

**Minutes of the November Meeting of the Municipal District of Callan-Thomastown**

**Date:** Wednesday 11th November, 2020 at 4.00p.m.

**Venue:** Thomastown Community Centre, Ladyswell Street, Thomastown, Co. Kilkenny  
and via MS Teams remote access

- Chair:** Cllr Peter Chap Cleere (present at venue)
- Present at venue:** Cllr Deirdre Cullen, Cllr Pat O'Neill.  
**Present via MS Teams:** Cllr Matt Doran, Cllr Michael Doyle, Cllr Joe Lyons.
- Apologies:** None
- In attendance at venue:** Ms. Fiona Deegan, Meetings Administrator.
- In attendance via MS Teams:** Mr. M.J. Walsh, Roadplan; Ms Mary Mulholland, Director of Services; Mr. Declan Murphy, Area Engineer; Ms Shauna McHugh, KCLR; Ms. Carmel Brett, Staff Officer.

**1) Amendment to Standing Orders to allow remote meetings per S.I. No. 445 of 2020.**

Cllr Cleere informed the members that an amendment to Standing Orders was needed to allow for remote meetings of the Municipal District of Callan-Thomastown. He said a roll call would take place for all participating members, that it is each members' personal responsibility to ensure that nobody else is present during the meeting, and that there is no recording of any of the proceedings. Should a member need to leave the meeting prior to the end, they must inform the Cathaoirleach. Amendment to Standing Orders to allow remote meetings per S.I. No. 445 of 2020 was proposed by Cllr Doran, seconded by Cllr O'Neill and agreed.

**2) Confirmation of Minutes**

The Minutes of the Municipal District Meeting of Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> October, 2020 were proposed by Cllr O'Neill, seconded by Cllr Lyons and agreed.

**3) Consideration of Reports and Recommendations**

**(a) Presentation of Draft Callan Mobility Management Plan by Roadplan**

Cllr Cleere introduced Mr. M.J. Walsh from Roadplan Consulting. Mr. Walsh proceeded to give the members a presentation on the Draft Callan Mobility Management Plan (MMP), saying that 48 individual projects under 5 categories were

identified and then prioritised into three phases; immediate to short term, short to medium term and medium to long term with 16 projects in each phase.

He said many of the projects involve exploring the feasibility of altering and improving existing travel infrastructure and patterns to meet the mobility needs of Callan under the five categories of footways and cycleways, bus routes and stops, schools, town centre and car parking.

He outlined details of the 16 projects in phase one (immediate to short term), noting that some have already been introduced and implemented.

Mr. Walsh said the views of key stakeholders would be sought at end of November, with this feedback being reviewed in early/mid-December.

Timeline of a second presentation of the finalised MMP to Council members will be subject to completion of AA/SEA screening of the MMP.

Cllr Cleere and the members thanked Mr. Walsh for his update and raised the following items:

- Possible construction of pedestrian crossing and speed ramps at junction of West Street/Mill Street
- Feasibility of one-way system on Chapel Lane
- Relocate bus stop to Prologue
- Pedestrian bridge on west side of Kings River
- Pedestrianisation of Clodeen Lane
- Possible reversal of traffic flow on Flaggy lane may incur heavier traffic there – introduce traffic calming measures

Mr Murphy said the 48 projects identified would be explored individually on their own merits.

#### **(b) Winter Maintenance P3 Routes**

Mr Murphy outlined details of the P1, P2 and P3 routes to the members, saying the Winter Maintenance Programme (WPM) had been agreed at the October Council meeting.

He said P3 routes are covered at the Councils discretion, and all routes are the same as in previous years.

Members queried several routes on P3 routes, Mr Murphy said that covering every road has a cost which is taken from discretionary budget.

Cllr Cleere said any specific issues can be referred to the Strategic Policy Committee (SPC) for review on a county wide basis.

#### **(c) Monthly Roads Update**

Mr D. Murphy A/Senior Executive Engineer circulated a report updating the members on the following road related matters:

- Roadworks Programme 2020 – Drainage & footpath works programmed for October/November
- Town & Village Renewal Schemes
- Town & Village Renewal Schemes Accelerated measures due to Covid
- Rural Regeneration Roads Project
- General – Callan and Graiguenamanagh Mobility Management Plans updates, ORIS Abbey Meadow.

- Additional Works (Active Travel and Climate Change projects)
- Historic Town Initiative Fund

The members thanked Mr. Murphy for his update and the following items were raised:

- Mill Road, Inistioge safety works welcomed; today's heavy rain placing some houses under threat of flooding;
- Reduced visibility on approach to Thomastown at Ladyswell Street from Newtown side due to parked vehicles in service station – this will be investigated; Housing Section also have improvements works planned for this location;
- Low-cost safety scheme has been applied for outside the Church at Knocktopher;
- Confirmation that drainage works are being carried out at Holohans, Knocktopher;
- Possibility of Special Works Scheme at Ballycabbus to be discussed with Senior Engineer, Roads Section.

#### **c) Monthly Rural Development Update**

Ms Mary Mulholland said many of the Rural Development projects have been completed or are nearing completion, such as works in the Abbey Meadow and Moate Field, Callan; refurbishment of the Sessions House, Thomastown will be underway in the New Year, and the Community Hall in Thomastown will require a new funding application due to difference in expected funding requirements for works; all 2020 claims have been completed.

She said CLÁR funding had been secured for Coolagh, Callan in the amount of €27,000, and funding has also been secured for Christmas lights in the scheduled towns under Town & Village Accelerated Measures.

Cllr Cleere thanked Ms. D Mulholland for her update.

#### **4) Business prescribed by Statute, Standing Orders or Resolutions of the Municipal District members for transaction of such meeting.**

There were no items for discussion

#### **5) Other business set forth in the Notice convening the meeting**

There were no items for discussion

#### **6) Notices of Motion**

There were no items for discussion

#### **7) Correspondence**

There were no items for discussion

#### **8) Any other Business**

There were no items for discussion

Cllr Cleere said the next meeting of the Municipal District would take place either via MS Teams remote access or physically in the Parish Hall, Callan, in line with Government guidelines at the time of meeting.

This concluded the business of the meeting at 16.55p.m.

Chairperson: Rob CE

Date: 09/12/20