

**GRANARD MUNICIPAL DISTRICT**

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

**on Tuesday, 26 March 2024 at 3.30pm**

**CATHAOIRLEACH**: Councillor Turlough McGovern

**MEMBERS PRESENT**: Councillors Paraic Brady, Colin Dalton, Garry Murtagh

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

Ms. Linda Higgins, Administrative Officer

Mr. David Coppinger, Senior Executive Engineer

**APOLOGIES** Councillor PJ Reilly

**MEETINGS**

**ADMINISTRATOR**: Ms. Claire McNabola

Before the meeting began the members held a minute’s silence as a mark of respect for the late Stella O’Sullivan RIP. Stella served in the Library Service from 1992 to 2022 in various libraries including Ballymahon, Edgeworthstown, Lanesborough and Longford Library. May she rest in peace.

The members also remembered their friend and fellow Councillor PJ Reilly in his illness at the moment, their thoughts and prayers are with PJ, his wife Fiona and family.

1. **ADOPTION OF MINUTES – circulated.**

On the proposal of Councillor Garry Murtagh seconded by Councillor Paraic Brady it was unanimously agreed to adopt the Minutes of Granard Municipal District Meeting held on the 27 February 2024, as circulated.

On the proposal of Councillor Garry Murtagh seconded by Councillor Paraic Brady it was unanimously agreed to adopt the Minutes of Granard Municipal District Committee Meeting held on the 27 February 2024, as circulated.

1. **MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES**

None

Linda Higgins advised the members that approval letters have issued to all successful Community Grants Support Scheme applicants.

1. **DECLARATION OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS**

None

1. **MANAGEMENT REPORT INCORPORATING AREAS ENGINEER’S PROGRESS REPORT – enclosed**

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

* Built Heritage Conservations Grants
* Heritage Research & Engagement Program 2024
* Update on Regeneration Projects
* Housing Capital update, vacant properties, vacant properties refurbishment grant applications/approvals etc

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

* General Roadworks & 2024 Roads Budget
* Community Involvement Schemes (CIS)
* Drainage
* Local Improvement Schemes (LIS)
* Cairn Hill Pathway

Barbara Heslin & David Coppinger discussed matters raised by the Members in relation to:

* Entrance at Newtownbond and old Graveyard
* Dog Fouling at public amenities
* Ready to Build Scheme on Council Owned Sites

1. **CONSIDERATION OF NOMINATION OF REPRESENTATIVE TO THE BIODIVERSITY WORKING GROUP**

On the proposal of Councillor Paraic Brady seconded by Councillor Garry Murtagh it was unanimously agreed that Councillor Colin Dalton represent Granard MD

1. **CONSIDERATION OF SCHEDULE OF GRANARD MUNICIPAL DISTRICT WORKS**

The Schedule of Granard Municipal District Works was discussed in detail and the Roads Team present replied to queries raised. David Coppinger outlined the impact of inflation on the scope of works for 2024.

On the proposal of Councillor Turlough McGovern and seconded by Councillor Colin Dalton 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 2024.

1. **SPECIAL PROJECTS/DISCRETIONARY GRANTS 2024**

**Councillor Colin Dalton**

On the proposal of Councillor Colin Dalton seconded by Councillor Turlough McGovern, it was unanimously agreed that:

* €500 be awarded to Ballinalee Community Group
* €400 be awarded to Bunlahy Community Astro Turf & Playground
* €400 be awarded to Mullinalaghta GAA
* €400 be awarded to Ballinalee Connemara Pony Show Committee
* €400 be awarded to Ballinalee Community Games
* €300 be awarded to Ballinalee Gun Club
* €300 be awarded to Currycahill Community Centre
* €300 be awarded to Killoe Community Centre

**Councillor Paraic Brady**

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

* €1,500 be allocated to Drumlish Tidy Towns

**Councillor Turlough McGovern**

On the proposal of Councillor Turlough McGovern seconded by Garry Murtagh, it was unanimously agreed that:

* €500 be allocated to Drumlish Tidy Towns

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

**Councillor Turlough McGovern**

**The following Notice of Motion was proposed by Councillor Turlough McGovern and seconded by Councillor Paraic Brady**

1. I call on Longford County Council for a bus parking bay on the R194 to Ballyjamesduff to be marked out. for health and safety reasons for school children from Cnoc Mhuire School, who use the buses that stop in this area. This is a serious issue at school times and is an accident waiting to happen. I realise that this is a regional road but there are no other options for buses but to park on this road.

**Response**

Longford County Council will consider this proposal following consultation with the Gardai and the TII regarding this matter. Any new parking restrictions would need to be enforced by the Gardai and, as the proposal might impact on the junction with the N55, TII approval may be required.

**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 continue with a footpath on Mills Lane to facilitate the pupils of Ard School Padraig when getting off the bus drop off point to at least be safe on a continued footpath down to the school.

**Response**

The Area Engineer examined the lane and it is likely that if proposed path along the wall on this lane was built to the appropriate width standards, the buses would not be able to use the lane as they currently do. However, as the school is currently looking at building an extension, they could consider providing a path inside the wall to serve the students.

**The following Notice of Motion was proposed by Councillor Turlough McGovern and seconded by Councillor Garry Murtagh in the first instance** **and on the proposal of Councillor Turlough McGovern seconded by Councillor Paraic Brady**

1. I call on Longford County Council to host a Civic Recognition Event to honour Erin Ross

**In accordance with the Standing Orders, on the proposal of Councillor Turlough McGovern seconded by Councillor Paraic Brady the Notice of Motion was amended to:**

I call on Longford County Council to host a Civic Recognition Event to honour Erin Ross (All Ireland Scor Winner) and Fiona Gettings (European Masters Championships in Poland, silver in 3,000m, gold in 8km cross country)

**Response**

It was agreed that a Civic Recognition Event be held to honour both Erin Ross and Fiona Gettings on May 7th following the May Meeting of Granard MD.

On the proposal of Turlough McGovern seconded by Councillor Garry Murtagh it was agreed that the proposed May Meeting of Granard MD now be held in Granard Library at 3:30pm and not Aras an Chontae at 2pm as previously agreed.

The members of Granard Municipal District wished Granard Easter Festival and Granard Booktown Festival committees every success with their upcoming events.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

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

**Claire McNabola**

**Meetings Administrator.**

**Confirmed and adopted at Granard Municipal District Meeting held on the 07 May 2024.**

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

**Cathaoirleach.**