

***Municipal District of Edenderry***  
***Bardasach Dúiche Éadan Doire***

**MINUTES**

<b>Meeting:</b>	<b>Main Committee</b>	Municipal District of Edenderry
<b>Location:</b>	Chamber	<b>Aras Na Chontae, Tullamore, Co. Offaly</b>
<b>Time:</b>	3:00pm	<b>Wednesday, 11<sup>th</sup> November 2020</b>
<b>Present:</b>	Cathaoirleach Cllr. John Foley	Edenderry Municipal District
	Leas -Cathaoirleach Cllr. Liam Quinn	Edenderry Municipal District
	Cllr. Robert McDermott	Edenderry Municipal District
	Cllr. Noel Cribbin	Edenderry Municipal District
	Cllr. Mark Hackett	Edenderry Municipal District
	Cllr. Eddie Fitzpatrick	Edenderry Municipal District
<b>In Attendance:</b>	Sharon Kennedy	District Director, Offaly Co Co
	Mark Mahon	District Engineer, Offaly Co Co
	Josephine Lee	District Administrator, Offaly Co Co
	Mary Hussey	Senior Engineer
	Catriona Hilliard	Broad Band Officer
	Ray Bell	Head of IS, Offaly Co Co
<b>Apologies:</b>	Rory Moore	Assistant District Engineer

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**AGENDA ITEMS**

**1. Environment & Water Update**

Mary Hussey, Senior Engineer, Environment & Water updated the Members in relation to the following;

**Environment:**

Environment dealt with the following complaints within the Edenderry Area up to 31st October 2020– these are broken down into the following areas:

Waste/Litter –	68
Odour	3
Control of Dogs/Horses	18
Discharge to Rivers	3
Community Clean ups	6
Abandoned Vehicles	6
Miscellaneous	6

Litter Fines Issued - €150	25
Waste Fines €500	2

### Anti-Dumping Initiative

An application was made to the DCCAE for funding under the Anti-Dumping Initiative to clean up some very littered areas and to provide funding for CCTV to be installed close to bottle banks. Offaly County Council received a grant to the value of €64,534 in this regard. Work is now completed on the initiatives which received funding. Clean up activities took place at Clonearl, Garryhinch and The Derries. The Environment Section working in conjunction with the MD office undertook a clean-up of a site on the access road into Dunnes Stores in Edenderry.

Following on from the completion of a number of clean-ups, CCTV cameras were installed at Portarlinton bottle bank, Garryhinch bog, The Derries and Clonearl.

Litter Wardens and Waste Enforcement Officers continue to operate in the MD area during the current Level 5 restrictions, with inspections continuing and all complaints being investigated. Since the last report to EMD in July, a number of legal cases have been successfully pursued by the Environment Section.

### Water Services:

#### Drinking Water

Disinfection programme:

Edenderry, Clonbullogue, Walsh Island and Toberdaly are all being reviewed by Irish Water as part of an ongoing disinfection programme. Works are ongoing at Walsh Island, Toberdaly and Edenderry.

Contractors are also working in the Edenderry MD area carrying out leak repairs. Works have recently been carried out involving the replacement of a watermain on the Clonin Rising Main.

#### Wastewater

Bracknagh WWTP: Recent works have been carried out in Bracknagh.

Rhode WWTP: Works have recently been carried out at the plant.

Daingean WWTP: In process of providing Storm Tank.

Greenwood Park in Edenderry pipeline has been increased, this capacity will help the ongoing flooding issue.

Edenderry WWTP Upgrade:

Mary Hussey advised that a Project Charter has been developed for Edenderry WWTP with both a 10 year and a 20-year projection of 11,940 p.e. and 12960p.e. respectively. Irish Water state that ‘the information in Project Charter is a starting point. As part of Feasibility Study Report the consultant will have to develop detailed growth rate projections for both 10 and 20-year design horizons based on existing data and guidance from both IW and OCC.

Timeframe:

Stages	Timescale
Seek approval from IW to Proceed to Design	Achieved
Procure Consultant Engineer to carry out Feasibility Study Report	Consultant to be appointed by end of Q1 2021
Design Scheme	Detail design and produce tender documents for construction
Go to Tender	Appoint Contractor
Construction	Commence Construction (no earlier than 2024)

It was noted that the current capacity is 9800 and the current load is 9300 and further that the above mentioned projections relate only to the plant.

Rural Water Programme:

It was noted that works under the Multi-Annual Rural Water Programme 2019 – 2021 are ongoing.

Domestic Water and Domestic Waste Water Grant Schemes.

