

**MINUTES OF ROSCOMMON MUNICIPAL DISTRICT MEETING HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER,
ROSCOMMON ON MONDAY, 21ST March 2016 AT 11.30 A.M.**

PRESENT: Councillor Kathleen Shanagher, Cathaoirleach **PRESIDED**

MEMBERS: Cllr M. Creaton, Cllr D. Connolly, Cllr O. Leyden, Cllr P. Fitzmaurice

OFFICIALS: Mr. Eugene Dwyer, Head of Roads & Transportation
Mr. Ivor Kilcline, Senior Executive Engineer, Roads
Mr. Derek Caldbeck, A/Head of Finance, Housing, ICT & Procurement
Mr. John Mockler, Roscommon Municipal District Co-ordinator
Ms. Breeda Burke, Staff Officer, Roscommon Municipal District
Ms. Caitlín Conneely, Administrative Officer, Community & Enterprise

APOLOGY: Cllr. Nigel Dineen

01.16. ADOPTION OF MINUTES:

On the **PROPOSAL** of Councillor Leyden

SECONDED by Councillor Creaton

It was **AGREED** to adopt the Minutes of the Municipal District Meeting held on 21.12.2015.

Cllr. Shanagher explained that the old toilet block as referred to in the minutes was being used as a shed for the Tidy Towns and that is the reason why it is not being demolished.

Cllr. Leyden mentioned that the junction at the entrance to the Community Sports Park is very dangerous and needs to be addressed as documented in the minutes of the December meeting.

02.16. ROSCOMMON MUNICIPAL DISTRICT ROADS PROGRAMME FOR 2016

Mr. Eugene Dwyer and Mr. John Mockler presented the Draft Roads Programme for the Roscommon Municipal District for 2016.

The members raised the following issues:

- Cllr. Fitzmaurice enquired how the National Secondary Ordinary Maintenance allocation is decided.
- Cllr. Fitzmaurice stated that the M60 Harristown to Castlerea is in a very poor condition.
- Cllr. Leyden requested confirmation that the pedestrian crossing would be included in the 2nd phase of the Castle St. Project as agreed under the Roscommon Town Plan.
- Cllr. Leyden requested confirmation the road from Ballyleague to Scramogue is the road set out in the Roads Programme.
- Cllr. Connolly enquired about the Public Lighting design for the junction at the Greenfields Estate.
- Cllr. Connolly asked that we keep the pot holes filled on the County Home Road.
- Cllr. Connolly enquired about the state of the road at Ballybride.
- Cllr. Leyden enquired about repairing the roads that were subject to flooding and how the money would be allocated.
- Cllr. Leyden stated that the Cloonmore/Portrun roads needs rising.
- Cllr. Leyden requested that the Portnahinch road be raised.
- Cllr. Creaton asked that we check whether it is Ballyglass East or Ballyglass West road that is included in the Roads Programme for 2016.
- Cllr. Creaton enquired about the state of the Aughalustia road and referred to the Bond as set out in the Planning Permission for the Wind Farm. He also reminded everyone that there was a commitment to remove the pipe following the works.

- Cllr. Fitzmaurice stated that the water in the flood in Castleplunkett is still very deep and asked if we could look at purchasing some of the land either side of the road so that levy walls could be put in and take out some of the existing road.
- Cllr. Fitzmaurice mentioned that there might be potential for sub soil from the Lough Mask Project if we could arrange to get it hauled to Castleplunkett. He stated the necessity to carry out works in Castleplunkett to avoid future flooding.
- Cllr. Leyden wants speed warning signs put up at Cloverhill School.
- Cllr. Leyden referred to the state of the footpaths in Roscommon Town in general both visually and from a health and safety prospective and in particular referred to the missing sections on the way out to Greenfields Estate. She asked that this work to be done as a priority.
- Cllr. Shanagher requested that the missing sections of footpath on the Sli na Slainte route be addressed also as a matter of urgency. Lands will need to be acquired by Roscommon County Council to allow us provide the footpaths.
- Cllr. Fitzmaurice asked if the section of footpath missing outside the new car park in Roscommon town could be done also as a priority.
- Cllr. Fitzmaurice requested warning lights to be installed at the Playschool on Patrick's Street in Castlerea.
- Cllr. Creaton referred to missing sections of footpath on the walk way to an estate outside Loughglynn on the Ballinlough road. This was part of the planning conditions set down by Roscommon County Council and was not carried out by the Developer. He wants Roscommon County Council to follow this up with the Developer.
- Cllr. Connolly stated that the footpaths in the Walk, Roscommon town are very dangerous and requested that they be looked at. He also mentioned that we look at the footpaths from Hannon's Hotel to the Golf Club and that we ask the Developers to work with the Council in respect to this.
- Cllr. Leyden requested that speed limit enforcement especially at schools be listed as an item on the next Municipal District Meeting Agenda for discussion.

