

LONGFORD MUNICIPAL DISTRICT

Minutes of Meeting of Longford Municipal District held in the Longford Municipal District Chamber, Market Square, Longford, on Wednesday, 25th January 2017 at 4.00 p.m.

CATHAOIRLEACH: Councillor Padraig Loughrey, Cathaoirleach.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Councillors – Seamus Butler, John Browne, Peggy Nolan, Mae Sexton and Gerry Warnock.

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr. John McKeon, Director of Services.
Mr. Eamon Bennett, Senior Executive Engineer.
Mr. Mark McNerney, Administrative Officer.

MEETINGS

ADMINISTRATOR: Ms. Anne Lee.

WELCOME TO JOHN McKEON.

The Cathaoirleach and members welcomed John McKeon and wished him every success in his role as Executive Director for Longford Municipal District and paid tribute to Barbara Heslin for her work during her time as Director for Longford Municipal District.

John thanked the Cathaoirleach and members for their welcome and assured them of his commitment to the role of Executive Director for the Municipal District. John acknowledged Barbara's work as Director for the M.D.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES.

On the proposal of Councillor P. Nolan seconded by Councillor M. Sexton, the minutes of Committee Meeting of Longford Municipal District held on 23rd November 2016, as circulated, were confirmed and adopted.

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MATTERS ARISING.

Contact Management System.

In reply to a query from Councillor G. Warnock regarding formalising a Contact Management System between executive and members, J. McKeon confirmed that a system is being investigated which will provide for a more timely response to Councillor's representations.

CCTV in Oakvale.

In response to a query from Councillor P. Nolan regarding the provision of CCTV at Oakvale, Longford, J. McKeon confirmed that the Memorandum of Understanding between the Local Authority and Garda Authorities is due to be signed off by the Garda Authorities.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Junior Park Run.

On the proposal of Councillor G. Warnock seconded by Councillor P. Nolan, it was unanimously agreed that Junior Parkrun Ireland be allowed to use the Mall, free of charge, at 10.00 a.m. on Sunday mornings.

Councillor M. Sexton paid tribute to Kevin Keane, Co-Ordinator of the Longford Park Run, which is such a success.

Horse Drawn Carriage Licence.

On the proposal of Councillor S. Butler seconded by Councillor G. Warnock, it was agreed to refer request for Horse Drawn Carriage Licence to the next Meeting of the Municipal District.

MANAGEMENT REPORT.

The Monthly Management Report, as circulated, was noted.

The following issues were raised -

- Bus/Coach Parking Spaces - on the proposal of Councillor M. Sexton seconded by Councillor P. Nolan, it was agreed that contact be made with Bus operators in the County asking for their observations regarding the provision of two coach parking spaces in Longford town. Contact to be made prior to the public consultation period of the Bye-laws process and requests for observations to be submitted to the Council two weeks from the date of issue of correspondence.
- The location of three Age Friendly Parking Spaces to be confirmed.

- Street Cleaning - On the proposal of Councillor P. Nolan seconded by Councillor M. Sexton it was agreed that a report be prepared on the operation of the Pavement Sweeper.
- Provision of pedestrian crossing on the Ballinalee Road - E. Bennett confirmed to Councillor Butler that the TII have agreed to undertake a review of the N63 Majors Well Road.

RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME 2014 - 2020 (LEADER).

Adrian Greene, Chief Executive Officer, Longford Community Resources gave a comprehensive presentation in relation to the roll-out of the Rural Development Programme 2014- 2020 (LEADER) and replied to queries raised. Adrian asked for the support of the members in promoting the Programme.

LONGFORD COUNTY COUNCIL 2016 ANNUAL REPORT.

On the proposal of Councillor M. Sexton seconded by Councillor G. Warnock, it was unanimously agreed to adopt the Draft Municipal District Report for inclusion in Longford County Council 2016 Annual report, as circulated.

TOWN TEAM INITIATIVE.

J. McKeon referred to the request from Corporate Policy Group that each Municipal District nominate a town in their district to pilot a Town Team Initiative.

On the proposal of Councillor G. Warnock seconded by Councillor S. Butler, it was unanimously agreed that Longford Municipal District does not support the Town Team Initiative.

CAMLIN RIVER PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE.

J. McKeon replied to queries raised regarding the provision of a Pedestrian Bridge on the River Camlin in Longford town.

On the proposal of Councillor Seamus Butler seconded by Councillor Peggy Nolan, it was unanimously agreed to adopt Part 8 Report (Planning and Development Regulations 2001) in respect of Camlin River Pedestrian Bridge, as circulated.

COUNCIL OFFICES AT MARKET SQUARE, LONGFORD.

The plans for the initial works were presented to the members. J. McKeon informed the members that the works will be carried out on a phased basis. Councillor P. Nolan requested, that as part of the works, that the Council Chamber be refurbished.

AGE FRIENDLY PARKING SPACES.

A map outlining the proposed Age Friendly Parking Spaces and Coach Parking Spaces to be prepared for the next Municipal District meeting in March.

Suspension of Standing Orders.

On the proposal of Councillor S. Butler seconded by Councillor G. Warnock, it was agreed that Standing Orders be suspended to allow for the completion of the Agenda.

FOOTPATH ON THE LHS IN GREAT WATER STREET.

E. Bennett confirmed that a clearway box has been installed at this section of Street.

TAKING IN CHARGE OF THE LAURELS, LISNAMUCK, LONGFORD.

