



Comhairle Contae  
Ros Comáin  
Roscommon  
County Council



**MINUTES OF ATHLONE** Municipal District **HELD IN THE COUNCIL** Chamber - Áras an Chontae, **ON TUESDAY**, 27th May, 2025 **AT 10.00** am

**PRESENT:** Councillor John Keogh      **PRESIDED**

**MEMBERS:** Cllr D. Connolly, Cllr E. Kelly, Cllr T. Ward, Cllr L. Fallon and Cllr V. Duffy.

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

**Apologies:**

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

The following disclosures of conflict of interest with regards to MD funding were noted:

Cllr L Fallon	-	Rahara Tidy Towns
Cllr D Connolly	-	St Ciarans Community Centre, Castlecoote
Cllr V Duffy	-	Moore Community Centre
Cllr T Ward	-	St Brigids Handball Club

**31.25 ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

The Cathaoirleach Cllr J Keogh welcomed everyone to the meeting.

On the **Proposal of:** Cllr E Kelly  
**Seconded by:** Cllr V Duffy

It was **AGREED** by all the Members to adopt the minutes of the Athlone Municipal District meeting held on 25<sup>th</sup> March, 2025.

**32.25 UPDATE ON THE ATHLONE JOINT URBAN AREA PLAN**

Mary Grier, Senior Planner along with Brian Farragher, Senior Executive Planner gave an update on the Athlone Joint Urban Area Plan. The internal draft plan is envisaged to be completed by December 2025. Informal engagements with Members from both Councils will take place at various stages in the preparation of the Plan.

The Members thanked them for their presentation. They welcomed the progression of the Plan with great potential for development in Monksland and surrounding areas.

Concerns were raised by the Members, concerning the predicted growth in population. It was outlined that there will be a greater need for more retail outlets in Monksland area. Members also noted the urgent need to develop road infrastructure to accommodate the increased volume of traffic predicted for Monksland.

Members also inquired if they could be informed in advance if the voting rights were equal for Roscommon County Council and Westmeath County Council Members for Part 8 process.

### 33.25 MATTERS ARISING

No Matters arising .

### 34.25 ALLOCATION OF ATHLONE MD FUNDING 2025

Eighteen applications received funding from the Athlone MD funding 2025, as outlined on the table below.

With regard to the application by St. John's Community Centre, the Athlone MD Members noted that there are plans to introduce a National Scheme for the provision of generators to community groups. This scheme is intended to support community groups in the provision of community hubs in the event of emergency situations, such as that experienced during Storm Eowyn. Where this scheme does not come to fruition within the next 12 months the Athlone MD Members recommend that this application is resubmitted for consideration for the 2026 Athlone MD Fund where it will be given priority.

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

It was **AGREED** by all the Members, should the application by St. John's Community Centre for a generator be resubmitted for consideration for the 2026 Athlone MD Fund, it will be given priority.

On the **Proposal of:** Cllr L Fallon  
**Seconded by:** Cllr E Kelly

It was **AGREED** by all the Members that the Guidelines for MD funding is not clear enough and needs to be revised for the coming year. It was agreed to make a submission to the Plenary meeting in this regard early next year.

The following allocations were unanimously agreed:

NAME OF GROUP	PROPOSED PROJECT	GRANT AMOUNT PROPOSED	PROPOSED BY	SECONDED BY
Athleague Community Centre Clg.	Installing soundproofing & proper sound system to help those with Sensory/Autism issues & older patrons, high noise levels can cause stress & discomfort especially to those with noise sensitivities	€15,000.00	Cllr J Keogh	Cllr Connolly D
Ballyforan Area Transition Team	Progression of the Claremount House Site Proposed Development to Planning Permission	€11,250.00	Cllr J Keogh	Cllr E Kelly
Ballyforan Community Hall	Purchasing and Install of New stage curtains and associated track system, Purchasing of event chairs /tablesand storage system	€7,500.00	Cllr J Keogh	Cllr E Kelly
Ballyforan Fair and Festival	Facilities enhancement for the purpose of providing a safe power source for Fair and Festival displays.	€1,557.00	Cllr J Keogh	Cllr L Fallon
CAM Community & Sports Centre Ltd.	Repairs of Grounds fencing/walls due to storm Eowyn	€6,375.00	Cllr J Keogh	Cllr T Ward
Culleen Hall Committee	Exterior Painting of Culleen Hall (dashed wall) and Boundary Walls 7 Fences	€2,900.00	Cllr J Keogh	Cllr L Fallon
Drum Heritage Group	New Condensing Outside Oil boiler and all associated works.	€6,712.00	Cllr J Keogh	Cllr V Duffy

