Cross	600	4.0	2,400			€36,000
L30376	Old Leighlin - Johnduffswood	1,000	3.5	3,500			€70,000
L7116	Tinnegarney - Wells	800	3.5	2,800			€56,000
L3049	Ballybrommell - Clonmacshane	1,300	6.0	7,800			€156,000
R705	Tinnahinch Main Street	490	12.0	5,880			€147,000
L30073	Knockmulldory - Ballyglisheen	1,000	3.0	3,000			€45,000
L7047	Kilcoltrim - Lissalean	1,000	3.0	3,000			€45,000
L7022	Ballinkillin Main Street	700	5.5	3,850			€96,250
L7030	Killoughternane - Ballinree	600	3.4	2,040			€30,600
L3046	Nurney Village	430	8.0	3,400			€86,000
R705	Dunleckney - Rathellin	1,000	5.2	6,000			€104,000
L7025	Kilcumney	1,060	3.0	3,180			€47,700
TOTAL		15,330		78,900			€1,485,300

Approved Restoration Maintenance Programme 2021 - MMD Area

Road Number	Location Description	Surface Dressing					Project Allocation using DEPT rates/sq.m
		Total Length (m)	Average Width (m)	Total Area (Sq.m)	PO	Chip Depot Location	
R729	Dranagh - Drumin	1,500	6.0	9,000			€49,500
L30084	Glynn - Ballyknock	1,200	4.0	4,800			€21,600
L7040	Killoughternane - Doyles Crossroads	2,000	3.0	6,000			€27,000
L3041	Ballanabranna - Clogrenne	1,200	6.0	7,200			€32,400
L7120	Annagar - Milebush	1,500	4.0	6,000			€27,000
L30373	Bawnree - The Ridge	2,000	4.0	8,000			€36,000
L7117	Lacken - Bawnree	3,000	3.5	10,500			€47,250
L3005	Raheenkyle - Nine Stones	1,300	3.5	4,550			€20,475

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(b) Roads Service Plan Report

Mr Crowley presented the Roads report. The Councillors raised a number of items to be addressed, including:

- Consideration be given to finishing works at Slyduff Bridge
- Consideration be given to the installation of a zipline at Fairgreen
- To assess the footpath where trees had lifted the path at Batchelors Walk
- To assess the levels of the footpath just constructed at the Lidl Development
- To update residents informed of proposed works at footpaths at the Cottages at Borris
- Ongoing issues with increased dog fouling on the paths all over the District

The advertisement regarding Extinguishment of the RoW at No. 4 Business Park, Muinebheag was noted, reminding all that closing date for submissions is 10th February.

The members extended a big thank you to Mr Crowley and the Roads Team for the delivery of so many schemes despite dealing with the challenges of limited resources.

(c) Housing Report

Ms Kavanagh presented the Housing Report. The Councillors raised a number of items to be addressed, including:

- Details regarding €1,000 grant available to tenants
- An update on unit in Borris, beside the Barracks
- Confirmation of the email address to use for submission of housing reps – Ms Kavanagh confirmed housingreps@carlowcoco.ie
- An update on Public Lighting in Housing Estates – Mr O’Gorman confirmed this is managed under the Roads Directorate and a scheme is underway at the moment for the County.
- An update on the Manor House Apartments.

Ms Kavanagh confirmed that there are some delays with inspections and allocations due to Covid but assured members that works are progressing where possible.

(d) Town & Village Renewal Approvals

Mr O’Gorman welcomed the news that Carlow were granted funding for 7 projectes in the County with 3 of them in the Muinebheag District, €92k for Newtown, €85k for Borris and €40k for St Mullins and extended a thank you to Mr Crowley and the Team for making this possible. The members welcomed the news of more funding in the County.

(e) Purchase of lands for car park – Lower Main Street, Borris

Mr O’Gorman informed the members that the acquisition was now closed and highlighted the demand for extra parking spaces with the increased number of visitors to the area expected when Covid restrictions lift.

