

**Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Municipal District of Baltinglass
held in Civic Offices, Blessington on 22nd February 2016 at 10.30 a.m.**

Present: Councillor Vincent Blake
Councillor Pat Doran
Councillor Gerry O'Neill
Councillor James Ruttle
Councillor Edward Timmins

Also Present: Mr. Sean Quirke, Director of Services
Mr. Declan Geraghty, Senior Executive Engineer
Ms. Máire Halvey, District Administrator
Mr. Ken Jones, Executive Engineer
Ms. Deirdre Norton, Clerical Officer

Apologies: Councillor Tommy Cullen

The Cathaoirleach, Councillor James Ruttle, opened the Ordinary Meeting.

1. Confirmation of Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Municipal District of Baltinglass dated 25th January 2016.

Cllr. Ruttle wished to refer to the previous meeting re the decision of where to place the 2016 memorial and an article that subsequently appeared in the Wicklow People. He said a discussion had taken place at the January meeting, a democratic vote took place and there was no conspiracy and no set up. Cllr. O'Neill asked why was the decision pushed through and that Blessington needed a monument as the largest town in the area. Cllr. Blake stated that time was needed to allow the works to be done and that the decision was made in a democratic manner, there is a strong committee in Knockananna and a big history there. Cllr Timmins advised it was a democratic decision.

Councillor Edward Timmins proposed confirmation of the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Municipal District of Baltinglass dated 25th January 2016 and Councillor Pat Doran seconded the proposal.

2. Presentation by South Western Drug and Alcohol Task Force

Stephen Joyce, South Western Regional Drug and Alcohol Task Force outlining the services being provided by the organisation and the synergies that are being developed with local organisations. Mr. Joyce advised that there was a lack of representation for West Wicklow but that some organisations were now focusing on the area. Mr. Joyce urged that the Joint Policing Committee and the Local Community Development Committee provide active representation for West Wicklow.

3. Roads Reports

The N81 National Road Report submitted by Tom O'Leary, Senior Executive Engineer was read out to the meeting.

Members requested an update re. double lines/lights at Crosschapel. The meeting was also advised that the speed sign was not working at Poulaphouca.

Cllr. Edward Timmins stated that there is money there due to property tax increase and that it needs to be seen on the ground. Mr. Sean Quirke, Director of Services advised that the Municipal District Schedule of Works will be considered at the March meeting and the discretionary spend will be available.

The Regional Roads Report was delivered by Mr. Declan Geraghty, Senior Executive Engineer who advised that the 3 year multi annual programme had been submitted to Transport Infrastructure Ireland for consideration.

The members enquired regarding local roads repairs and Mr. Sean Quirke advised that the Community Involvement Scheme was due to be advertised this week and that it was typically for cul de sacs/public road.

Mr. Sean Quirke advised the meeting that €77,000 was earmarked for Croneyhorn. Mr. Ken Jones, Executive Engineer, advised that discussions were ongoing with landowners at the moment and that work was due to start this week.

Cllr. Vincent Blake stated that footpaths are a big issue with repairs required as well as new footpaths.

Cllr. Gerry O'Neill stated that people are prepared to build houses on zoned land but can't proceed.

4. Glór n Cásca

Mr. Ken Jones gave a progress report.

5. Correspondence

- (i) Letter was received from South Dublin County Council advising that the lands at Crooksling were in private ownership and that the Council wouldn't be erecting deer proof fencing on same. The Members agreed that a letter should be sent to the HSE regarding the lands.
- (ii) Correspondence was received from 1916 festival Lakeside Committee regarding a site for a commemorative garden. Mr. Declan Geraghty advised that the site would need to be moved slightly as there is a protected mound there. The members were broadly in support but the Blessington and Lakeside

1916 Committee are to be asked to consult with the residents of Oak Drive to enquire how they felt about it.

- (iii) Letter received from Blessington Tidy Towns offering to make a presentation to the Members but the Members said that it wasn't necessary and that funding would be considered at the March meeting.
- (iv) Letter from Anne Ferris T.D re. Ballycumber Wind Farm
- (v) Update from Irish Water.
- (vi) Email from ESB Networks advising re. bridges under their control were currently being inspected.

6. Any Other Business

The next meeting will be held on 21st March in the Civic Offices, Blessington at 10.30 a.m.

SIGNED: Jim Ruttle

CATHAOIRLEACH

SIGNED: Máire Halvey

DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR

DATED: 21 March 2016