

**GRANARD MUNICIPAL DISTRICT**

**Minutes of Meeting of Granard Municipal District held in Granard Library**

**on Friday, 24 March 2023 at 4pm**

**CATHAOIRLEACH**: Councillor Colin Dalton

**MEMBERS PRESENT**: Councillors – Paraic Brady, Garry Murtagh, PJ Reilly and

Turlough McGovern

**IN ATTENDANCE**: Ms. Barbara Heslin, Director of Services

Ms. Linda Higgins, Administrative Officer

Mr. David Coppinger, Senior Executive Engineer

Mr. Harry Rogers, Senior Executive Technician

Ms. Mary Carey, Healthy Homes Co Ordinator

**APOLOGIES** None

**MEETINGS**

**ADMINISTRATOR**: Ms Claire McNabola

**PRESENTATION FROM HEALTHY AGE FRIENDLY HOME LOCAL COORDINATOR**

Mary Carey gave a detailed presentation on the Healthy Home Programme. Mary shared case studies and insights with the members and gave them an overview, of how the programme has been evolving in Longford since its commencement.

Mary answered any questions raised by the members. Mary agreed to bring a number of issues forward for consideration at national level including:

* Right of residency and ownership issues and implications for grant applications
* Backlog of retrofit works and lack of contractors to carry out works
* Home support services – identifying gaps in service and retention of staff

The Elected Members complemented Mary on the excellent support being given to people wishing to remain in their own homes.

1. **ADOPTION OF MINUTES – circulated**

On the proposal of Councillor Paraic Brady seconded by Turlough McGovern, it was unanimously agreed to adopt the Minutes of Granard Municipal District Meeting held on the 24 January 2023.

1. **MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES**

None.

1. **DECLARATION OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS**

None.

1. **MANAGEMENT REPORT INCORPORATING AREA ENGINEER’S PROGRESS REPORT – circulated**

Barbara Heslin highlighted the following from the Management Report and responded to the queries raised by the Elected Members –

* Longford Tourism
* Community & Voluntary Energy Support Scheme
* Housing Update
* Regeneration projects in the Granard Municipal District area

David Coppinger detailed the Area Engineer’s Progress Report and responded to the queries raised by the Elected Members –

* Roadworks
* Local Improvement Schemes
* Community Involvement Scheme.

David and Barbara replied to queries raised on the following issues. She said that she would ask the relevant Director to contact Turlough directly in relation to the issues raised regarding

* Colmcille Terrace
* Granard Motte Project

Councillor Colin Dalton welcomed the Granard Booktown Festival, complemented the St Patrick’s Day Parade in Ballinamuck, encouraged people to attend the Longford Ploughing Championships to be hosted in Granard and sent best wishes to the Granard Festival Committee for their Easter Parade.

Councillor PJ Reilly welcomed the works on Barrack Lane.

1. **GMA 2023 - TOWN TWINNING**

On the proposal of Councillor Turlough McGovern and seconded by Councillor Colin Dalton the members unanimously agreed the following:

* Granard Town Twinning to received €1,500
* Ballinamuck Town Twinning to received €3,000

1. **GMA 2023 - SPECIAL PROJECTS/DISCRETIONARY FUNDS**

**Councillor PJ Reilly**

On the proposal of Councillor PJ Reilly seconded by Councillor Turlough McGovern, it was unanimously agreed that

* €1,000.00 be allocated to Abbeylara Tidy Towns
* €1,000.00 be allocated to Granard Agricultural Show Society.

**Councillor Garry Murtagh**

On the proposal of Councillor Garry Murtagh seconded by Councillor Paraic, it was unanimously agreed that

* €1,500.00 be allocated to Colmcille Area Development Group
* €500.00 be allocated to Colmcille Community Centre
* €250.00 be allocated to Leebeen Park
* €500.00 be allocated to Mullinalaghta Development Group
* €750.00 be allocated to Dromard Rural Development Group
* €500.00 be allocated to Latin School Moyne.

**Turlough McGovern**

On the proposal of Councillor Turlough Mc Govern seconded by Councillor PJ Reilly, it was unanimously agreed that

* €1,000.00 be allocated to Granard Festival Committee for their Easter Parade
* €500.00 be allocated to Granard Agricultural Show Society.

**Paraic Brady**

On the proposal of Councillor Paraic Brady seconded by Councillor PJ Reilly, it was unanimously agreed

* €1,000.00 be allocated to the St. Patricks Day Parade in Ballinamuck.

1. **DRING CAR PARK**

Barbara Heslin informed the members of correspondence received. The news of new committee was welcomed by all. The members present thanked Purth Development Group for all their work in looking after the amenity over the past number of years.