It was noted that in accordance with Measure 8 of the Multi-Annual Rural Water Programme 2019-2021 a revised Private Water Supply (Well Grants) and Domestic Waste Water Treatment grant scheme has been announced by the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government. A number of clarifications are being sought and on receipt of same, it is intended to have the new applications and details available through our office and [www.offaly.ie](http://www.offaly.ie) as soon as possible.

It was noted that the application process and the level of grant payable for Well Grants have been revised. The main revisions to the scheme are as follows:

- Applicants must provide three quotes for the proposed works;
- A Water Treatment Grant of up to €1000 has been introduced and;

- The percentage of the approved cost of works that can be claimed by approved applicants has been increased from 75% or a max of €2,031.58 to 85% or €5,000.00, whichever is the lesser.

It was further noted that there are also new grants available for Well Rehabilitation and Water Treatment Systems up to €3,000 and €1,000 respectively

#### Domestic Waste Water Treatment grant

This grant may be available to household in locations which have been identified by the Local Authority under various river basin and catchment area plans and they must meet specific criteria (an applicant cannot self declare for these grants). The percentage of the approved cost of works that can be claimed by the applicant has been increased from 75% to 85% or €5,000.00, whichever is the lesser.

The members thanked Ms. Hussey for her report and outlined a number of concerns in relation to the projected capacity figures for the Edenderry WWTP, the timelines for the project having regard to current capacity and also if consideration could be given to separating surface water from waste water to protect the capacity at the plant.

#### **2. Confirmation of Minutes from the October Meetings**

On the proposal of Cllr. Fitzpatrick and seconded by Cllr. McDermott, it was agreed that the minutes of the meetings held on the **14<sup>th</sup> October 2020** be adopted.

#### **3. GMA Applications**

2 applications were considered by the Elected Members. Both were awarded funding. Having been proposed by Cllr. Quinn and seconded by Cllr. Foley the following details were accepted:

<b>Application</b>	<b>Reason for Funding</b>
Walsh Island Christmas Lights	Christmas Lights
Portarlinton Christmas Lights	Christmas Lights

#### **4. Swimming Pool Update**

No Update

#### **5. Library Development**

The District Director referred to the presentation on the Blundell Masterplan which had recently been given to the members in committee. This presentation outlined a series of opportunities and project within Edenderry Town including the Library project. The District Director advised that many of the projects outlined in the Masterplan are currently proceeding. Arrangements for an official launch of the Blundell Masterplan are being development and details will be circulated to the Elected Members shortly.

#### **6. Inward Investment and Local Enterprise Development**

The District Director advised that the District Engineer and the Head of Local Enterprise are working on a project in Rhode Business Park and are hoping to further progress with external Stakeholders. It is intended to give a further update at the December meeting.

## **7. Public Utility Capacity Issues**

The Broad Band Officer presented and gave a general update on broadband in the Edenderry Area. The below points were outlined;

- Eir fibre rollout (300 k premises)
- Other companies / service providers
- National Broadband Plan
- WiFi4EU project for Edenderry and EMD
- Cellnex Internet of Things E-denderry Smart Town – Presentation 9<sup>th</sup> December

The Broadband Officer answered any queries that arose from the presentation.

The Elected Members raised concerns on the lengthy lead in time for the roll out and the poor service currently in the area.

## **8. Area Issues/updates**

The District Engineer provided an update to the Members in relation to the following items:

- EMD 2020 Roads Programme Schemes
- Community Involvement in Roadworks (CIR) Schemes
- Local Improvement (LIS) Schemes
- Footpaths
- Bridge Works
- New Roads Projects
- Edenderry Regeneration
- Town & Village Renewal Projects
- Flood Relief Projects
- Bog Road Portarlington
- Geashill – Church / Graveyard & R420-5
- Active Travel Measures Within EMD

A discussion followed from the report and the District Engineer answered any queries that arose from the discussion.

**9. Notices of Motion**

None

**10. Written Questions**

None

**11. Correspondence**

- Reply from Offaly Topic
- Reply from HSE re Dental Services
- Reply from Irish Water re Connection Charges
- Reply from the Housing Department re the housing list in Edenderry

Cllr Fitzpatrick outlined his on-going concerns in relation to Connection Charges which he considered were not satisfactorily addressed in the response from Irish Water.

**12. Any Other Business**

Cllr Cribbin requested that the Meetings Administrator write to the Offaly Express asking for increased coverage of the Edenderry Municipal District.

Cllr Fitzpatrick and Cllr Foley wished Cllr McDermott well in his new position of the Chair of the Board of Management of Oaklands College.

The Elected Members expressed their interest to have an official “turning on the Christmas lights” while remaining Covid compliant. The District Director advised that the District will comply with all direction given from NPHE.

This concluded the business of the meeting. The next meeting is scheduled to take place on the 9<sup>th</sup> December 2020.

**Signed:**

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**Cathaoirleach**

**Date:**

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