

Minutes of the January Meeting of the Municipal District of Castlecomer held in the Council Chamber, County Hall, John Street, Kilkenny on Monday 20th of January 2020 at 11.00 am

- In the chair:** Cllr John Brennann
- Present:** Cllrs Mary Hilda Cavanagh, Michael Delaney, Denis Hynes and Michael McCarthy
- Apologies:** Cllr Pat Fitzpatrick
- In attendance:** Mr Martin Prendiville, Mr Philippe Beubry, Mr Martin Mullally, Ms Lindsey Butler and Ms Nancy Byrne

Vote of Sympathy

The members extended votes of sympathy to the following:

- Mary Mulholland, Director of Services on the death of her father Joseph Stephenson
- Cllr Pat Fitzpatrick on the death of his uncle Martin Fitzpatrick

1. Confirmation of Minutes of :-

(a) December Meeting of the Municipal District of Castlecomer

The minutes were proposed by Cllr Michael Delaney, seconded by Cllr Michael McCarthy and agreed.

2. Reception of Deputation

(a) Reception of Deputation from Johnstown Community Group 250

The deputation which comprised Fiona O'Sullivan, Lorraine Costigan and Brian Ryan provided a detailed and informative presentation setting out Johnstown's historical past, the committees plans for the Festival together with projected costings and the potential for future development for Johnstown and its neighbouring townlands.

The deputation was thanked for their excellent presentation and withdrew from the meeting.

Contributions were received from members and officials as follows:

- Members acknowledged the number of Community Groups and Clubs involved.
- Mr Martin Mullally updated members on possible housing schemes (derelict/infill sites) in Johnstown under the Capital Housing Programme.
- Ms Lindsey Butler confirmed that Johnstown / Urlingford were allocated €20,000 to perform a Health Check and raised the possibility of dove tailing the Health Check with this Festival. It was agreed that Ms Butler would liaise with Mr Ronan Ryan, Community Section regarding possible grant assistance from sources including the Community Events Grant Scheme and the Festival Grants Scheme would also to be explored. Ms Butler highlighted working within timeframes as a potential issue. The allocation of funding from the General Municipal Allocation was discussed. Following further discussion members agreed that the committee would be allocated €6,000, €1,000 of which was set aside at estimates and the balance of €5,000 to come from the General Municipal Allocation of €62,500.

3. Consideration of Reports and Recommendations:

(a) Broadband.

Mr Martin Prendiville confirmed that Signal had appointed a new Area Manager prior to Christmas 2019. Mr Prendiville advised that Kilkenny County Council are pursuing Signal on a weekly basis for a meeting with their Area Manager.

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

None

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

Items submitted by members

(a) Cllr Pat Fitzpatrick

(i) Ballyragget Landfill Remediation Project.

Item deferred to the February Municipal Meeting.

(ii) Road Markings in Coan.

Item deferred to the February Municipal Meeting.

(b) Cllr Michael McCarthy

(i) Illegal dumping at Bring Banks.

Cllr McCarthy raised the issue of illegal dumping at Bring Banks over the Christmas period, in particular those located in Freshford and Urlingford. Following discussion, it was agreed that an official from the Environment Section would be invited to the February Municipal Meeting to discuss options available to Kilkenny County Council to deal with this ongoing problem.

6. Notices of Motion

None

7. Correspondence

None

8. Matters arising from minutes

None

9. Any other business

(a) Request for Reception of Deputation

Foróige – Old Courthouse Castlecomer Youth Centre

It was proposed by Cllr Mary Hilda Cavanagh, seconded by Cllr Michael Delaney and agreed that a deputation would be received from Foróige at the February Municipal meeting.

(b) Unfinished Estates - Paulstown

Cllr Hynes raised outstanding issues associated with sewerage and public lighting at Whitehall Estate, Paulstown and public lighting issues at Choill Rua Estate, Paulstown. Mr Mullally to liaise with Ms Úna Kealy for an update for the February Municipal Meeting.

(c) Johnstown Health Check

Cllr Cavanagh requested that the naming of the 'New Houses, Canal Road, Johnstown' receive attention under the Village's Health Check. Mr Mullally to liaise with Ms Lindsey Butler.

(d) Vacant Sites Officer

Cllr McCarthy complimented Ms Evelyn Graham, Vacant Sites Officer on her work completed to date in this Section.

(e) General Municipal Allocation

(i) Public Lighting at Tullaroan Sports Field

Cllr Delaney requested that funding for public lighting at Tullaroan Sports Field be provided from the General Municipal Allocation. Mr Beubry to investigate.

(ii) Clogh Thatched Houses

Cllr Brennan requested that financial assistance for thatched houses in Clogh be made available from the General Municipal Allocation. It was agreed that Mr Prendiville would consult with the Heritage Officer for possible alternative sources of funding and provide an update at the February Municipal Meeting.

(iii) Replacement bins

Cllr McCarthy requested that funding for the replacement of street bins on a phased basis be provided from the General Municipal Allocation.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Chairperson: *John Brennan*

Date: 7/2/20

