**MINUTES OF MEETING OF CASTLECOMER MUNICIPAL DISTRICT HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, COUNTY HALL ON MONDAY 21st DECEMBER AT 11.30AM**

**Chair: Cllr P Millea**

**Present: Cllrs J Brennan, MH Cavanagh, 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**

1. **Confirmation of Minutes of Meeting of:**

* **Castlecomer Municipal District held on 9th November 2015**

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

* **Castlecomer Municipal District Budget Meeting held on 9th November 2015**

The minutes were proposed by Cllr M H Cavanagh, seconded by Cllr M McCarthy

and agreed.

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

**Items submitted by members:-**

* **Cllr M H Cavanagh**

1. **Fast traffic at Togher Road, Urlingford.**

PBeubry circulated a drawing of the location to the members and indicated where he intends installing a driver feedback sign. He confirmed that the provision of such signs have proved very effective in reducing speed elsewhere in the county.

1. **Derelict houses in ghost estate at Togher Way, Urlingford.**

A report provided by AM Walsh, Snr Exec Officer on this issue was circulated.

1. **Derelict Hotel at Main Street, Urlingford.**

A report provided by AM Walsh, Snr Exec Officer on this issue was circulated.

1. **Travellers horses at Togher, Urlingford.**

A report provided by C McCarthy, A/Senior Engineer on this issue was circulated.

1. **Request for provision of bin for recyclable plastic bottles on the site at Josephine’s Restaurant, Urlingford.**

A report provided by C McCarthy, A/Senior Engineer on this issue was circulated.

1. **Flooding at Cooleshalbeg, Freshford.**

Cllr M H Cavanagh complimented the work completed to alleviate flooding at Woodsgift and requested that similar work be completed at Cooleshalbeg. PBeubry advised the two situations are different and the issue at Cooleshalbeg relates to problem with nearby stream. PBeubry to walk local stream and investigate possible resolution to the problem.

1. **Flooding at Fitzpatrick’s, Ballygowney, Gathabawn.**

Cllr M H Cavanagh corrected this to read road at Fitzpatrick’s, Ballygowney, Gathabawn. PBeubry advised that he proposes including a section of this roadway in the next 4 year Road Works Programme.

1. **Footpath and speed limit at Thomastown Road, Gowran.**

PBeubry advised that he will include these works in 2016 Low Cost Accident Schemes proposals

- **Cllr M Shortall**

1. Flash flooding pressure points.

Cllr M Shortall along with the other members were unanimous in their praise for all staff involved in works to deal with recent heavy flooding. A conversation ensured in relation to the need for preventative maintenance works. Recent cleaning of gullies with new jet vac machine was complimented. Possibility of encouraging farmers to open inlets at roadside adjacent to their land was discussed. Issue of Fisheries Board far more active now than previous years and farmers afraid to go near rivers as a result was also discussed.

MMulholland advised that all Municipal Districts suffered as a result of recent flooding and it may be something which needs to go back to DOS for re-allocation of funds. She advised that all issues discussed will be raised at MTM and looked at from policy point of view.

1. **Matters Arising from Minutes**

Provision of turning lane at Parksgrove, Ballyragget was raised. PBeubry advised that a formal scheme had not yet been designed and he will pursue this issue with Road Design Section.

1. **Any Other Business**

**Galmoy/Lundin Mining – transfer of Rural Water Supply Scheme to IWater**

MMulholland advised that Kilkenny County Council and Laois County Council had jointly wrote to IWater on the matter. She advised details of what was contained in the correspondence sent and it was agreed copy of this correspondence would be made available to the members. IWater acknowledged the correspondence and confirmed their legal department are dealing with Lundin in respect of the transfer. Assistance offered from the Local Authorities was not accepted at this point, however, M Mulholland advised members that the Local Authorities door will remain open and she expects IWater will revert to the Local Authorities for assistance at a later stage.

M Mulholland advised that the Local Authorities work as an agent for IWater and have a role to ensure water supply is maintained. She advised that the Local Authorities must be notified of any interruption to the water supply. Members were advised details of €2m held in the mine closure fund ring fenced for Water and additional money in the fund to deal with demolition of buildings. Members were also advised that there is no money held in the mine closure fund for roads.

It was agreed that when officials from IWater next come to Kilkenny County Council for meeting, members of Castlecomer Municipal District would also meet them as a group.

**Flooding at Bayswell**

Cllr M H Cavanagh raised the issue of flooding at Bayswell. P Beubry to investigate.

**Keogh’s Cruttenclough**

The problem of water escaping onto the road at Keogh’s, Cruttenclough was raised with particular reference to the likelihood and problems associated with frost in the coming season.

**Coakley’s Bend**

Members raised their concerns in respect of serious road safety issues at this location. PBeubry advised that Road Design Section had done preliminary drawings. He advised that he needs to talk to two landowners in respect of works proposed. PBeubry also to contact Mr Coakley.

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

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