

MINUTES OF BOYLE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT MEETING HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, COURTHOUSE, ROSCOMMON ON MONDAY THE 8th DECEMBER, 2014. AT 2.30 P.M.

PRESENT: Councillor Eugene Murphy, Cathaoirleach **PRESIDED**

MEMBERS: V. Byrne. J. Cummins, R. Doherty, M. Hopkins & M. Mulligan.

OFFICIALS: Martin Lydon, Head of Finance and Planning.
Fiona ni Chuinn, Meetings Administrator.

16.14. ADOPTION OF MINUTES:

On the **PROPOSAL** of Councillor Cummins
SECONDED by Councillor Hopkins

It was **AGREED** to adopt the Minutes of the Municipal District Meeting held on 6.10.2014.

17.14. QUESTIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH STANDING ORDER NO. 135.

Replies to the Questions submitted by members were circulated (see schedule).

18.14. NOTICES OF MOTION

1. SPEED RAMPS:

Notice of Motion from Councillor Mulligan – 1/14

“That Roscommon County Council provide speed ramps or rumble strips on the Sligo Road, which is now the main road into Ballaghaderreen”.

The Meetings Administrator read the following reply:-

The Regional Road R293 is currently under review by the Roscommon National Road Design Office as part of the residual works associated with the Ballaghaderreen By Pass. When the necessary traffic surveys are completed, Roscommon County Council will consider the most suitable traffic calming measures available. However, the provision of speed ramps or rumble strips would require the approval of the residents in the area and are not always considered to be the most suitable traffic calming measure available due to noise levels and other issues. There is already a 50/60 KPH speed limit in operation on this roadway and the enforcement of this speed limit is a matter for An Garda Siochana.

Members raised the following issues:-

- The speed limit is not being adhered to at this location and something needs to be done.
- The R293 was to be upgraded as an extension of the Bypass.

- No pass off at the R293 on the left hand side and this needs to be addressed by the NRA.
- No signage on the Bypass for Derinacantha, Tibohine or Gurteen and signage for Ballaghaderreen presents itself very close to the junctions and needs to be addressed.
- Members have asked on a number of occasions for speed ramps/rumble strips at this location.
- Filter lanes have been created and modified in relation to the main junction to access the R293 but there is still potential for accidents and this needs to be addressed.

Martin Lydon responded to the queries raised and stated that this was a design build contract. He stated that he had made a note of all the members comments and would approach the NRDO and have a report back to the next Municipal Districts meeting in February.

2. KILCOLMAN CEMETERY:

Notice of Motion from Councillor Hopkins - 2/14.

I am calling on Roscommon County Council to allocate funding for an improved walkway and roadway surface at Kilcolman Cemetery, Ballaghaderreen and nearby car park.

The Meetings Administrator read the following reply:-

Roscommon County Council is currently in the process of initiating the necessary works within the cemetery and will proceed with these works on a phased basis, subject to the availability of resources.

Members welcomed the news and complimented the Fas Scheme workers.

On the **PROPOSAL** of Councillor Hopkins
SECONDED by Councillor Mulligan
 It was **AGREED** to proceed as outlined.

19.14. VOTES OF CONGRATULATIONS were extended to:
 Elphin GAA on their 125th anniversary.

20.14. VOTES OF SYMPATHY were extended to:

The Holland family, Ballintubber, on the death of Celia Holland.

The Furey family, Strokestown on the death of Molly Furey.

The Lambert family, Elphin, on the death of Mae Lambert.

The Cunningham family, Ballivoher, Frenchpark, on the death of Christy Cunningham.

21.14. A.O.B:

Municipal Districts - Update – December, 2014:

Martin Lydon, Head of Finance & Planning circulated information updating the elected members on the changes in the new Municipal Districts and Water Districts which will be effective from the 9th January, 2015. He continued that as previously notified there will be an Engineering, Administrative and Clerical presence in all of the 6 existing areas. The three Municipal District Offices and the 3 Water District Offices are located as follows:-

Municipal District Offices:

- Athlone (Monksland) covering the Athlone Operational Area – Senior Executive Engineer, Diarmuid MacDonncha.
- Roscommon covering the Roscommon and Castlerea Operational Areas – Senior Executive Engineer, Michael Conlon.
- Boyle covering the Boyle, Ballaghaderreen and Strokestown Operational Areas – Senior Executive Engineer, Bernard Murray.

