

**MINUTES OF ROSCOMMON MUNICIPAL DISTRICT MEETING HELD IN
THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, COURTHOUSE, ROSCOMMON ON TUESDAY,
16TH OF JUNE, 2015 AT 1.45 P.M.**

PRESENT: Councillor Kathleen Shanagher, Cathaoirleach **PRESIDED**

MEMBERS: M. Creaton, D. Connolly, N. Dineen, O. Leyden, P. Fitzmaurice

OFFICIALS: John O'Rourke, A/Director of Services
Fiona ní Chuinn, Meetings Administrator
Adrian Kielty, Executive Engineer
Deirdre Fallon, Executive Engineer

34.15. ADOPTION OF MINUTES:

On the **PROPOSAL** of Councillor Dineen

SECONDED by Councillor Creaton

It was **AGREED** to adopt the Minutes of the Municipal District Meeting held on 27.4.2015.

The members requested an update on the following matters:

- Update on Castlerea Swimming Pool facebook page
- Welcomed the presence of the Engineering staff at the meeting
- Open drain in Ballyleague Village
- Ballyleague to Strokestown Road in need of repair
- Road realignment at Convent School
- Housing allocation inadequate in Roscommon Municipal District (only 10 in Monksland)
- Possibility of meeting the Area Engineers to collectively discuss issues
- Work at a standstill at Baslick Bridge
- Compliment works done on Ballinagard Road

John O'Rourke, A/Director of Services responded to the issues:

- Members are correct on the number of housing allocations for the County. He urged members to read the Housing Strategy as it refers to housing provision and not building.
- He confirmed that the Executive Engineers, Deirdre Fallon and Adrian Kielty will give an update on some of the above issues at the next meeting.
- He read a letter from the NRA in relation to the open drain at Ballyleague confirming that the NRA provides funding annually for routine maintenance to carry out minor repairs to national roads under a variety of headings including verge maintenance, drainage, etc. While the county council is requested to manage this allocation online via the Authority's "Maintenance Applications" the planning and expenditure is exclusively a matter for the county council concerned. The Authority's "Maintenance Application" also provides a facility for local authorities to seek additional funding to deal with particular maintenance problems which would otherwise negatively impact on their routine maintenance activities in terms of cost. In this regard, no requests for additional funding have been made.

Deirdre Fallon, Executive Engineer confirmed that there will be three outdoor workers based in Ballyleague in the coming weeks. A work plan is currently being drawn up.

On the **PROPOSAL** of Councillor Leyden

SECONDED by Councillor Dineen

It was **AGREED** that a letter issue to the Department stating that the members of Roscommon Municipal District do not accept a nil allocation of housing for the Municipal District and now seek a capital allocation to address this for the Roscommon Municipal District

On the **PROPOSAL** of Councillor Leyden

SECONDED by Councillor Fitzmaurice

It was **AGREED** that funding be sought from the NRA to carry out the required works on the open drain in Ballyleague Village

35.15. PRESENTATION BY LOUISE WARD, LOCAL ENTERPRISE OFFICE

Louise Ward, Head of Enterprise, Local Enterprise Office outlined:

- The role and function of the Local Enterprise Office
- The assistance, advisory services and enterprise support available to business
- Training available to small businesses
- Mentoring services available
- Grant types available to businesses in the County
- Business Initiatives planned for 2015

Louise highlighted that grant assistance is available through Enterprise Ireland and the deadline for applications for funding is the 18th July next.

The members raised the following issues:

- How can funding be accessed
- What funding is available for start-up business
- Compliment work of LEO Office
- Great opportunity for students through Enterprise Awards
- SURE Scheme - can tax be recouped

Louise Ward responded to the queries as follows:

- LEO Office assists all eligible business in any way possible
- SURE Scheme is equated to old Seed Capital Scheme

36.15. LOCAL ECONOMIC & COMMUNITY PLAN

Pat Murtagh, A/Director of Services presented an update to the members of a report on questions previously received on the Local Economic and Community Plan.

He outlined the following:

- The purpose of the LECP is to set out the objectives and actions needed to promote and support the economic development and the local and community development of the local authority area by both itself directly and in partnership with other economic and community development stakeholders.
- The process involved in creating the Local Economic and Community Plan
- Goals of the Socio-Economic Statement to create jobs, increase tourism, attract industry.
- Timeframe for completion of LECP

- He requested that any question or submission from members should be submitted by the end of June 2015.

The members raised the following issues:

- Opposed to the inclusion of Coillte's submission in the plan
- Difficulty attracting major employers into the County
- Need to attract investment and encourage employment

Pat Murtagh, A/Director of Services responded as follows:

- Deadline for submissions is 30th June. Email Community & Enterprise, Pat Murtagh or Caitlin Conneally
- Next draft will be ready for September
- Town Teams are set up and opportunity through town teams to promote business and positivity

37.15. VOTES OF CONGRATULATIONS were extended to:

Roscommon Hurlers on winning a place in the Christy Ring Cup 2016

38.15. VOTES OF SYMPATHY were extended to:

The Hanley family, Fuerty on the death of Audrey Hanly (nee Kenny)

Council workers Michael Winston and Denis Brady

A minutes silence was held

39.15. ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

Staff Recruitment

Members queried the letter issued to Gateway staff offering them employment with Roscommon County Council.

John O'Rourke, A/Director of Services confirmed that the letter issued to Gateway staff was offering them an opportunity to be placed on a panel for positions that may arise over the next 6 months for temporary positions in Irish Water projects.

Roscommon County Council's workforce plan is not approved and therefore the Council is unable to recruit externally for staff.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

The foregoing Minutes are
Confirmed and Signed:

Meetings Administrator

Cathaoirleach

Countersigned