

MINUTES OF JANUARY MONTHLY MEETING OF MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF BIRR HELD REMOTELY ON TUESDAY 18TH JANUARY, 2022 IN BIRR CIVIC OFFICES, WILMER ROAD, BIRR AT 4.00 P.M.

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

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr Stephane Duclot, DOS, Mr John Mitchell,
Senior Executive Engineer, Birr MD, Ms Lisa
Smyth Hogan, A/ Meetings Administrator.

Minutes Silence as a mark of respect for Aisling Murphy RIP.

Adoption of Minutes of Meeting in Committee held on 29th November, 2021.

On the proposal of Cllr Carroll and seconded by Cllr Leahy the Minutes of the Meeting in Committee of Birr MD held on 29th November, 2021 were adopted.

Adoption of Minutes of Monthly Meeting held on 29th November, 2021.

On the proposal of Cllr Clendennen and seconded by Cllr Dooley the Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Birr MD held on 29th November, 2021 were adopted.

Matters Arising from the Minutes of the October meeting:

There were not matters arising from the November meeting

Roads Report

Mr Mitchell, SEE presented a report to the Members on the Funding process for the Municipal District.

The members thanked John Mitchell, SEE for the comprehensive report on the various funding streams.

- Cllr Carroll asked if consideration could be given to securing footpath funding for the path to Clonoghill graveyard and also the road surface around the wind farm routes at Stonestown. The Killyon Bog road north of Clonbrone is in continuous need of repair. Mr Mitchell advised that this section of road has a peat foundation that results in the road need more attention than other locations.
- Cllr Dooley enquired if there was any funding available to repair the wall on the N62 North of Ferbane at wall as the stones are falling onto the footpath.
- Cllr Clendennen asked where roads were getting impacted very badly and have to be revisited so soon after the works are done. Roads where utility works have been completed are needing attention very soon due to damaged surface. With works ongoing at Stonestown if Offaly County Council could insure that its reinstated to its original state and the remainder stretch of road is surfaced to the same standard. Mr Mitchell advised that recent changes to the road opening licence process should help in this area.
- Cllr Clendennen asked if consideration could be given to the provision of NO HGV on small roads that are not capable of carrying these vehicles.

- Cllr Claffey enquired where a survey was done on St. Rynaghs Road, Banagher in November / December on the length of time that the street lights were reported not working to when they were repaired. Mr Mitchell confirmed that the survey was completed and that this would inform a future Active Travel application. The members asked what is the timeline from time the list is reported to the public light being repaired and could this be improved upon? There were many dark spots and it was quite dangerous.
- Cllr Leahy asked if the footpaths on the Kinnitty Road in Kilcormac could receive attention.

Birr Destination Town Project:

Mr Mitchell advised the Members in relation to the Birr Destination Town Project. The Members complimented Mr Mitchell on the works completed to date, people are beginning to see the quality of works completed, the attention to detail on the sustainable element throughout the works, on good engagement with agencies to bring visitors around the town.

There has been very good communication with Bord Fáilte to encourage visitors to Birr Town and the Members agreed that continued discussion is required to develop Birr as a destination and for night time economy to be developed.

Any Other Business

1. Cllr Claffey advised the members that due to recent closure of the Bank of Ireland branch in Banagher residents in this area had to travel to Birr to withdraw money. Currently there are 2 ATMs in Banagher and they are not able to meet demand for the town the size of Banagher. The Members agreed that it was important the public have access to an ATM.

Vote of Sympathy:

The Members extended a Vote of Sympathy to Joe Dunican and family, Castletown, Fortal, Birr on the recent passing of his father Thomas.

The Meeting then concluded.

SIGNED: _____

CATHAOIRLEACH

MEETINGS ADMINISTRATOR

DATE: