

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Municipal District of Tullow
held in Teach Bhride, Tullow, Co. Carlow, on Thursday 19th September, 2024 at 5pm**

Present:	Cllr Brian O'Donoghue, Chairperson Cllr John Pender Cllr Jim Deane Cllr Charlie Murphy Cllr Ben Ward (online) Cllr William Paton (online)
In Attendance:	Michael Brennan, Director of Services Padraig O'Gorman, Director of Services Kieran Comerford, Head of LEO Barry Knowles, Senior Executive Officer Brian O'Donovan, Senior Executive Officer Shirley O'Neill, Administrative Officer Orla Barrett, Senior Engineer Pat Harrington, Area Engineer Ray Wickham, Senior Executive Engineer Elaine Lucas, A./Assistant Staff Officer Rachel Dowling, A./Staff Officer

The Chairperson welcomed everybody to the meeting.

1. Confirmation of Minutes

1.1 Confirmation of Minutes of the Municipal District Meeting of Tullow held on 18th July, 2024.

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

Proposed by: Cllr John Pender

Seconded by: Cllr Ben Ward

AND RESOLVED that the minutes be adopted.

1.2 Confirmation of Minutes of Special Meeting held on 1st August, 2024

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

Proposed by: Cllr Charlie Murphy

Seconded by: Cllr Ben Ward

AND RESOLVED that the minutes be adopted.

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

2.1 Date for Budget Meeting – Municipal District of Tullow

It was suggested that the Budget Meeting for Municipal District of Tullow be held prior to the Municipal District meeting on the 17th October, 2024, at 4 .30pm.

Proposed by: Cllr John Pender

Seconded by: Cllr Ben Ward

AND RESOLVED that the Budget Meeting be held on 17th October, 2024 at 4.30pm.

3. Consideration of Reports and Recommendations

3.1 Housing Progress Report

Brian O'Donovan, Senior Executive Officer, updated Members on the current status of the Housing Capital Construction Programme 2024, giving a break down for each area and giving an indication of when work is expected to be completed. Housing in the Tullow area is on schedule for February 2025.

Councillors expressed concern with the reduction of parking spaces outside the chemist and doctor's premises at proposed development in Hacketstown and that while housing is a priority, we should be careful not to do away with vital parking. The Compulsory Purchase of a site in Hacketstown was also discussed.

Brian advised the members that additional funding has been applied for when members raised concerns over the budget for the private grants being spent. Indications are that extra funding will be forthcoming but there is no timeline. Priority 1 Grants are still being processed and anybody who has received approval for grants will also be paid. Grants for social housing tenants was also raised.

He further advised that there is currently a review of the Housing Assessment needs under way and he emphasised the importance of replying to correspondence which the Council has issued to avoid being removed from the Housing List.

3.2 Area Engineers Report

Pat Harrington, Area Engineer, distributed a detailed update to the members outlining progress on the following:

- Hedge cutting notices
- Footpath improvements
- Roads projects
- Footpath improvements in Kildavin

Councillors thanked Pat for work carried out around Tullow bridge and tree removal in the area. Councillors acknowledged the work of voluntary groups, but extra funding is required for further works in the area.

3.3 Planning Report

Shirley O'Neill, Administrative Officer, presented the Planning Report in Tadgh Maddens absence. Her report covered several topics:

- Derelict Sites
- Taking in charge
- Enforcement
- Development management

Shirley answered queries from Councillors regarding the Tullow Draft Local Area Plan and Rural Housing Policy. Councillors expressed concern over the number of people resorting to living in mobile homes on sites adjacent to the family home and suggested that it should be regularised by the issue of short term licences.

3.4 N80 Leagh Bends Realignment – Project Update

Ray Wickham, Senior Executive Engineer, gave an update on the N80 Leagh Bends Realignment Project, stating that the project was progressing steadily. Approval has been received for Compulsory Purchase and Planning documents have been lodged. Letters have issued to thirty-eight landowners regarding the proposal and inviting any queries they may have. Twenty landowners attended a meeting to discuss the proposal with more landowners indicating they will attend a

meeting at a later date. Landowners are giving their support to the project, which will take 3.5 years to complete.

There will be a public display at the end of October in the Civic Offices in Tullow. Ray answered questions from the Councillors, who welcomed the progress made on the project.

3.5 Christmas Programme 2024

Kieran Comerford, Head of LEO, presented a report on the Christmas Programme 2024. He stated that the programme will be highlighting - Shop Local, Shop Tullow by means of Road signage. LEO will be working in conjunction with St Patricks GAA and Library Services to organise specific events. Queries raised by members were responded to by Mr Comerford

4. Notices of Motion

None

5. Correspondence

None

6. Any other Business

It was agreed that a delegation from the Kilbride Community will attend the October meeting of the Municipal District of Tullow.

This concluded the business of the meeting