

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

**MINUTES**

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

**Time:** 3:30pm **Wednesday, 12<sup>th</sup> February 2025**

<b>Present:</b>	Cathaoirleach Cllr. Fergus McDonnell	Edenderry Municipal District
	Cllr. Claire Murray	Edenderry Municipal District
	Cllr. Noel Cribbin	Edenderry Municipal District
	Cllr. Liam Quinn	Edenderry Municipal District
	Cllr. Eddie Fitzpatrick	Edenderry Municipal District
	Leas-Chathaoirleach Cllr. Claire Murray-Smale	Edenderry Municipal District

**Apologies:**

<b>In Attendance:</b>	Andrew Murray	A/District Director
	Rory Moore	District Engineer
	Louise Direen	District Administrator

<b>In attendance for part of meeting:</b>	Seonaid Murray	Creative Lives Co-Ordinator
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**AGENDA ITEMS**

Cathaoirleach Cllr. Fergus McDonnell welcomed everyone to the February monthly meeting.



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Offaly County Council

**1. Confirmation of Minutes of the January Meeting**

It was proposed by Cllr. Murray and seconded by Cllr. Murray-Smale that the minutes of the monthly meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> January 2025 be adopted.

**2. Creative Lives Update**

Seonaid Murray, Creative Lives Co-Ordinator gave a presentation to the Members outlining the Creative Lives/Creative Edenderry project over the past three years covering the following:

- Data to date
- Murals/ Projects/Public Arts/Exhibitions
- Gathering/Building/Maintaining Momentum
- Governance/Feedback/Support
- Images/Workshops
- Key Needs Identified
- Developments
- Testimonials
- Summary
- Planning for the Future
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The ambition of the project is to facilitate the emergence of a strong cultural identity for the area and support sustainable networks and opportunities for cultural engagement and participation. Creative Places Edenderry is working to achieve this through open, collaborative methods, engaging with the community at grassroots level.

The Members thanked Ms. Murray for her very comprehensive presentation noting the high level of participation within the community, complimenting her for the great work being carried out as part of this extensive programme.

**3. GMAs**

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

Application	Funding Requested	Reason for Funding	Funding given
Edenderry Community Playground	€3,750	Maintenance works to be carried out following annual inspection	€3,750



Portarlinton St Patrick's Day Parade Committee	€750	To assist in running the Parade and weekend festival in the town	€750
Brookfield Rise Residents Association	€3,750	Purchase of a maintenance shed for storage of equipment	€3,750
Ballinagar Planning Committee	€750	Purchase of a storage box, light etc. for defibrillator	€750
Geashill Community Playground	€5,000	To assist with march funding requirement for Community Recognition Fund for installation of a MUGA and zipline in existing playground	€5,000
Edenderry Community Garden	€750	For purchase of equipment for use in Community Garden (e.g. shovels, spades, rakes, barrows etc.)	€750

District Administrator Louise Direen informed the Members that funding is being sought from Creative Lives/Creative Edenderry for the sum of €10k p.a. for a two-year period to further fund this programme. The Arts council have invited the group to submit an application for a further two years for additional funding in the sum of €180k which would be directly ringfenced for Edenderry. This was proposed by Cllr. McDonnell and seconded by Cllr. Cribbin.

#### 4. Regeneration/Project Updates

Andrew Murray, A/District Director confirmed there are no updates at this time.

#### 5. Area Issues/Updates/Roads Update

District Engineer Rory Moore confirmed that he is still awaiting the Roads Programme funding allocation from the Department but is hopeful this will be announced next week. Mr. Moore stated that the outdoor staff have been extremely busy in recent times because of the bad weather, and signage had been erected in line with the new speed limits ahead of the implementation date of February 7<sup>th</sup>. He also confirmed that information relating the public lighting issue was received from Barry Lennon, Senior Engineer in Roads, that 57 faults are outstanding in the District and a further 17 that are relating to third party issues, pointing out that progress in recent weeks was delayed following the storm as

contractors were instructed by the ESB to stand down in order to allow them to restore networks.

Cllr, McDonnell expressed his disappointment that no formal presentation was given at this meeting from a county level as this has been his third request. A/District Director Andrew Murray confirmed that Roads are due to present at the full plenary meeting in March.

A lengthy discussion ensued between the Members on this matter.

Cllr. McDonnell thanked the staff for the marking of the entry boxes around the town and the bus parking bays.

The Members conveyed their thanks to all the staff for the works following the Storm Éowyn and questioned if Offaly County Council have commenced planning works for going forward as these situations are due to reoccur, noting the potholes on the Derries that seem to appear overnight and they are happy to see the new road sweeper in operation around the town.

District Engineer Rory Moore confirmed that we do have Severe Weather Plans in place outlining that these events warrant assessment on a case-by-case basis. He stated that debriefs were held regarding the handling of these situations to ascertain if/how things could be handled in a different way.

The Members highlighted various issues regarding trees, could the Council devise a policy for a maintenance plan for trees in public spaces as they affect public lighting, overhead cables etc. when not maintained correctly and if a specific budget could be allocated to the District for this purpose.

Cllr. Cribbin thanked the ESB crews for their extensive work carried out after the storm. Cllr. McDonnell outlined that the Members or local authority can offer no direct assistance in relation to ESB network, Eir, Uisce Éireann or any other utilities in these instances.

District Engineer Rory Moore confirmed that the local authority has no power to progress these utility issues that more awareness is needed on all social media platforms.

Cllr. McDonnell expressed his gratitude to all those who called and carried out welfare checks and brought supplies to the elderly and vulnerable.

**6. Notice of Motion**

None at this time.

**7. Written Questions**

None at this time


**8. Correspondence**

None at this time.

**9. Any Other Business**

None at this time.

This concluded the business of the meeting. The next meeting is scheduled to take place on the 12<sup>th</sup> March 2025.

Signed:   
Cathaoirleach

Date: 12 March/25



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