

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE CASTLECOMER MUNICIPAL DISTRICT HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, COUNTY HALL ON MONDAY 21<sup>st</sup> NOVEMBER 2016 AT 11.00AM**

**Chair:** Cllr P Fitzpatrick

**Cllrs:** J Brennan, M H Cavanagh, M McCarthy, P Millea and M Shortall.

**Officials:** M Delahunty, M Mulholland, N Byrne, D Murphy and A M Walshe

**Apologies:** P Beubry

**Vote of Sympathy**

Members extended vote of sympathy to the family of Seamus Farrell, Woodview

**1. Confirmation of Minutes of :-**

**(a) October Meeting of Castlecomer Municipal District held on 17<sup>th</sup> October 2016**

The minutes were proposed by Cllr J Brennan, seconded by Cllr M Shortall and agreed:- "That the minutes of the October Meeting of the Castlecomer Municipal District held on 17<sup>th</sup> October 2016 as circulated with the agenda be and are hereby approved."

**(b) Castlecomer Municipal District Budget Meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> October 2016**

The minutes were proposed by Cllr M H Cavanagh, seconded by Cllr M McCarthy and agreed:- "That the minutes of the Budget Meeting of the Castlecomer Municipal District held on 17<sup>th</sup> October 2016 as circulated with the agenda be and are hereby approved."

**2. Consideration of Reports and Recommendations**

**(a) Report on Housing Developments – Anne Maria Walshe**

A M Walsh circulated to the members an update on taking in charge of housing developments in the Castlecomer Municipal District Area and dealt with members queries. Members acknowledged the excellent progress which had been achieved by A M Walsh and staff of the Planning Department, in particular with regard to estates in Castlecomer, Johnstown and Urlingford. M Mulholland also acknowledged the excellent progress which had been achieved across the County advising that it is a credit to all involved and we need to recognise the work completed by the Planning Department. A number of queries were raised on the following: sweeping of leaves, programme of tree pruning, poor public lighting in Tougher Crescent, Urlingford, lights not working in Haven Court and incomplete road surface at Haven's Court, Ballyragget. The issue of residents' expectations once an estate was taken in charge was also discussed.

**(b) Speed Limit Review – Declan Murphy**

D Murphy circulated to the members Speed Limit Review update. The update was discussed in detail and members queries dealt with. Submission received from Ted Ryan for changes in speed limits on Mill Lane (L6731) and the (R448) Gowran were

discussed. D Murphy advised that if alterations are made to footpaths and public lighting at location in question, it will be feasible to review speed limit as requested in submission. He also advised that this will not be dealt with in the current review but as a supplement. Members raised issue of requirement for further reduction in speed limit on N78 at Colliery Church from the 80km proposed to 60km. D Murphy advised that the TII's recommendation is 80km and it is not their policy to reduce a speed limit for an isolated hazard. It was agreed that this issue would be forwarded to the RPS as a concern and dealt with separately from the current review.

**(c) Road Works Programme Progress Report**

N Byrne circulated progress report prepared by P Beubry to the members. Members were unanimous in their praise for road works completed over the past year and also during recent Road Works Programmes and expressed their thanks to P Beubry and all staff involved. Members also highlighted the volume of roads in the Municipal District which remain for attention. The need for increased funding to tackle the volume of applications outstanding under the Community Involvement in Road Works Scheme and Local Improvement Scheme was also raised.

**3. Business prescribed by Statute, Standing Orders or Resolutions of the Council for transaction at such meeting.**

No items were raised

**4. Other business set forth in the Notice convening the meeting**

**Items submitted by members:-**

**Cllr M Shortall**

**(a) CLAR Programme 2017 – School Safety Programme**

N Byrne circulated report prepared by F Stafford, Road Design to the members. M Mulholland updated members on submission made by Kilkenny County Council for funding under the CLAR Programme. She advised that Kilkenny County Council hadn't received an allocation under the CLAR Programme in a number of years and details of allocation to be provided is expected in the coming weeks. A conversation ensued in relation to designation of areas for inclusion under the CLAR Programme. M Mulholland advised that the criteria for eligibility is set nationally and the designation was completed a number of years ago and is based on areas showing population decline. Members expressed dissatisfaction with a number of areas omitted from the programme. M Mulholland confirmed that it would be in order for Kilkenny County Council to seek review of designations and it was agreed that she would carry out a review of the designations in conjunction with recent census figures for the December Municipal District meeting.

**Cllr J Brennan**

**(a) Deteriorating line markings in Clogh Village**

P Beubry to discuss on the ground with Cllr J Brennan

**(b) Review of road works at Dowling's Cross, Coon**

P Beubry to discuss on the ground with Cllr J Brennan

(c) **Traffic calming measures in Tourtane**

P Beubry to discuss on the ground with Cllr J Brennan

5. **Notices of Motion**

No items were raised.

6. **Correspondence**

No items were raised.

7. **Matters arising from minutes**

**Bottle Banks**

Cllr M Carthy raised issue of illegal dumping at bottle banks in Freshord and suitability of current location as a longterm option. He asked that work which has been undertaken by D Gallagher and staff of the Environment Department to alleviate problem of illegal dumping at current location and success which has been achieved be acknowledged. He also confirmed that M Good, Environment Department is seeking a location for provision of bottle banks in Urlingford.

8. **Any other business**

**Flashing school signs on Rathdowney Road, Johnstown**

Cllr M H Cavanagh raised issue of flashing signs at National School on the Rathdowney Road, Johnstown out of order on a regular basis and requested that this problem be pursued with Elmores Ltd.

**Repair to Lease Scheme**

M Mulholland advised that Carlow and Waterford County Council are currently participating in a pilot project. She also advised that Housing Department had applied for inclusion in the pilot project but had been unsuccessful and will be re-applying.

**Winter Maintenance Programme – Salting**

Cllr M H Cavanagh sought clarification as to whether salting had been completed on the nights of 17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup> of November on regional road from Minister's Cross to Laois County bounds and also from Rathdowney Road, Johnstown to Kilkenny. Cllr J Brennan also raised issue of Clogh to Castlecomer Road not having been salted during recent cold weather and the need for dispatch of grit to rural locations in severe weather in conjunction with the IFA. M Mulholland updated members on how the current ice cast system operates. It was agreed issues raised by members would be raised again during presentation by T Butler, Director of Services scheduled for full Council meeting in the afternoon.

**Service Areas for Discussion – Update**

M Mulholland circulated list of Service Areas which she considered appropriate for inclusion on future agenda. Members welcomed suggestions circulated. Cllrs requested that glossary of terms and list of bodies on which councillors serve be made available. Cllrs also requested that details of development contributions

available be circulated. A conversation ensued in respect of Leader, LCDC and KLP and members requested that a representative from LCDC be invited to attend the December meeting of the Castlecomer Municipal District.

### **Roadside Trees**

Issue of problems which arise in respect of trees on private property was raised and M Delahunty confirmed that this is a civil matter.

### **Gateway Scheme**

Cllr M McCarthy sought clarification as to whether there was any scheme on the horizon to replace the Gateway Scheme and M Delahunty provided update.

### **Minute Pad**

M Delahunty advised that future agenda and documentation for meetings will be issued to members by way of Minute Pad and any member who wishes to avail of a hard copy may do so.

### **December meeting**

M Delahunty advised that December meeting of the Castlecomer Municipal District must be finished by 12.30 to free the Council Chamber for a presentation.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

**Chairperson:** \_\_\_\_\_

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