1. **NOMINATIONS OF ELECTED MEMBERS FOR THE CREATIVE IRELAND CULTURE TEAM 2023-2027**

On the proposal of Councillor Colin Dalton and seconded by Councillor PJ Reilly it was agreed to nominate Garry Murtagh to the Creative Ireland Culture Team

1. **CONSIDERATION OF SCHEDULE OF GRANARD MUNICIPAL DISTRICT WORKS – as circulated**

The Schedule of Granard Municipal District Works was discussed in detail and the Roads Team present replied to queries raised.

On the proposal of Councillor PJ Reilly and seconded by Councillor Turlough McGovern it was agreed to adopt the schedule of works as presented.

The Members complemented the Roads team on the work in developing the schedule of works for 2023.

1. **NOTICE OF MOTIONS, SUBMITTED BY COUNCILLORS:**

**The following notice of motion was proposed by Councillor Paraic Brady and seconded by Councillor Colin Dalton**

I call on Longford County Council to move the speed sign at edge of Drumlish Village and at Ennybegs Killoe, as they are both currently to close to the villages.

**Response:**

The latest Speed Limit review is about to commence, and this Notice of Motion will be forwarded to Road Design for consideration during that review

**The following notice of motion was proposed by Councillor Garry Murtagh and seconded by Councillor Paraic Brady**

1. I am requesting the movement of a speed sign x 2 closer to the Aughnacliffe village signage on the Aughkine road - Granard to Aughnacliffe road.

**Response:**

The latest Speed Limit review is about to commence, and this Notice of Motion will be forwarded to Road Design for consideration during that review

**The following notice of motion was proposed by Councillor Garry Murtagh and seconded by Councillor Paraic Brady**

1. I am calling on Longford County Council to carry out an investigation into the possibility of 2 Low-Cost Safety measures on the Aughnacliffe to Arva road:

* Junction where L1029-0 meets L1037-0
* Junction L10373-0 meets L1037-0

**Response:**

Granard MD staff will assess these two locations with a view to including them in the 2024 list for the Department of Transport. The list already contains approximately 12 sites and generally the Council receives funding for approximately 4 schemes per year. Scheme are prioritised according to severity of the Safety problem

**The following notice of motion was proposed by Councillor Colin Dalton and seconded by Councillor Paraic Brady**

I call on Longford county council for extension of the public sewage network to accommodate the local national school/Community centre/ Childcare facility with over 150 students.

**Response:**

Responsibility for the Sewerage network in Ballinalee Village now rests with Úisce Eireann, (Irish Water). Longford County Council will refer this request to ÚE

**The following notice of motion was proposed by Councillor Turlough McGovern and seconded by Councillor Paraic Brady**

1. I call on Longford County Council to install street lighting with energy efficient LED Luminaires in The Teemore Industrial Estate as this estate with no lighting is a potential danger to pedestrians in terms of trip hazards and potential crime, i.e. drug dealing, car racing, speeding, etc.

**Response:**

Unfortunately, at present the road in question is not a Public Road and therefore funding to install Public Lighting is a problem. Even if it were Taken in Charge funding for PL is very unlikely to be provided by the Dept of Transport. At present the Council’s priority is to get funding for and complete the works needed at Barrack Lane in order to facilitate the Taking in Charge of the remainder of that development. This would in turn facilitate and promote the Regeneration of the back lands around Barrack Lane and the Ulster Bank Link Road.

**The following notice of motion was proposed by Councillor Turlough McGovern and seconded by Councillor PJ Reilly**

1. I call on Longford County Council to engage with Coillte to purchase a piece of land at Derrycassin Woods playground to facilitate a car park for the public who use the Trail, as with the increased number of users to Derrycassin (Rebel Trail) the area outside the GAA pitch gates is being blocked by cars (some are even parking on the road) thus an accident waiting to happen.

**Response:**

Longford County Council will contact Coillte to explore the potential purchase of Coillte owned land at Derrycassin Woods. However, the purchase of the land and development of the car park will be dependent on funding being made available or opportunities to avail of grant funding being identified.

**The following notice of motion was proposed by Councillor PJ Reilly and seconded by Councillor Turlough McGovern**

I wish to put a motion forward to the meeting for the Council to obtain land to extend the Car Parking area at Derrycassin Woods as there is so many people using the walkway and when GAA matches, and training are being held there is a lot of traffic congestion and no parking available.

**Response:**

Longford County Council will contact Coillte to explore the potential purchase of Coillte owned land at Derrycassin Woods. However, the purchase of the land and development of the car park will be dependent on funding being made available or opportunities to avail of grant funding being identified.

**Votes of Sympathy**

The members sympathised with Brian Finneran (Granard Area) on the recent passing of his mother Teresa Finneran – RIP

The members sympathised with the family of the late Joe Mc Manus (Former Employee Longford County Council) RIP

This concluded the business of the meeting.

**Claire McNabola**

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

**Claire McNabola**

**Meetings Administrator.**

**Confirmed and adopted at Granard Municipal District Meeting held on the 23 May 2023.**

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

**Cathaoirleach.**