

**Minutes of the meeting of the Municipal District of Callan-Thomastown**

**Date:** Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> March, 2020 @ 4p.m.

**Venue:** Kilkenny County Council Callan Area Office, Prologue, Callan, Co. Kilkenny.

**Chair:** Cllr Pat O'Neill

**Present:** Cllr Peter Cleere, Cllr Deirdre Cullen, Cllr Matt Doran, Cllr Michael Doyle, Cllr Joe Lyons.

**In attendance:** Ms Mary Mulholland, Director of Services; Ms Fiona Deegan, Meetings Administrator; Mr Declan Murphy A/Senior Executive Engineer; Ms Maeve Good, Assistant Engineer; Ms Carmel Brett, Staff Officer; Ms Sian Moloughney, Kilkenny People.

**1) Confirmation of Minutes**

The Minutes of the Municipal District Meeting of Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> February 2020 were proposed by Cllr Doran, seconded by Cllr Cullen and agreed.

**2) Reception of Deputation: Bennettsbridge Tidy Towns Committee**

Reception of a deputation from Bennettsbridge Tidy Towns Committee was proposed by Cllr Doran, seconded by Cllr Lyons and agreed.

The following procedure was further agreed for future requests from deputations: Following receipt of a deputation request in accordance with procedures set out in Standing Orders, the request will be brought before the next Municipal District meeting for consideration.

If the members agree to receive the deputation, the deputation will attend at the next scheduled meeting of the Municipal District.

Cllr O'Neill welcomed the deputation of Michele Culliton, Marie Nolan, Margaret Nolan and Patricia Dwan who gave an overview of the history and membership of the group, and the work carried out by them.

They outlined difficulties encountered due to a lack of available TÚS Community Employment (CE) Scheme workers who previously carried out manual work for the group.

They requested the allocation of a Council operative or contractor to carry out regular maintenance such as street sweeping and small works in Bennettsbridge, as well as suggesting a number of projects to enhance road safety.

Members thanked the deputation and acknowledged the work carried out by them.

The hope was expressed that a future revised CE Scheme would have less restrictive criteria for eligibility.

Ms Mulholland said that although CE Schemes are not within the remit of Kilkenny County Council the council have already written to the Department regarding reform on the scheme.

She said that road sweeping is carried out in the scheduled towns and clarified that there is currently no capacity to increase the number of general operatives in the GSS areas.

Grass cutting would be looked at in the context of the whole area.

Cllr O'Neill thanked the deputation who left the meeting.

### **3) Consideration of Reports & Recommendations**

#### **(a) Presentation on Review of Graiguenamanagh Local Area Plan**

This item was deferred to a future meeting.

#### **(b) Road Works Programme 2020**

Cllr Cleere proposed, Cllr O'Neill seconded and all agreed adoption of the Road Works Programme 2020 with amendments as agreed.

#### **(c) Monthly Roads Update**

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

- Road Works Programme 2020 – Restoration Improvements, drainage, low cost safety schemes and footpath works already commenced;
- Town & Village Renewal Schemes;
- Rural Regeneration Roads Projects;
- General – Callan Mobility Management Plan.

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

- Difficulties being experienced by bus drivers when turning at Logan/Low Street, Thomastown – upgrade of Quayside carpark will help alleviate difficulties;
- Structure of roadway at Ballycabbus;
- Request to write to TII regarding imposition of a temporary reduced speed limit to reduce danger at right turns on Callan by-pass – Mr. Murphy will refer to Senior Engineer and Road Design;
- M9 Motorway at Danesfort;
- Inistloge T&V Scheme – it was clarified that lights at the Green are not included in these works;
- Rower T&V Scheme – it was clarified that a public meeting will take place;
- Signage at Norelands.

#### **(d) Monthly Rural Development Update**

Ms Mulholland informed the members that formal planning application for the Sessions House in Thomastown would be lodged before the end of March.

Submissions have not yet been requested for Clár or other funding to date.

Ms Mulholland also said that the councils' data analyst is currently conducting an exercise which will demonstrate which projects have received funding in the last five years and the current stage of these projects. It is hoped to present this information to members in May.

The members thanked Ms Mulholland for her update.

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

There were no items for discussion

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

There were no items for discussion.

6) Notices of Motion

There were no items for discussion.

7) Correspondence

There were no items for discussion.

8) Any Other Business

Mr. Murphy informed the members that Leader is in a position to provide a number of rural bus shelters around County Kilkenny called "super stops" which will provide real time information.

One shelter is proposed for Callan, Thomastown and Killamery with the Council carrying out the civil works for any new communication data required.

However, locations have to be agreed; the Thomastown Mobility Management plan has identified a location in Thomastown and it was agreed that consensus should be sought from the people of Callan and the bus service providers regarding the location of its' bus shelter; this matter to be brought before the Callan Town Team for its consideration.

Mr. Murphy said the draft Callan Mobility Management Plan would investigate issues regarding car parking and bus stop locations.

It was requested that a letter is issued to An Garda Síochána regarding illegal parking in the bus bay in Callan.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Chairperson:

Ret Ce

Date:

20/6/20

