

**MINUTES OF MONTHLY MEETING OF MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF BIRR  
HELD REMOTELY ON MONDAY 29<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER, 2021 IN BIRR CIVIC  
OFFICES, WILMER ROAD, BIRR AT 4 P.M.**

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

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr Stephane Duclot, DOS, Mr  
John Mitchell Birr MD, Mr Pat  
Dermody Birr MD, Willie Ryan  
A/SE Roads, Michael Mullarkey  
and Ms Sandra Devery A/  
Meetings Administrator.

**Adoption of Minutes of Meeting in Committee held on 15<sup>th</sup> October,  
2021**

On the proposal of Cllr Carroll and seconded by Cllr Clendennen the Minutes of the Meeting in Committee of Birr MD held on 15<sup>th</sup> October, 2021 were adopted.

**Adoption of Minutes of Monthly Meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> October, 2021.**

On the proposal of Cllr Carroll and seconded by Cllr Clendennen the Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Birr MD held on 15<sup>th</sup> October, 2021 were adopted.

**Matters Arising from the Minutes of the October Meeting:**

There were no matters arising from the October Meeting.

**Section 11 Declaration of a public road between Turraun and Leabeg**

Mr John Mitchell presented a report describing the Section 11 procedure completed for an existing road from its junction with the R357 at the RC Church in Boora, Leabeg, north for a distance of 2,800m – (Known as “The Offaly Way”). The road will provide a walking and cycling connection between the Grand Canal and the Lough Boora Parklands. Mr Mitchell advised the members that Just Transition funding has been secured to improve the section of road. He also advised that no submissions or observations had been received in relation to the proposal and on the proposal of Cllr Dooley and seconded by Cllr Leahy the road was declared a public road.

Cllr Dooley asked that consideration be given to placing a weight restriction on the road to avoid damage by larger vehicles. Cllr Dooley also enquired as to the level of maintenance costs for the Greenway. Mr Willie Ryan agreed to consider the placing of a weight restriction on the route. He also advised the members that the maintenance of the completed sections of the Greenway had been carried out by Waterways Ireland for 3 years and that costs were not significant but this would continue to be reviewed.

## **District Engineers Report**

Mr John Mitchell presented a report to the Members outlining current works being carried out and funding that had been secured for additional works:

The Members thanked Mr Mitchell for his report, and complimented him and his staff on the great work being carried out within the MD. They then raised the following points:

Cllr Claffey asked that the reinstatements of a boundary wall on a drainage scheme on the Harbour Road, Banagher be considered before the drainage scheme is completed. Cllr Claffey also requested that footpath improvements be considered for St. Rynagh's road and Cuba avenue in Banagher. Mr Mitchell advised that a road width survey would be completed before the year end and that these and other similar schemes would be considered for NTA funding in the new year.

Cllr Clendennen enquired as to the timeline for the delivery of the Pollagh TVR scheme and emphasized the importance of providing information boards for schemes. Mr Mitchell advised that work on this scheme would commence in early 2022. Mr Mitchell advised in response to Cllr Clendennen's query that a pedestrian crossing at Kinnitty NS will be considered as part of the "Route to the Trails" ORIS scheme. i

Cllr Leahy requested that a road sweeping schedule for towns be circulated for the new year. He also highlighted the need to consider salting on local roads in the vicinity of schools and asked that consideration be given to providing a footpath link between Kilcormac and the Faithful Fields.

Cllr Carroll enquired as to the status of a CIS scheme at Lusmagh. Mr Mitchell advised that the scheme was scheduled to be completed shortly. Cllr Carroll asked that the need for a loading bay at the post office on Main St. Birr be examined. Cllr Carroll also highlighted the importance of working together with Tidy Towns Groups to improve towns and villages.

Cllr Dooley requested that OCC engage with the TII to improve drop-off and bus set-down arrangements at the national school on the N62 in Ferbane town. Cllr Dooley also highlighted the issue of dog fouling and asked that our Environment Section be consulted on how to address the problem.

Cllr Ormond thanked the MD staff for all the work completed during the year, in particular the great progress made on flooding issues. He asked that the members be advised of the different timeframes for the funding of different projects. Mr Mitchell advised the members of the timeframes for the usual funding streams. Cllr Ormond also asked if a footpath link from the town to the Faithful Fields could be prioritized.

**Any Other Business**

1. The Members requested the HSE be advised of the topics they would like to be addressed and that they be invited to attend the January 2022 Municipal District Meeting.
2. The Members asked that contact numbers be circulated to the members to cover the Christmas period.

The Meeting then concluded

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

**CATHAOIRLEACH**

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**MEETINGS ADMINISTRATOR**

**DATE:**