

Municipal District of Edenderry
Bardasach Dúiche Éadan Doire

MINUTES

Meeting: Main Committee
Location: Chamber, Town Hall, Edenderry

Time: 3:30pm **Wednesday, 14th May 2025**

Present:	Cathaoirleach Cllr. Fergus McDonnell Cllr. Claire Murray Cllr. Noel Cribbin Cllr. Liam Quinn Cllr. Eddie Fitzpatrick	Edenderry Municipal District Edenderry Municipal District Edenderry Municipal District Edenderry Municipal District Edenderry Municipal District
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Apologies:	Leas-Chathaoirleach Cllr. Claire Murray-Smale	Edenderry Municipal District
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In Attendance:	Andrew Murray Rory Moore Enda Daly Lourda Giles Louise Direen Louise Murphy	District Director District Engineer Executive Engineer Administrative Officer District Administrator District Administrator
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In attendance for part of meeting:

AGENDA ITEMS

Cathaoirleach Cllr. Fergus McDonnell welcomed everyone to the May monthly meeting. Cllr. McDonnell advised the Members that the District Administrator, Louise Direen is transferring to a new post in Finance, this will be her last meeting and thanked her for all her hard work. The Elected Members all echoed these sentiments and wished Louise every success in her new role. Louise Murphy was welcomed to the post of District Administrator.

1. Confirmation of Minutes of the April Meeting

It was proposed by Cllr. Quinn and seconded by Cllr. Cummins that the minutes of the monthly meeting held on 09th April 2025 be adopted.

2. GMAs

Eight applications were considered by the Members. Having been proposed by Cllr. Fitzpatrick and seconded by Cllr. Quinn the following details were accepted:

Application	Funding Requested	Reason for Funding	Funding given
Gemini Players Amateur Drama Group	€750	Funding a play in late autumn, costs of scripts, licence, sets, costumes etc	€750
Festival Edenderry Committee/Féile Éadan Doire	€3,750	towards running costs of three-day festival in July	€3,750
Woodville Manor Residents Association	€1000	Funding to host a felting and craft workshop	€750
Daingean Canoe Club	€3,700	Rent, Membership Canoe Ireland	revisit application at June meeting
Park View Residents Association	€3500	towards storage container/general upkeep and maintenance of estate	€3,750
Portarlinton Community Development Association (PCDA)	€750	towards maintaining Derrycastle lakes and trails	€750
Geashill Tidy Towns	€3,750	towards fuel, top soil, plants, Signage, Tools.	€3,750
Blundell Woods Resident Association	€750	towards general upkeep and maintenance of estate	€750



3. Regeneration/Project Updates

District Director Andrew Murray confirmed bills of quantities in progress for the Library.

The first step of the Swimming Pool development started yesterday, May 13th with the stage 1 tender for the design team published on E-Tenders.

Mr. Murray also advised that Paul Mc Loughlin has been newly appointed as Director of Services For Climate Action, Transport, Environmental Services, Rural Water, The National Waste Collection Permit Office (NWCPO) and the Municipal District of Tullamore.

Cllr. McDonnell congratulated all involved in both projects and looks forward to the new Oaklands Secondary School development and is hopeful of a hotel for the town in the future.

Cllr. Fitzpatrick indicated the importance of having adequate accommodation in Edenderry as a growing town, same as Portarlinton. It's certainly something that needs to be looked at seriously and build on it.

Cllr. McDonnell noted the local economy is losing out, family occasions mean families have to go out of Edenderry for facilities.

Cllr. Cribbin stated that there is no hotel in the whole of North Offaly, and questioned if some of the JTF allocation be given as funding towards this, and suggested we write to LOETB to see what the situation is regarding the new school development? This went to tender at Christmas and also requested an update on the Primary Care Centre.

