

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF
MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF MUINEBHEAG
HELD IN BORRIS LIBRARY, BORRIS, CO. CARLOW
ON THURSDAY 3RD JULY 2014

PRESENT

Cllrs: Denis Foley, Andy Gladney, Tommy Kinsella, Arthur McDonald, Charlie Murphy, John Murphy, Willie Quinn.

IN ATTENDANCE

Manager: Seamus O'Connor, Senior Executive Officer: Michael Brennan, Senior Executive Engineer: Ray Wickham.

APOLOGIES

Cllr. Michael Doran

OPENING PRAYER

The opening prayer was recited by the Members

ITEM NO. 1 Confirmation of Minutes of Municipal District of Muinebheag 12th June 2014.

**Proposed by Cllr. D. Foley
Seconded by Cllr. C. Murphy
AND RESOLVED**

“That the Minutes of the Annual Meeting held on the 12th June 2014, be and the same are hereby confirmed as to accuracy and, accordingly, signed by the Cathaoirleach.”

ITEM NO. 2 Community, Housing Recreation & Amenity, Building Control & Emergency Services

A. Housing Update.

S. O'Connor circulated Housing Progress Report to members which he outlined in detail. Members raised the following issues which were responded to by S. O'Connor.

- Criteria for selecting properties for energy grants.
- Housing Assistance Payment
- Housing List
- Loan eligibility / short term loans interfacing with mortgages examine change of criteria.

B. Playground in Borris.

S. O'Connor advised of Carlow County Council's, Public Area Enhancement Scheme initiative for improvement works to the area which will include works to damage to fencing wall and boundary wall and surfacing. €3,200 will be spent on the project in two weeks to make the playground safe.

C. Borris Fair (15th August).

R. Wickham advised in relation to arrangements for Borris Fair. He indicated that the costs of the fair can be broken down into a number of categories. Members expressed concerns regarding

disruption to Borris and indicated that long term proposals will have to be examined i.e. Bye Laws. Members also advised that the community must engage in any future proposals with regard to Borris Fair.

ITEM NO. 3 Transportation, Environment & Water Services

A. Roads Programme Update.

R. Wickham circulated details in respect of Muinebheag District Expenditure Records to 30th June 2014 in relation to infrastructure which members noted. R. Wickham advised expenditure is on target for works. The following queries raised by members were responded to by S. O'Connor and R. Wickham,

- Community Improvement Scheme (CIS), R Wickham to re-circulate report to members
- Funding repairs for roads,
- Street cleaning on bank holidays – Muinebheag.

S. O'Connor advised of recent pre budget presentation by the Head of Finance to Members at the last meeting of Carlow County Council. He advised that the budget 2015 will have to redress the historic imbalance in funding available in relation to the Municipal District of Muinebheag

B. Sewerage at Ballon Hill.

This matter to be raised directly with R. Wickham.

C. Moyacombe Housing Development, Clonegal - Drainage / Water.

This matter to be raised directly with R. Wickham. Cllr. W. Quinn advised that these matters should be logged in the Muinebheag Office for the Engineers attention.

D. Road Verge Cuttings.

R. Wickham advised that these works are contracted and are 80% complete.

E. Drainage at St. Lazarians Terrace and Carlow Road Leighlinbridge.

R. Wickham to contact Cllr. M. Doran regarding this matter.

F. Public Lighting Bagenalstown.

Members raised the issues of public lighting not working at Kilcarrig bridge and Regency Street. Members also raised issue of Eircom lines not working and impact on business community. R. Wickham advised that he has discussed public lighting with the ESB, which will be fixed. He indicated that Eircom lines are not a matter for the Council.

G. Traffic Safety at Graiguenaspidogue Crossroad, N80.

R. Wickham advised in relation to this matter and indicated that works at Huntsmans Cross has been completed.

H. Street Lighting at St. Brigids Crescent, Muinebheag.

Members advised that there are four lights outstanding to be erected at St. Brigids Crescent. R. Wickham advised that the provision of these lights will be considered for the 2015 Roads Works Programme. S.O'Connor and R. Wickham to discuss.

I. Provision of traffic calming measures at Fairgreen Muinebheag.

R. Wickham will examine traffic calming measures at Fairgreen Muinebheag in the future. S. O'Connor raised a further option by examining capacity on the east side of Fairgreen i.e. one way traffic provision. It was agreed Members will meet with R. Wickham on site to consider options before putting any proposals to public consultation. Item to be listed on the Agenda for the next meeting of the Municipal District of Muinebheag

J. Provision of traffic calming measures and additional car parking at Queen of the Universe Primary School Muinebheag.

R. Wickham advised of previous proposals in this matter. R. Wickham to re examine and revert to the Municipal District of Muinebheag with a proposal on provision of traffic calming measures at this locus.

K. Provision of House Numbering / Signage at Ashfield Housing Development, Muinebheag.

S. O'Connor advised that this estate is not taken in charge. He indicated that he will examine the planning regulations in this matter to provide numbering in the event of Emergency Services.

L. Provision of Pedestrian Crossing / Speed Ramps at Fenagh beside the Church from the Bunclody / Myshall Road.

R. Wickham advised that the provision of ramps would not be sufficient to solve the problem and signs were being ignored. He indicated that the trend is moving away from ramps to traffic calming measures, under the Road Works Programme. Tenders have gone out to include Fenagh and Borris for road markings. An Garda Siochana will be requested to monitor this area.

