

**MINUTES OF MONTHLY MEETING OF MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF BIRR  
HELD IN CROGHAN ROOM, ARAS AN CHONATE, TULLAMORE  
AT 4.30 P.M. ON MONDAY 9<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER, 2019**

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

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Mr Frank Heslin, Director of Services, Mr John Mitchell SEE, Ms D Molloy, Meetings Administrator.

**Adoption of Minutes of Monthly Meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> September, 2019**

On the proposal of Cllr. Carroll, seconded by Cllr. Leahy the Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the Municipal District of Birr held on 9<sup>th</sup> September, 2019 were adopted.

**Roads Update**

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

- When is the announcement likely to be made for funding for Urban & Village Renewal Schemes, Mr Mitchell advised he did not know for certain but that it was likely to be later in September. Concerns were raised in relation to the length of time taken to complete current schemes and asked that perhaps one area could be completed fully before another area is started
- Enquired when the works are to be started in Green St and would the concerns raised by the residents and businesses be addressed before the work starts, Mr Mitchell advised that all issues would be addressed before the work commences
- Welcomed the draft plan for works at Lusmagh and enquired if this plan would be going back out for further public consultation, welcomed the works that are being carried out in different areas but felt that the traffic management plans in place could be better in some cases.
- Asked that a report on winter maintenance be brought to the next meeting. Mr Mitchell advised that he would have to check to see if this was being brought before the SPC for consideration.
- The Members advised that they are receiving a lot of complaints from the public in relation to overgrown ditches and grass verges in multiple areas, and asked that there would be greater enforcement in this area.
- The Members enquired about work being carried out on a footpath in Pullough that needs repair and is essential for access for a person with a disability, Mr Mitchell advised that work would be completed in the coming week.
- The Members enquired about the funding that was received to carry out exploratory investigations on the peat based roads and where this was at now or if there was anything back from the Dept. on same, Mr Mitchell advised that the survey is still ongoing.
- The Members wondered if there was any update in relation to the meeting held about the traffic lights in Cloghan, they were advised that it is intended to install further loop detection as part of a paving scheme later in the year.

- Issue in relation to the traffic lights at Ferbane warning signs need to put in place for the public, Mr Mitchell advised that he was in discussion with Roads Section in OCC in relation to same.
- Flooding on N62 north of Ferbane, Mr Mitchell agreed to investigate same.
- Minor works that need to be carried out in housing estates are being neglected, and these works need to be prioritised, Mr Mitchell advised that there had been a dedicated fund for these works over the last couple of years which was being managed in conjunction with the housing section in Tullamore and he would have to look at next years programme to see what is available.
- Raised the issue of the roadworks calendar being managed better as some works were not carried out prior to events happening, Mr Mitchell advised that he was unaware of same and asked that if the members had any individual issues in relation to same that they would approach him directly.

## **Water and Environment Services Progress Report**

Ms Mary Gaughran Water and Environment Services presented the current report to the Members. The Members thanked her for her report and raised the following:

- Litter and fly tipping continues to be a huge problem with large bags of refuse just being thrown around, the Members suggested that a name and shame policy needs to be introduced to discourage the perpetrators. The Members felt that the public should have to declare where their rubbish is being disposed of or what collectors they are using. They were advised that under the Segregation of Waste byelaws everyone must prove how they are disposing of their rubbish.
- The Members acknowledged a problem that arose in Roscomroe School in relation to lack of water supply and thanked Clareen GWS for giving a temporary supply and to OCC and the school principal for sorting the issue. Ms Gaughran advised that a more permanent solution was being looked at.
- Welcomed the tenders for works at Cloghan and Shinrone.
- The Members complimented the works carried out in Clonohill cemetery, but acknowledged that there is still a very limited budget available for the maintenance of burial grounds and we are heavily dependent on local communities for the upkeep of the burial grounds
- The Members enquired as to what is the position with GWS e.g. Mile Tree that still have not been taken over by Irish Water, Ms Gaughran agreed to look in to this matter.
- What are the plans to look at the impact of what will happen once Bord Na Mona cease operation, and what plans are in place to combat the issues that will be left behind, Ms Gaughran advised that this would have to be looked at further.

## **Notice of Motion**

Notice of Motion by Cllr John Leahy “Propose that Birr Municipal District Roads Department design a street parking policy on the Oxmantown Mall Road, Birr that caters for residents needs and the needs of businesses on the street”. The Members supported the motion put forward but also requested that an overall study of the town be carried out to address issues that were being brought forward in other areas.

**Any Other Business**

It was agreed that Birr 20:20 would be invited to give a presentation to the Members at the October meeting of Birr MD.

The Meeting then concluded.

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

**CATHAOIRLEACH**

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**MEETINGS ADMINSTRATOR**

**DATE:**