

MINUTES OF ROSCOMMON MUNICIPAL DISTRICT MEETING HELD IN THE LOUGHNANEANE SUITE, ROSCOMMON ON 19th September, 2016 AT 11.00 A.M.

PRESENT: Councillor Orla Leyden, Cathaoirleach **PRESIDED**

MEMBERS: Cllr. Michael Creaton, Cllr. Kathleen Shanagher,
Cllr. Paschal Fitzmaurice, Cllr. Domnick Connolly, Cllr. Nigel Dineen

OFFICIALS: Mr. John Mockler, Roscommon Municipal District Co-ordinator
Ms. Breeda Burke, Staff Officer, Roscommon Municipal District
Ms. Tracy Davis, Senior Executive Planner

38.16. ADOPTION OF MINUTES:

On the **PROPOSAL** of Councillor Fitzmaurice

SECONDED by Councillor Shanagher

It was **AGREED** to adopt the Minutes of the Municipal District Meeting held on 18.07.2016.

On the **PROPOSAL** of Councillor Creaton

SECONDED by Councillor Fitzmaurice

It was **AGREED** to adopt the Minutes of the Roscommon Municipal District Special Meeting held on 28.07.2016.

39.16. PRESENTATION BY KILTEEVAN DEVELOPMENT GROUP

Will Keane, Kiltreevan Development Group outlined:

- Plans for a new Kiltreevan Community Park including a walking track, community garden, playground, outdoor gym equipment, football pitch, local floral garden, additional car parking and an interlinking bridge
- Projected project costs of €140,000 and site details
- Information on funding applications already submitted for IPB Community Grant
- Request for advice from Roscommon County Council regarding planning permission, public lighting, playground insurance and potential grants from the Department of Children

The members welcomed the Kiltreevan Development Group and offered their support for the project. The members raised the following items:

- The requirement for ongoing maintenance following completion of the park
- Query regarding the costing of €7,000 for a football pitch

John Mockler welcomed the Kiltreevan Development Group. He complimented them on the proposed project and all the work they have carried out to date. He referred to the following:

- On-going work even after the park is completed and who will be responsible for the maintenance
- On-going costs for insurance and public lighting
- Confirmed that planning permission would be necessary for the development

Michael Spellman, Will Keane and Patricia Killian responded to the queries as follows:

- The Kiltreevan Development Group has a very strong committee along with the help of workers from the RSS Scheme which they intend to keep availing of. The group is aware of the long term commitment necessary to maintain the park after it is completed.
- The costing for the football pitch takes into account offers of free labour and free materials

- The enthusiasm for the project will energise the community
- The group intend to break the project into four phases
- The application for planning permission is nearly ready for submission

40.16. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF ROSCOMMON MD MEETING OF 18TH JULY

The members raised the following issues:

Councillor Shanagher

- Queried if land was purchased at Lisnamult.
- Requested two disabled car parking spaces be provided at the other end of the new car park at the two entrances nearest to the town.

Councillor Fitzmaurice

- Enquired why the signage for the Japanese knotweed was not erected
- Requested update on timescale for the Ballybane Upper Road Project and possible road closures

Councillor Leyden

- Looked for an update on the disability car parking in Roscommon Town.

Councillor Leyden

- Enquired about options for Disability Car Parking on Main Street in Roscommon Town.
- Stated that the bus parking issue at the swimming pool was still unresolved

Councillor Creaton

- Requested an update on the proposed purchase of lands at Castleplunkett.

Mr. John Mockler, Roscommon Municipal District Co-ordinator responded to the queries raised:

- John Mockler informed the meeting that the landowner in Lisnamult was not prepared to sell any land. Therefore we will have to go back to other options such as signage and road marking. He gave a commitment to address the safety issues involved.
- John Mockler stated that he will follow up with the Castlereagh Engineering Area and ensure that the signs are erected as quickly as possible
- John Mockler stated that parking on Main Street and Abbey Street is parallel parking which is not suitable for disabled car parking spaces. He agreed to check with Corporate Services regarding extra disabled car parking spaces in the new town car park.
- John Mockler stated that the Ballybane Upper Road Project is now being done with the funding for flooding relief. The deal for the acquisition of the land is completed. The road will need to be closed to carry out the repairs but should not be closed for longer than a week.
- John Mockler informed the meeting that the immediate proposal put forward would not work without the co-operation of the bus drivers. He clarified that the double yellow lines were put down at the request of the Gardai and that they could not be removed. He put forward the option of removing kerbs and trees outside the pool to leave more room for buses to turn but explained that six car parking spaces would be lost. He explained that a Part 8 is required for setting back the site between Teagasc and the Medical Centre and funding was also an issue.

On the **PROPOSAL** of Cllr. Leyden
SECONDED by Cllr. Dineen

It was **AGREED** to proceed with the Part 8 application to set back the site to provide bus parking

It was further **AGREED** by all present that instead of moving ahead with Part 8 we would first contact the Management of Roscommon Leisure Centre expressing our concern that bus drivers continue to park on the double yellow lines. Our communication should offer to work with them to provide a solution to the bus parking and outline the alternatives available including the set back option which would require a Part 8 application.

John Mockler concluded by stating that he would not be dealing with the matter any further unless requested by Leisure Centre.

41.16. INTEGRATED PLAN FOR ROSCOMMON TOWN

John Mockler gave an outline of the new Urban Regeneration Unit recently established in Roscommon County Council in co-operation with the Town Teams.

