**MINUTES OF MEETING OF CASTLECOMER MUNICIPAL DISTRICT HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, COUNTY HALL ON MONDAY 21st MARCH 2016 AT 11.00AM**

**Chair: Cllr P Millea**

**Present: Cllrs J Brennan, MH Cavanagh, P Fitzpatrick, M McCarthy, and M Shortall.**

**In attendance: P Beubry, Castlecomer Area Engineer**

**M Delahunty, Meetings Administrator**

**M Mulholland, Director of Services**

**N Byrne, Area Staff Officer**

**Vote of Sympathy**

**A vote of sympathy was extended to the following:**

* The family of the late Tom Hunt, Scart, Dungarvan, Gowran, Co Kilkenny
* Martha Melbourne on the recent death of her brother Richard Boyle, Crettyard
* The family of the late Lar Kenny, Grange, Ballyragget

1. **Confirmation of Minutes of :-**

February MeetingofCastlecomer Municipal District held on 15th February 2016.

The minutes were proposed by Cllr J Brennan, seconded by Cllr M McCarthy and agreed.

1. **Business prescribed by Statute, Standing Orders or Resolutions of the Council for transaction at such meeting.**
2. **Roads**

PBeubry circulated to the members proposals for 2016 Roadworks Scheme and Public Lighting Scheme. He advised that the allocation provided for Ordinary Maintenance on National Secondary roads was slightly increased on 2015 allocation. He advised that he is awaiting details of allocation in respect of Pavement Improvement works from TII, however, 2 schemes are due to be completed. He advised that allocation shown for Ordinary Maintenance of local and regional roads is based on allocation received in 2015 and that SWalton is to come back to him and confirm exact allocation. Details of works proposed and allocations provided in respect of Non National Low Cost Accident Schemes, Signage, Drainage Measures and Special Works were outlined and discussed. P Beubry advised that an additional allocation had been provided under Bridge Rehabilitation Works in respect of Tower Bridge. He advised that an allocation had been provided in 2015, however, the scope of the work had been greater than initially anticipated.

PBeubry also advised details of RSA funding provided for enforcement location in the form of Weighbridge at Paulstown.

The proposed public lighting scheme was discussed in detail and PBeubry dealt with members queries.

Members welcomed proposals contained in Roadworks Scheme and Public Lighting Scheme and acknowledged with thanks the work which had been completed by PBeubry and staff of the Castlecomer Area Office to compile these two schemes. PBeubry and staff of the Castlecomer Area Office were also complimented on equity and equal distribution of works across the Municipal District.

The need for drainage works at Cruttenclough was raised and PBeubry advised that he may be in a position to do the necessary works under general drainage allocation. Condition of road at Kilcollan was also raised and PBeubry advised that he will monitor condition of this roadway and include for surface dressing in 2017 if necessary. It was agreed that the provision of public lighting at Boneyarrow would be included as a priority in the 2017 public lighting scheme.

**Adoption of Schedule of Municipal District Works for Castlecomer Municipal District.**

It was proposed by Cllr P Fitzpatrick, seconded by Cllr J Brennan and resolved:-

“That in accordance with the provisions of Section 103A of the Local Government Act 2001, as inserted by Section 58 of the Local Government Reform Act 2014, the Schedule of Municipal District Works for 2016, as circulated at the Municipal District Meeting held on 21st March, 2016, be and is hereby adopted.”

**Adoption of Road Works Scheme for Castlecomer Municipal District.**

It was proposed by Cllr P Fitzpatrick, seconded by Cllr J Brennan and resolved:-

“That the proposed Road Works Scheme  as circulated at the Municipal District Meeting held on 21st March, 2016, be and is hereby adopted

1. **Corporate**

**Request to purchase plot of ground at Kiltown, Castlecomer**

**R**eport on the issue was circulated to members with the agenda. Cllr M Shortall advised that this site had been the subject of much illegal dumping and that its disposal for the purpose outlined in report circulated would be hugely advantageous to the town to eliminate a litter black spot. Members agreed that the plot of ground should be disposed of in line with request and for a nominal fee.

