

**DRAFT MINUTES OF Boyle Municipal District HELD IN THE Boyle Municipal Office - Boyle MD Offices
ON Friday, 19th September, 2025 AT 3.00 PM**

PRESENT: Councillor Sean Moylan **PRESIDED**

MEMBERS: Cllr L. Cull, Cllr M. Frain, Cllr L. Callaghan, Cllr T. Crosby and Cllr V. Byrne.

OFFICIALS: Ivor Kilcline, Municipal District Co Ordinator
Gerardine Lafferty, Staff Officer
Sean Mullarkey, Director of Finance

Apologies: .

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

There were no Disclosures of Conflict of Interest declared by Members.

51.25 ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES

On the **PROPOSAL** of Councillor Tom Crosby

SECONDED by Councillor Michéal Frain

It was **AGREED** to adopt the Minutes of the Boyle Municipal District meeting of 18th July, 2025.

52.25 MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising from previous minutes.

53.25 EIRGRID NORTHWEST CONNACHT

Mr. Eoghan O'Callaghan, Community Liaison Officer and Mr. Eoin Brockert, Project Manager gave a presentation to members on the EirGrid North Connacht 110Kv UGC Project progress ahead of launching the Community Fund in October.

The following issues were raised by Members:

- Can any Sports Clubs near the line in Roscommon that would qualify for the Fund? How will Fund be advertised?
- Will existing overhead lines be reinforced?
- Where will lines be installed after Ballaghaderreen?
- How does the underground placement compare with the convention overhead method?
- Any collaboration with ESB on the N5 bypass to install conduits along new route for future purpose?
- Percentage of electricity from renewable resources?
- Demand for battery storage facilities to store DC?
- How long to completion

The following responses were given:

- Clubs and community groups within 2Km of Ballaghaderreen can apply to Fund including the town of Ballaghaderreen. E O'Callaghan will email members notification of Fund Opening Date. The Fund

has been established by EirGrid to recognise the important role of local communities who are hosting this grid infrastructure and to acknowledge the temporary disruption which may be caused within proximity of the cable line during the construction phase of the project. The Fund will be released in three phases: when construction begins, mid-way through the project, and when the project is energised.

- Existing overhead lines relate to the 38Kv ESB network not EIRGRID
- EIRGRID Route after Ballaghaderreen – Tonroe to Flagford Station – R220 110Kv double poles and pylons.
- Underground cabling is more expensive and not always possible due to ground conditions, e.g. rock, etc. Locating site of breakdown of lines underground more challenging to repair than overhead lines.
- There is no collaboration with N5 bypass. EIRGRID do not do add on-ducts without needs analysis and prior planning.
- Half a gigawatt of the energy renewables going in. 84% from renewable, green resources.
- Large demand for battery storage facilities with some being located close to the EIRGRID stations.
- New initiatives coming on stream, e.g. district heating, data centres, etc. Data Centres require five times the power.
- Completion estimated 2-3 years, will depend on Contractor.
- If members have any further questions, to contact Eoghan O’Callaghan, Community Liaison Officer.

54.25 NOTICES OF MOTION M5.25 CLLR T CROSBY; M6.25 CLLR S MOYLAN; M7.25 CLLR L CULL

Cllr. Sean Moylan read out the Motions and the Responses received.

M5.25 Cllr Tom Crosby - Motion

That Roscommon County Council prioritise the immediate provision of a footpath and public lighting along Ballytoohey Road, which serves four large housing estates, numerous one-off houses, and provides a vital link between the village and the local national school. This matter has been raised for several years without progress, despite over €70,000 having been spent in 20023/20024 on the preparation of plans and related works. In the interests of road and pedestrian safety the Council now resolves to advance this project as a matter of urgency.

Response:

Roscommon County Council engaged consultants to assist in progressing the Tarmonbarry Footpath link from the village to Whitehall National School along the L-1416 in 2022. The Feasibility and Options Selection Report for the project was prepared by the consultants in 2023. The project is with the National Transport Authority (NA) Phase 2: Concept Development and Options Selection, however, no funding was received in 2024 or 2025 to progress the project onto the preliminary design phase.

Members supported the motion and made the following points:

- Footpaths should be a priority to facilitate families and the elderly. In addition, footpaths needs on R368 across from the Westward Strokestown.
- Strokestown Public Realm budget – any money left over should be spend on these footpaths.
- Footpaths connecting housing estates to town/existing footpaths should be part of the whole development.
- Appears installation of footpaths not a priority in the County and this should be queried further by

members.

- Similar concerns in Cootehall. There are limitations on funding for footpaths.
- When Active Travel Programme set up, it's intention was for the development of the smaller towns and villages but focus appears to be on the large towns and installation of cycleways. This needs to be looked at again.
- The purpose of development charges includes funding for footpaths – where is this funding being directed.
- RCC commended for installing footpaths at Forest View in Boyle funded from Active Travel Safety Scheme.

