

**Municipal District of Edenderry**  
*Bardasach Dúiche Éadan Doire*

**MINUTES**

<b>Meeting:</b>	<b>Main Committee</b>	Municipal District of Edenderry
<b>Location:</b>	Áras and Chontae Chamber & Remote attendance	
<b>Time:</b>	<b>3:30pm</b>	<b>Wednesday, 09<sup>th</sup> March 2022</b>
<b>Present:</b>	Cathaoirleach Cllr. Liam Quinn Leas-Cathaoirleach Cllr. Robert McDermott Cllr. Noel Cribbin (remotely) Cllr. John Foley Cllr. Eddie Fitzpatrick Cllr. Mark Hackett	Edenderry Municipal District Edenderry Municipal District Edenderry Municipal District Edenderry Municipal District Edenderry Municipal District Edenderry Municipal District
<b>In Attendance:</b>	Sharon Kennedy Mark Mahon Amanda Pedlow Enda Daly John Briody Louise Direen Padraig Hannon	District Director District Engineer Heritage Officer Executive Engineer Executive Engineer District Administrator General Services Supervisor

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**AGENDA ITEMS**

**1. Confirmation of Minutes from the February Meeting**

It was proposed by Cllr. Fitzpatrick and seconded by Cllr. Hackett that the minutes of the Main Committee Meeting held on the 09<sup>th</sup> February 2022 be adopted.

**2. Heritage Officer Presentation**

Heritage Officer Amanda Pedlow's Presentation outlined the preparation of the 5<sup>th</sup> Offaly Heritage Plan. This new Plan contains 8 Action Areas and Amanda provided an overview was given of all projects/works delivered over the last 5 years. She outlined that this year's Creative Ireland Programme has a budget of almost €200k coming to Offaly County Council to cover a wide range of planned projects and stated that her office is open to any

community groups for help and advice. The Elected Members thanked Ms. Pedlow for her comprehensive report and acknowledged her enthusiasm and efficiency. District Director Sharon Kennedy thanked Ms. Pedlow for her hard work and innovation and also for her enthusiasm and indicated that multiple benefits come from singular projects, citing the nature of projects supported through Creative Ireland funding. The Elected Members raised a number of issues pertaining to the Presentation and the Heritage Officer addressed same.

### 3. GMA Applications

2 new applications were considered by the Members. Having been proposed by Cllr. Quinn and seconded by Cllr. Fitzpatrick, the following details were accepted:

Application	Reason for Funding	Amount
Edenderry Community First Responders	Set up of emergency volunteer response group to operate under HSE & NAS calls related to stroke, chest pain & cardiac arrest	€3,500
Edenderry Festival Committee	Organise & host a summer festival of music, theatre, arts & historical content (stage shows, fun fairs, workshops)	Postponed to April meeting, for further information.
Cloneygowan Community Development	Renovation of pump area, landscaping and Insurance costs	€1,770 granted, balance from previous amounts paid of €750 18/03/2020 & €980 on 19/04/2021.

### 4. Swimming Pool Update

District Director Sharon Kennedy confirmed that the options in relation to the development of a new swimming pool are still being considered. She also advised that a site is being considered for community purposes and engagement is taking place with the Office of Public Works with regard to same.

### 5. Library Development

District Director Sharon Kennedy outlined that Offaly County Council was successful in securing RRDF Funding at the start of the year and this project is now underway. A design team is being procured for the design of the library and public art space through a formal E-Tenders process. Updates on the progress of this project will be provided going forward. She extended her thanks

to District Engineer Mark Mahon, Executive Engineer John Briody and County Librarian Eimear McGinn for all their work to date.

Cllr. Cribbin expressed his thanks to Jeff Traynor who is standing down from his current position of Chairperson of the current Swimming Pool Committee in Edenderry, acknowledging all his hard work over his years of involvement and that he will be disappointed to see him leave. Cllr. Quinn echoed these sentiments.

