

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

Date: Wednesday 2nd October, 2024 at 3.00p.m.

Venue: Online via MS Teams.

Chair: Cllr P Cleere
Present Cllr Deirdre Cullen, Cllr Stephanie Doheny, Cllr Michael Doyle, Cllr Joe Lyons, Cllr Joe Sheridan.
In attendance: Fiona Deegan, Director of Services; Mr Declan Murphy, Area Engineer; Ms Anne Marie Shortall, Meetings Administrator; Ms Carmel Brett, Staff Officer.
Apologies: None.

1) Confirmation of Minutes

(b) Minutes of the Municipal District meeting of 4th September, 2024.

The minutes of the Municipal District meeting held 4th September, 2024 were adopted, proposed by Cllr J Lyons and seconded by Cllr J Sheridan.

2) Consideration of Reports and Recommendations

(a) Monthly Roads Update (Declan Murphy)

The 3-year Restoration Improvement Programme 2025-2027 was adopted, proposed by Cllr M Doyle and seconded by Cllr S Doheny.

Mr D. Murphy, Area Engineer, updated the members on the following roads related matters, outlining completed and planned projects:

- 2024 Restoration Improvement and Surface Dressing works are now complete;
- Footpath works in Woodlawn, Bennettsbridge are complete, and have commenced in Edmund Rice Estate, Callan;
- Bridge Street Active Travel Scheme – paving complete, tarring & road markings will commence from 21st October;
- Low Cost Safety works to commence in Bennettsbridge 7th October, Phase 2 works Kells Village scheduled mid-October;
- Climate Action works at Station Road, Thomastown are now completed;
- Community Recognition Funded roads project Bennettsbridge will commence 29th October;
- Safe to Schools works commenced Duiske Lane, Graiguenamanagh, safety audit completed on the girls school, due to be submitted shortly for approval of NTA;
- New pedestrian bridge, signage and planting works complete Abbey Meadow, Callan;
- Procurement process is ongoing for sub-contractors to complete a new looped walk connecting Stoneyford to Ennisnag;
- Winter Maintenance Programme will run from 14th October 2024 to 25th April 2025;
- Clár funded works will commence in Coolagh carpark this week;
- Pedestrian railing installed at Stoneyford primary school under Discretionary Works.

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

- Works to date at the Cross in Callan was funded by Active Travel, remaining works on Bridge Street are dependant on 2025 Active Travel funding distribution;
- N76 Callan by-pass works – recent correspondence received from TII authorised progression to Tender stage;
- Possible provision of additional ramps in Callan will be looked at in 2025;
- Kings River update – Phase 1 clearing of eyes of the bridge complete, consultants will be engaged for Phase 2 in-river works envisaged for Q2 2025 subject to prior approval of NPWS and Inland Fisheries;
- Resurfacing, antiskid measures and road-marking works on Danesfort Hill scheduled for 2025;
- Additional speed signage for Bennettsbridge will be assessed in conjunction with potential new National speed limits;
- Traffic speed will be recorded in Kilmoganny to identify issues and remedies;
- Issue with fallen trees in River Nore at Inistioge, D Murphy agreed to follow-up with F Stafford but added water banks are landowners responsibility excepting those under the remit of Waterways Ireland, clarification on the policy governing same can also be sought from the OPW.

(b) Winter Maintenance P3 Routes (Declan Murphy)

Mr D. Murphy, Area Engineer, gave a presentation to the members on the 2024-2025 Winter Service Plan, outlining the ranking of roads for salting services into Priority 3, 2 and 1 routes within the Municipal District.

Routes will be serviced following close monitoring of weather conditions and anticipation of severe weather conditions including low temperatures and precipitation.

Members highlighted locations where salting would be desirable and thanked Mr Murphy for his presentation and information.

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

Ms Anne Marie Shortall informed the members that preparation of the Age Friendly Strategy is underway, with public consultations ongoing, and once completed the Draft Plan will be presented.

Works are ongoing at Thomastown Library, estimated completion date May 2025.

Three community groups are nominated each year for the Pride of Place competition.

This year Inistioge was nominated as one of the groups under the Population category, the awards ceremony will take place in November.

The Danesfort/Kells Mens Shed has been officially opened, with a membership of 26 to date. A number of applicants within the Municipal District received funding under the Sports Capital Grants Scheme.

The majority of grant schemes have now been completed for 2024, and the 2025 grants booklet will be published prior to the end of 2024.

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**

There were no items for discussion

7) **Any other Business**

The members agreed to hold The Budget Meeting at 2.45pm on Wednesday 6th November in the Callan Area Office, immediately prior to the November Municipal District meeting at 3pm.

This concluded the business of the meeting

Chairperson:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'J. P. O' followed by a long horizontal stroke.

