

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Municipal District of Tullow
held in Teach Bhríde, Tullow, Co. Carlow, on Wednesday 17th May, 2023
at 4 pm**

Present: Cllr. Charlie Murphy, Chairperson
Cllr. John Murphy
Cllr. John Pender
Cllr. John McDonald
Cllr. William Paton
Cllr. Brian O'Donoghue

In Attendance: Michael Brennan, Director of Services
Brian O'Donovan, Senior Executive Officer
Pat Harrington, Senior Executive Officer
Kieran Comerford, Head of Economic Development and Enterprise

The Chairperson welcomed everybody to the meeting.

1. Confirmation of Minutes of the Municipal District Meeting of Tullow held on Wednesday 19th April, 2023.

The Minutes were taken as read and as there were no matters arising, the minutes were:

Proposed by: Cllr. John McDonald
Seconded by: Cllr. Will Patton

2. Business Prescribed by Statute, Standing Orders or Resolution of the Municipal District Members

2.1 The Statutory Annual General Meeting of Tullow Municipal District will be held on 14th June at 4pm

Proposed: Cllr. John Murphy
Seconded: Cllr. John McDonald

2.2 Part VIII – Hacketstown Firehouse

Kieran Comerford advised members of proposed development at Hacketstown Firehouse. Queried raised by members were responded to by Mr Comerford. Members agreed that the project proceed to Part V111 process.

Consideration of Expressions of Interest in Leasing Lands at Castlemore, Tullow.

As the closing date for expressions of interest was Tuesday, 16th May, the Members did not have time to read the submissions before the meeting, so it was agreed to defer making any decisions to a date in the future to be decided.

Corporate Services to prepare a report and recommendation on submissions received and revert to Members.

Proposed: Cllr. John Pender
Seconded: Cllr. John Murphy

3.0 Consideration of Reports and Recommendations

3.1 Presentation from Lightsource Renewable Energy Ireland on proposed solar farm within the electoral area.

Aidan Collins from Lightsource Renewable Energy Ireland made a presentation on a proposal for a solar farm on lands at Straboe, Tullow, Co. Carlow. He advised that there would be a Community Information Event in Grange GAC Club Hall, Killerig on 7th June 2023. Aidan expects the planning application to be lodged in the coming months.

The members thanked Aidan for his very informative presentation and also complimented him on reaching out to the community before lodging the planning application.

3.2 Housing Progress Report

Brian O'Donovan, Senior Executive Officer, briefed the members on progress to date in the Tullow Municipal District. He advised that 9 units are currently being progressed under RLS Scheme in Slaney House and 21 houses are proposed for Castledermot Road which should commence in the near future.

Brian also answered queries raised in relation to maintenance issues in River View Apartments.

Michael Brennan, Director of Services agreed to check with Department of Equality, Children and Disability whether refugees are being properly vetted before arriving in Tullow where concerns were raised by the members.

3.3 Area Engineer's Report

Pat Harrington, Senior Executive Engineer, distributed a map of surface dressing and advised that it will commence on Monday 29th May for a period of approximately seven days, subject to weather. A Junction Vegetation Management Update Report indicating the 149 junctions that would be cut in a two week period commencing as every year on **21st June** was also distributed. An update of the programme was also provided.

Pat also provided a report on Community Involvement Schemes and advised that all funding provided would be used at Altamont. In the event of future funding being received, projects would be progressed in the order originally approved by the members which is:

1. Blind Dennis Lane
2. Sherwood
3. Donnelly
4. Ballintemple

The members complimented Pat on all the work completed to date.

4.0 Notices of Motion

Tullow Garda Station

Notice of Motion as follows:

"Whereas in the past decade Tullow Garda Station had a complement of 1 Sergeant-in-Charge, 2 Sergeants and 21 ordinary members and was a 24 hour station serving the Tullow District, today the compliment has been reduced to 1 Sergeant-in-Charge and 11 ordinary members, two of whom are allocated to Ballon and Hacketstown, and

Whereas the Carlow Nationalist of 24th January, 8th February and 14th February 2023 lists a catalogue of crime including:

- * 10th January – Kildavin Church burgled
- * Between Christmas Eve and 14th January – Clonmore Church broken into
- * 4th January – house burgled in Rathlyon, Tullow
- * 7-8th January – eight cars broken into and damaged with items stolen
- * 11th January – windows smashed at Tullow Civic Centre
- * 13th January – tyres slashed on car at Dublin Road
- * 14th January – Tullow Town Park damaged by scramblers
- * 11th December – car set on fire at the Shillelagh Road
- * 13th December – car set on fire in Phelim Wood
- * 4th February – van window smashed
- * 4th February – van tyres slashed at The Market Square
- * 5th February – window smashed at house on Bishop Street

We the members of the Tullow Municipal District call on the local TDs Jennifer Murnane O'Connor, Kathleen Funchion, John McGuinness, John Paul Phelan and Minister Malcolm Noonan to make representations to the Minister for Youth, Justice and Law Reform to lobby the Garda Commissioner to allocate additional staff to Tullow Garda Station to ensure that the station becomes a 24 hour station once again.

Proposed: Cllr. Will Patton

Seconded: Cllr. John Pender

It was subsequently agreed to amend the motion to remove the list of criminal incidents

Proposed: Cllr. Will Patton

Seconded: Cllr. John Pender

5.0 **Correspondence**

None

6.0 **Any Other Business**

Michael Brennan, Director of Services, agreed to check the lease agreement which has been signed for the carpark in Tullow to determine what the arrangements are for allowing the carnival access for two weeks each year.

A member requested that somebody from Environment attend a future meeting to discuss possible provision of a columbarium wall at Tullow Cemetery.

This concluded the business of the meeting.