**BALLYMAHON MUNICIPAL DISTRICT**

**Minutes of Meeting of Ballymahon Municipal District held in Edgeworthstown Library and via Microsoft Teams on Friday, 25 March 2022 at 3.15pm**

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**CATHAOIRLEACH**: Councillor Mick Cahill.

**MEMBERS PRESENT**: Councillors – Colm Murray, Gerard Farrell, Mark Casey

Pat O’Toole and Paul Ross.

**IN ATTENDANCE:**  Ms. Samantha Healy, Director of Services.

Mr. Seamus Lough, Senior Executive Engineer.

Mr. Paul Newell, Senior Executive Engineer.

Mr. John Doyle, Technician.

Mr. PJ Gill, Executive Engineer.

**APOLOGIES:** Mr. John McKeon, Director of Services. Ms. Claire Mc Dermott, Administrative Officer.

**MEETINGS**

**ADMINISTRATOR**: Ann Marie Mc Keon.

**Best Wishes**

The elected members wished Director of Services, John Mc Keon a speedy recovery.

**ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

On the proposal of Councillor Pat O’Toole, seconded by Councillor Paul Ross, the Minutes of Ballymahon Municipal District meeting held on the 27 January 2022, as circulated, were confirmed and adopted.

**MATTERS ARISING**

Councillor Paul Ross requested an update on Ardagh Clock Tower. Director of Services, Samantha Healy informed the members that the archivist is working on tracing owners of the property and if a letter is required for the deed of rectification, then Longford County Council can support that. Councillor Murray confirmed that the Committee will take on the project and apply to Leader for funding.

**DECLARATION OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS**

None.

**MANAGEMENT REPORT - circulated**

Noted.

**CONSIDERATION OF SCHEDULE OF BALLYMAHON MUNICIPAL DISTRICT WORKS – as circulated**

Seamus Lough, briefed the members on the Schedule of Ballymahon Municipal District Works under the following headings and replied to queries raised by the members –

* TII Grant.
* Restoration Improvement Grant
  + Regional Roads.
  + Local Roads.
* Restoration Maintenance Grant
  + Regional Roads
  + Local Roads.
* Supplementary Restoration Maintenance Grant Total County Allocation.
  + Regional Road.
  + Local Roads.
* Discretionary Grant.
* Low-Cost Safety Scheme.
* Bridges.
* Specific Improvement Grant.
* Footpaths
* Climate adoption
* Drainage

The elected members welcomed the funding of just over seven million, and they acknowledged the excellent work which has been carried out by the employees in the Ballymahon MD area.

Councillor Pat O’Toole sought an update on the Ballymahon Main Street Junction N55/R392 and Director of Services Samantha Healy informed the members that a proposal has been submitted to Transport Infrastructure Ireland and on receipt of approval a Part 8 will be initiated in conjunction with the elected members.

On the proposal of Councillor Colm Murray seconded by Councillor Pat O’Toole, it was unanimously agreed to adopt the Schedule of Ballymahon Municipal District Works, as circulated.

**PROPOSED PROJECTS/EXPRESSION OF INTEREST**

None.

**NOTICES OF MOTIONS**

**Road Markings, Edgeworthstown**

The following Notice of Motion was proposed by Councillor Paul Ross and seconded by Councillor Mick Cahill –

“I call on Longford County Council to upgrade the road markings on Main Street,

Edgeworthstown at the Park House junction as the current markings are gone and the

junction is causing confusion to drivers”.

Response

The Regeneration Department are finalising tender documents to undertake works to enhance Main Street, Edgeworthstown which will include pavement improvement works and the marking of the Park House junction.

**Barley Harbour**

Under Section 32 of Standing Orders, Councillor Paul Ross proposed to withdraw his notice of motion, Councillor Mick Cahill seconded the proposal and the members unanimously agreed to the withdrawal of the motion.

“I call on Longford County Council to take out a long-term lease on the Harbour in

Barley Harbour in Newtowncashel to preserve and enhance the county's only harbour in one of Ireland's tidiest villages”.

**Safety at Lanesboro/Fermoyle National School**

The following Notice of Motion was proposed by Councillor Gerard Farrell and seconded by Councillor Mick Cahill -

“I call on the roads department to look at updating signage and improve safety measures at

Lanesboro national school and Fermoyle national school”.

Response

It was expected as in previous years that these projects could have been funded under CLÁR. However, Longford County Council have been recently informed that the works sought at these schools are not eligible for funding under the CLÁR Programme 2022 and Longford County Council will have to see if there is another funding stream available.

