

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF MUINEBHEAG HELD
IN THE McGRATH HALL, MUINEBHEAG, CO. CARLOW ON THURSDAY, 14TH
JANUARY, 2016 AT 4.00P.M.**

PRESENT

Cllrs. Denis Foley: Chairperson, Tommy Kinsella, Michael Doran, Andy Gladney, Arthur McDonald, John Murphy, William Quinn and Charlie Murphy.

IN ATTENDANCE

Tim Butler: Senior Executive Officer, Ray Wickham: Area Engineer, Michael Brennan, Senior Executive Officer and Lena Smith, Administrative Officer.

APOLOGIES

Seamus O'Connor: Director of Services.

ITEM NO. 1: CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF MEETING OF MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF MUINEBHEAG OF 3RD DECEMBER, 2015

Proposed by Cllr. John Murphy

Seconded by Cllr. Andy Gladney

AND RESOLVED

“That the Minutes of the Meeting held on the 3rd December, 2015, as circulated, are hereby confirmed as to accuracy and, accordingly, signed by the Cathaoirleach.”

MATTERS ARISING

It was agreed that the Community Section would discuss with Community Groups in Clonegal, the proposal to erect a plaque at the park in Clonegal in memory of Mr. Willie White – a community activist in Clonegal.

VOTES OF SYMPATHY

Furlong family on the death of Mary Furlong, Main Street, Borris, Co. Carlow.

VOTES OF CONGRATULATIONS

To all the Council staff on their efforts during the recent spell of bad weather.

ITEM 2: CORRESPONDENCE

None

ITEM NO. 3: STATUTORY BUSINESS

The Council has let a piece of land at St. Mullins for the past number of years. The leasee cuts and maintains this land beside his premises. It is now proposed to formalise this arrangement by way of a 3-year lease for a nominal sum of €6.00 per annum. It is not proposed to sell this piece of land as it may form part of the plans for the area in the future.

It was Proposed By: Councillor Denis Foley

Seconded By: Councillor Andy Gladney

AND RESOLVED

“That the Municipal District of Muinebheag agree to propose to full Council, the lease of a portion of land at St. Mullins for the nominal sum of €6.00 per annum for a 3-year period.”

ITEM NO. 4: CORPORATE

None

ITEM NO. 5: HOUSING

Members were informed that four apartments remained untenanted in the Manor Apartments complex and approval was awaited from the Department of the Environment to lease 5 No. additional apartments. Members expressed satisfaction regarding the complex.

Members expressed concern relating to overlooking on school playground at development in Barrett Street, Bagenalstown, which was being examined for leasing by the Council. Members were informed that any submissions regarding overlooking etc., should have been submitted during the planning process and as the development was under construction, alterations to the structures would require further planning permission.

Members were informed that 110 tenancies have been completed under the Housing Assistance Payment Scheme since its commencement in July, 2015.

Members were informed that details of the Incremental Tenant Purchase Scheme would be sent to eligible tenants in February. The Council is currently awaiting documentation from the Department.

ITEM NO. 6: TRANSPORTATION

Members thanked the staff of the Municipal District for their work on coping with the severe weather conditions during the past number of weeks.

Members expressed concern regarding the continued flooding at Fonthill and various areas in the District. Members also requested that gritting be carried out around all schools in the area, particularly those off the Priority 1 and 2 routes in the Winter Plan.

Members requested that consideration be given to having Collection points throughout the district for sandbags. Details of locations of these collection points to be advertised in the media in times of severe weather incidents.

Members were informed that:-

1. The repair of roads was being prioritised, with first priority being given to roads which were currently closed. The patching of roads was not yet possible due to the large volume of water remaining on roads. A full report on all damage to roads and bridges was being undertaken with preliminary estimate of cost in the region of €600,000.
2. The gritting of Priority 1 and 2 routes would be carried out when ground temperatures of zero or below were expected. Further funding would be required if both routes were to be gritted for a continuous period. An allocation of €60,000 and €90,000 for Priority 1 and 2 routes respectively was available.
3. Consideration would be given to setting up Collection Points for sandbags. It was noted that over 3000 sandbags together with ton bags were used in the recent flooding.
4. A meeting between the Council, O.P.W. and Waterways Ireland is being arranged to discuss the recent flooding.

ITEM NO. 7: ENVIRONMENT/WATER SERVICES

Members enquired as to the provision of a handwash facility at Powerstown landfill. This matter to be examined.

Members also requested an update on the provision of paper and clothes recycling facilities available in the district.

ITEM NO. 8: COMMUNITY

Members were informed of the Draft Local Economic and Community Plan 2016-2021, which was currently on public display. The closing date for submissions is 22nd January, 2016.

ITEM NO. 9: PLANNING

With regard to the review of the Local Area Plan for Muinebheag, Members enquired as to the dates and process in operation for the proposed workshop.

COMMUNITY GRANTS

Proposed by: Councillor Arthur McDonald

Seconded by: Councillor William Quinn

And agreed

“That consideration of Community Grants 2016 be discussed in Committee”.

A discussion took place regarding the distribution of Community Grants in the area for 2016. An amount of €28,700 is available for distribution. Following receipt and examination of applications, a report would be presented to the Members for consideration and approval.

Members also requested that an application form be made available for groups requesting financial support for the 2016 St. Patrick’s Day Parades.

ITEM NO. 10: ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed: _____
Cathaoirleach

Date

Signed: _____
Meetings Administrator

Date