

Municipal District of Edenderry
Bardasach Dúiche Éadan Doire

MINUTES

Meeting: Main Committee
Location: Chamber, Town Hall, Edenderry

Time: 3:30pm **Wednesday, 13th November 2024**

Present:	Cathaoirleach Cllr. Fergus McDonnell	Edenderry Municipal District
	Leas-Chathaoirleach Claire Murray	Edenderry Municipal District
	Smale (FF)	
	Cllr. Claire Murray (SF)	Edenderry Municipal District
	Cllr. Noel Cribbin	Edenderry Municipal District
	Cllr. Eddie Fitzpatrick (Remotely)	Edenderry Municipal District
Cllr. Liam Quinn	Edenderry Municipal District	

Apologies:

In Attendance:	Andrew Murray	A/District Director
	Joe Harte	District Engineer
	Enda Daly	Executive Engineer
	Louise Direen	District Administrator

In attendance for part of meeting:	Deirdre Fox	Manager, Offaly Volunteer Centre
	Cormac Nolan	Community Volunteer Programme Co-Ordinator (OVS)
	Barry Lennon	Senior Engineer, Roads
	Thomas Fitzpatrick	Executive Engineer, Roads
	Rory Moore	SEE, Active Travel
Dermot Egan	Healthy Ireland Co-Ordinator	

AGENDA ITEMS

Cathaoirleach Cllr. Fergus McDonnell welcomed everyone to the November monthly meeting.

1. Confirmation of Minutes from the October Meeting

It was proposed by Cllr. Quinn and seconded by Cllr. Murray Smale that the minutes of the monthly meeting held on 16th October 2024 be adopted.

2. Offaly Volunteer Centre/Community Volunteers Programme – Deirdre Fox

Ms. Deirdre Fox, Manager discussed the operations of the Offaly Volunteer Centre based in Tullamore covering the following topics:

- Who Are We?
- What Do We Do?
- Organisational Needs
- Garda Vetting Service
- Community Volunteers Programme
- What is Community Volunteering?
- Why Become a Community Volunteer?
- Role of Community Volunteers
- Testimonials
- How Can I Get Involved?

The Members congratulated Ms. Fox on her presentation where she addressed all their queries.

3. Roads Update – Barry Lennon

Senior Engineer Barry Lennon presented a Roads Update to the Members in relation to the following:

- Overall Roads Programme Budget of €27m
- Works at Monasteroris
- Highlights
- Default Speed Limits (from 80km p/h to 60km p/h)
- Direct Labour Works
- Taking In Charge of Estates
- Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Strategy 2022 – 2025
- Traffic Calming Strategy

Mr. Lennon also acknowledged the high standard of work carried out by the Engineers based in the District and addressed all queries raised by the Members.

4. Healthy Offaly Round 4 – Dermot Egan

Healthy Ireland Co-Ordinator Dermot Egan discussed Round 4 of the Healthy Offaly Programme covering the following topics.

- Background
- Healthy Offaly Actions 2023/2024
- 2024 Projects
- Healthy Ireland Funding Round 4 Budget

All Members thanked Mr. Egan for his comprehensive report, emphasising the good work being carried out by his department and the fair distribution of projects throughout the County.

5. GMAs

Eight applications were considered by the Members. Having been proposed by Cllr. Cribbin and seconded by Cllr. Quinn the following details were accepted:

Application	Funding Requested	Reason for Funding	Funding given
Kilmalogue Gardens Residents Association	€750	General upkeep and maintenance of estate	€750
Geashill/Ballinagar Active Retirement	€750	Funding towards hosting Christmas Party to celebrate 60 th anniversary of group	€750
Geashill Old School Management Committee	€750	Funding towards essential maintenance and repairs of the building - a listed heritage property	€750
Rhode Community Preschool Ltd	€750	Funding towards purchase of new computer equipment	€750
Eden Chorale	€750	Funding to host Christmas concert/soloist	€750
Croghan Local Development Group	€3,750	Funding towards cost of roof repairs following storm damage	€3,750

Daingean Town Hall Committee	€5,000	Funding for emergency repairs to roof - leaking from ladies toilet damaging floors	€5,000
Happy Heart Active Retirement Portarlinton	€750	Funding to supplement cost of Christmas outing for members	€750

6. Regeneration/Project Updates

Andrew Murray, A/District Director confirmed the granting of €8.9m from the Large Scale Sport Infrastructure Fund (LSSIF) towards the development of a new swimming pool in Edenderry. Cllr. Cribbin deemed this as great news for the town while Cllr. Quinn stated that we have the capacity to generate funds locally to match fund the amount awarded. Cllr. McDonnell debated the current funding model, that it is tough putting the burden of match funding on Local Authorities.

7. Area Issues/Updates/Roads Update

District Engineer Joe Harte updated the Members in relation to the Roads Programme in what he felt has been a good year for the District, the Roads Programme is now fully complete but acknowledged that challenges may lie ahead in the coming months depending on the weather.

Cllr. Quinn commended the great job carried out at Derrygowley Bridge and the felling of the trees in Ballinagar, declaring that monies should be secured from Central Government/National Fund for the removal of dying ash trees on roadsides. Cllr. Cribbin noted that trees should be maintained from the time they are planted and mentioned that the gullies throughout the town are currently in need of jetting before the weather deteriorates.

Executive Engineer Enda Daly confirmed that a contractor is already in place to carry out these works.

Cllr. McDonnell acknowledged the work carried out on trees around the town to date. Cllr. Murray Smale questioned the erection of a fence at Curragh Hill, Ballinagar, the initial understanding of the residents was a wall would be built, Mr. Daly confirmed this project had to be funded from the District Budget but the possibility of a supplementary CIR application could be explored for additional enhancement works. Cllr. McDonnell questioned the possibility of placing a pedestrian crossing from the Church to the Graveyard.



Cllr. Quinn mentioned that money has been awarded for that part of the town through the Safe Routes to School Programme.

8. Notice of Motion

None at this time

9. Written Questions

None at this time

10. Correspondence

None at this time.

11. Any Other Business

District Administrator Louise Direen presented suggestions for Christmas Parking arrangements in Edenderry for the run up to Christmas. Having been proposed by Cllr. Mc Donnell and seconded by Cllr. Murray, a two-hour period of free parking throughout the town for the full month of December was approved, from Monday, December 02nd to Tuesday, December 24th incl.

This concluded the business of the meeting. The next meeting is scheduled to take place on the 11th December 2024.

Signed:



Cathaoirleach

Date:

11/Dec/24



Comhairle Chontae Uíbh Fhailí
Offaly County Council