

**MINUTES OF JUNE MONTHLY MEETING OF MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF  
BIRR HELD ON MONDAY 13<sup>TH</sup> JUNE, 2022 IN BIRR CIVIC OFFICES,  
WILMER ROAD, BIRR AT 4.00 P.M.**

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

APOLOGIES: Cllr E Dooley

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr Stephane Duclot, DOS, Mr John Mitchell,  
Senior Executive Engineer, Ms Ann Dillon SEO  
Community & Culture OCC, Ms Deirdre Molloy,  
Meetings Administrator.

**Adoption of Minutes of Meeting in Committee held on 10<sup>th</sup> May, 2022.**

On the proposal of Cllr Leahy and seconded by Cllr Clendennen the Minutes of the Meeting in Committee of Birr MD held on 10<sup>th</sup> May, 2022 were adopted.

**Adoption of Minutes of Monthly Meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> May, 2022**

On the proposal of Cllr Claffey and seconded by Cllr Ormond the Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Birr MD held on 10<sup>th</sup> May, 2022 were adopted.

**Matters Arising from the Minutes of the May meeting:**

There were no matters arising from the May meeting

**Community and Culture Report**

Ms Ann Dillon SEO, Community & Culture OCC, presented a report to the Members outlining the role and function of the Local Community Development Committee and projects that are currently being undertaken and supported. The Members thanked Ms Dillon for her report and enquired about the following:

- Congratulated the work currently being undertaken with the Ukranian refugees and acknowledged the use of the Birr Outdoor Education Centre in providing accommodation for them. Acknowledged the work carried out by all the state agencies and local communities in welcoming the Ukranian people and making their transition as seamless as possible. Ms Dillon advised that an additional €5 million has been allocated nationally for the Ukranian refugee response but as of yet it is not clear how much of this will be allocated locally.
- Raised concerns about the amount of derelict buildings within the MD that are blocking economic progress and enquired as to what can be done or are there more resources needed to tackle these properties and perhaps penalise owners.
- The Members acknowledged the great work being carried out by volunteers in community groups and the funding provided to them e.g. Meals on Wheels and Community Centre Investment Fund.

**Roads Report**

Mr John Mitchell, SEE presented a roads update report to the Members. The Members thanked him for his report and raised the following:

- Enquired about correspondence that had been received from Rath National School re concerns for safety at the school, Mr Mitchell advised that he would be happy to meet with the Principal of the school to discuss the matter.
- Concerned in relation to the rise in costs due to inflation and will this mean that some works outlined on the Roads Programme will have to be held over to next year to be carried out.
- Welcomed the allocation for the LIS schemes and enquired as to where we are with the current list, Mr Mitchell advised that he expected that there would be approximately two schemes still outstanding from the 2020 list by year-end. He also advised that a new scheme was advertised and the closing date is 15<sup>th</sup> June, 2022, these applications will then be adjudicated on and added to the current list.
- Welcomed the works carried out on Pony's Bridge and enquired as to when the TVR scheme in Shinrone would be commencing, Mr Mitchell advised that it was hoped that the works would start in Shinrone in the next couple of weeks.
- The Members advised that they were receiving a lot of calls in relation to cutting of grass verges and hedges that are overgrown, Mr Mitchell advised that at present cutting was only taking place for the purpose of surface dressing works and as safety measures if junctions were proving to be dangerous.
- Complimented Mr Mitchell on the great work that was carried out in Kinnitty as it was now looking better than ever, but enquired if more communication could be entered into with the community before any further works commence e.g to advise on timelines for work to be carried out.
- The Members enquired if they could be circulated with a timetable of when the road sweeper is working in each area and therefore the communities and local community groups would know when cars should be removed from the streets to allow them to be cleaned, Mr Mitchell agreed to circulate same.
- The issue of the location of recycling banks in Kilcormac was raised as they had to be moved from their current location and a new site for them is being looked at.
- Enquired about the speed ramps at the Marina in Banagher that were taken up, when would they be put back down, Mr Mitchell advised that he would investigate same.
- Complimented the work carried out at Cuba Ave in Banagher and enquired as to when Phase 2 of the works would commence, Mr Mitchell advised that this is currently being discussed with the NTA.
- The Members enquired about results of speed surveys that were carried out in various locations in the district and when calming measures were likely to take place. Mr Mitchell advised that they would liaise with the Gardai in relation to some of the areas and if further surveys were required they would be carried out.
- The Members enquired if any response had been received from the Dept in relation to works to be carried out at the junction at Boolinarrig, Mr Mitchell advised that he would have to liaise with the roads section in OCC and revert to the Members.
- What is the position in relation to the flooding at Syngefield and also there are a lot of potholes in the pathway to the graveyard at Clonoghill, Mr Mitchell advised that they are looking at a solution to alleviate the flooding and then the footpath can be resurfaced.

- The Members enquired if there was any progress in relation to the proposed link road from the Tullamore Rd to the Banagher Rd in Birr, Mr Mitchell advised this our Roads Section were awaiting Department approval to proceed with the appointment of Consultants for the detailed design of the scheme.
- Raised the issue of the 2 cycle lanes at Coach Rd in Birr and were advised that this would be addressed in the Local Area Plan currently being prepared.

The Meeting then concluded.

SIGNED: \_\_\_\_\_

**CATHAOIRLEACH**

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**MEETINGS ADMINISTRATOR**

**DATE:**