M. Removal of Antique Lights from Fairgreen, Muinebheag.

R. Wickham will replace four antique lights at Fairgreen, Muinebheag.

N. Costs of the Public toilets in Bagenalstown.

Members raised this issue in the context of provision of a public toilet facilities in Borris. R. Wickham advised that he will revert with details of contract regarding public toilets in Bagenalstown at the next meeting of the Municipal District of Muinebheag. S. O'Connor stated that cost of the provision of toilets in Muinebheag is €33,500 per annum. He will revert with details of income generated at the next meeting.

O. Signage / Road Markings.

Members raised the issue of Signage theft in the County and the necessity of securing of signage to prohibit manipulation and theft. R. Wickham advised that different signs are being examined.

P. Wall / Street Lighting damage after the storm.

R. Wickham advised that contracts for repair works have issued to public lighting Contractors. He had no update in relation to repair of the wall at Borris House.

Q. Enhancement of the Parade / Bagenalstown Improvement Group.

R. Wickham advised that works at the Parade would happen in parallel with footpaths in the vicinity of McGrath Hall and the Parade subject to the provision of Development Levy allocations to undertake footpath works.

R. Footpaths in the vicinity of McGrath Hall & Parade.

R. Wickham advised that works to footpaths in the vicinity of McGrath Hall would commence in parallel with enhancement works with the Parade subject to the provision of Development Levy allocations to undertake footpath works.

ITEM NO. 4 Corporate, Planning, Economic Development & Health & Safety

A. Planning Update - Development Plan.

M. Brennan circulated correspondence from B. O'Brien, Director of Services in respect of Draft Carlow County Development Plan 2015 – 2021, which members noted. S. O'Connor raised the status of Local Area Plans (LAP) within the Municipal District of Muinebheag. He advised that the plans established development boundaries for their areas and he indicated that copies of LAP's will be circulated to Councillors together with maps and expiry dates of same. This item is to be listed for the next meeting of the Municipal District of Muinebheag.

B. Update Taken in Charge of Ballyknockan Housing Development.

M. Brennan circulated correspondence from B. O'Brien, Director of Services in respect Ballyknockan Housing Development update, which members noted. Queries raised by Members were responded to by S. O'Connor. R. Wickham advised that Carlow County Council met with the bank regarding the bond in relation to this matter. S. O'Connor advised that Ballyknockan was the subject of a number of meetings with Councillors and the Manager and that commitments will be honoured. Correspondence from Cllr McDonald was circulated from Ballyknockan residents.

S. O'Connor advised that a reply would issue to members in respect of this matter from the Planning Department.

C. Unfinished Housing Developments.

M. Brennan circulated correspondence from B. O'Brien Director of Services in respect of unfinished housing developments which was noted. Queries raised by Members were responded to by S. O'Connor. Cllr. Murphy raised the issue of €20,000 for emergency works at Slievebawn Way housing development which has not been received to date to make the estate safe.

ITEM NO. 5 Finance, Information Technology & Culture

A. Financial Resources for the Municipal District of Muinebheag.

This matter was dealt with earlier in the meeting by R. Wickham.

B. LEADER Funding.

S. O'Connor updated members with regard to this funding and he indicated that the Carlow Local Community Development Committee will have a major role in this process. Four Members of Council are on the LCDC. An Economic and Community Plan has to be prepared for a period of six years, which is the remit of the LCDC and funding will be provided for various projects in this plan.

Matters of Interest

Traffic Management / Provision of car park at Borris

S. O'Connor updated the meeting in relation to the provision of suitable sites for car parking. R. Wickham advised that a traffic management plan was been prepared and he will bring to the next meeting of the Municipal District. Members also raised the issue of a Traffic Management Plan for Bagenalstown.

Rates on Commercial Property / Vacant Properties

It was noted that this matter was dealt with at the County Council meeting by the Head of Finance.

Connection of Public Lighting

R. Wickham to discuss with Cllr. M. Doran.

Budget for Road Sweeping in the Bagenalstown / Borris Area

This matter was dealt with earlier in the meeting.

Budget for Maintenance of Recreational Areas and Housing Estates

S. O'Connor advised of the necessity to have an even distribution of funding available throughout the County. R. Wickham to prepare proposals in this matter with S. O'Connor.

ITEM NO. 6 Any Other Business

Members raised the following issues which were responded to by S.O'Connor and R. Wickham.

- Lighting at Ballinabranna and Drumphea Graveyards
- Provision of graveyard at St. Mullins
- Regeneration of town centre of Muinebheag
- Traffic calming at Newtown School
- Traffic calming at new school Muinebheag
- Provision of ramps at East Wood Housing Estate and Ashfield
- Broken Kerbing at St. Brigids Crescent, Bagenalstown
- Overhanging trees at Croppy Road, Myshall.
- Footpath at Ballygowan, Ballinabranna.
- Hedging at Oak Road, Bagenalstown

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed: _____

Cathaoirleach

Date: 3rd July 2014

Signed: _____

Meetings Administrator

Date: 3rd July 2014