

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE CASTLECOMER MUNICIPAL DISTRICT
WHICH WAS HELD ON MONDAY 24th APRIL 2017 AT 10.30 AM IN THE
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, COUNTY HALL.**

Chair: Cllr P Fitzpatrick

Cllrs: J Brennan, MH Cavanagh, M McCarthy, P Millea and M Shortall

Officials: C Byrne, P Beubry, M Delahunty & N Byrne

Apologies: S Walton

1. Confirmation of Minutes of :-

(a) March Meeting of the Castlecomer Municipal District held on 20th March 2017.

The minutes were proposed by Cllr M Shortall, seconded by Cllr M McCarthy and agreed:- "That the minutes of the March Meeting of the Castlecomer Municipal District held on 20th March 2017 as circulated with the agenda be and are hereby approved."

2. Consideration of Reports and Recommendations

None

3. Business prescribed by Statute, Standing Orders or Resolutions of the Council for transaction at such meeting.

None

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

Items submitted by members:-

Cllr M H Cavanagh

(a) Small mucky flood at The Square, Johnstown every time it rains

P Beubry to investigate.

(b) Potholes at Rathosheen/Bayswell

P Beubry confirmed that the Castlecomer Central Roads Crew are currently involved in works in this area and he will arrange for patching to be completed.

(c) Potholes at the Islands, Urlingford near Hickeys home

P Beubry confirmed that patching was completed at this location during week commencing 17th April.

(d) Poor lighting at The Square, Freshford especially near the Catholic Church

Cllr M McCarthy acknowledged works completed in Freshford in recent years and advised that the finance to fund the necessary ground works for the provision of additional public lighting had not been available prior to 2017.

(e) Pinchback Lane

Cllr Cavanagh acknowledged with thanks the excellent work recently completed on Pinchback Lane. She requested that if funding was available, consideration be given to tar and chipping the portion to roadway which did not receive attention at this time.

Cllr J Brennan

(a) Update in respect of LIS

Cllr J Brennan confirmed that he had received confirmation from the Minister that a separate allocation for the Local Improvement Scheme will be included in the Finance Bill to be signed off at the end of the year.

Contributions were received from the members in relation to the following:

- News of the increased contribution was welcomed
- Means testing
- Clarification as to the status of LIS list

(b) Urban and Village Renewal update

Cllr J Brennan outlined details of application being submitted for funding to develop Heritage Centre in Clogh Village. C Byrne advised members that assessment and allocation of funding will now be dealt with nationally. A conversation ensued in relation to the number of schemes submitted for funding and also timeline provided to submit applications. C Byrne confirmed that members will be receiving an update and hand out at Council meeting this afternoon.

(c) CLAR Programme update

N Byrne circulated update provided by F Stafford, Senior Engineer. Cllr J Brennan requested that consideration be given to amending conditions to include areas of high unemployment.

(d) Condition of Sragh Road, Crutt

Cllr Brennan acknowledged the work which had been done in difficult circumstances and requested that, if possible the Sragh Road be cleaned again.

5. Notice of Motion

None

6. Correspondence

None

7. Matters arising from minutes

Barrack Street Junction

Cllr M Shortall sought clarification as to whether traffic count currently underway on the N78 would include Barrack Street Junction. P Beubry to discuss with Road Plan.

Report from S Walton

Cllr P Fitzpatrick advised that S Walton had contacted him prior to going on leave and had advised that he will have a 3 monthly report available for the members at the May Municipal meeting.

8. Any other business

(a) Request for deputation – Goresbridge Community Park

It was agreed deputation would be received from Goresbridge Community Park at the May meeting of the Castlecomer Municipal District.

(b) Address by C Byrne, Chief Executive

C Byrne addressed the members and covered a broad range of topics including:

- Acknowledged the good work being completed at Area Office level.
- Realistic expectations of the members was acknowledged.
- Affect of recession on North of the County.
- 15% increase on planning applications county wide.
- Agriculture biggest asset in the rural Kilkenny.
- Rural broadband.
- Kilkenny City well positioned with access to trains, motorways etc.
- Kilkenny County Council must be as open minded as possible to future development.
- Kilkenny County Council must be able to demonstrate providing VFM and build back reputation with the Community and keep building on that reputation.
- Need to increase our own pot of funding.
- Need for more involvement with the Community at Municipal level.
- Implementation of Work Force Plan.

Members were unanimous in their praise of C Byrne, Chief Executive and acknowledge the energy and drive which she has brought to Kilkenny County Council and complimented her for her time and effort spent getting to know the County which, they acknowledged is evident in how well she is known throughout the County.

(c) **Tourism - Brian Tyrrell**

M Delahunty advised that B Tyrrell will attend the May meeting of the Castlecomer Municipal District to discuss tourism.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Chairperson: _____

Date: _____