

**MINUTES OF ATHLONE** Municipal District **HELD IN THE COUNCIL** Chamber - Áras an Chontae, **ON MONDAY**, 20th May, 2024 **AT 10.00** am

**PRESENT:** Councillor Emer Kelly **PRESIDED**

**MEMBERS:** Cllr D. Kilduff, Cllr T. Ward, Cllr J. Keogh, Cllr J. Naughten and Cllr L. Fallon.

**OFFICIALS:** Caitlín Conneely, Director of Services  
Susan Loughnane, Municipal District Co-Ordinator  
David Carty, Executive Engineer,  
Shelia Glennon, Staff Officer

**Apologies:**

**36.24 DISCLOSURE OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST (SECTION 177 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2001 AS AMENDED)**

No Disclosures

**37.24 ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

The Cathaoirleach Cllr. E Kelly welcomed everyone to the meeting.

On the **Proposal of:** Cllr. J Keogh  
**Seconded by:** Cllr. T Ward

It was **AGREED** to adopt the minutes of the Athlone Municipal District meeting held on the 12<sup>th</sup> March, 2024

**38.24 AMENDMENT TO THE SCHEDULE OF MUNICIPAL DISTRICT WORKS**

Amendments to the Municipal District schedule of works was presented to the Members. Members welcomed the funding of €50,000 for Public Realm for 2024.

Susan Loughnane informed the Members that the funding would be allocated to maintenance works around the 3 Monks Sculpture in Monksland , street cleaning, pruning, minor footpath repairs, public parks maintenance and street furniture in public grounds in the Athlone MD. The Monksland Sign was also requested to be included in the maintenance schedule. A general discussion took place on the proposed locations.

On the **Proposal of:** Cllr J Naughten  
**Seconded by:** Cllr. J Keogh

It was **AGREED** by all the Members to accept the Amendments as proposed.

**39.24 MATTERS ARISING**

Cllr. J Naughten inquired in relation to TII response to Aqua planning on N6/R446, works due to be carried out in Q2. Susan Loughnane informed the Members that Design Stage was agreed to be carried out in Q2 and she would follow up with TII in relation to timeframe for works to be carried out.

Members were also informed that there was no response yet from Minister in relation to request for additional funding for local roads.

Members agreed to come together after meeting to agree the wording of a letter to be sent to the Minister for Local Government in relation to the Local Authorities role in emergency situations.

#### **40.24 NOTICE OF MOTION**

There was one Notice of Motion for discussion

#### **41.24 CLLR. E KELLY- NOM 8.24 CHILDCARE SERVICES IN SOUTH ROSCOMMON.**

I am calling on Roscommon County Council to write to Roderic O Gorman, Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth, to outline the need for childcare services in South Roscommon and to address this by providing resources and funding to meet the need.

#### **Response**

The above NOM requires a resolution by the members of the Athlone MD to write to Roderic O Gorman, Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth.

A general discussion took place and all the Members supported the Motion. Cllr E Kelly thanked the Members for their support.

On the **Proposal of:** Cllr E Kelly  
**Seconded by:** Cllr J Naughten

Members **AGREED** to send a letter to Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth Roderic O’Gorman to outline the need for childcare services in South Roscommon and to address this by providing resources and funding to meet the need.

#### **42.24 CORRESPONDENCE**

- A. TII correspondence in relation to Daneshill roundabout (Motion 2.24),  
On the Proposal of: Cllr. J Naughten  
Seconded by: Cllr. T Ward

Members discussed the correspondence and agreed that Roscommon County Council should immediately undertake a Feasibility and Options report outlining the rationale for the scheme as requested by TII, to alleviate the traffic congestion at junction 13.

On the Proposal of: Cllr J Keogh  
Seconded by: Cllr L Fallon

Members agreed to request TII to fast track the relief road proposed at roundabout at River Village out to Bogganfinn to alleviate traffic congestion with the growing population and industrial development in Monksland Area.

- B. Correspondence was noted from Mr Patrick O’Donovan, Minister for Further & Higher Education (Motion 91.23) in relation to purchase of a property in Roscommon town to facilitate apprenticeship training. Members were informed that it was agreed that SOLAS would meet with Department officials and GRETB to discuss a way forward to progress this.

#### 43.24 VOTES OF CONGRATULATIONS / SYMPATHY

No votes of Congratulations/Sympathy

#### 44.24 A.O.B

- A. Susan Loughnane informed the Members that all tenders for Overlay/Recycling came back at higher rates and will therefore have to look at the programme of works and cut back works in line with budgets approved. The remaining section of roads not completed this year will get priority next year.

On the **Proposal of:** Cllr J Naughten

**Seconded by:** Cllr T Ward

Members **AGREED** to send a letter to the Minister of Transport, in light of the significant increases in cost, that there is need for additional funding to complete works on local roads this year.

- B. On the **Proposal of:** Cllr J Keogh  
**Seconded by:** Cllr T Ward

Members **AGREED** that the allocation of €13,600 from own resources for LCSS this year will be allocated to proposed schemes at Carrowpadden L2008/2525 and Ballygill L2045.

- C. On the **Proposal of:** Cllr T Ward  
**Seconded by:** Cllr J Keogh

Members **AGREED** to the request from Dysart Men's Group for an extension until end of September 2024 for the MD Funding Granted to them.

- D. Members and Officials paid tribute to Cllr Donal Kilduff for his work and contribution as Councillor for Athlone MD over last five years. Best wishes were extended to Donal and his family.

Cllr D Kilduff thanked the Members and Staff of Roscommon County Council.

He paid tribute to the Staff of Athlone MD and to Francie Quine and his outdoor team for their co-operation and help over last five years.

Cait Conneely, Director of Services extended best wishes to Cllr D Kilduff and to all the Members running in the upcoming local elections.

- E. On the **Proposal of:** Cllr J Naughten  
**Seconded by:** Cllr J Keogh

Members **AGREED** to send a letter to Westmeath County Council to review the road closure from 20<sup>th</sup> May – 28<sup>th</sup> July, 2024 effecting Clonown residents with a view to opening one lane with traffic lights in operation. This is causing significant inconvenience as the detour is over 12km long.

- F. On the **Proposal of:** Cllr J Keogh  
**Seconded by:** Cllr J Naughten

Members **AGREED** following the road re-surfacing in Athleague, that a controlled Pedestrian crossing at the existing dropped Kerb is needed in the village. Susan Loughnane agreed to examine the proposal and noted that any proposal would be subject to funding being made available.

- G. Members requested that road markings are reinstated in the same way following road maintenance works in the interest of safety. Members requested that the lining on the N61 at Purts, Kiltoom and at the junction to Barrybeg is examined with a view to reinstating the continuous white line that was previously in place.

- H. Cllr D Kilduff asked the Members to give their support to the upcoming Part 8 at Killiaghan and Gort, when it comes before the MD for approval.

**NEXT MEETING**

**The next meeting will be on Tuesday, 30th July, 2024.**

This concluded the business of the meeting.

The foregoing Minutes are  
Confirmed and Signed:



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Meetings Administrator



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Cathaoirleach



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Countersigned