

MINUTES OF MONTHLY MEETING OF MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF TULLAMORE HELD AT 4.00PM ON 10th MARCH 2022 IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, ÁRAS an CHONTAE, TULLAMORE

Present:

Cllr. T. McCormack (Cathaoirleach); Cllr. F. Moran (Leas Cathaoirleach) (*r*); Cllr. D. Owens; Cllr. D. Harvey; Cllr. N. Feighery; Cllr. K. Smollen; Cllr. S. O'Brien (*r*)

In Attendance:

Mr. T. Shanahan, Director of Services; Ms. Jean Ryan, Senior Executive Officer; Mr. J. Connelly, Senior Executive Engineer; Ms B. Corbet, Meetings Administrator; Mr. Derrick Curran Ms. Kathy O'Donnell, Business Development Manager

1. Confirmation of Minutes

The following minutes were approved on the proposal of Cllr. D. Harvey and seconded by Cllr. N. Feighery:

- a) *Minutes of Special Committee Meeting held on 13th February 2022*
- b) *Minutes of Committee Meeting held on 13th February 2022*
- c) *Minutes of Monthly Meeting held on 13th February 2022*

2. Irish Rail

Mr. Derrick Curran and Ms. Kathy O'Donnell presented the report circulated to the members, while largely welcoming the report the members posed a number of questions including reduction in fares; timetables; decarbonisation; maintenance in general and at the cabin; ticket machines; manned hours in Clara; two track facility; connection to the North of the Country; signage.

In response Mr. Curran and Ms. O'Donnell outlined a 20% reduction will commence on Tax Saver tickets initially with roll out to other groups thereafter; new fleet will operate on battery and electric; upgrade of the Cabin has commenced with general maintenance contracted out; ticket machines are in operation 99% of the time following a recent reliability study from the operator; Clara Station is manned Mon-Fri with security checks over the weekend.

Mr. Curran advised he would review the figures pre/post pandemic and arrange for signage for the Clara Station. In addition, he encouraged the members as a group to make a submission to what the community wants and needs.

Cllr. O'Brien and Cllr. Harvey left the meeting

3. Roads Report/Programme

Mr. J. Connelly presented for consideration the Roads Programme for the Municipal District of Tullamore 2022, as circulated to the members. Mr. Connelly advised the members while programme is planned it may need to be reviewed in line with the sharp uplift in costs.

The members welcomed the report and commended Mr. J. Connelly on the value for money and good spread over all areas. They were disappointed to note the CIR allocation has greatly decreased. Mr. T. Shanahan outlined clarification has been sought from the Dept. with respect to the decrease however it is anticipated Offaly County Council have benefited greatly over the past number of years from the shortfall in spend in other Local Authorities.

The Roads Programme for 2022 was agreed by all members.

4. Tullamore Town Parking Bye Laws

Ms. Jean Ryan advised the members that it was proposed to commence the procedure for reviewing the Tullamore Parking By-laws. Ms. Ryan briefed the members on the timescale and work involved in

the review adding that it is anticipated to review the charges and include pay by app/text. In addition, Ms. Ryan assured the members that full consultation with all vested interests would be central to the process and that it will commence with pre-draft consultation with all interested parties. The proposal to commence the review was approved on the proposal of Cllr. N. Feighery and seconded by Cllr. K. Smollen.

5. Regeneration

The members welcomed the report on regeneration as presented by Mr. J. Connelly and information as presented by Ms. J. Ryan with respect to the Clara Town Centre First Plan.

6. Community Grants

Ms. B. Corbet outlined the applications are now available for the 2022 Community Grants Scheme while outlining the various categories of funding included in the application. The scheme will be advertised in the local paper and on social media and it is intended to make an on line application available. The members welcomed the scheme emphasizing that it is a great opportunity to give back to communities.

Furthermore Ms. Corbet encouraged community groups to draw down the funding with respect to 2021 and any other outstanding grant claims.

7. AOB

Review of speed limits will be presented to each MD at an upcoming meeting.

The meeting then concluded.

Signed: _____
Cathaoirleach

Meetings Administrator

Date: _____
14/04/2022