

Minutes of Meeting of Bailieborough-Cootehill Municipal District held in the Courthouse, Cootehill on Monday 25th March 2024 at 4pm

Councillor Clifford Kelly, Cathaoirleach presiding.

Present; Councillors P McDonald, A. Fitzpatrick, V. Smith, S O'Reilly, C Brady

Apologies;

In Attendance; Paddy Connaughton, Director of Service
Clinton Mulligan, Acting Senior Executive Engineer
C. Murray – Minutes Administrator

Cathaoirleach C. Kelly welcomed all to the meeting.

1. To confirm Minutes of Monthly Meeting held on 9th February 2024.

Miontuaririsci cruinnithe 9th Feabhra 2024 a dhearbhu.

It was

Proposed by Councillor V Smith

Seconded by Councillor P McDonald

And

Resolved;

“that minutes of meeting of Bailieborough-Cootehill Municipal District held on 9th February 2024 be hereby approved”

Matters Arising from Previous Minutes

Cllr C Brady asked for an update on the public lighting on the new line in Cootehill and if agreement had gotten from the landowner. Mr C Mulligan advised that he try to get an update from the asset management section.

2. Disclosure of Interests.

There were no disclosures of Interest.

3. Roads Works Programme 2024

Mr C Mulligan advised members that funding had been secured for the RWP in 2024 of €3,502,899 from the Department and that Cavan County Council was supplementing €226,982 from its Own

Resources funding for this year's roads work programme. The plan was to complete works on 8 different roads as advised, some in full and some in sections.

Cllr C Brady advised members she was disappointed and felt that the roads section was vastly underfunded, Cllr Brady however was delighted that the council had supplemented OR funding so that works could be carried out on Station Road in Cootehill.

Cllr A Fitzpatrick added that a few roads had been lost off the list which was disappointing. Cllr Fitzpatrick wanted to thank Clinton and his team on putting the proposal together and understood that funding has stayed static but that raw materials had increased. Cllr Fitzpatrick added that there seemed to be plenty of funding available for greenways and walkways but felt more should be invested in the roads network. Cathaoirleach C. Kelly interjected that he didn't feel the funding was static and that the department could give more. Cllr A Fitzpatrick welcomed the decision, as previously mentioned in August 2023, that the council would complete works on station road.

Cllr S O'Reilly also thanked the team for the work that was done but voiced her disappointment also. Cllr O'Reilly advised that 5 roads had been removed completely and others shortened. The original RWP was to complete 19.5km of roads and this was now reduced to 13.5km and this included the additional funding from Own resources. Cllr O'Reilly advised that she felt TD's and Ministers in the area had let the councillors down in that money had been redirected to other areas and the roads infrastructure was crumbling and this has no reflection on Cavan County Council.

Cllr P McDonald welcomed the programmed but agreed with other members it was not enough. Cllr McDonald pointed out that our agricultural, poultry and HGV traffic was very hard on the network. Cllr McDonald advised that additional funding had been sought from the minister and as yet no update has been given. Cllr McDonald advised that there will be a lot of disappointed residents.

Cllr V Smith agreed that more funding was needed. He advised that every party needs to lobby for additional funding.

Cathaoirleach C. Kelly advised members that they couldn't go back to the late 80's/90's. He advised he believed we were fortunate that the quality of work being completed is excellent and of great benefit. Nevertheless, general elections would be soon approaching, and TD's will see the road network first hand. Councillors are being blamed for the current situation and its not the case. Councillors and the executive would be only too delighted is additional funding was available. Cathaoirleach C. Kelly believed the fault lay with the government for not providing proper funding. The executive was doing it's best with the money they have.

It was

Proposed by Councillor Aiden Fitzpatrick

Seconded by Councillor Carmel Brady

And

Resolved;

“that Roads Works Programme 2024 be hereby approved”

4. Cllr A Fitzpatrick - To ask for a definite timeline as to when works will begin on the Station road, Cootehill

Cllr A Fitzpatrick advised that he wasn't aware that the station road was going to be included in the roads work programme. Mr. C Mulligan advised members that the active travel team have the design complete and is the final review stage. It will then go to public consultation for 4 weeks with a view of site works beginning in May or June of this year. Mr. Mulligan advised members the RI works would be completed in conjunction with these works.

A.O.B

Cathaoirleach C. Kelly reminded Mr Mulligan of a no of requests, he advised he didn't need an update now but would appreciate a response at the next meeting.

Cllr P McDonald voiced concern over the level and amounts of surface water on the roads. He advised he was aware there was a new member of staff looking at this but advised that the follow up with landowners and private individuals was crucial. Mr C Mulligan advised Cllr McDonald that there was a new technician employed and will be working alongside the GSS on this. Cathaoirleach C. Kelly added that compliance with the planning section on new houses need to be priority also. Mr C Mulligan advised that the planning section was responsible for final sign off. Mr P Connaughton added that new technicians in the planning section were being tasked with this.

Cllr C Brady advised members that the barrier at the Presbyterian Church in Cootehill had been hit twice and that 2 poles locally were missing signs following accidents. Cllr Brady queried who was responsible for fixing these. Mr C Mulligan advised members that if a new sign was needed it would be replaced and if not, the poles would be removed. He did advise members that this is paid for from discretionary and own resources funding that was limited. The barrier in question would require greater funding, and a quote would need to be gotten to assess the cost with the view that another funding stream may be available for this.

Cllr S O'Reilly asked if there was any update on the consultants that were to look at the Kingscourt road junction in Bailieborough. Mr C Mulligan advised that €50k had been allocated to Active travel on this scheme and he would look for an update from them. Cllr O'Reilly asked had the consultants

changed and Mr P Connaughton advised not at that stage. Cllr O'Reilly requested an update on this junction when this information was available.

Cllr P McDonald asked for an update on the scheme on the Kells Road in Bailieborough. Mc C Mulligan advised he would request same from Active Travel. Cllr S O'Reilly suggested that a meeting be held with the Active Travel team for an update on these projects. Mr P Connaughton advised he would look into this but that it would not be for discussing contractual matters.

The Date of the next meeting was scheduled for Monday 29th April 2024 at 3pm in the Courthouse in Cootehill,

The meeting concluded at 4.45pm