Cllr. Quinn agreed with the other Members and also requested an update on the proposed new link road at Monasteroris

4. Area Issues/Updates/Roads Update

District Engineer Rory Moore announced, further to update received from OCC Roads, that tender documents for Monasteroris scheme will be issued to Chandler KBS for review by the end of May. Mr. Moore outlined that subject to land agreements being finalized this month, the Monasteroris Tender documents will also have to be submitted to the Department for approval, but OCC are hoping to go to tender in early July with a view to commencing works in August.



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R400 Phase 2 Peat Pilot Scheme will have a similar timeline to Monasteroris and will involve the same process; i.e. Tender to be reviewed by KBS Chandler & Department before OCC can issue tender.

All Members praised Edenderry on the Roads Programme, with 9 tarmacadam schemes and 10 recycling schemes completed to date.

Works are 80% complete upon the Climate Adaption works located at Rathvilla..

All crews are busy patching in various locations in preparation for the scheduled Roads Programme.

New employees upon EMD Roads Crews are due to undergo training and EMD are hopeful that surface dressing works will get underway in mid-July.

Cllr. McDonnell questioned if any remedial works are planned for JKL Street. Rory Moore indicated that patching works will be carried out, but a full road overlay could not be carried out due to proposed works which will be required for the new Library Development on the street, to facilitate undergrounding of overheads and utility connections, etc. EMD are liaising with OCC Roads/Department to investigate the possibility of carrying out a larger project in the future for the town, depending on Library timelines and subject to funding from the Department.

Cllr. Cribbin complimented works at the Derries and Ballybritten Bridge, acknowledging the very high standard of work.

Cllr. McDonnell queried why the Rathangan/Edenderry Road is still closed, stating it was well over a month at this stage. Executive Engineer Enda Daly advised that the road is closed to facilitate bridge works and the contractor has liaised to inform EMD that there was a delay in getting concrete beams for the bridge deck. Enda Daly stated he will provide an update as soon as possible, hoping the extension of this road closure will be minimal.

Cllr Quinn thanked Rory, Enda, John and all the team for the works done to date to such a high standard. He noted that contractors were on site at an early stage. Cllr. Quinn also stated that surface dressing works were not appropriate for many locations within the MD due to the condition/state of the roads and bog subgrade & that road reconstruction works would be more appropriate for which additional funding would be required or allowance by DoT to use RM funds for these works.

Cllr. Fitzpatrick supported Cllr. Quinn stating that restructuring/recycling works are very important in order to improve roads across the region.

Cllr. McDonnell agrees with Cllr. Quinn and Cllr. Fitzpatrick and stated a serious conversation to be had at a Department Level.

Cllr. Cribbin thanked Enda Daly for all the information and remarked that all 6 members should work together and encourage Members to collaborate with their own party leaders, it is important to have a collective approach on this issue. North Offaly is in a unique position with windfarms, solar, battery etc.

Cllr. McDonnell agrees with Cllr. Cribbin and stated a large amount of wind energy is generated in North Offaly.

Cllr. Fitzpatrick raised the issue of damage to cars on roads within Edenderry MD and claims to IPB, is there any figures or statistics on this and queried if IPB can provide this data.

Cllr. Quinn stated that IPB gave rebates to Local Authorities in order to fix the problems that claims were made under.

5. Notice of Motion

None at this time.

6. Written Questions

None at this time.

7. Correspondence

None at this time.

8. Any Other Business

Cllr. Fitzpatrick informed the Members of Zoe McLoughlin, Gracefield who recently won a world championship in Belgium in April and proposed a Civic Reception. This was seconded by Cllr. McDonnell, who proposed a scroll be arranged for presentation.



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Lourda Giles, Administrative Officer, informed the Members that she is now the primary point of contact for community and voluntary organisations and will be acting as Community Liaison Officer. Ms. Giles and Fiona McCabe, Community Liaison Officer in Housing, will be holding a Street Feast on 23rd May as part of a national initiative with Park View Residents.

Elected Members wished Lourda Giles well with her new role.

This concluded the business of the meeting. The next meeting is scheduled to take place on the 11th of June 2025.

Signed: *Liam Quinn*
Cathaoirleach

Date: *11/6/25.*



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