

Minutes of the December Meeting of the Municipal District of Callan-Thomastown

Date: Wednesday 9th December, 2020 at 4.00p.m.

Venue: Meeting conducted via MS Teams remote access

Chair: Cllr Peter Chap Cleere

Present via MS Teams: Cllr Deirdre Cullen, Cllr Matt Doran, Cllr Michael Doyle, Cllr Joe Lyons.

Apologies: Cllr Pat O'Neill

In attendance via MS Teams: Ms Fiona Deegan, Meetings Administrator; Ms Mary Mulholland, Director of Services; Mr. Declan Murphy, Area Engineer; Ms Shauna McHugh, KCLR; Sian Moloughney, Kilkenny People; Ms. Carmel Brett, Staff Officer.

1) Confirmation of Minutes

(a) Minutes of Municipal District Meeting of 11th November, 2020

The Minutes of the Municipal District Meeting of Wednesday 11th November, 2020 were proposed by Cllr Cullen, seconded by Cllr Doyle and agreed.

(b) Minutes of Budget Meeting of the Municipal District of Callan-Thomastown held on 11th November, 2020.

The Minutes of the Budget Meeting of the Municipal District of Callan-Thomastown held on 11th November 2020 were proposed by Cllr Doyle, seconded by Cllr Cullen and agreed.

2) Consideration of Reports and Recommendations

(a) Monthly Roads Update

Mr D. Murphy A/Senior Executive Engineer circulated a report updating the members on the following road related matters:

- Roadworks Programme 2020 – Drainage & footpath works update
- Town & Village Renewal Schemes
- Town & Village Renewal Schemes Accelerated measures due to Covid
- Rural Regeneration Roads Project
- General – Callan and Graiguenamanagh Mobility Management Plans updates, ORIS Abbey Meadow.
- Additional Works - Active Travel update
- Historic Town Initiative Fund – St. Marys, Callan.

The members thanked Mr. Murphy for his update and the following items were raised:

- Timeline for connection of lights on Kilkenny Road into Bennettsbridge – waiting for ESB to connect, anticipated to happen before year end;
- Logan and Low Street, Thomastown – a full report on artefacts found during the archaeological works will be presented to the members once dig is completed.
- Additional safety measures for Killarney Bridge – further road markings to be completed next week with LED flashing signs due for installation in early January; installation of a crash barrier may not be feasible
- Signage for new carpark in Graiguenamanagh – Mr. Murphy will liaise with the Tourism Section, who looks after the County's Signage Strategy
- Potential for new footpath and lighting in Skeoughvosteen – will explore the needs of the community and discuss with Road Design Section. Section 38 to be progressed.
- Potential to take in charge private road at Secondary school linking Mill Road, Graiguenamanagh.

b) Monthly Rural Development Update

Ms Mary Mulholland said many of the Rural Development projects are included in the Roads Update report.

She informed the members that works will commence on the Sessions House, Thomastown in the New Year.

Regarding the relocation of the Library in Thomastown to the disused space beside the Community Centre, she said the Part VIII process has been completed and a planning permission is due for decision at the December Council meeting, noting three submissions had been received.

In answer to the members queries, Ms Mulholland said the original RRDF funding had been granted for an entire envelope of works, not just this project, and a new funding application had to be submitted due to the increased value of the works involved.

While the original funding covered the costs of preparatory works and the compilation of the new funding application, completion of the project is dependant on the receipt of new funding.

If successful, commencement of works would be envisaged sometime after Autumn 2021.

Cllr Cleere thanked Ms. Mulholland for her update.

3) Business prescribed by Statute, Standing Orders or Resolutions of the Municipal District members for transaction of such meeting.

- (a) "That Kilkenny County Council hereby approves of the Decision to extinguish Public Right-of-Way at the following location:
Local Road No. L8203 at Jerpoint West, Thomastown, Co. Kilkenny for approximate length of 80 metres."

Resolution for extinguishment of Right-of-Way was proposed by Cllr Cullen, seconded by Cllr Doran and agreed.

4) Other business set forth in the Notice convening the meeting

There were no items for discussion

5) Notices of Motion

There were no items for discussion

6) Correspondence

(a) **Request for a joint meeting with the New Ross Municipal District of Wexford County Council**

Ms F Deegan informed the members that a request was received from the New Ross Municipal District for a joint meeting with the Callan-Thomastown Municipal District.

Cllr Doyle proposed, Cllr Cullen seconded and all agreed to facilitate this request, with a suggested scheduling of 1.30p.m. on Wednesday 13th January 2021; Ms Deegan will revert to the Cathaoirleach when finalised.

It was clarified that this is not a statutory meeting and whilst it will be available for all members to attend, going forward a representative group will attend any further meeting which may take place.

(b) Any other Business

In response to a query regarding speeding on the N76 at Cuffesgrange and a need for speed reduction, Mr Murphy said that while this can be included in the 2021 countywide speed limit review, TII consent is required for any changes of speed limits on National Roads; it was noted that this issue will be raised at an upcoming meeting between the members and TII.

Schedule of meetings for 2021 was proposed by Cllr Lyons, seconded by Cllr Cullen and agreed.

Cllr Cleere and the members expressed thanks for works carried out during 2020 and Cllr Cleere wished all a Happy Christmas.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Chairperson:



Date:

13/01/21