Mr. Eugene Dwyer, Head of Roads and Transportation responded to the issues raised:

- The amount of funding allocated to each Municipal District for ordinary maintenance is determined by the length of the road in the District.
- RCC does not have discretion as regards doing overlays on National Roads. TII decide on the roads to be overlaid and it has not been included in the 2016 Programme.
- The provision of a pedestrian crossing is subject to project design and it was agreed by all to include a flashing amber crossing. Eugene Dwyer confirmed that the Part 8 process is required for Phase 2 of the Castle Street project.
- Eugene Dwyer confirmed that work will be carried out on the Ballyleague to Scramogue road.
- Eugene Dwyer and John Mockler agreed to consult with Mick Conlon to establish if there is a public lighting plan for the junction at the Greenfields estate.
- Eugene Dwyer asked all the Councillors to make a list of Local Roads that are in need of repair and to submit their list by e-mail to John Mockler so that they can be prioritised in the 2016 and 2017 Roads Programme or if additional funding becomes available.
- It was explained that Ward & Burke Contractors are responsible for repairing the road at Ballybride.
- Eugene Dwyer confirmed that RCC has been allocated €4,500,000 to deal with roads damaged by flooding. The Council's priority in expending these monies will be road repairs. However the Council will also apply to the OPW for monies under the Non-Coastal Minor Mitigation Measures. Some money may also be used to buy pumps. He informed the meeting of his plan to employ a Hydrogeologist in the summer to give us expertise regarding the turloughs such as Bushfield.

- Eugene Dwyer stated that some of the Portnahinch road was raised already. Most of the flooding is on local roads and cost benefit analysis will have to be a factor in deciding which roads to do. Roads serving a lot of houses will have to get priority and the money will be allocated in a fair manner
- Eugene Dwyer stated that TII are reviewing speed limits on National Roads. He had met with their consultants are they are to advise on speed limits at schools on National Roads at speed limits for schools on National Routes.
- Eugene Dwyer stated that enforcement of speed limits is the only proven way to get people to slow down.
- Eugene Dwyer stated that road grants do not include any allocation for footpaths or associated drainage and public lighting costs which Roscommon County Council have to fund from their own resources. Funding for footpaths is an ongoing problem and including footpaths in Town Regeneration or Renewal Programmes might be the way going forward.
- Cllr. Leyden requested that the Roads Programme will be dealt with at a separate meeting in 2017 due to time constraints.

03.16. FUNDING ALLOCATION FOR ROADS DAMAGED BY FLOODING

On the **PROPOSAL** of Councillor Leyden

SECONDED by Councillor Connolly

- It was **AGREED** that we would to go back to Central Government and ask for more money to repair roads damaged by flooding as the €4,500,000 allocated to Roscommon County Council is nowhere near the amount we had applied for.

04.16. SPEED MONITOR AT CLOONTUSKERT SCHOOL

On the **PROPOSAL** of Councillor Leyden

SECONDED by Councillor Shanagher

- It was **AGREED** that we would install a speed monitor at Cloontuskert school which is inside the reduced speed limit but the speed limits are not being adhered to.

05.16. ADOPTION OF ROADS PROGRAMME 2016

On the **PROPOSAL** of Councillor Creaton

SECONDED by Councillor Connolly

It was **AGREED** to adopt the Draft Road Works Scheme for 2016.

