

**MINUTES OF FEBRUARY MONTHLY MEETING OF MUNICIPAL
DISTRICT OF BIRR HELD REMOTELY ON MONDAY 8th FEBRUARY 2021
IN BIRR CIVIC OFFICES, WILMER ROAD, BIRR AT 4.00 P.M.**

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MEMBERS PRESENT: Cllrs P Ormond, J Carroll
J Clendennen, C Claffey and J Leahy

APOLOGIES: Cllr E Dooley

IN ATTENDANCE: Ms Ann Dillon A/DOS, Mr John Mitchell SEE,
Ms Mary Hussey SE Water and Environment
Services OCC, Mr Joe Ruane, Mr Niall Colleary,
Mr Niall Flood and Ms Ann Daly HSE and Ms D
Molloy, Meetings Administrator.

Adoption of Minutes of Meeting in Committee held on 11th January, 2021

On the proposal of Cllr Dooley and seconded by Cllr Claffey the Minutes of the Meeting in Committee of Birr MD held on 11th January, 2021 were adopted.

Adoption of Minutes of Monthly Meeting held on 11th January, 2021.

On the proposal of Cllr Ormond and seconded by Cllr Carroll the Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Birr MD held on 11th January, 2021 were adopted.

Matters Arising from the Minutes of the January meeting:

There were no matters arising from the January meeting.

Water and Environment Services Report

Ms Mary Hussey, SE OCC presented a report to the Members. She also advised that a Climate Action Leadership course was being implemented across the whole Local Authority Sector and that a particular course for the elected Members had been scheduled virtually for Friday 12th February, 2021. The Members thanked her for her report but as they were short on time raised no questions and advised that they would either email their questions to Ms Hussey or ask her to attend a future meeting to answer same.

HSE Update on the delivery of a Primary Care Centre for Birr

Mr Joe Ruane, Mr Niall Colleary, Mr Niall Flood and Ms Ann Daly representing the HSE attended the meeting at the request of the Members to give an update in relation to the delivery of a Primary Care Centre for Birr. The Members were advised that the Primary Care Centre would not be built on the Rectory Lands site as previously indicated as the GP's in the town were not in agreement with the proposal. He said that with the onset of Covid that the process of progressing the PCC had been halted but had been reactivated again in November 2020. He advised that that the three individuals originally involved in the process were re-informed and a timeframe was given to them to submit proposals and this has now been done, the deadline date for this was January 15th. 2021.

The Members expressed their frustration with the delay in the process and the lack of information they had received from the HSE in relation to same. They welcomed the fact that the process had been reactivated but stressed the importance of consideration being given to proximity of the site to the Main Street and also the zoning of the land under the current Development Plan. They also expressed the hope that provision would be made within the Centre for on out of hours doctors service with the intention of this service returning to Birr. The Members asked for a proposed timeline for the PCC to be delivered.

The HSE in response advised the Members that at present they were not in a position to indicate where the sites were located. They also stated that according to the schedule of accommodation for the proposed project it was envisaged that the centre would be approx. 2500 sq. metres in size and will include the provision of mental health services, public health, primary care service, diagnostic services and GP services as well as a space being allocated for a Birr Ambulance base. The Members were informed that the previously earmarked timeframe for the end of 2022 was probably not possible at this time and that it was more likely that the delivery of the project would be in 2023. The HSE assured the Members that they are fully committed to providing a PCC in Birr and now the project was moving forward.

The Members thanked the Reps from the HSE for attending the meeting and giving an update and requested that they would be advised when the decision on a site had been made.

The Members requested that a letter be sent to Mr Ruane, HSE to find out exactly what the next stage was going to be and request that they would be kept informed on when the site selection will happen and when the information will be made available to them.

Any Other Business

1. The Members enquired that due to the current cold spell if it would be possible to supply some grit and salt to small rural areas so they could make safe some blackspots within their own areas. Mr Mitchell advised that he would look in to this.

The Meeting then concluded.

SIGNED: _____

CATHAOIRLEACH

MEETINGS ADMINISTRATOR

DATE: