

Minutes of the Municipal District of Muinebheag
held on Wednesday 17 June 2020 at 3.00 pm
in the Community Hall, McGrath Memorial Hall, Muinebheag

Members present: Cllr Michael Doran,
Cllr Arthur McDonald,
Cllr William Quinn
Cllr Tommy Kinsella (Cathaoirleach).

In Attendance: Padraig O’Gorman, Director of Services,
Jerry Crowley, Senior Executive Engineer,
Josephine Kavanagh, Senior Executive Officer,
Maria Ahearne, Meeting Administrator, S/Staff Officer.

Apologies: Cllr Andy Gladney

1. The Cathaoirleach welcomed everyone to the meeting in the Community Hall which was set up with all physical distancing requirements in mind, wishing all well and acknowledging that it was lovely to meet up in person, instead of what was becoming the new normal, with virtual meetings during the Covid-19 restrictions.

2. **Confirmation of Minutes of Municipal District of Muinebheag on 6 March 2020.**
Resolved on the proposal of Cllr McDonald seconded by Cllr Quinn that the Minutes for the meeting of the Municipal District of Muinebheag on 6 March 2020 be confirmed and taken as read.

3. Matters Arising

Cllr Doran asked for update from C  illte regarding hedgecutting and Mr Crowley advised that he had received a map and would go through reply after the meeting.

4. Consideration of Reports and Recommendations

(a) Roads Service Plan Report

Mr Crowley circulated the Engineers Roads Service Plan Report for the area. The report was noted by all members.

The Councillors raised a number of items to be addressed, including:

- To enquire with Waterways Ireland to dredge/clean up the river prior to a boat being commissioned for trips from Bagenalstown and Leighlinbridge.
- That any re-instatement works regarding recent Broadband road openings be inspected prior to repayment of bond
- To progress works on footpath at Tinnahinch
- To erect ‘Slow Down’ signage at the carpark at Ballyellen.
- To establish best solution for Pedestrian safety at Kilcarrig Bridge

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- To establish best solution for parking on Station Road, being mindful of safe access for employees to businesses in the area

(b) CLÁR Measures and Areas

The Cathaoirleach welcomed the circulation of information on the CLÁR (Ceantair Laga Árd-Riachtanais) Measures and Areas, adding that the County has really benefitted from this scheme. The closing date is 24 July 2020 and unsuccessful applications from last year are encouraged to re-apply. CLÁR is a targeted investment programme for rural areas that aims to provide funding for small infrastructural projects in areas that experience disadvantage. The aim of CLÁR is to support the sustainable development of identified CLÁR areas with the aim of attracting people to live and work in the area. The funding works in conjunction with local/Agency and other Departmental funding programmes and on the basis of locally identified priorities. This year, there are some changes to the Measures to support rural communities with a particular emphasis on responding to the challenges posed by Covid-19.

Councillors highlighted the importance of all relevant community groups being aware of the measures available.

(c) Borris Viaduct

Mr O’Gorman informed the members that all contracts are now signed and that a local contractor had commenced work.

(d) Housing Report

Ms Kavanagh circulated the Housing Report for noting by the members

The Councillors raised a number of items to be addressed, including:

- Clarification regarding the Part V referred to in the development at Ballyknockan, Leighlinbridge
- The importance of a fair and transparent method to the appointment of tenants from the housing list for the upcoming units in Bagenalstown.

Councillors welcomed the imminent completion of houses in Bagenalstown, and the completion of units in Myshal and Crowsgrove, Kildavin.

5. **Correspondence**

There was no correspondence to note.

6. **Any Other Business**

- The Cathaoirleach thanked Mr Crowley and staff for works carried out at Newtown School
- Cllr Quinn asked if there was any notification regarding the Septic Tanks/Well Grants. Ms Ahearne advised the meeting that 4 new circulars issued in recent days by the Department and would be published on the website in the coming days. Any enquiries are to issue to environment@carlowcoco.ie.
- The Cathaoirleach asked about the regrettable cancellation of the Cathaoirleach Awards due to Covid 19 and it was suggested that a joint

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Cathaoirleach Awards evening be arranged for next year taking into regard Cllr Kinsella's nominations and the new Cathaoirleach for 2020/21 nominations. All members agreed.

- The Cathaoirleach extended his gratitude to all the Members, Director of Services, Area Engineer and Meeting Administrator for all their assistance over the year.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Cathaoirleach

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Meetings Administrator