

Minutes of Meeting of Bailieborough-Cootehill Municipal District held in the Courthouse, Cootehill on Monday 20th November 2023 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 16th October 2023.

Miontuaririsci cruinnithe 16th Deireadh Fómhair 2023 a dhearbhu.

It was

Proposed by Councillor C Brady

Seconded by Councillor V Smith

And

Resolved;

“that minutes of meeting of Bailieborough-Cootehill Municipal District held on 16th October 2023 be hereby approved”

2. Disclosure of Interests.

There were no disclosures of Interest.

3. Adoption of Bailieborough-Cootehill Municipal District Budget Allocation 2024

It was

Proposed by Councillor P McDonald

Seconded by Councillor V Smith

And

Resolved;

“that Bailieborough-Cootehill Municipal District Budget Allocation 2024 be hereby approved”

4. Cllr C Kelly – To discuss road flooding Flooding Issues at the Hill & Hollow Road and at Collops in Kingscourt

Mr C Mulligan advised members he has visited this location. The L3526 Humps and Hollows road had been raised previously in the past with an open drain running alongside it. The day of the visit the water level was too high to confirm if a crossing at this location was causing the issue. Mr C Mulligan advised historic maps show a drain on private land and this was confirmed with the landowner. The issue with high water levels also meant Mr C Mulligan could not confirm if a crossing was the issue here and advised further investigation was needed at this location when the water levels dropped as well as on the R165 Collops.

5. Cllr C Kelly – To discuss an update on safety measures at the junction of Main Street & Bailieboro Road

Cathaoirleach C Kelly advised members that the parents association from the secondary school are extremely concerned about the above junction as well as the junction with Market Square. 800 children attend the school daily and all leave at the same time causing a safety concern. There was an accident historically at this location and is a location that needs to be flagged for improvement.

Mr C Mulligan advised members that he had been in contact with the active travel team and road design about possible active travel schemes or low cost safety schemes at these junctions. These are currently on-going and a decision on whether the location was suitable hasn't been made. Cathaoirleach C Kelly advised that the school numbers are increasing and that this is only going to make the problem worse. Cllr C Brady suggested that the principle try to educate the students and direct them away from this junction as there are other routes that could be used.

6. A.O.B

Cllr V Smith raised the issue of safety on the N3 with the junction of the L7503. 14/16 lorries each morning must make the turn off the N3 heading for Flood Quarries and find it difficult. There are no right turning road markings that may help alleviate some of the danger at this junction. Mr C Mulligan advised that TII and road design deal with the safety measures on the national roads and that changes to the layout of the road are dependant on certain criteria e.g. volume of vehicles and

collision data. Cllr S O'Reilly supported Cllr V Smith on this issue and that the guidelines needed to be review. Cllr A Fitzpatrick also supported this, highlighting similar issues at the turn on the R188 at Kill.

Cllr S O'Reilly raised the issue of falling trees during bad weather. The issue of ash dieback was causing issues for buses and other road users particularly along regional routes. Cathaoirleach C Kelly asked was there any grant aid available to farmers to cut back old trees and hedges. He advised this was an item that needed to be discussed at main council level. Mr C Mulligan advised members that under the Roads Act, landowners' have a duty of care to ensure that trees and hedges on their property don't pose a hazard to road users, and they are liable in the event of any damages. Cllr S O'Reilly asked could an awareness campaign be launched on social media so that councillors could share the information with the public.

Cllr A Fitzpatrick asked was there due to be a speed limit review in 2024? And who is responsible for the review? Mr P Connaughton advised that reviews are done at national level and then between Cavan County Council and An Gardai. Mr P Connaughton advised that engineering solutions wont always solve the problem and that personal responsibility is a factor here.

Cllr P McDonald raised the issue of the inspection of drainage issues, particularly on private property and who is responsible for the inspection and enforcement of same. Mr P Connaughton advised that there is a technician starting in the district in Jan 2024 who will be assisting with these issues.

Cllr C Brady raised the issue of no public lighting on the new line and at the Ivy bar. It was particularly dark early in the evenings now and a night walking study had been completed in Cootehill where these locations had been raised. Mr C Mulligan advised he would pass these locations onto the team in roads for review.

The date of the next meeting was agreed and set for Monday 15th January 2024 at 4pm in the Chamber in Cootehill.

The meeting concluded at 5.00pm.