

**Minutes of the Municipal District of Muinebheag
held on Wednesday 2 September 2020 at 4.00 pm
in the Community Hall, McGrath Memorial Hall, Muinebheag**

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

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

1. Confirmation of Minutes of Municipal District of Muinebheag held on 17 June 2020.

Resolved on the proposal of Cllr Quinn seconded by Cllr Doran that the Minutes for the meeting of the Municipal District of Muinebheag on 17 June 2020 be confirmed and taken as read.

2. Confirmation of Minutes of Municipal District of Muinebheag Annual General Meeting held on 17 June 2020.

Resolved on the proposal of Cllr Doran seconded by Cllr Kinsella that the Minutes for the meeting of the Municipal District of Muinebheag Annual General Meeting on 17 June 2020 be confirmed and taken as read.

3. Matters Arising

Cllr Doran asked for an update from Waterways Ireland regarding dredging the River Barrow highlighting the importance that this gets immediate attention as some areas are in very poor condition. Mr Crowley advised that he will contact Waterways Ireland to discuss and will keep the members updated.

4. Congratulations

The members extended their congratulations to Jason Foley from Ballyloughan, Bagenalstown who took victory at the opening leg of the 2020 Horse Sport Ireland Premier Series at Barnadown in Co Wexford.

5. Condolences

The members extended their condolences to the family of

- Mr Michael Somers R.I.P., Eastwood, Bagenalstown
- Mr Paul Donoghue, Eastwood, Bagenalstown
- Mr John Byrne, Seskinryan, Bagenalstown.

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

Review of Standing Orders for Muinebheag Municipal District

Resolved on the proposal of Cllr Doran seconded by Cllr Quinn that the draft Standing Orders of Municipal District of Muinebheag be adopted taking note of all amendments as read out by the Meeting Administrator, effective immediately

7. Consideration of Reports and Recommendations

(a) Roads Service Plan Report

The Director welcomed the funding allocated under the Climate Change Adaptation where Carlow were successful on 12 of the 13 projects applied for. 5 projects to the value of €228k were approved for Muinebheag. Works under this circular RW 10/2020 are to be complete by end of November 2020. The members extended their gratitude to Ray Wickham, Jerry Crowley and to all the roads team for their continued dedication & tremendous work for the Municipal District.

Circular RW 10/2020 – Active Travel Measures Allocations 2020

Road Number	Location	Description of Works	LA Allocation
L3003	Clonogoose Road, Borris	Extend footpath from village to commercial/industrial premises on the Clonogoose Road, Borris	€50,000
L3041 and L71321	Ballinabrannagh	Extend footpaths from village towards Milford and Crannluskey	€150,000
L705 and R724	Muinebheag Town Centre	Provision of designated crossing points with tactile paving and dished kerbs at multiple locations in town (10 No)	€10,000
R702	Borris Village	Provision of designated crossing points with tactile paving and dished kerbs at multiple locations in town (8 No)	€8,000
R705 and R724	Muinebheag	Provision of pedestrian bridges adjacent to road over rail bridges at Kilree, Borris Road and Kilcarrig, Fenagh Road	€10,000
TOTAL (5)			€228,000

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 look at overgrown hedging/trees prioritising areas on bus routes
- A thank you to Jerry Crowley and Barry Dowling for the installation of signage and road markings at Borris school
- To look at traffic calming options at Bagenalstown Community Centre

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- To update the members regarding the traffic calming measures at the Royal Oak Junction
- To examine options for traffic management systems at St Mullins and for signage to alert emergency services and locals of the Narrow Bridge at on the Barrow Track. There are major congestion issues at the Crescent during busy times
- Need for additional directional signage for Housing Estates

The Director advised the members that Carlow County Council were allocated €150k which allows them an opportunity to engage a consultant to investigate or determine if lands can be used along the disused railway line for a project known as a Greenway, an area to be suitable for walking or cycling on. The members welcomed this news acknowledging this as a big project and asked that they be kept informed of progress.

(b) Borris Viaduct

Mr O'Gorman informed the members that the project was progressing very well and that the Director Mr Brennan is also making good progress on Phase II of this project.

(c) Housing Report

Mr Brennan went down through the Housing Report, pointing out that the deadline of the National Assessment of Housing Needs is 18 September 2020, highlighting the importance of all housing applicants to reply by submitting their up to date information.

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

- Access to information for councillors to assist applicants with Housing Adaptation Grants to which Mr Brennan agreed an addition to the application to allow consent for a Councillor to access the information to keep within the (General Data Protection Regulation) GDPR legislation.
- That the keys be handed out for the houses allocated at Gleann Bhearú to allow the tenants apply for community welfare grant

Tenant Purchase Scheme

Mr Brennan went down through the scheme stating that applicants must be in employment and be a tenant for one year before applying to purchase the council house.

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Mr Brennan informed the members that Local Authorities acquire 10% of houses from private developments and that this scheme is currently under review.

8. Correspondence

- A request to consider a cycle lane from the Royal Oak, Bagenalstown. Mr Crowley will examine this request for inclusion in the next round and will

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report back to the members noting the ongoing need for maintenance on cycle lanes

- Irish Water informing the members that future clinics will be held virtually and giving assurance that the dedicated contact for the members was still available to address any queries they may have during Covid 19 restrictions.
 - The Local Representative Support Desk can be contacted at localrepsupport@water.ie or by phone at 1890 178 178. Staff are available Monday – Friday from 9am to 5.30pm to deal with queries from elected representatives about any topic related to Irish Water.
 - Outside of these hours, the 24/7 customer care line is available for urgent queries at 1850 278 278.

9. Any Other Business

- Cllr Kinsella enquired when the Focus Centre in Borris might re-open for the public. Cllr Quinn replied that there is insufficient space due to Covid restrictions currently.
- The Cathaoirleach asked that the hedge cutting notices be prioritised for September.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Cathaoirleach

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Meetings Administrator