On the proposal of Cllr Quinn, seconded by Cllr Kinsella all members welcomed this news.

6. Correspondence

Ms Ahearne read out reply received from Ms Orla Barrett, Senior Engineer regarding query raised at previous meeting: *To establish if unused, previously purchased gravespace in Bagenalstown Cemetery can come back into Council ownership.* The reply noted that previously purchased grave spaces in Bagenalstown Cemetery could come back into the ownership of the local authority once both parties are agreeable, and this would not require revision to the existing Bye-laws. The inclusion of a consideration in the Burial Ground Bye Laws to facilitate the return of plots purchased and unused where no contact can be made with the original purchaser and no transfer among family has been notified could be considered under a lifetime non-use return clause which could be set at a nominal return period in years for example 80 years. Review of the Burial Ground Bye Laws has commenced by the Planning, Environment, Climate and Bio-diversity Action and Agriculture Strategic Policy Committee and this issue will be raised with the committee for consideration. The members welcomed this news.

7. Any Other Business

- a. Mr O’Gorman informed the members that a full report will be prepared and circulated at full Council meeting regarding the Graiguenamanagh – Tinnahinch Joint Local Area Plan 2021 – 2027 and that Planning will arrange a dedicated webinar for the members.
- b. Cllr Gladney asked to establish if CCTV in Bagenalstown could be reactivated. Mr Crowley said he will follow up with the GDPR Officer and will come back to the members.
- c. Cllr Gladney asked that an update on the rebuilding of the wall by Waterways Ireland can be followed up on. Mr Crowley noted same and Mr O’Gorman will follow up with Mr Rainey to establish if planning permission is required.
- d. Cllr Quinn asked that the poor lighting in Tinnahinch be followed up on. Mr Crowley noted that there was a concern regarding funding for this project.
- e. Cllr Quinn asked that funding for a carpark at Ballyellen be sourced to address the lack of parking space for people using the Barrow Track. Mr Crowley noted and will report back.
- f. Cllr Quinn asked that a budget be put in place to address upkeep of footpaths in housing estates. Mr O’Gorman confirmed that this was a matter for the Roads Department when estates were taken in charge and that a County approach was needed adding that there would be insufficient funds in the General Municipal Allocation to make provision within a Municipal District.
- g. Cllr McDonald asked that Mr Liam Carroll be invited to update the members at the next meeting regarding the inclusion of Muinebheag Fire Station for refurbishment works under the Fire Service Capital Programme. All members agreed.

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- h. Cllr McDonald asked if additional bins can be added to the Barrow Track. Mr O’Gorman confirmed that the responsibility for the maintenance of the track falls under the remit of Waterways Ireland with Mr Crowley adding concern regarding access to empty the bins on a regular basis.
- i. Cllr McDonald asked that the increased reports of dog fouling in the District be followed up on. Ms Ahearne agreed that the number of complaints had increased in recent times with an increase of dog ownership during Covid. Enforcement is difficult as the Authorised Officer must catch the offender in the act of allowing the dog to foul and neglecting to pick up. A dog fouling campaign is currently being developed by Carlow, Kilkenny, Wexford and Waterford County Councils and we anticipate this will be launched by the Environment Department in late March 2021. As part of this campaign, there will be information patrols (when Covid restrictions allow) carried out in all Municipal Districts and we will be asking our local elected members to get involved. The draft litter management plan, which was approved at full council to go on public display, addresses the area of dog fouling.
- j. Cllr Doran expressed his concern regarding weeds along the Barrow Track. Mr Crowley noted same to follow up.

The Cathaoirleach noted that this was the last meeting before St Patrick’s Day and extended good wishes to all the Irish around the world and hoped that everyone would have a safe day celebrating virtually and encouraged all to abide by the Covid 19 restrictions.

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday 7 April at 4.00pm.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Cathaoirleach

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Meetings Administrator