

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Municipal District of Tullow
held in Teach Bhríde, Tullow, Co. Carlow, on Wednesday 21st February, 2024
at 4 pm**

Present: Cllr. John Pender, Chairperson
Cllr. John Murphy
Cllr. John McDonald
Cllr. William Paton
Cllr. Charlie Murphy
Cllr. Brian O'Donoghue (Online)

In Attendance: Michael Brennan, Director of Services
Pat Harrington, Area Engineer
Brian O'Donovan Senior Executive Officer
Laura Kelly, Community Officer

The Chairperson welcomed everybody to the meeting.

1. Confirmation of Minutes of the Municipal District Meeting of Tullow held on Wednesday, 17th January, 2023.

The Minutes were taken as read and as there were no matters arising, the minutes were:

Proposed by: Cllr. William Paton
Seconded by: Cllr. John McDonald

2. Business Prescribed by Statute, Standing Orders or Resolution of the Municipal District Members.

2.1 Community Annual Service Plan 2024 – Municipal District of Tullow

Michael Brennan Directors of Services advised of draft Community Annual Service Plan for 2024 which had been circulated to members prior to the meeting for consideration.

The following grants were proposed for 2024:

Grant Type	Recommended Funding in 2024
Environmental	€11,000
Tidy Towns Grants	€11,000
Building Community Leadership Support Scheme	€14,500
St. Patrick's Day Parade	€ 1,500
Total	€38,000
Discretionary Grants	€48,000
Overall Total	€86,000

In addition, Members have €8,000 each as a special fund for their own discretion – total **€48,000** for the Municipal District of Tullow. This can be used individually or aggregated with agreement of Members.

Other contributions / grants specifically provided in the Budget are:

Contribution to:	€
Carrigduff Swimming Pool	€20,000
TOTAL	€20,000

Queries raised by Members were responded to by the Director

Proposed by: Cllr. William Paton

Seconded by: Cllr. John McDonald

And Resolved

“That the funding proposals outlined in the Draft Annual Service Plan 2024 is hereby approved. Agreed also by a show of hands.

3. Consideration of Reports and Recommendations

3.1 Tullow Relief Road

This item was deferred as Ray Wickham, Senior Executive Engineer, was unable to attend.

3.2 Area Engineer’s Report

Pat Harrington, Area Engineer, gave a comprehensive progress report on works currently underway in the Municipal District of Tullow.

Pat gave the members a list of lanes that qualify for the Community Involvement Scheme and it was agreed that the monthly meeting would adjourn when agenda items were dealt with, for the members to meet in committee and discuss the qualifying lanes.

The members acknowledged and thanked Pat for the excellent work being undertaken in the Municipal District of Tullow.

3.3 Housing Progress Report

Brian O’Donovan, Senior Executive Officer, gave a progress report on housing projects currently underway in the Municipal District of Tullow.

Prior to the meeting, the members did a site visit to The Slaney House Hotel, where works on a nine-unit Repair and Lease Scheme are nearing completion.. This building has been derelict in the centre of Tullow for the best part of two decades and the members agreed that it was an excellent project and complimented the local builders on respecting the original design of the building with such a historical significance.

The members were advised by Brian that following Government Policy and also the fact there is a considerable need, the focus is on providing one-bed and two-bed

properties, this raised queries from the members on the viability of investing in one-bed units.

Brian advised the members that an information night will be organised for each Municipal District to collaborate between Housing and the Vacant Homes Section in respect of derelict/vacant buildings

Mr O Donovan advised that the proposed development of 12 units at Kealy's Bar in Hacketstown has to be named and a suggestion was put forward to call it 'An Cuairt'

Proposed by: Cllr. William Patton
Seconded by: Cllr. John McDonald

And Resolved

"That the proposed 12 unit development at Kealy's Bar in Hacketstown be called 'An Cuairt', and also agreed by a show of hands.

Cllr. Charlie Murphy complimented Rosanna Dowling and Frances Doyle from the Grants Section of the Housing Department. He acknowledged the efficiency with which the grants are being dealt with and how fast they are moving along.

3.4 Community Development

Laura Kelly, Community Development Worker, attended the meeting to give a brief outline of work undertaken in 2023 and proposed for 2024. Laura explained that a sizable part of her role involves meeting with community groups throughout the county, helping to establish Resident's Associations while offering support to build and develop existing groups. Laura spoke of funding received from Healthy Ireland to set up the county's first Dementia Café in Carlow while it is hoped to offer something similar in Tullow.

Laura engages with communities to give them the skills to build and develop capacity and to identify funding to enable the groups to deliver on actions. She offers support for community led projects, funding opportunities and getting information out to them.

Laura advised the members that a second Community Development Worker will be in place in the coming weeks and they will work together throughout the three Municipal Districts of Carlow.

The Cathaoirleach and members thanked Laura for her report and for all the work undertaken, in particular complimenting the Dementia Café and the Pride of Place workshop that had taken place in Ballykealy last month.

3.5 Cathaoirleach Awards

The Cathaoirleach advised the members that he would be hoping to hold a Cathaoirleach Awards ceremony in April – May and the recipients would be at the discretion of the Cathaoirleach.

4.0 Notices of Motion

None

5.0 Correspondence

None

6.0 Any Other Business

None

The meeting adjourned for the members to meet in-committee to discuss prioritising the lanes that qualify for Community Improvement Scheme.

The meeting re-convened and following the failure of the members to agree to the laneways to be prioritised, it was agreed that a Special Meeting of the Municipal District of Tullow be held on 26th February at 3.30 via Microsoft Teams with a one item agenda – ‘Approval of Community Improvement Scheme for Municipal District of Tullow 2024’.

This concluded the business of the meeting.