06.16. DECLARATION OF PUBLIC ROAD IN CASTLEREA

On the **PROPOSAL** of Councillor Fitzmaurice

SECONDED by Councillor Creaton

It was **AGREED** to have the road at Demesne, Castlerea leading from the public road near the swimming pool to Castlerea Celtic Football Grounds (part of) to be declared a public road.

07.16. DECLARATION OF PUBLIC ROAD IN CLOONFAD

On the **PROPOSAL** of Councillor Fitzmaurice

SECONDED by Councillor Connolly

It was **AGREED** to have the road located within the Riverbank housing development at Cloonfad Townland, Ballyhaunis, Co. Roscommon to be declared a public road.

08.16. ADOPTION OF CEMETERY GRANTS 2016

On the **PROPOSAL** of Councillor Leyden

SECONDED by Councillor Connolly

It was **AGREED** to adopt the Cemetery Grants for 2016.

09.16. PRESENTATION ON MUNICIPAL DISTRICTS

Mr. Derek Caldbeck introduced himself as the new Head of Roscommon Municipal District, John Mockler as the new Municipal District Coordinator and Ms Breeda Burke as the person in charge of Administrative Support to the MD. He then gave a presentation on the new Municipal District structure in Roscommon County Council and the background and focus as expressed by Mr Eugene Cummins to the Corporate Policy Group. He outlined the challenges, opportunities, priorities and immediate concerns. A discussion took place regarding the new Municipal District structure and potential funding opportunities that may arise in the future and Derek responded.

10.16. PRESENTATION OF DRAFT LOCAL ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY PLAN

Ms. Caitlín Conneely presented the Draft Local Economic and Community Plan. A discussion took place regarding the broader issues surrounding the plan. Caitlín explained the upcoming time scales regarding the adoption of the plan. The funding opportunities available were highlighted and also the new way in which we will have to apply for funding in the future. Derek Caldbeck stated that we were moving into a new world in terms of applying for various funding streams and that it would be a competitive process.

11.16. TOWN TEAM MEETINGS

A discussion took place about Town Teams and the importance of getting feedback from Town Team Meetings. Councillors agreed that they need to be part of this process which will allow them to report back to the Municipal District Meetings. Caitlin explained that for 2016 the plan is to develop the Town Teams and identify priorities. Cllr. Leyden requested that we include Town Teams Feedback as an item on every Municipal District Meetings Agenda. The process by which feedback will be returned from the Town Meetings is yet to be agreed. Derek stated that the Executive would welcome ideas in relation to possible governance and procedures to be put in place for the Town Teams Initiative and the access to funding. In addition, he said that decisions need to be taken around how to maximise the potential of the discretionary funding available to the Municipal District and Town Teams and in particular how to leverage in other funding with the allocations.

12.16. NOTICE OF MOTION- FLOODING CRISIS IN CASTLEPLUNKETT AND ENFIELD

Notice of Motion from Councillor Creaton – 1/16

“That Roscommon County Council call on the O.P.W. to provide expertise and equipment to deal with the flooding crisis in Castleplunkett and Enfield.”

John Mockler read the reply as follows

Roscommon County Council is in communication with the OPW in relation to the ongoing flooding problems that remain within the county. Specialist equipment is available if appropriate to the situation, however there are limitations to the equipment available such as the reach capacity. We are also looking to acquire the help of a competent Hydro-geologist with a view to ascertaining the circumstances that have led to the current situation.

13.16. CORRESPONDENCE FROM TII

The contents of a letter received from the TII on 4th March, 2016 was noted by all regarding our request for funding to raise the N60.

14.16. VOTES OF CONGRATULATIONS were extended to:

Fiona Tully on winning an All Ireland Handball Title

14.16. VOTES OF SYMPATHY were extended to:

The Neilan Family, Cremully, Castlecoote on the death of Delia Neilan

There was no discussion under A.O.B.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

The foregoing Minutes are
Confirmed and Signed:

Meetings Administrator

Cathaoirleach

Countersigned