

**Minutes of the January Meeting of the Municipal District of Callan-Thomastown**

**Date:** Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> January, 2025 at 3.00 p.m.

**Venue:** Meeting conducted remotely on Teams.

**Cathaoirleach:** Cllr Deirdre Cullen

**Present:** Cllr Stephanie Doheny; Cllr Joe Lyons; Cllr Brian; Cleere; Cllr Michael Doyle.

**In Attendance:** Ms Anne Marie Shortall, Senior Executive Officer; Mr. Declan Murphy, Area Engineer; Ms Fiona Deegan, Director of Services; Kieran Kelly, A/Senior Executive Engineer; Aoife Quinn, consultant RPS; Mark Condon, RPS; Thomas Dowling RPS; Ms Anne Beck, Clerical Officer.

**Apologies:** Cllr Joe Sheridan

Before the meeting Cathaoirleach Cllr Deirdre Cullen, on behalf of the members, expressed condolences to Carmel Brett and Kieran Kelly on their recent bereavements. A minute's silence was observed.

**1) Confirmation of Minutes**

**(a) Minutes of the Municipal District meeting of Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> December, 2024**

The minutes of the Municipal District meeting of Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> December, 2024 were proposed by Cllr Doheny, seconded by Cllr Doyle and agreed.

**2) Consideration of Reports and Recommendations**

**(a) Presentation on proposed Woodstock to South East Greenway Link by Aoife Quinn, RPS Consultants and Kieran Kelly, A/Senior Executive Engineer**

Aoife Quinn, representing consultants RPS, presented the findings of a feasibility report, funded by Transport Infrastructure Ireland, on a proposed 20km greenway from Woodstock Gardens to the South East Greenway link at New Ross.

The greenway is envisaged as being fully segregated, safe, sustainable and attractive. It is envisaged as socially inclusive linking communities along its route and also to other amenities such as the Nore Valley walk, Cycle route etc. It should also increase tourism to Woodstock Gardens. It is proposed that impact on private lands will be limited. The project will be delivered in six phases subject to planning and funding:

Phase 1: Preliminary options will be examined and public consultations begun.

Phase 2: Option selection and route corridors, second public consultation and landowner consultation.

Phase 3: Design and Environmental impact study conducted.

Phase 4: Planning process.

Phase 5: Procurement

Phase 6: Construction.

Public consultation will begin on 10<sup>th</sup> February. A website will go live containing feedback forms. Leaflets will be distributed, ads in social media and posters displayed in public places. Two public meeting events will take place, firstly in Cois Abhainn and later further south of the county, location to be confirmed.

Cllrs expressed their thanks to Aoife for her presentation. They expressed general approval for the project and looked forward to the beginning of Phase 1.

**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**

**Election of Leas Cathaoirleach:**

Cathaoirleach, Cllr Deirdre Cullen proposed Cllr Joe Sheridan as Leas Cathaoirleach. Cllr Michael Doyle seconded the proposal and Cllr Joe Sheridan was duly elected.

Thanks was expressed to the roads crews for their work during the current snow and ice event.

This concluded the business of the meeting at 15.45 pm

Chairperson: 