

**MINUTES OF MONTHLY MEETING OF MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF BIRR  
HELD IN BIRR CIVIC OFFICES, WILMER ROAD, BIRR AT 4.30 P.M. ON  
MONDAY 11<sup>TH</sup> MARCH, 2019**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Cllrs J Carroll, P Ormond, J Leahy,  
J Clendennen, S Maher and E Dooley

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr. Frank Heslin, DOS, Mr John Mitchell  
A/SEE, Ms Orla Martin LEO, and Ms D Molloy,  
Meetings Administrator

**Adoption of Minutes of Monthly Meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> February, 2019**

On the proposal of Cllr. Ormond, seconded by Cllr. Clendennen the Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the Municipal District of Birr held on 11<sup>th</sup> February, 2019 were adopted.

**Briefing on STREAM Creative Suite Funding**

Ms Orla Martin Offaly LEO gave a detailed presentation to the Members in relation to the STREAM Creative Suite being developed in Birr and the funding in relation to same. The Members thanked Orla for the presentation and unanimously welcomed the benefits the project will bring to the town and surrounding areas, they acknowledged the hard work that was needed to secure same and congratulated all involved on the achievement.

**Roads Programme 2019**

Mr John Mitchell A/SEE presented the Road Programme for 2019 to the Members. The Members welcomed the programme and raised the following:

- Welcomed the allocation of €165,000 for testing of peat based roads but enquired if further funding could be looked for. The Members advised that it is essential to talk to Bord Na Mona about its plans before it closes and enquired in relation to the report that is to be prepared, will this go straight back to the Dept. and if so will it include all the money that has been spent over the years trying to maintain the peat based roads.
- Expressed disappointment at the reduction in the use of Discretionary funds as felt this is vital for the day to day operational works.
- In relation to winter maintenance the Members expressed concerns that the public are looking for additional roads to be salted, they were advised that a number of factors determine the routes that are covered.
- Enquired about the works to be carried out in Green St and welcomed this work as felt it would really enhance the area, also enquired about the possibility of getting the through road at Lidl to connect from the Tullamore Rd to the Banagher Rd.
- Could the possibility of the road crossing at Scurragh and general safety at that junction be looked at, Mr Mitchell advised that they could talk to the TII in relation to funding for upgrading same.

- Concern in relation to traffic management plans while hedge cutting is being carried out and what do the Contractors have to show to the Council before commencing work
- Can cleaning of road signs be carried out as they are very dirty after the summer, Mr Mitchell agreed to include that work in the programme for this year.
- Pedestrian crossing in Ferbane the lights are not working on it, Mr Mitchell advised that a Contractor has been engaged to carry out the work and just need to secure a timeline from them of when it will be done.
- Footpaths at St Marys Terrace, Shinrone and drainage works at Corolanty Cross, the school and Tierney's pub, can this work be looked at, Mr Mitchell advised that the Council are looking to apply for drainage funding.
- Works at Riverside Walk in Birr are the bollards ever going to be taken away and the work completed, Mr Mitchell advised that a Contractor has been engaged and is just finishing off some other work and will be on site in Birr shortly.
- What is the position in relation to a safety scheme at Boolinarrig Cross, Mr Mitchell advised that he will be meeting with a safety inspector and will have an update for the next meeting.
- Speeding has become a problem in the town of Birr in Moorpark and other areas, Mr Mitchell advised that speeds can be monitored over a period of time to determine the problem areas.
- Low cost safety schemes, did we only apply for funding for Lusmagh and can we look for funding for other areas, also footpaths are badly needed in Lusmagh and other areas?
- The Members advised that it is vital that when works are taking place and disruption to the public are going to happen that it is essential that it is known in advance, also expressed a wish that no resurfacing works should take place during the peak tourist months.
- Welcomed the work at Barrack St, Crinkle and enquired if any funding could be secured for the Castletown to Kilcolman Rd.

### **Correspondence received from Kilcormac Womens Group re parking facilities in Kilcormac**

The Members were circulated with a petition received from Kilcormac Womens Group in relation to the lack of parking facilities in the centre of Kilcormac. The Members were advised that there is a local committee working to try and secure some ground from a private individual to provide for car parking in the town and this is being progressed at present. The Members suggested that perhaps a dedicated space could be provided for disabled parking on the Main St and Mr Mitchell agreed that same could be looked at.

### **Any Other Business:**

#### ***1. Road Safety Inspection N52/N62 Roundabout at Tesco, Birr***

Mr John Mitchell advised that an inspection was carried out in relation to the safety of the above roundabout and it was found to be fully compliant with all regulations and having consulted the local Gardaí can confirm that this is not a location of concern in terms of safety.

Mr Mitchell further advised that a safety audit has been completed on the works in Riverstown and it is intended to look to improve the alignment of the road.

**2. *Election Posters***

The Members expressed concerns in relation to posters for elections and clinics being displayed in the area and whether they are legal or not. They were advised that notices had issued to anyone that had illegal signage by the Environment Section in OCC and the Members agreed that they would not display their own election posters in the centre of towns where possible.

The Meeting then concluded.

SIGNED: \_\_\_\_\_

**CATHAOIRLEACH**

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**MEETINGS ADMINSTRATOR**

**DATE:**