Dysart Tidy Towns	proposal is to complete remedial and enhancement works along both side of the R357 out of the village in the direction of Roscommon town	€10,600.00	Cllr J Keogh	Cllr Connolly D
Moore Community Council	• Resurface main thoroughfare with tarmacadam - • Install a cattle grid at the entrance - at Moore New Cemetery	€7,500.00	Cllr J Keogh	Cllr L Fallon
Rahara Tidy Towns and Development	The proposed project involves the purchase of 4 tea/coffee flasks, Christmas wreaths with lights and anti-litter corri laminated signs	€1,650.00	Cllr J Keogh	Cllr Connolly D
ROSCOMMON SOLSTICE CHOIR	Provision of Trailer to transport equipment to concerts	€3,600.00	Cllr J Keogh	Cllr Connolly D
Roscommon Women's Network CycleUp Textiles	Redevelopment of Downstairs in Riverside Centre and also Upgrade of Fire Extinguishers Throughout Building to Create a Safer, Modern, and Functional Community Facility	€7,850.00	Cllr J Keogh	Cllr Connolly D
Shannonbridge Christmas Lights	Illumination of the bridge at Shannonbridge and illumination of the Roscommon approach Rd to the bridge.	€11,250.00	Cllr J Keogh	Cllr V Duffy
Sli An Choiste Res Association	Enhancement of Community Areas- purchase of lawnmower-picnic area-gazebo	€15,000.00	Cllr J Keogh	Cllr V Duffy
St Ciarán's Community Centre Castlecoote	Replace 4 outer doors to save on heating	€8,450.00	Cllr J Keogh	Cllr L Fallon
St.Brigids Handball Club, Curraghboy Community Hall	Upgrade of footpaths -install new fencing at side of the building	€3,300.00	Cllr J Keogh	Cllr E Kelly
Taughmaconnell Community Centre	Community Centre Painting/varnish floor in shop area/replace exterior fire door	€10,700.00	Cllr J Keogh	Cllr E Kelly
Tisrara Community Centre	Repairs to roof and re-plaster section of exterior wall of Tisrara Community Centre	€10,031.00	Cllr J Keogh	Cllr T Ward
	<i>total allocation for 2025 (2025 Funding of €133k plus unused funds from 2024 €8,225)</i>	€141,225.00		

### 35.25 NOTICE OF MOTION

There were two Notice of Motions for discussion.

### 36.25 CLLR D CONNOLLY-4.25- CALLING ON RCC TO ABANDON ROAD PROGRAMME 2025, ADDRESS DAMAGE DONE TO ROADS BY STORM EOWYN

Cllr. D Connolly withdrew his Notice of Motion, he thanked the Council for the works carried out which has dealt with the matter.

### 37.25 CLLR E KELLY- 6.25 ROAD SAFETY AT ST RONAN'S PRIMARY SCHOOL, TAUGHMACONNELL

"I am calling on Roscommon County Council to review road safety outside of St Ronan's Primary School, Taughmaconnell, to identify what measures can be put in place to increase safety at the school due to the volume and speed of traffic on the road."

#### REPLY:

The Safe Routes to School Programme aims to improve safety at school gates and increase active travel to schools. The Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Programme launched in March 2021 and all schools in Ireland were invited to apply to take part. St. Ronan's Primary School did not apply at that time.

Athlone MD is happy to meet with the principal of the school to discuss any low-cost proposals that could be implemented outside of the SRTS Programme. Any proposals would be subject to the availability of budget and resources.

