

MINUTES OF MONTHLY MEETING OF ROSCOMMON COUNTY COUNCIL HELD IN ÁRAS AN CHONTAE, ROSCOMMON ON MONDAY THE 24th OCTOBER, 2016 AT 2.15 P.M.

PRESENT Councillor Tony Ward, Cathaoirleach **PRESIDED**

MEMBERS: Cllr V. Byrne, Cllr I. Connaughton, Cllr M. Creaton, Cllr D. Connolly, Cllr N. Dineen, Cllr R. Doherty, Cllr L. Fallon, Cllr P. Fitzmaurice, Cllr J. Cummins, Cllr O. Leyden, Cllr J. Murphy, Cllr J. Naughten, Cllr K. Shanagher, Cllr P. Kilduff, Cllr M. Mulligan, Cllr. L. Callaghan

OFFICIALS: Mr. Eugene Cummins, Chief Executive
Mr. Martin Lydon, A/Director of Services
Ms. Majella Hunt, Director of Services
Mr. Derek Caldbeck, A/Director of Services
Mr. Eugene Dwyer, S.E. Roads
Ms. Patricia Bohan, Meetings Administrator

APOLOGIES: Cllr J. Keogh

114.16. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

On the **PROPOSAL** of Councillor Cummins
SECONDED by Councillor Creighton

It was **AGREED** to adopt the minutes of the plenary meeting held 26.09.2016

115.16. CONSIDERATION OF MONTHLY MANAGEMENT REPORT SUBJECT TO SECTION 51, SUB-SECTIONS (3) & (4) OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT REFORM ACT, 2014

Members noted the Monthly Management Report for the month of September 2016.

116.16. LEASE OF LANDS:

On the **PROPOSAL** of Councillor Murphy
SECONDED by Councillor Cummins

It was **AGREED** that the Council consent to the lease of lands pursuant to the provisions of Section 211 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended) and Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001. Particulars of the land which the County Council proposes to lease:-

The land: 1.44hA (3.56 acres) at New Road, Elphin Td., Elphin, Co. Roscommon.

The persons from whom the land was acquired: Irish Land Commission

The person to whom the land is to be leased to: Croghan Organic Excel Ltd

Consideration: €450/annum

Term of lease: 9 years

117.16. Amendment of Section 2.2.5 of Roscommon County Council's Taking in Charge of Housing Developments Policy

Martin Lydon, A/Director of Services informed members that the Policy adopted required Engineers to have Professional Indemnity Insurance of €2million and that they are experiencing difficulty acquiring this level of indemnity. It was recommended at a recent Planning SPC Meeting to reduce the level of Professional Indemnity Insurance to €1.5 million in line with other Local Authority policies.

On the PROPOSAL of Councillor Fitzmaurice
SECONDED by Councillor Cummins

It was **AGREED** that the Council amend Section 2.2.5 of Roscommon County Council's taking in Charge of Housing Developments Policy to read

'The qualified Engineer or Architect certifying the development shall have Professional Indemnity Insurance to the minimum value of €1.5 million'.

118.16. NATIONAL SPEED LIMIT REVIEW CONSULTATION: SCHEDULE OF PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO NATIONAL, REGIONAL AND LOCAL SPEED LIMITS

Eugene Dwyer, SE Roads provided an update in respect of the proposed amendments to National, Regional and Local Speed Limits.

- Public Consultation has not yet officially commenced.
- Maps are currently being drawn up to show the current speed limits and the proposed changes.
- When completed the proposals will go to the relevant Municipal District Areas for discussion.
- Councillors are encouraged to send in submissions.
- Proposals have been received from TII Office regarding speed limits recommending speed limits in towns are being moved closer to the towns. These are recommendations and can be changed.
- Introduction of special speed limits at National Schools, Housing Estates.

Councillors made the following comments:

- Moving speed limits closer to the town is not acceptable e.g. Lanesboro Road and Creevy Junction.
- Welcome proposed speed limits of 50km at all schools.
- Welcome all changes to make roads safer but who will enforce speed limits.
- Can documentation of proposals be left in shops etc. in small villages.
- Flashing speed limit signs in some villages – can this be considered?
- New line marking on roads is confusing.
- Concern about certain areas including Rooskey Village, Ballinlough, Lecarrow Village, Old Ballinasloe Road, Knockcroghery to Kiltreevan Colteigue Cross, Hodson Bay to Cornaseer, Slip road to Ballybay NS, Ballyhaunis side of Loughglynn, Mount Talbot Bridge.

