

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

Date: Wednesday 8th March, 2023 at 4.00p.m.

Venue: Meeting by remote access via MS Teams.

Chair: Cllr Matt Doran

Present: Cllr Peter Chap Cleere, Cllr Deirdre Cullen, Cllr Michael Doyle, Cllr Joe Lyons, Cllr Patrick O'Neill.

In attendance: Fiona Deegan, A/Director of Services; Anne Marie Shortall, Meetings Administrator; Declan Murphy, Area Engineer; Carmel Brett, Staff Officer.

1) Confirmation of Minutes

(a) Minutes of the Municipal District meeting of Wednesday 8th February, 2023.

The minutes of the February meeting of the Municipal District held on Wednesday 8th February 2023 were adopted, proposed by Cllr Deirdre Cullen and seconded by Cllr Michael Doyle.

2) Consideration of Reports and Recommendations

(a) Roadworks Programme 2023 (Declan Murphy)

Mr. Declan Murphy gave a presentation to the members on the proposed 2023 Roadworks Programme, saying the Municipal District had an overall budget in excess of €6.3m for Regional and Local Roads and National Roads Maintenance.

Mr Murphy outlined the breakdown of funding for Restoration Improvement, Restoration Maintenance, Discretionary Grant, Drainage, Routine Maintenance of Regional and Local Roads, Low Cost Safety Schemes, Bridge Rehabilitation, Climate Change Adaption and Resilience Works, National Road Maintenance (excluding TII Schemes), former National Roads and Local MD Fund for 2023.

Based on current list and budget there will be one scheme offered under the Community Involvement in roadworks Scheme.

Cllr Doran thanked Mr Murphy for his consultation with the programme and members raised the following items:

- Timeframe for carrying out cleaning works to eye of bridge in Callan – to be scheduled in conjunction with Inland Fisheries who usually stipulate that works cannot be carried out in-river until September but this will be clarified;
- Low-cost safety works to be finalised for the Clonmel Road in Callan, aim is to improve safety for cars exiting from Bolton Woods & Callan Dental.

The Roadworks Programme 2023 was then adopted, proposed by Cllr Peter Chap Cleere, and seconded by Cllr Deirdre Cullen.

(b) Monthly Roads Update (Declan Murphy)

Mr D. Murphy, Area Engineer, updated the members on the following roads related matters, outlining updates and timelines of various projects since his previous report of 8th February, 2023.

- Restoration Improvement works to commence week of 20th March;
- Bridge Street, Callan, Active Travel Scheme – project to go out for tender during March;
- Town & Village renewal works have commenced at the Thomastown recreational area, the main works resurfacing the Dock Road in Graiguenamanagh under ORIS are completed, and ORIS work on a new footpath link between the boat house and Wood Road in Graiguenamanagh has commenced;
- Surfacing works on N10 Danesfort is near completion with all main paving and line-marking works complete. Cats eyes, drainage and landscaping works to follow.

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

- Timeframe for restoration of road surface R448 Dublin Rd, Thomastown – to be clarified with Road Design section re survey works and safety audit.

(c) Monthly Rural Development Update (Anne Marie Shortall)

Ms Anne Marie Shortall updated the members on Rural Development:

- Community Enhancement Grants totalling €273k are available for disadvantaged areas, closing date 31st March;
- Creative Ireland Grant Scheme is now open, closing date for applications 13th March while the Cruinniú na nÓg Grant Scheme has a closing date of 3rd April;
- The Local Economic & Community Plan (LECP) process is ongoing, it is hoped to bring the plan before the County Council Plenary meeting in May;
- The Community & Cultural Facilities Capital Scheme (CCFCS) will open soon and will be advertised inviting expressions of interest;
- Town & Village Renewal – awaiting letter of understanding regarding the old Supervalu building in Thomastown for project development measures;
- Bike week scheduled to take place during May.

The members thanked Ms Shortall for her update

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

There were no items for discussion

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

Ms Anne Marie Shortall confirmed an acknowledgement was received from the Ministers office in response to correspondence regarding additional funding for flooding issues.

7) Any other Business

Ms Fiona Deegan updated the members on the situation regarding displaced Ukrainian persons and that there are currently 140 Ukrainians residing in the Callan-Thomastown Municipal District.

The Municipal District has been allocated €104,000 under the Community Recognition Fund, which supports the development of community infrastructure and facilities in recognition of the contribution of communities in hosting new arrivals. Evaluated projects must be submitted to the Department for approval.

Members noted that the April meeting of the Municipal District will take place in the County Council area office, Callan.

This concluded the business of the meeting

Chairperson: 