Cllr E Kelly thanked the Members for their support.

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

It was **AGREED** by all the Members to progress discussions with the Principal of St. Ronan's N.S. to see what measures can be taken to help alleviate the issue.

**38.25 CLLR T WARD- 7.25 - DANGEROUS JUNCTION ON THE R362 CURRAGHBOY /L2016-0 KILCAR TO BE INCLUDED IN THE LCSS 2025.**

"I am calling on Roscommon County Council to remove a very dangerous junction at Curraghboy. This junction is situated on the Curraghboy-Athlone Road R362. On approaching the junction travelling from Kilcar on L2016-0 and upon turning right for Athlone, there is no visible view of oncoming traffic and this is extremely dangerous. I am calling on Roscommon County Council to include this extremely dangerous junction in the Local safety improvement scheme for 2025."

**REPLY:**

The 2025 Low-Cost Safety Scheme is closed for applications and funding has been allocated. Athlone MD will consider applying for a Low Cost Safety Scheme Application, for 2026, for the junction of the R-362 / L-7542 at Curraghboy to improve sightlines towards Athlone at this junction. It is noted that any scheme at this location will require the co-operation of local landowners.

Cllr. T Ward thanked the Members for their support of the Motion.

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

It was **AGREED** by the Members that this LCSS be given priority for 2026 Applications.

**39.25 QUESTIONS**

There was one question for noting.

**40.25 CLLR J KEOGH- 2.25 SPEED LIMITS AT BRIDESWELL**

Has there been any progress made on investigating the possibility of a bye law to extend the 50km speed limit from Brideswell village out towards Cam Community Centre?

**REPLY:**

The proposal to extend the 50km speed limit in Brideswell to the Cam Community Centre will be considered in conjunction with Phase 2 of the National Speed Limit Review.

We are currently awaiting specific guidance on the implementation of Phase 2 of the Speed Limit Review to be issued by the Department of Transport.

Phase 2 of the Speed Limit Review will include the following recommendations together with any specific locations to be reviewed, including the proposal at Brideswell.

- National Secondary Road default changes to 80 km/h (currently 100 km/h)
- Urban Roads are generally reduced to 30 km/h (strategic arterial roads may be higher)

The review of speed limits will be undertaken in accordance with the *Guidance for Setting Speed Limits in Ireland* (<https://www.speedlimits.ie/>)

**41.25 CIVIC RECEPTION REQUEST 2.25- CLLR L FALLON- DOMINIC GAA SENIOR SCOR TEAM**

I would like to call on Roscommon County Council to honour the Dominic GAA Senior Scór Team at the next Civic Reception. This team were the over all winners in the All-Ireland Senior Scór Drama Competition 2025. Members of the Team include : Ann Gillespie, Breege Kenny, Caroline Dervan, Cathy Dervan, Noel Dervan, Laura Leonard, Steven Murphy, Mary Ann Philips, Sylvia Kilcline , Thomas Hurley

**Proposed by:** Cllr L Fallon  
**Seconded by:** Cllr D Connolly

It was **AGREED** by all the Members to honour the Dominic Senior Scór team at the next Civic Reception

#### **42.25 VOTES OF CONGRATULATIONS / SYMPATHY**

No Votes of Congratulations/Sympathy

#### **43.25 A.O.B**

Members discussed Local Area Plan for Creagh which had not progressed due to the economic downturn in 2008. The Members agreed that now is the appropriate time to engage with Galway County Council . The LAP for Ballinasloe is due to be revised in 2028.

**On the Proposal of:** Cllr J Keogh  
**Seconded by:** Cllr V Duffy

It was **AGREED** by all the Members to request the Planning Department of Roscommon County Council to communicate with Galway County Council, with a view to working towards a joint plan to ensure Creagh is included in the Development Plan for Ballinasloe which is due to be revised in 2028.

Cllr J Keogh thanked the Staff of Roscommon County Council and his fellow Members for their co-operation and efforts over the last year during his term as Cathaoirleach.

#### **NEXT MEETING**

**The next meeting will be on Tuesday, 22nd July, 2025.**

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