The members raised the following items:

- The delay until Summer/Autumn of 2017 with the Roscommon and Strokestown plans
- Certain initiatives could not be progressed due to the lack of an integrated plan
- Smarter travel plan could form part of the integrated plan
- Request for additional funding to maintain Roscommon Town as it is the County Town
- Footpaths need to be replaced in Roscommon Town and the new car park needs to be utilised more
- The importance of getting the balance right so that all towns secure funding to enhance their towns and Castlerea cannot be left behind because it is not the County Town.

John Mockler responded to the issues raised as follows:

- The Castle Street project was not a success as fundamental decisions need to be made as regards car parking. Improvements can also bring changes to the way a street operates as it is the case in Castle Street.
- Roscommon Engineering Area has a responsibility for the Civic Amenity Site along with Roscommon Park and a big area for grass cutting.

42.16. UPDATE ON FLOODING IN THE ROSCOMMON MUNICIPAL DISTRICT

A report with an update on the flooding was circulated to the members.

The members raised the following issues:

- Request for update on OPW application for the River Jiggy
- Request for the River Jiggy at back of Mc Nulty's to be cleaned before the end of September
- Enquiry about communication with Iarnód Eireann
- Request that all gullies in Roscommon town be cleaned twice a year
- Request to number the gullies and divide them into zones
- Endorsement for work carried out at Castleplunkett South
- Request for an update as regards North Castleplunkett
- Meeting taking place with Ministers today and we are going to suggest new legislation to acquire land in a speedy way when it is required to alleviate flooding
- Idea of collapsible wall in Castleplunkett to stop the water coming out on the road
- Drainage works in Ballintubber has helped the water levels in Castleplunkett

Mr. John Mockler, Roscommon Municipal District Co-ordinator responded to the queries raised:

- Agreed to source a machine to clear some of the vegetation in the river as soon as possible
- Commitment to get an update on OPW application
- Work on raising the road in Clooncah ready to start
- Gullies are being cleaned on a daily basis, however some of the gullies on the National Roads are difficult to work on
- Massive increase in funding is required for maintenance of Roscommon Town
- We are looking at options for North Castleplunkett and talking to the land owners. It will take time.

43.16. UPDATE ON THE ROADS PROGRAMME

An update on the Roads Programme was circulated to the members. The majority of work is now complete.

The members raised the following issues:

- Surface on Main Street in Roscommon Town outside Ulster Bank requires repair
- Requirement for more funding for roads in Roscommon Town as the County Town

Mr. John Mockler agreed to look for additional funding for extra works

44.16. NOTICE OF MOTION

Notice of Motion from Councillor Leyden – 3/16

“That Roscommon Municipal District supports the call for UNESCO World Heritage Site Status for Roscommon Castle.”

John Mockler read out the following reply:-

Roscommon County Council should of course support any call for UNESCO World Heritage Status for Roscommon Castle. In order to get to the stage of calling for World Heritage Status for a site, that site must have gone through a national selection process. This is known as the Tentative List - an inventory of those properties which a country intends to consider for nomination to the World Heritage List.

In October 2008, the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government set up an Expert Advisory Group to review Ireland’s Tentative List of properties for future nomination to the World Heritage List. The review was undertaken during 2008 and 2009 when the Group considered which properties best met the criteria required for inscription on the World Heritage List. Following public consultation, assessment of proposals and consideration of submissions, the Tentative List was approved by the Minister and submitted to UNESCO in March 2010.

This Tentative List appears below in alphabetical order but this is not necessarily the order in which nominations for inscription will be progressed. The nomination of any property, from the Tentative List, for inscription on the World Heritage List will only take place after consultation with relevant stakeholders, interested parties and local communities. A property should be on the Tentative List for at least a year before it can be nominated for inscription on the World Heritage List.

Tentative List - Ireland 2010 (Alphabetical Order)

- The Burren
- Céide Fields and NW Mayo Boglands
- The Monastic City of Clonmacnoise and its Cultural Landscape
- Dublin - The Historic City of Dublin
- Early Medieval Monastic Sites (Clonmacnoise, Durrow, Glendalough, Inis Cealtra, Kells and Monasterboice)
- The Royal Sites of Ireland (Cashel, Dún Ailinne, Hill of Uisneach, Rathcroghan Complex and Tara Complex)
- Western Stone Forts

As can be seen from the listing above the Rathcroghan Archaeological Complex is presently on the Irish Tentative List as one of the Royal Sites of Ireland. A National Steering Committee was established; led by the National Monuments Service of the Department of Arts, Heritage Regional, Rural & Gaeltacht Affairs; to prepare the documentation required for nomination. Considerable work took place in 2014-2015 to progress the Royal Sites of Ireland nomination. However the national steering committee has not met since September 2015.

When the existing Tentative List comes up for review in future Roscommon Castle could be put forward by any interested party for consideration by the national expert advisory group.

Cllr. Leyden asked for support for call for Roscommon Castle to become a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

On the **PROPOSAL** of Cllr. Leyden

SECONDED by Cllr. Shanagher

It was **AGREED** to send a letter to Professor O'Keefe

45.16. FEEDBACK FROM TOWN TEAM MEETINGS

The members raised the following items:

- In Roscommon the funding for the CCTV will go back into another Town Team Project
- The Town and Village Renewal application process has commenced with the aim of getting the Purple Flag within the coming year
- In Castlerea an application has been submitted under the Town and Village Renewal to include fountain & seating on the Square and pedestrian crossing and C.C.T.V.
- Very positive feedback from work carried out already in Castlerea such as one hour parking. However there is a need to enhance the derelict buildings around the town

This concluded the business of the meeting.

The foregoing Minutes are
Confirmed and Signed:

Meetings Administrator

Cathaoirleach

Countersigned