In response Eugene Dwyer confirmed that all would be discussed by the relevant Municipal District when the more detailed maps are finalised. Following this the proposals would be sent to the Gardai after which public consultation would commence. It is envisaged by the TII that the process should be completed by April 2017.

On the PROPOSAL of Councillor Connaughton
SECONDED by Councillor Ward

It was **AGREED** that Roscommon County Council write to Galway County Council regarding the 100km sign at Mount Talbot Bridge.

119.16 ADOPTION OF RATES INCENTIVE SCHEME

Cllr Kathleen Shanagher, Chair of the Economic Development & Enterprise Support SPC addressed the members regarding the Rates Incentive Scheme. She said that the scheme was discussed at their Strategic Policy Committee and that on the basis the scheme was proving to be a success, it was their recommendation that the scheme be continued in 2017.

On the PROPOSAL of Councillor Shanagher

SECONDED by Councillor Dineen

It was **AGREED** that Roscommon County Council adopt the Rates Incentive Scheme for 2017.

120.16. CORRESPONDENCE

1. Letter of acknowledgement from Minister Simon Harris TD re: to revisit decision to close the A&E Dept at Roscommon University Hospital.
2. Letter of acknowledgement from Minister Denis Naughten TD re: resolution passed by the Council regarding A&E Services at Roscommon Hospital.
3. Letter of acknowledgement from Office of the Taoiseach re: resolution of the Council in relation to the Accident & Emergency facility at Roscommon University Hospital.
4. Letter from Kerry County Council re: resolution adopted by Municipal District of Tralee.
5. Letter from Carlow County Council re: resolution adopted by Carlow County Council.

121.16. COUNCILLORS CONFERENCES PAYMENT

On the PROPOSAL of Councillor Leyden

SECONDED by Councillor Connaughton

It was **AGREED** to adopt the list of Conferences as previously circulated to the members.

122.16 VOTES OF CONGRATULATIONS

Votes of Congratulations were extended to:

St Brigids Senior Football Team on winning the Senior County Title.

Creggs Football Team on winning the Junior County Title.

Kilmore Football Team on winning the Intermediate County Title.

Athleague Camogie Team on winning the Connacht Intermediate Championship.

Four Roads Camogie Team on Winning Connacht Junior Championship.

123.16 VOTES OF SYMPATHY

Votes of Sympathy were extended to the Dennehy family on the death of late Frank Dennehy and to the Biesty Family, Rathcroghan on the death of Paddy Biesty.

124.16. APPROVAL OF CIVIC RECEPTION RECIPIENTS

On the PROPOSAL of Councillor Cummins

SECONDED by Councillor Shanagher

It was **AGREED** that Roscommon County Council host a civic reception to honour the Civil Defence for the outstanding service that they provided to the community in County Roscommon during the flooding in 2016.

125.16. A.O.B.

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES IN ROSCOMMON

Cllr Kilduff, a representative on the Regional Health Forum, expressed his disappointment at the events of the last two weeks about possible closure and/or amalgamation of Mental Health facilities in County Roscommon. He indicated that the HSE has been outlining one position in public and a contrary position to staff and service users. He also stated that he is disappointed that as a member of this committee, he has not been given up to date information on the situation.

All members expressed their concerns in relation to the ongoing speculation about the fate of a number of day care facilities in different parts of County Roscommon, and are seeking clarification in relation to the matter as it appears that there is a different message in what is being stated publicly as opposed to what has been discovered through the FOI process by the press. It was expressed by the members that there is now a lack of trust with the statements of the HSE and a lack of accountability around their decisions. There is also concern that it is the most vulnerable of our citizens that will suffer as a consequence of the decisions made. There also needs to be clarity regarding whether residents in the units concerned are on the housing waiting list.

On the **PROPOSAL** of Councillor Leyden

SECONDED by Councillor Doherty

It was **AGREED** that Roscommon County Council express their outrage at the current lack of clarity on the current and proposed situation regarding the Mental Health Services in the county to Mr Tony Canavan of HSE and ask that he attend a meeting of Roscommon County Council to explain the situation.

HEDGE CUTTING

Cllr Connaughton outlined that TII are responsible for hedge trimming. The contractors working for the TII only go back a distance of 150 metres from the road signs. Jacobs Engineering audit the hedge trimming.

On the **PROPOSAL** of Councillor Connaughton

SECONDED by Councillor Cummins

It was **AGREED** that Roscommon County Council send a letter to the TII to request that all hedges on main roads including side roads are cut when contractors are in a particular area.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be on Monday 28th November 2016.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

The foregoing Minutes are
Confirmed and Signed:



Meetings Administrator

Cathaoirleach

Countersigned