1. **Other business set forth in the Notice convening the meeting**

**Items submitted by members:-**

**Cllr M H Cavanagh:**

* **Derelict Hotel and other dereliction in Urlingford**

NByrne circulated to the members reports received from MO’Leary in respect of Derelict Hotel, Urlingford AMWalshe in respect of derelict houses in ghost estate at Togher Way, Urlingford and DFoley in respect of disused premises in Urlingford.

A conversation ensued in respect of 3 reports circulated. Contents of AMWalsh’s report in respect of High Court case were acknowledged, however, in light of various public health issues raised including anti social behaviour and reports of raw sewerage being visible, it was agreed that Water Services and Planning would be requested to investigate this site and provide a report for the April meeting of Castlecomer Municipal District.

**Cllr M Shortall**

* **Flooding at Oldtown, Ballyragget.**

Cllr M Shortall advised that he had discussed this issue with PBeubry prior to the meeting.

* **Update - Traffic Count at the Square Junction, Castlecomer**

It was agreed that a deputation would be received in respect of this item at the April meeting of Castlecomer Municipal District. Cllr M Shortall to liaise with NByrne.

* **Flood Relief Croghtenclogh.**

Cllr M Shortall advised that he had discussed this issue with PBeubry prior to the meeting.

1. **Matters Arising from Minutes**

**Footpath and Traffic Calming at Thomastown Road, Gowran**

Cllr M H Cavanagh referred to previous request for written response on this item and asked again for response to item submitted. PBeubry confirmed that written response had issued and it was agreed response would be re-issued.

**Coakley’s Bend**

Cllr M H Cavanagh raised the issue of Coakley’s Bend. She sought clarification as to Mr Coakley’s requirements and advised that she will be contacting Mr Coakley directly.

1. **Any Other Business**

**Request for funding in respect of Ossory Youth & St Patrick’s Day Parade in Kilkenny City**

Application for funding received from Ossory Youth in relation to “The Youth Service Programme” was circulated to members with agenda. Cllr P Millea also raised request received via Cllr Joe Malone, Mayor of Kilkenny Municipal District seeking funding of €5m from Municipal Districts for Kilkenny City St Patrick’s Day Parade to put the parade on firmer footing. Members agreed with the sentiment but were in unanimous agreement that the Municipal District did not have the resources available to assist with this request. Members agreed that request for funding received from Ossory Youth and request for funding towards Kilkenny City Patrick’s Day Parade should be dealt with in the Estimates and not at Municipal District level.

**Funding in respect of flood relief works**

PBeubry advised that an application had been made to the Department for €5.5m to deal with emergency works following recent heavy flooding. He advised that €3m had been received, 60% of request submitted. He advised that he is currently awaiting allocation from SWalton for Castlecomer Municipal District and he confirmed that works will be prioritised under allocation received. He also advised that Kilkenny County Council would have an opportunity to get a second tranche of funding for Severe Weather Repairs & Preventative Measures and that a second application to the DOT would be lodged by the deadline of the 29th April.

**Flooding in Freshford**

Problem of flooding in Freshford was raised and PBeuby advised Freshford is considered an AFA (Area of Further Assessment) under the CFRAM project (Catchment Flood Risk Assessment Management currently carried out by the OPW . Cllr M McCarthy confirmed of recent assessment completed by the OPW and advised Freshford had received favourable priority.

**Bottle Banks**

Members raised an issue in relation to bottle banks. They advised that people were not able to get through on free phone number provided and bottle banks were not being emptied as required. MMulholland to investigate. Illegal dumping at bottle banks in Freshford was raised and possibility of camera previously promised to be investigated.

It was agreed that the April meeting of Castleocomer Municipal District would commence at 11.30 and a decision would be taken thereafter on start time for future meetings.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Chairperson: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_