On the proposal of Councillor Mae Sexton seconded by Councillor John Browne, it was unanimously agreed to the Taking in Charge of The Laurels, Lisnamuck, Longford, as circulated.

NOTICES OF MOTIONS

Traffic Calming at Convent Road, Longford.

The following Notice of Motion was proposed by Councillor P. Loughrey and seconded by Councillor G. Warnock -

"I ask that this Municipal District examines and implements ways of combating traffic congestion on Convent Road, Longford. Options such as making the road one way, eliminating parking on the road completely, providing a school pick up and leave off area and preventing parking on the footpaths should all be considered."

E. Bennett stated that Longford Municipal District staff will carry out traffic surveys on the Convent Road to establish traffic movements and likely causes of the traffic congestion. Once completed, the Council will consult with the various stakeholders involved and forward report to the Roads Design Office. The Design Office will examine same when resources permit.

Cathaoirleachs Awards.

The following Notice of Motion was proposed by Councillor P. Loughrey seconded by Councillor S. Butler and agreed by the members -

"As Cathaoirleach of Longford Municipal District I would like to propose Mr. Liam Fenelon, Stonepark, Longford as the Longford Municipal District nominee for the Cathaoirleachs Awards, in light of his lifelong community involvement, charity fundraising, work on behalf of St Christophers, organisation of the annual Longford Marathon and commitment to community life in Longford".

Property at Ardnacassa Avenue, Longford.

The following Notice of Motion was proposed by Councillor J. Browne and seconded by Councillor P. Nolan -

"I call on Longford County Council to take appropriate legal action against the financial institution in whose ownership vests a property at Ardnacassa Avenue, Longford, which was recently badly destroyed by fire, in order to make the property safe and secure and not be unsightly or a nuisance to neighbours or the general public".

J. McKeon confirmed that this issue will be pursued under the Derelict Sites Act.

CCTV Cameras

The following Notice of Motion was proposed by Councillor J. Browne and seconded by Councillor P. Nolan -

"I call for the existing CCTV Cameras in the Longford District Area to be upgraded and or replaced as necessary, as the existing Cameras are not fit for purpose".

J. McKeon confirmed that the three existing CCTV cameras are not working. An audit of CCTV cameras is being carried out. Health & Safety issues need to be adhered to during the repair of the cameras. There will be a requirement for a PSCS Company (Project Supervisor for the Construction Stage) to be appointed to oversee the work.

There is no allocation in the 2017 Budget for additional cameras. It was noted that funding for the provision of CCTV cameras is included in the Programme for Government.

Solar-Powered Speed Warning Signs on the Ardagh / Ferefad Road, Longford.

The following Notice of Motion was proposed by Councillor J. Browne and seconded by Councillor P. Nolan -

"In the interest of safety, I call for two Solar-Powered Speed Warning Signs be erected on the Ardagh / Ferefad Road, Longford."

E. Bennett stated that Longford County Council is carrying out a review of speed limits throughout the County at the present time. This proposal will be considered as part of this review.

Foothpath from Ballymacormack Cemetery to Stonepark School.

The following Notice of Motion was proposed by Councillor M. Sexton and seconded by Councillor P. Nolan -

“That this Municipal District seeks to complete the foothpath from Ballymacormack Cemetery to Stonepark School or include it in the list (to be compiled) of shovel-ready projects for consideration when funding becomes available.
That we receive an update on works already approved under the 2016 Town & Village Renewal Funding.”

E. Bennett stated that a priority list of footpath projects needs to be agreed by the Municipal District members, which can be progressed when funding and resources are available.

2016 Town & Village Renewal Funding

Athlone approach road to Longford Town	€100,000.00.
Newtownforbes Main street footpaths	€ 38,250.00

Attic Youth Project - Feasibility Study.

The following Notice of Motion was proposed by Councillor M. Sexton and seconded by Councillor G. Warnock -

“That this Municipal District provides funding to the Attic Youth Project to commission a Feasibility Study with a view to ensuring long-term sustainability of the project and to identify long-term funding.”

J. McKeon stated that Longford County Council do not provide any funding for the operational or staffing costs for any external third-party organisation such as Attic House. However, Longford County Council do agree to provide, on a once-off basis, funding for a Feasibility Study that will address (inter alia):

- The long term Sustainability of the Project.
- Identification of future funding streams.
- Development of a Long-Term Funding Model for the Project.
- Establishment and nurturing of links with other Agencies in a mutually beneficial manner.
- The Governance & Management of Attic House.


This feasibility study must have clear Terms of Reference and a pre-determined timeframe for delivery.

A.O.B.

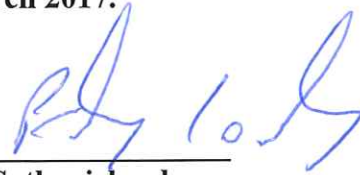
Valuation Office Clinic.

J. McKeon informed the members that the Valuation Office will be holding a clinic in the Camlin Court Offices on the 30th and 31st January. Valuation Office Staff will be present to answer queries relating to the recent issue of Proposed Valuation Certificates for Revaluation 2017. They will explain the revaluation process and offer guidance on making representations.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed: 
Anne Lee,
Meetings Administrator.

**Confirmed and adopted at Longford Municipal District Meeting held on the
22nd March 2017.**

Signed: 
Cathaoirleach.