

**MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER MEETING OF THE CASTLECOMER MUNICIPAL DISTRICT HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, COUNTY HALL, JOHN STREET, KILKENNY ON MONDAY 21<sup>ST</sup> OF OCTOBER 2019 AT 11.00 AM**

**In the chair:** Cllr John Brennan

**Present:** Cllrs Mary Hilda Cavanagh, Michael Delaney, Pat Fitzpatrick and Denis Hynes

**In attendance:** Martin Prendiville, Philippe Beubry, Martin Mullally, Nancy Byrne, Steve Coverdale, Annette Fitzpatrick and Seamus Kavanagh

**Apologies:** Cllr Michael McCarthy

Cllr John Brennan extended a vote of sympathy to the following:

- To Paddy and Mary Donnelly on the death of their daughter.

**1. Confirmation of Minutes of :-**

**(a) September Meeting of the Municipal District of Castlecomer**

The minutes were proposed by Cllr Pat Fitzpatrick, seconded by Cllr Mary Hilda Cavanagh and agreed.

**2. Consideration of Reports and Recommendations:**

**(a) Broadband**

Steve Coverdale attended the meeting and provided an update on the current status on the broadband issue in Castlecomer.

As EIR weren't progressing investment in Castlecomer, KCC had made contact with Signal last May. Signal indicated that they were interested in putting infrastructure in Castlecomer, however, Signal were acquired by another company during the Summer and this has resulted in a delay in them progressing investment in the necessary infrastructure. Signal have applied for planning permission for infrastructure around Kilkenny city but had been refused. Signal have indicated that they intend reapplying for planning permission.

Mr Prendiville advise that EIR are a very important player but haven't engaged. Signal can offer a different solution. KCC would continue to try and push both to provide a solution.

**(b) Road Works Programme update**

**- Restoration Improvement**

Philippe Beubry provided an update on phase 1 and 2 of the restoration improvement works scheduled for Freshford. Mr Beubry confirmed that works at Barrack Street & Barrowmount, Goresbridge are scheduled for completion during the week commencing 28<sup>th</sup> of October.

**- Low Cost Schemes**

- Philippe Beubry confirmed that works at Murphy's Cross, Goresbridge are scheduled for completion by a contractor the following week (Imprint asphalt).
- In relation to works scheduled for Dowling's Cross, Mr Beubry outlined that an issue had arisen in relation to title to the necessary land and works will not proceed in 2019. Mr Beubry confirmed that this funding (€25,000) will be re-allocated to the extension of footpaths and kerbing at Muckalee with works scheduled for completion in early November.
- Mr Beubry confirmed that the location of the new pedestrian crossing at Main Street, Urlingford has been revised to between the Church and the Library as a result of concerns raised by a local business.
- Mr Beubry circulated proposals for safety improvements at Abbey Grove Junction, Gowran and confirmed that these proposals will be presented to residents. He confirmed that he had presented

the two options to the owner of the filling station located beside the junction. The proposal, in conjunction with works being undertaken by the garage owner will improve road safety at this location; The scheme has been placed No.1 on the priority list of proposed Low Cost Accident Schemes for 2020. Mr Beubry also informed the Members that the proposal includes the introduction of speed cushions on both approaches to the junction.

- Mr Beubry provided details of two sections of overlay completed on the N77 under the HD28 TII Programme at Ballyconra and near Ballyragget Bridge.
- Mr Beubry provided details of public lighting retrofitting currently being completed on the N77 and N78 - N.77, Ballyragget 52 lights, Grant allocation € 29,000 and N.78, Castlecomer 109 lights, Grant allocation € 59,300

Contributions were received from the members: -

- Members acknowledged the volume of road works being delivered.
- Mr Beubry was commended for his decision to re-direct funding from Dowling's Cross to footpaths at Muckalee. A number of near misses at Dowling's Cross was raised and a timeline for resolution of the issue which had arisen was sought.

### **(c) Taking in Charge update**

Annette Fitzpatrick provided a detailed presentation on Taking in Charge of Estates/Bonds and provided an update on the current 8 estates in the Castlecomer Municipal District Area.

Contributions were received from the members as follows:

Ms Fitzpatrick was thanked for the comprehensive presentation provided.

- A request was made to have the taking in charge of Haven Court, Ballyragget expediated in light of the deteriorating condition of the estate.
- Issues of anti-social behaviour and trespass were raised in relation to the Moneenroe Estate along with clarification sought on the actual boundary of the estate.
- Poor lighting at An Choill Rua, Paulstown was raised and Ms Fitzpatrick confirmed that she will revert to the developer.

