

**Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Municipal District of Baltinglass  
held in The Village Hall, Donard on 16<sup>th</sup> November 2015 at 10.30 a.m.**

Present: Councillor Vincent Blake  
Councillor Tommy Cullen  
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

The Cathaoirleach, Councillor James Ruttle, opened the Ordinary Meeting welcoming everyone to Donard. Councillor Ruttle also took the opportunity to express sympathy to the people of Paris on the recent atrocity and a minute's silence was observed.

**1. Confirmation of Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Municipal District of Baltinglass dated 19<sup>th</sup> October 2015**

Councillor Vincent Blake proposed confirmation of the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Municipal District of Baltinglass dated 19<sup>th</sup> October 2015 and Councillor Edward Timmins seconded the proposal.

**2. Confirmation of Minutes of the Draft Budgetary Meeting of the Municipal District of Baltinglass dated 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2015**

Councillor Tommy Cullen proposed confirmation of the minutes of the Draft Budgetary Meeting of the Municipal District of Baltinglass dated 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2015 and Councillor Edward Timmins seconded the proposal.

**2. Deputation from Donard Glen Focus Group**

Ms. Pauline Flynn gave a presentation on behalf of Donard Glen Focus Group highlighting areas where it was felt that works needed to be carried out on derelict buildings to ensure the continued enhancement of Donard as a village and on footpaths to ensure the safety of pedestrians in the village. Ms. Flynn also commented on works done such as the wall opposite the Church of Ireland the new built Wicklow County Council Depot.

Ms. Flynn was thanked and commended by the members on her presentation who made various comments on same such as "Donard is a place that can develop as the economy develops" "Fully aware of the historical significance of the village." "Beautiful village close to the Wicklow Mountains."

Various engineering brought up by Ms. Flynn were addressed by the District Engineer, Mr. Declan Geraghty who advised that he would consider the planting of some native hedging to be interspersed with the laurel hedging already in place at the Depot. Mr. Geraghty also stated that public consultation was not required in relation to the development of the depot site. Mr. Geraghty stated that there was currently no funding in place for footpaths.

At the end of the presentation, Margaret and Tom Whittle who attended the presentation also requested that the council look into the provision of white lines on the Wicklow Gap Road as it was quite dangerous in bad weather. Mr. Declan Geraghty advised that road marking is linked to road resurfacing as there is no longer a separate budget for road marking.

### **3. Roads Report**

Roads report from Mr. Tom O'Leary, Senior Executive Engineer, Transportation & Roads was read out at the meeting. An update on Hangman's Bend was requested for the next meeting. It was agreed to have the matter of Non National Roads Plan on the agenda for the next meeting.

Councillor Blake complimented the District Engineer on the condition of the roads in the Municipal District. Councillor Blake also requested that the issue on flooding on the Tinahely/Shillelagh Road be looked at. Councillor Doran stated that this was due to trees being caught under arch. Mr. Ken Jones Executive Engineer is to look at this with Councillor Blake.

### **4. Housing Report**

Councillor Doran stated that it was good to see that the vacancies were down to eight units and that there were only two in the Baltinglass Municipal District. Councillor O'Neill stated that there might be only two vacancies but a large shortage of houses and that there was no emergency accommodation in the district and that he was aware of several instances of homeless in the district. Mr. Sean Quirke Director of Services said that he would consult with Housing & Corporate Estate with regard to emergency/homeless accommodation in the district but that a lot of such accommodation was provided by voluntary organisations. It was agreed to have the matter of homelessness on the agenda for the next meeting.

### **5. Any Other Business**

- (i) Councillor Ruttle congratulated Carnew Community Care Limited on their success in achieving first place in the Age Friendly Community Initiative Category of the 2015 IPB / Co-Operation Ireland Pride of Place Awards. Councillor Blake congratulated the Centre on its achievement and that it was remarkable to win such an award a second time. It was agreed that a letter of congratulations should be sent to Sr. Mary Crosbie.
- (ii) It was agreed to hold the December meeting of Baltinglass Municipal District in the Carnew Community Care Centre to mark this achievement.

This concluded the meeting.

**Signed: Jim Ruttle**

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**CATHAOIRLEACH**

**Signed: Máire Halvey**

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**DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR**

**Dated: 16<sup>th</sup> November 2015**