

**Minutes of the Municipal District of Muinebheag Meeting  
held on Wednesday 1 September 2021 at 4.00 pm  
in the Community Hall, McGrath Memorial Hall, Muinebheag**

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**Members present :** Cllr Michael Doran (Cathaoirleach)  
Cllr Andy Gladney  
Cllr Tommy Kinsella  
Cllr Arthur McDonald  
Cllr William Quinn

**In attendance:** Pádraig O’Gorman, Director of Services,  
Jerry Crowley, Senior Executive Engineer,  
Brian O’Donovan, Senior Executive Officer,  
Orla Barrett, Senior Engineer  
Kieran Comerford, Head of Local Enterprise Office  
Niall Kinsella, A/Senior Executive Engineer  
Niall Carroll, Executive Engineer  
Maria Ahearne, Meeting Administrator, S/Staff Officer.

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**1. Standard Operating Guidance.**

As part of the Standard Operating Guidance (SoG) document issued for attendance at Council Meetings the Cathaoirleach thanked all for completion of their Covid-19 Self Declaration forms and for the continued adherence to the Covid-19 control measures in place. The Cathaoirleach went down through the key points highlighting the timeline for the meeting today not to exceed 1 hour 55 minutes.

**2. Confirmation of Minutes of Municipal District of Muinebheag Monthly Meeting held on 7 July 2021.**

**Resolved** on the proposal of Cllr Quinn seconded by Cllr Gladney, following a show of hands that the Minutes for the meeting of the Municipal District of Muinebheag on 7 July 2021 be confirmed as accurate and taken as read.  
All agreed

**3. Matters Arising**

Nothing to note.

**4. Business Prescribed by Statute, Standing orders or Resolutions of the Municipal District Members**

a) Proposal One-Way System in Borris

Mr Crowley outlined his plans to commence the process to introduce a one-way system in Borris from the Main Road to the Viaduct to improve the flow of traffic in

the area. The first step is the approval from the Municipal District members, followed by public consultation process. The members welcomed this proposal stating that it is long overdue and asked that good signage be erected for the road users in the area.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Cllr Quinn seconded by Cllr Kinsella, followed by a show of hands that the members agree that the process commence to introduce a one-way system in Borris from the Main Road to the Viaduct.  
All agreed.

## 5. Consideration of Reports and Recommendations

### (a) Maintenance/Upgrading of Leighlinbridge Graveyard

Cllr Gladney informed the meeting that he had a petition with 400 signatures asking that the recent works carried out on the pathways be revisited and upgraded to a better standard to allow easier access for all users. Ms Barrett and Mr Crowley agreed to revisit the works and investigate another cost-effective option and would take into account concerns raised regarding drainage by the members. The members asked that this item be listed on the next agenda for an update.

### (b) Extension to Bagenalstown Cemetery

Ms Barrett advised the members that there is a formal policy for the purchase of land by Carlow County Council (CCC) adding that the environment department had commenced a report on all cemeteries that CCC was responsible for, considering access/egress/parking/boundary walls/space-capacity for the cemeteries. Ms Barrett informed the members that she is hopeful to have a full report by yearend when staff vacancies within the section are filled.

The members asked that this item be listed on the December agenda for update.

### (c) Active Travel Programme 2021

The Cathaoirleach welcomed Mr Kinsella and Mr Carroll to the meeting. Mr Kinsella explained that this is a new programme and thanked the members for giving them the opportunity to bring it to the Municipal District. Active Travel is travelling with a purpose using your own energy, not recreational and is funded by the National Transport Authority (NTA) for which County Carlow were allocated €2.4ml for 15 projects as a rolling programmed beginning in 2021. Mr Kinsella outlined the allocated projects, highlighting the importance of the members community knowledge for future projects, asking that they bring forward any recommendations to the Active Travel Team for consideration. The members thanked Mr Kinsella and Mr Carroll for the update adding that the Active Travel Team had their full support and were looking forward to progressing many more projects with the District.