M6.25 Cllr. Sean Moylan - Motion

I call on Roscommon Co. Co. to make every effort, to acquire the small parcel of land that is available free of charge beside Kilmore Graveyard, as soon as possible.

Response:

Roscommon Co. Council Asset Management Section is dealing with this and will meet with Area Staff on-site over the next few weeks. The site in question had trial hole investigation works carried out last year and sheet rock is located less than one meter down. This is not ideal and, as a result, the lands may not be suitable for burials as the rock would have to be removed and replaced with topsoil at considerable cost.

Members supported the motion and made the following points:

- RCC should avail of the free site and be grateful the offer of free land.
- Local people have offered to supply soil to fill over rock rather than rock being dug up. Would be provided free of charge. Elderly people concerned about grave plots. Would give solace to people of Kilmore if a solution could be found.
- Graveyards are filling up across the County and new initiative like columbarium walls should be installed. Cremation more and more in demand.
- Not all of the ground at the new cemetery in Elphin is consecrated intentionally to allow individuals of different faiths to be buried there.
- Issue regarding water connections and maintenance across all graveyards.
- RCC commended for its work at Caldra Cemetery. Works completed to a high standard. Mr. Sean Mullarkey, Mr. Ivor Kilcline, Mr. Colm Kelly and Mr. Patrick Brides specifically mentioned for their work on the project.

M7.25 Cllr. Leah Cull – Motion

I propose that Roscommon County Council undertake road safety measures on the R361 (Frenchpark road out of Boyle)

The increasing traffic flow and safety concerns expressed by local residents have highlighted the urgent need for improved safety measures. This should include:

- A continuous white line marking outside Kingsland NS
- 50-kilometer signage at the appropriate location
- Speed indicator sign as you approach Silveroe Estate

Response:

In 2025 at Kingsland National School, Roscommon Co. Council carried out road marking works to highlight

the presence of the school to drivers. It would not be appropriate to install a full time 50 kph speed limit at this location, however, if the Area Office wishes to propose a low-cost safety scheme to the Roads Safety Engineer for the school, then periodic speed limits at school times could be considered as part of it. With reference to Silveroe Estate, there is a 60 kph speed limit in place which the Roads Safety Engineer feels is appropriate for this location and is consistent with other similar urban approach roads in the county. If speeding is considered to be an issue, then perhaps enforcement by An Garda Siochana would be effective.

Members supported the motion and made the following points:

- Speeding along this road an issue as is speeding in general across the county. Put in for a Low Cost Safety Scheme in 2026.
- Speed ramps at Mockmoyne Road welcomed. More needed.
- Road lay out and poor sightlines challenging.
- An Garda Siochana should be enforcing speed limits more.
- Similar situation at Kiltristan NS.
- Loughglynn NS is a good example of effective speed control.
- Speeding on the Frenchpark Road, Boyle (R361)/Silveroe is an issue. Bridget at Kingsland should be rebuilt and traffic calming would slow traffic approaching school.
- Residents at Silveroe has requested return of speed van at the 50k/h stretch.

Mr. Ivor Kilcline confirmed the Area Office will follow up on a periodic speed limit linked to the opening times of the school. Lack of school car park, bus pull ins is more of an issue for Dept. of Education than RCC.

55.25 QUESTIONS Q2.25 CLLR T CROSBY; Q3.25 CLLR S MOYLAN; Q4.25 CLLR L CULL; Q5.25 CLLR L CULL
Cllr. Sean Moylan read out the Questions and Response received as follows.

Q2.25 Cllr Tom Crosby

Will the Director of Services inform the meeting of the total amount of development charges collected from the seven housing estates in Tarmonbarry Village?

Response:

Response to question to be deferred until the next meeting as the 7 estates concerned need to be identified.

Q3.25 Cllr. Sean Moylan

Do the council have any indication if the new N5 will be opened together, or will it be opened in sections as it becomes available, and if so any timeline as to when the first section will be open?

Response:

The N5 Ballaghaderreen to Scramoge road project construction contract, awarded in Oct. 2023 has a substantial completion date of Oct. 2027. Works are progressing well and in full accordance with the Contractor's current construction programme. It should be noted that the construction programme is primarily controlled by the Contractor and is dictated by his specific construction methodology albeit subject to compliance with the terms of the Contract.

There is currently no provision for sectional completion under the construction contract, however, should the Contractor have a section or sections of the project completed ahead of the overall specified completion date, Roscommon County Council may consider taking over any such section subject to: -

- A formal request or proposal to do so being submitted by the Contractor;
- The terms of any such proposal being acceptable to Roscommon County Council and its advisors;
- All works for that section or sections being fully completed in accordance with the Contract;
- The formal agreement and adoption of any necessary contractual amendments to the current Contract;
- All relevant legal requirements being met following consultation with and advice from the Council's Legal Advisors;
- The necessary approval of Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII); and
- Any proposed temporary traffic management proposals and associated temporary works being accepted by Roscommon County Council.

