

**MINUTES OF ATHLONE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT MEETING HELD IN THE LOUGHNANEANE SUITE,
ÁRAS AN CHONTAE, ROSCOMMON, ON MONDAY 5TH DEC 2016 10.00 A.M.**

PRESENT: Councillor Ivan Connaughton, Cathaoirleach **PRESIDED**

MEMBERS: Cllr P. Kilduff, Cllr J. Naughten, Cllr T. Ward, Cllr J. Keogh

APOLOGIES: Cllr L. Fallon

OFFICIALS: Ms. Majella Hunt, Director of Services
Mr. Diarmuid MacDonncha, Senior Executive Engineer
Ms. Cáit Kenny, Assistant Staff Officer
Mr. Eugene Dwyer, Senior Engineer

44.16. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

On the **PROPOSAL** of Councillor Ward

SECONDED by Councillor Kilduff

It was **AGREED** to adopt the Minutes of the Athlone Municipal District held on 17.10.2016

On the **PROPOSAL** of Councillor Ward

SECONDED by Councillor Kilduff

It was **AGREED** to adopt the Minutes of the Athlone Municipal District Pre-budget meeting held on 17.10.2016.

45.16. SPEED LIMIT REVIEW

Mr. Eugene Dwyer updated the members on the current situation with the speed limit review. He explained that the Gardai and Roscommon County Council members will have 31 days to make submissions commencing from the date revised maps are circulated. Submissions will be taken into account and revised maps will be prepared. On the approval of TII of the proposed scheme the public consultation process will proceed. Speed limit maps will be placed on public display for a period of one month. The speed limit review scheme will then be an agenda item on a Plenary Council Meeting for approval. Mr. Dwyer encouraged all the members to carefully examine the maps as circulated and emphasised the importance of forwarding submissions in writing or by e-mail. He stated that it would be April 2017 before the process will be finalised. He highlighted to the members that adopting speed limits is a reserved function.

46.16. BOUNDARY REVIEW

Cllr Ward informed the meeting that the Save Roscommon Group met on 29th November and went through the Report in great detail. Many members have concerns. The group were disappointed with the outcome, but will continue to work together.

A lengthy discussion took place and all members expressed their disappointment with the four year rule. Cllr Ward thanked Chief Executive, Staff, his fellow Councillors and Save Roscommon Group for their tremendous work. The report is a recommendation of the boundary committee and clarification is required on the role of the Government. A meeting with Minister Denis Naughten is scheduled for 8th December 2016. Oireachtas members are scheduled to meet on 12th December at 7p.m. in the Abbey Hotel.

On the **PROPOSAL** of Councillor Ward

SECONDED by Councillor Keogh

It was **AGREED** to call on Minister Coveney to completely dismiss the report.

47.16. REPORT ON UNFINISHED DEVELOPMENT – PARKWAY, MONKSLAND, ATHLONE

Ms. Majella Hunt, Director of Services circulated a report to all members detailing the planning history of the lands associated with Parkway Development, Monksland, Athlone, Co. Roscommon. The site is not classified as an unfinished housing development and is currently on the market.

The Members raised the following concerns:

- Welcome report which gives clarity.
- Security at site is still an issue. Security fencing / railings are required.
- Site bought in boom times and zoning has since changed.
- Development is like this since 2007 – could be up to two years before sale agreed.
- Anti-social behaviour at site. Gardai have been informed.
- Issues are ongoing for a considerable period of time. Action is required.
- No bond was put in place.

On the **PROPOSAL** of Councillor Naughten
SECONDED by Councillor Ward

It was **AGREED** to action this site under Derelict Sites Act to include works to be finished and timescale for same.

48.16. DECLARATION OF PUBLIC ROADS

On the **PROPOSAL** of Councillor Ward
SECONDED by Councillor Keogh

It was **AGREED** that road located within housing development at Belcourt, Barrymore Townland, Athlone, Co. Roscommon declared to be a public road.

On the **PROPOSAL** of Councillor Naughten
SECONDED by Councillor Kilduff

It was **AGREED** that road located within housing development at Claremont, Ballyforan, Ballinasloe, Co. Roscommon declared to be a public road.