Water District Offices:

- Roscommon covering the Athlone and Roscommon Water Areas – Senior Executive Engineer, Ivor Kilcline.
- Strokestown covering Strokestown and Castlerea Water Areas – Senior Executive Engineer, Frank Flanagan.
- Ballaghaderreen covering the Ballaghaderreen and Boyle Water Areas – Senior Executive Engineer, Michael O'Boyle.

The existing Castlerea Office will serve both the Castlerea Operational Area and the Castlerea Water Area.

General Operatives, Related Grades, Craftworkers and Water and Sewerage Caretakers have been aligned to the new Districts.

There has been no reduction in staffing levels as a result of the alignment and services to the public will be maintained.

Implementation of the new arrangements will be subject to review on an ongoing basis.

Members welcomed the update and raised the following issues:-

- Queried if the Area Engineer in Boyle will be in charge of the whole of the Boyle Municipal District .
- More clarity needed for staff in the different areas as they are still unsure of their work load.
- Need to have staff available to look after the Housing stock.
- This a dictatorship from the Executive.
- Clarity required on the role of the Senior Executive Engineer.

- Queried if one Engineer will have responsibility for each Municipal District?
- Queried how many staff are moving from the Strokestown Office and who will take over their work load?
- How many staff are being assigned to Water only?
- Need for a proper Work Schedule prior to the 9th January.
- What response systems will be in place.
- How many staff are leaving the Strokestown Area Office?

On the **PROPOSAL** of Councillor Byrne

SECONDED by Councillor Mulligan

It was **AGREED** that Boyle Municipal District members write to the Department requesting the lifting of the staffing embargo.

Martin Lydon, Head of Finance & Planning responded to all the queries raised and informed the members that this is not a dictatorship by the Executive as an extended consultation process was undertaken in regard to the matter. He confirmed that no staff are moving to Irish Water but all work will be carried out under a Service Level Agreement with Irish Water. Change has happened to the vast majority of staff in the organisation already and there will be no dilution of jobs. Six Area Offices are being kept open with Senior Executive and Assistant Engineers in these Offices. Structures need to be put in place on the 9th January and funding must be maintained.

Irish Water

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor Cummins

SECONDED by Councillor Doherty

That a letter issue to the Department from the Boyle Municipal District members stating that Roscommon County Council is not going to be a Debt Collection Agency for Irish Water.

On a point of information Martin Lydon informed the members that Irish Water will be holding Clinics for Councillors here in Roscommon County Council on the 26th January, 2015 from 12.15 p.m. to 2.15 p.m. Irish Water will be corresponding directly with the members by e-mail and members will be given an opportunity to book a slot for an appointment or to attend a group session.

The first 90 minutes will be made available for individual slots and members will be contacted directly by Irish Water regarding booking. The period from 1.45pm to 2.15pm will be set aside on a 'first come, first served basis'. Two meeting rooms have been allocated on the first floor of the Courthouse for these Clinics. It is optional whether members attend these Clinics.

Boyle Town Commissioners:

Councillor Doherty queried the position on the €200,000 recouped from Boyle Town Council and requested a short report on the matter.

Anti-Social Behaviour:

Members requested that ‘Anti-Social Behaviour’ be listed as an item on the Agenda for discussion at the next Municipal Districts meeting.

Local Community Schemes:

Councillor Hopkins queried the allocation of funding for Local Community Schemes and when will a decision be made in relation to the applications that have been submitted?

Martin Lydon responded that no allocation of funding has as yet been received for this Scheme.

Gritting of Roads:

Members raised the issue of gritting roads in Fairymount and at Mockmoyne Cross which are very dangerous in frosty conditions.

Martin Lydon responded that he would take the matter up with the Director of Roads & Transportation.

Unfinished Housing Estates:

Members requested an update on unfinished housing estates at ‘The Maples’ and ‘Lis na Ree’

Martin Lydon responded that funding was secured for both of these housing estates and that it is expected that work will commence on these estates in the next 6 to 8 weeks and should be finished in three months.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

The foregoing Minutes are
Confirmed and Signed:

Meetings Administrator

Cathaoirleach

Countersigned