## **6. Inward Investment and Local Enterprise Development**

District Director Sharon Kennedy stated that the Members are already familiar with the development at Rhode Green Energy Park, noting that €1m was secured through the Just Transition Fund with works due to commence this year. She also reminder the Members of the on-going research project being funded though GNI Innovation Fund. She advised that Siemens have been appointed as project leaders to carry out a feasibility study which will be funded through the North Offaly Development Fund. She expressed her gratitude to District Director Mark Mahon and the Head of the Local Enterprise Office Orla Martin for their continued work and innovation, to RPS for their work to date and to North Offaly Development Fund along with their Chairperson Eugene Mulligan who have been so supportive. Cllr. Quinn and Cllr. Cribbin paid compliment to all involved in the project.

## **7. Public Utility Capacity Issues**

It was noted that there is no update at this point in time.

## **8. Area Issues/updates (Roads Programme 2022)**

District Engineer Mark Mahon confirmed notification from the Dept. of Transport of our funding allocation received 15/02/2022, and went through the different elements within the Roads Programme. He highlighted that the Edenderry Municipal District programme for the year comprised of over 100 roads and bridge projects with a total planned spend of €5.94m. As part of his presentation he outlined a Pilot Scheme Project in the amount of €800k over a 2- year period to test the roads over peatland.

The Area Update covered various projects such as climate adaptation works on St. Conleth's Road and the provision of ducting at Blundell Park. He showed photographs of works underway at the old Tesco/future library site by contractors Hegarty Demolition and noted that the programme of scheduled works is on track.

Works are progressing as per the programme for the Inner Relief Road and the ESB cables have been removed.

A brief update was given on works underway in the Clonmullen Area and the R401 Junction re-alignment and the report also outlined that the Active Travel works are underway in Portarlington with further updates to follow in due course. Mr. Mahon also acknowledged the work of Executive Engineer Enda Daly in progressing the Roads Programme underway.

Cllr. Cribbin thanked the District Engineer for all his work and requested that an information flyer is circulated to the Clonmullen residents with an update on works and expected timelines. Cllr. Fitzpatrick reiterated these sentiments while also welcoming the new General Services Supervisor Pdraig Hannon to the Portarlington area. Cllr. Foley mentioned that he is a public representative for approx. 23 years and noted the level of work that is taking place in the area while acknowledging the challenging times experienced in the current economic climate. He also expressed his concern relating to the issue of illegal parking in the town highlighting the need of recruiting a Traffic Warden without delay. Cllr. Hackett and Cllr. Quinn expressed their thanks to the District Engineer, his team and all in the office for all their hard work. The Elected Members raised a number of issues pertaining to the Roads Programme and Area Update with Mr. Mahon addressing these concerns.

#### **9. Notices of Motion**

None

#### **10. Written Questions**

None

#### **11. Correspondence**

District Director Sharon Kennedy and Meetings Administrator Louise Direen outlined correspondence received from the HSE noting their willingness to attend the monthly meeting for April or May but requesting a list of all issues and concerns to be addressed at same prior to this date. The District Director has agreed that she will make contact with Mr. Ruane of the HSE in relation to this matter.

A further letter was received from Edenderry St. Patrick's Day Committee thanking the Elected Members for their recent contribution while giving the member the opportunity to be judges on the day of the parade if any of them were free or willing to do so. The Members were requested to respond to the Committee directly.

Cllr. Cribbin requested that a senior official from the Go-Ahead bus company be invited to attend an MD meeting in order to address issues and specific incidences relating to the bus service at

present. Cllr. McDermott also outlined specific incidents that took place recently while also being made aware that the bus real-time updates don't work on android devices.

**12. Any Other Business**

Cllr. Cribbin noted there is an issue with water running down the road at Francis Street due to the presence of a spring underground. He acknowledged that this issue had been dealt with previously but now the situation has arisen again and requested that this matter be investigated.

This concluded the business of the meeting. The next meeting is scheduled to take place on the 13<sup>th</sup> April 2022.

**Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Cathaoirleach**

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_