**Arts Feature Lanesboro**

The following Notice of Motion was proposed by Councillor Gerard Farrell and seconded by Councillor Mick Cahill-

“I propose that Lanesboro tidy towns be supported in securing project funding for a bronze

sculpture at the N63 junction”.

Response

This motion will be referred to the Arts Officer for consideration.

**Barley Harbour**

Under Section 32 of Standing Orders, Councillor Mark Casey proposed to withdraw his notice of motion, Councillor Paul Ross seconded the proposal and the members unanimously agreed to the withdrawal of the motion.

That this council engages with the landowner of Barley Harbour with the view of the council purchasing the harbour and surrounding lands.

**Lanesborough Town Team**

The following Notice of Motion was proposed by Councillor Mark Casey and seconded by Councillor Gerard Farrell -

That a full-time staff member is made available for Lanesborough Town team with the purpose of supporting the Town team with funding applications and to work with all stake holders that are involved with the just transition.

Response

Regeneration is working with Town Teams across the county to support them in identifying and implementing projects and will continue to do that within the resources available to them.

**Public Lighting**

The following Notice of Motion was proposed by Councillor Mark Casey and seconded by Councillor Gerard Farrell -

That funding be made available for the repair and replacement of the lights under the bridge in Lanesboro, currently only one of the 7 arches is lit.

Response

The repair and maintenance of the bridge over the River Shannon in Lanesborough is the responsibility of Roscommon County Council. If this motion is adopted Longford County Council will contact Roscommon County Council regarding the repair and replacement of the lights under the bridge.

**Boundary Wall**

The following Notice of Motion was proposed by Councillor Colm Murray and seconded by Councillor Mick Cahill-

“I call on Longford County Council to erect a boundary wall or fence at the new housing estate on Carton Road, Keenagh”.

Response

A source of funding for the roadside boundary at the new housing estate on Carton Road, Keenagh will be explored by the Housing Department.

**Verge Works Bawn Mountain**

The following Notice of Motion was proposed by Councillor Colm Murray and seconded by Councillor Mark Casey -

“I call on Longford County Council to carry out verge improvement works along the L-5196 from Bawn Mountain to Ardagh.”

Response

Longford County Council will carry out improvement works on the verge along the L-5196 from Bawn Mountain to Ardagh.

**Public Lighting N55**

The following Notice of Motion was proposed by Councillor Pat O’Toole and seconded by Councillor Mick Cahill-

“I call on Longford County Council to extend the public lighting on the N55 Edgeworthstown Road Ballymahon from Leo Casey GAA grounds to the Ballybrannigan Road the L 5225”.

Response

The section of N55 in question is approximately 250m. Providing lighting along this section will require the provision of underground ducting, lighting columns. Longford County Council will investigate the cost of this project. Installation of the lights will be subject to the availability of (own resources) funding for the works. It should be noted that there is a requirement on Local Authorities in accordance with the Public Sector Energy Efficiency Strategy to reduce carbon emissions and increase energy efficiency.

**Utilities**

The following Notice of Motion was proposed by Councillor Pat O’Toole and seconded by Councillor Mick Cahill -

Given the level of new services that have been installed in Ballymahon over the past number of years e.g. water mains, gas mains sewerage lines etc, I call on Longford County Council to draw up a guide map indicating where the pipes are located on the Main Street and on adjoining roads which would be very beneficial not just for the council itself but to any utility company who may have excavate the street at any time in the future.

Response

The national utility service providers already have drawings of their networks available on their online portals such as ESB’s and Gas Networks Ireland “Dial Before You Dig” which can be consulted by the public before undertaking works and when considering connecting to the respected network. These are dynamic platforms which are updated by the service providers on a regular basis as additions and alterations are made to their networks.

**Civic Recognition**

The following Notice of Motion was proposed by Councillor Pat O’Toole and seconded by Councillor Mick Cahill-

“I call on Ballymahon Municipal District Council to host a Civic Recognition for the

Response

A Civic Recognition event will be on 26 May 2022 in Ballymahon Library after the Municipal District Meeting.

Hedgecutting

The members discussed the ongoing issue of the potential hazards and dangers to road users where hedges/shrubs/trees etc. are not maintained by landowners and occupiers of land.

It was agreed that the hedge cutting plan was required to be put in place as soon as possible and that there needed to be concerted effort to make landowners aware of their obligations to maintain trees on their lands which are along public roads.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Ann Marie Mc Keon

**Signed:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Ann Marie Mc Keon**

**Meetings Administrator.**

**Confirmed and adopted at Ballymahon Municipal District Meeting held on the 23 May 2022.**

Mick Cahill

**Signed: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Cathaoirleach.**