49.16. ROADS PROGRAMME 2016

Mr. Diarmuid MacDonnacha, Senior Executive Engineer advised the members that the roads programme was 100% complete. The amount of roads done was significant and included additional allocation for flooding.

The members made the following comments:

- Compliment Municipal District Co-ordinator, Mr. Diarmuid MacDonnacha S.E.E. and all his staff for work on roads programme.
- The flooding that occurred this time last year, meant additional work with same amount of staff.

The members were requested to submit items for 2017 Road Programme for consideration including the Clonbroc Road.

On the **PROPOSAL** of Councillor Naughten
SECONDED by Councillor Ward

It was **AGREED** to send a letter to Minister requesting him to intervene with TII in relation to a request by the Athlone Municipal District members to meet with TII to discuss outstanding issues relating to M6 Athlone to Ballinasloe road.

50.16. NOTICE OF MOTION

Notice of Motion from Councillor Naughten 08/16

“That Roscommon County Council investigates the possibility of purchasing the land that bounds the Cross River identified in the Monksland/Bealnamulla Local Area Plan 2016 – 2022 as Recreation / Amenity with a view to developing it as a Community Park.”

The Meetings Administrator read out the following reply:-

The Recreation and Amenity land subject of this notice of motion forms part of a larger site at this location. The zoning on this site is three fold:

- A. New Residential
- B. Strategic Residential Reserve
- C. Recreation and Amenity

The site is in the sole ownership of a company and will be sold as one lot. It is currently on the market. Cllr. Naughten advised that many residents are requesting Roscommon County Council to develop a park to cater for growing population. It is appropriate now with the development of new school.

On the **PROPOSAL** of Councillor Naughten

SECONDED by Councillor Keogh

It was **AGREED** that Roscommon County Council investigates the possibility of purchasing the land that bounds the Cross River identified in the Monksland/Bealnamulla Local Area Plan 2016 – 2022 as Recreation / Amenity with a view to developing it as a Community Park.

On the **PROPOSAL** of Councillor Ward

SECONDED by Councillor Keogh

It was **AGREED** that Roscommon County Council investigates the possibility of purchasing a suitable area of land for cemetery in Monksland.

51.16. CORRESPONDENCE

Cllr. Connaughton informed the meeting of a letter received from Ms. Fiona Walsh of Cloonakilla NS Parent’s Association. The subject of the letter was the need for a discussion in relation to traffic issues and student safety at the school. This letter was also sent to the Chief Executive. Cllr. Naughten requested that this be an item on the Agenda for the next meeting and enquired about an update on the Part 8. Concerns were raised in relation to speed of traffic on this road and requests for a roundabout at Taughmaconnell turn to slow down traffic.

Diarmuid MacDonncha noted that everyone is in favour of scheme to extend footpaths including roundabout . CIE intend to extend Bus Service to Bealnamullia and there is a possibility of funding from NTA to allow for safe turning of buses. Mr. MacDonncha said the design of works at school will need to dovetail with these plans. A pedestrian crossing is to be included also.

Ms. Majella Hunt, Director of Services advised that an update on Part 8 will be available at next meeting

52.16. A.O.B.

CLAR FUNDING

Members enquired if CLAR funding could be used to fund a pedestrian crossing at Cloonakilla. Diarmuid responded by saying the criteria for CLAR funding is quite specific.

Cllr Ward noted that Castlesampson is in a CLAR area, and could an application be made to erect some public lighting at this area.

Cllr Keogh noted that the stretch of road from the Mill Bar to Monksfield estate has no public lighting and requested three lights at least to illuminate the area.

Cllr. Naughten requested a map of CLAR areas be circulated.

Diarmuid MacDonncha informed members that there will be a programme for installation of public lights for 2017. It will be similar to roads programme and will need to compile list at next meeting.

MD Funding Scheme

It was agreed to hold an Athlone MD meeting on 10th January 2017 to deal specifically with Funding Scheme applications.

Cathaoirleach Ivan Connaughton and the Director of Services, Majella Hunt wished everyone a very Happy Christmas.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

The foregoing Minutes are
Confirmed and Signed:



Meetings Administrator

Cathaoirleach

Countersigned