### (d) Street Enhancement Scheme 2021

The Cathaoirleach welcomed Mr Comerford to the meeting. Mr Comerford welcomed this scheme, outlining that County Carlow received a total of €220k for the upgrading and enhancement of shopfronts and street facades with grants of up to €8k available per premises. Mr Comerford outlined that the scheme needs a partnership approach to bring local businesses, residents and communities together and that the staff in the Local Enterprise Office were available to assist with submitting applications prior to the deadline on 10<sup>th</sup> September. The

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members welcomed the news that 34 draft applications were submitted to date and thanked Mr Comerford for his ongoing support.

(e) Muinebheag Tour Boat Project

Mr Comerford informed the members that the boat 'An Bád Keppel', named after the late Arthur Keppel who was a river and boatman who loved Bagenalstown, arrived in August and was officially being launched next week. The boat will be available for seasonal tours of up to 12 people along the River. The members thanked Mr Comerford and retired staff involved in the project for all their work in delivering this exciting project adding that it allowed the community & visitors to Bagenalstown another experience along the lovely River Barrow.

(f) Housing Report

Mr O'Donovan presented the Housing Report and addressed any questions. The Councillors raised a number of items to be addressed, including:

- To compliment Ms Lily Slye on the great finish of the scheme in Borris
- To welcome the news that the anti-social behaviour document was updated and adopted

The members thanked Mr O'Donovan for his report.

(g) Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme (ORIS) 2021 Update

Mr O'Donovan gave an overview of the scheme to the members outlining that it is focused on developing rural Ireland's unique natural amenities and support the adventure tourism sector in rural communities. Project applications were accepted under a number of measures with a total of 9 applications submitted for County Carlow, 6 in the Muinebheag District. The members thanked Mr O'Donovan for the update.

(h) Roads Service Plan Report

Mr Crowley presented the Roads Report outlining the ongoing and planned works for the District asking for support on

- Proposals for CIS schemes for the next 2 years, Cllr McDonald, seconded by Cllr Quinn supported Mr Crowleys proposal. All members agreed.
- Mr Crowley informed the members that the mobility management study for Graiguenamanagh/Tinnahinch was gone to Public Consultations in Kilkenny and was ready to proceed for public consultation in Carlow. Cllr McDonald, seconded by Cllr Quinn agreed that this could move forward for public consultation. All members agreed.
- Mr Crowley asked that the 3 year Roads Programme could be listed for the October meeting. All agreed that this could be listed on next agenda.
- Mr Crowley asked that the Winter Maintenance Programme be listed for the October meeting

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The Councillors raised a number of items to be addressed, including:

- To review the road layout at Lidl
- To issue a reminder to all landowners regarding hedge-cutting.
- Cllr McDonald requested that the Engineer look at the option of installing a Driver Information Board on the Fenagh Road, R724, coming into Bagnelstown
- That the items listed on the agenda not discussed due to time constraints be added to the October agenda

### 6. Correspondence

Ms Ahearne read out an update from Martha Jane Duggan, Sports Co-ordinator on the Community Sports & Physical Activity Hub stating that €30k was allocated to clubs and community groups through the scheme, adding that Ms Fennelly was appointed as the Hub Co-ordinator and is in the process of establishing a steering committee and arranging a physical activity needs analysis for the area.

Ms Ahearne referred to correspondence from Mr Pat Delaney, Head Of Finance asking that the members agree a date for the Draft Budgetary Plan 2022 (General Municipal Allocation) meeting. The members agreed that the Draft Budgetary Plan (General Municipal Allocation) 2022 for Muinebheag meeting be scheduled for 3.30pm on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> October 2021 with the monthly October meeting to take place after this meeting. Mr Crowley noted that the monthly meeting may need to take place on the scheduled date of Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> October to facilitate the signing off of the 3 year roads plan within the statutory timeframe. The members agreed that they were available on both dates.

### 7. Any Other Business

Cllr Quinn asked that the bin outside near the Viaduct be removed, to look at the one-way system at Pound Lane Borris, for an update on the carpark at Ballyellen and regarding Right of Ways. Cllr McDonald asked if funding could be sourced to repair footpaths in old housing estates.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Cathaoirleach**

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Meetings Administrator**