### **3. Business prescribed by Statute, Standing Orders or Resolutions of the Council for transaction at such meeting.**

None

### **4. Other business set forth in the Notice convening the meeting.**

Items submitted by the members

#### **(a) Cllr Mary Hilda Cavanagh**

##### **(i) The road from Corstown Cross to Ballydun, Rathmoyle and through the Townsland of Dreelingstown.**

Philippe Beubry is to check if that this road is included in the current Multi Annual Restoration Improvement Programme.

#### **(b) Cllr Pat Fitzpatrick**

##### **(i) Taking-in-charge update.**

Cllr Fitzpatrick acknowledged that this item had been dealt with under 2 (c) above.

##### **(ii) Progress report on road safety issues in Gowran.**

Cllr Fitzpatrick acknowledge that this item had been dealt with under 2(b) above.

#### **(c) Cllr Denis Hynes**

##### **(i) Update on additional housing planned for Goresbridge.**

Cllr Denis Hynes outlined concerns raised by Goresbridge Business Community as a result of lack of new social housing developments in the town. Martin Mullally confirmed that the housing list for Goresbridge is low but that there is a current turnkey scheme of 9 units planned for Goresbridge but did not know when it will commence. Mr Mullally also provided details of a 2-acre site in Goresbridge for sale and stated the site had limitations that may render the site unsuitable for future development.

**(ii) Update from Irish Water on the Clogh / Moneenroe Water Scheme.**

Martin Mullally confirmed that a letter was issued to Irish Water following the September Municipal District meeting. Cllr John Brennan advised that he understood that Irish Water do intend completing Ice Piggings on the entire Clogh / Moneenroe Water Scheme. An issue was raised regarding Irish Water's refusal to attend meetings of the Castlecomer Municipal District to which Cllr Brennan advised that Irish Water's view is that holding clinics supersedes this requirement.

**(iii) Update and timeframe on the transfer of the Group Water Scheme in the Paulstown Housing Estates to Irish Water / Local Authority.**

Seamus Kavanagh confirmed that tender documents have been prepared for the Gowran, Goresbridge and Paulstown Water Schemes. Mr Kavanagh confirmed that this will be an 18-month contract with the contractor due on site in 2020 and connections expected in 2021. Mr Kavanagh confirmed that an application for funding for ancillary works had also been made.

**5. Notices of Motion**

None

**6. Correspondence**

- (a) Correspondence from Minister Richard Bruton's office relating to Broadband Issues in Castlecomer was circulated with the agenda. Members were advised of additional correspondence received from Minister Bruton's Office relating to Broadband, this correspondence was circulated to all.

**7. Matters arising from minutes**

**Church at Grangefertagh**

Martin Prendiville circulated correspondence received from Tony Lauhoff, Facilities Management following Mr Lauhoff's inspection of Grangefertagh Church. Mr Prendiville confirmed that he will endeavour to source funding for the project. Cllr Mary Hilda Cavanagh acknowledged the level of funding required and thanked Mr Prendiville for the work undertaken to date.

**8. Any other business**

**(a) Formalise nomination to meet with TII.**

The nomination of Cllr John Brennan was proposed by Cllr Pat Fitzpatrick, seconded by Cllr Mary Hilda Cavanagh and agreed as the delegate to represent the Castlecomer Municipal District at meetings with TII.

**(b) Agree date for the Municipal District Budget meeting.**

Members agreed to hold the Castlecomer Municipal District Budget Meeting at 2.30 on the 11<sup>th</sup> of November. It was also agreed that the Municipal District's November Ordinary Meeting would follow directly afterwards.

**(c) Drainage works on the Castlecomer Road**

Cllr Fitzpatrick enquired date of scheduled works at Julianstown on the N.78.

**(d) Road at Rathmacan, Kyleballyoughter, Tullaroan**

Cllr Cavanagh requested that potholes on the road at Rathmacan be given attention. Mr Beubry advised that repairs to this road will be included in the patching programme. Mr Beubry also confirmed that this road is included in the current Multi Annual Restoration Improvement Programme.

**(e) Deane's Cross, Tullaroan**

Cllr Cavanagh requested the provision of a crossroads sign. Philippe Beubry to investigate.

**(f) Road Numbers.**

Philippe Beubry clarified that numbers are provided on all roads exiting off regional roads. Cllr Cavanagh requested that consideration be given in the estimates to the provision of numbers on all roads on a phased basis.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Chairperson: \_\_\_\_\_

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