It should be noted that to date, two elements of the overall project scope are now open to public traffic under temporary traffic management arrangements with reduced speed limits namely, a 1km section the R368 Regional Road (opened in December 2024) and a 2km section of the N61 including 2 new roundabout junctions (opened in September 2025). Based on current progress it is considered likely that other sections may be available in advance of the overall specified completion date. However, at this stage it is too early to speculate whether all the above conditions can or will be met.

Q4.25 Cllr. Leah Cull

There was some discussion 2/3 years ago regarding the construction of a cycle way from Cootehall village to the national school, but it never materialised. Could you please inform me if there are any future plans for this?

Response:

There are currently no plans to develop Active Travel infrastructure linking the village of Cootehall to St. Michael's & St. Patrick's National school.

The Active Travel Team are currently progressing a Safe Routes to School (SRTS) scheme focusing on the front of St. Michael's & St. Patrick's National School, Cootehall. The scheme will establish a designated school zone on the L-1017, designed to highlight the school's presence and encourage lower traffic speeds. A footpath will be constructed along the roadside boundary of the school to segregate pedestrians from the parking area, which will be regraded, drained, and marked. A key feature of the school zone will be a designated bus set down area at the main entrance.

Q5.25 Cllr. Leah Cull

I had a motion in some time ago regarding installing chevron signs at Strabragin NS Arigna R280 and the railway bridge on the R294 Gurteen road in Boyle - Is there any update on this?

Response:

Boyle Area have both sites on a listed programme of works and will be attended to as soon as possible. The Roads Programme has taken priority over the last few months.

56.25 VOTES OF CONGRATULATIONS/SYMPATHY

A vote of sympathy was expressed to the family of Barry Feely, Woodenbridge Road, Boyle who passed away on 15th September 2025.

A vote of sympathy was expressed to the family of Geraldine Gannon, Oakfield, Strokestown who passed away tragically on 16th September 2025 and best wishes to her sister Rita for a full recovery.

A vote of sympathy was expressed to the family of Carol Loftus, Davitt Place, Swinford and formerly Cloonshanville, Frenchpark who passed away on 3rd September 2025.

A vote of congratulations was expressed for Mr. Ronan Kelly, Ballaghaderreen, Co. Roscommon on his new role as the lead dancer with Riverdance.

57.25 CIVIC NOMINATIONS REQUEST APPROVAL

On the **PROPOSAL** of Councillor Valerie Byrne

SECONDED by Councillor Leah Cull

It was **AGREED** to honour Elphin Community Games gold in finals U-13 – drama The Return of the Wanderer

On the **PROPOSAL** of Councillor Valerie Byrne

SECONDED by Councillor Michéal Frain

It was **AGREED** to honour Jujitsu Club Elphin Tsskia Int Champion

On the **PROPOSAL** of Councillor Valerie Byrne

SECONDED by Councillor Sean Moylan

It was **AGREED** to honour Elphin Community College Junk Kouture Regional Final Helix to World Championships 2025 – Lucia Revuelta.

On the **PROPOSAL** of Councillor Leah Cull

SECONDED by Councillor Valerie Byrne

It was **AGREED** to honour Eddie Alphin O'Hagin & Olivia Val won u-10 & 1-16 Irish Dancing Word Champ 2025

On the **PROPOSAL** of Councillor Sean Moylan

SECONDED by Councillor Valerie Byrne

It was **AGREED** to honour Ed Paye who won Race Across Wales recently and previously came second in Race across Scotland.

58.25 AOB

Members raised the following issues:

- Contract for new library in Boyle signed today 19th September – C&E Higgins awarded contract.
- Contract for Strokestown Public Realm Scheme signed earlier in week – Tower Construction awarded contract.
- Is there funding in place for roads off the new N5 for consequential damage during works before

- N5 project opens.
- Compliments to Ballaghaderreen Library which is now a fabulous facility for the local community.
- Good luck wishes for the Hot Air Balloon Championship in Lough Key Forest Park this weekend and special thanks to Ciaran Sheerin for his work in this.

Response:

Mr. Ivor Kilcline stated that a review of the condition of affected roads adjacent to the N5 by TII and NRRO.

On the **PROPOSAL** of Councillor Michéal Frain

SECONDED by Councillor Sean Moylan

It was **AGREED** to invite the Boyle Childcare Group to the next meeting of the Boyle MD to give a presentation to members.

On the **PROPOSAL** of Councillor Valerie Byrne

SECONDED by Councillor Sean Moylan

It was **AGREED** to put a proposal to the Plenary Meeting regarding reopening of Elphin Library.

Roads Programme 2026: Mr. Ivor Kilcline requested members to submit their list of roads for the 2026 Programme to their Area Engineer by 10th October 2025 and to copy Ivor Kilcline and Gerardine Lafferty on emails. It is intended that a draft proposal for the Roads Programme 2026 would be presented to members for approval at November's meeting.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be on Tuesday, 14th October, 2025.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

The foregoing Minutes are

Confirmed and Signed:

Ivor Kilcline

Meetings Administrator

Cathaoirleach

Countersigned