

MINUTES OF THE JUNE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF CASTLECOMER HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, COUNTY HALL, JOHN STREET, KILKENNY ON MONDAY 21ST JUNE 2021 DIRECTLY AFTER THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT'S ANNUAL MEETING WHICH COMMENCED AT 10.45AM.

In the chair: Cllr Pat Fitzpatrick

Present: Cllrs John Brennan, Michael Delaney, Michael McCarthy and Cllr Mary Hilda Cavanagh via conference call

In attendance: Mr Martin Prendiville, Mr Philippe Beubry, Ms Anne Maria Walsh and Ms Nancy Byrne

Apologies: Cllr Denis Hynes

1. Confirmation of Minutes of :

(a) May Meeting held on 17th May 2021

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

2. Consideration of Reports and Recommendations:

(a) Broadband

Mr Martin Prendiville advised as follows:

- NBI are looking for co-location sites for infrastructure .
- Cellnex are looking at two potential sites and hope to be in a position to submit a planning application next month.
- Any progress is subject to Planning approval.

Members raised the following observations:

- Acknowledged what has been achieved and thanked Mr Martin Prendiville and Mr Steve Coverdale for their work.
- The need for an early resolution to support local businesses.

(b) Local Improvement Scheme

The Local Improvement Scheme Priority List 2021 was circulated at the meeting.

Mr Philippe Beubry confirmed that €112,000 grant funding had been received from the Department in 2021 and advised that offers had been made and accepted in respect of the first 4 applicants on the priority list circulated.

Members raised the following observations:

- The restoration of the Local Improvement Scheme was welcomed.
- The significance of this Scheme to support rural communities was acknowledged.
- €112,000 grant funding welcomed and the need for increased funding to facilitate remaining applicants.

(c) Road Works Scheme – Progress Report

Mr Philippe Beubry circulated a road works scheme progress report to members at the meeting. The report circulated provided an update on works under the following headings:

- Climate Adaptation and Resilience Works
- Super Bus Stops
- Restoration Improvement Schemes
- Restoration Maintenance Schemes
- Drainage Works
- Special Works
- Grass Cutting Operations
- Bridges

Mr Beubry also updated members on funding received in respect of the R712, Clara to Paulstown Road under The Former National Roads Programme 2021.

Members raised the following queries/observations:

- The provision of Super Bus Stops at the Square Castlecomer and the Square Ballyragget were welcomed and the partnership approach involving KLP acknowledged.
- Clarity sought on whether additional Super Bus Stops will be provided.
- Mr Philippe Beubry and his team were thanked for the volume of works being completed.
- Volume of roadworks which are receiving attention was acknowledged and a number of roads requiring attention highlighted.

Mr Philippe Beubry responded to members queries as follows:

- Super Bus Stops are being completed on a trial basis in 2021 and additional funding may be made available in 2022.
- The preparation of the next 3 Year Road Works Programme has commenced.

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

None

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

None

5. Notices of Motion

None

6. Correspondence

None

7. Matters arising from minutes

(a) Grangefertagh and Clonmantagh Church

Cllr Mary Hilda Cavanagh sought an update on Grangefertagh and Clonmantagh Church.

Mr Martin Prendiville advised as follows:

Grangefertagh Church

- The OPW are responsible for Grangefertagh Tower and the Council are responsible for the Church and grounds. The issue is funding, the Community Monuments 2021 Fund has closed.

Clonmantagh Church

- Kilkenny County Council are endeavouring to get work done under Historic Graveyard Funding, works are funding dependent.

Cllr Cavanagh confirmed that she will seek a further update at the September Municipal District Meeting.

(b) Naming and Shaming

Cllr Mary Hilda Cavanagh confirmed that she will continue to pursue this issue until the legislation which prevents the naming and shaming of offenders is amended.

Contributions were received from the members as follows:

- Cllr Cavanagh's concerns were echoed.
- Cllr Pat Fitzpatrick confirmed that he will raise this issue with AILG.
- Excellent work completed by the Environment Team was acknowledged and the extra demand on this resource during the Pandemic highlighted.
- The trojan work done by Community Groups was acknowledged.

8. Any other business

(a) Kilkenny Camogie Team

Members were unanimous in their congratulations to the Kilkenny Camogie Team after their victory against Galway in the Littlewoods Ireland Camogie League Division One Final.

(b) Place of Meetings

Mr Martin Prendiville confirmed that HSE and Government Guidelines will determine the place of meetings.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Chairperson:

Pat Fitzpatrick

Date:

26/7/2021

