

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF DUNGANNON AND SOUTH TYRONE BOROUGH
COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 27 JUNE 2005 IN THE COUNCIL OFFICES,
CIRCULAR ROAD, DUNGANNON**

- MEMBERS PRESENT:** In the Chair, Councillor Molloy, Mayor

Councillors Badger, Brush, F Burton, R Burton, Cavanagh, Cuddy, Currie, Daly, Donnelly, Gildernew, Gillespie, Greenaway, Hamilton, McGonnell, McMahon, Monteith, Mulligan and O'Neill
- APOLOGY:** Councillor McGuigan, McLarnon and Morrow
- OFFICERS PRESENT:** Messrs Campbell, Frazer, McMinn, Mrs Smith and Ms Zellman

The meeting started at 7.45 pm.

1 MAYORS BUSINESS

The Mayor on behalf of the Council extended sympathy to the Bownes family circle on the tragic death of Gary Bownes a playing member of Dungannon Swifts Football Club and with the McGoldrick family circle on the tragic death of Martin McGoldrick, a Tyrone supporter, on the way home from a football match.

As a mark of respect all present stood for a minutes silence.

Members condemned the weekend incident in Dungannon when a young man was seriously injured and referred to the attack on Coalisland police station that would serve no useful purpose.

**2 03/446 – MONOPOWER – APPLICATION FOR BIOMASS COMBINED
HEAT AND POWER PLANT AT KILYCARRON, EMYVALE, CO
MONAGHAN FOR MONOPOWER LTD**

At the meeting of the Public Services Committee held on Tuesday 21 June 2005 the draft response, to the above planning application, as circulated to the Committee, was discuss and in order for it to be lodged by the closing date for comments, 1 July 2005, it was agreed that it be tabled at this meeting for adoption.

Ms Zellman stated that detailed information on the plant had been received and as the Council had original objected the draft response

was prepared on that basis. During discussion members congratulated Ms Zellman on the quality of the draft response and it was

Proposed by Councillor Gildernew
Seconded by Councillor McGonnell and

Resolved That the draft response be approved and forwarded to the relevant authority.

Councillors F Burton, R Burton, Cavanagh, Hamilton and Mulligan arrived during discussion of the above item.

Ms Zellman left the meeting at 8.00 pm.

3 DRD ROADS SERVICE

The Mayor welcomed Mr Pat Doherty, Divisional Roads Manager and Mr James Black, Section Engineer to the meeting. He requested members to restrict their questions to strategic issues.

Mr Doherty presented report 'Divisional Roads Manager's Report to Dungannon and South Tyrone Borough Council 27 June 2005' stating that the report followed the same layout as last year. The report highlighted the programme of completed works in 2004-2005, programme of works for 2005-2006 and network information.

He stated that in 2004/2005 £3.12 million was spent on structural maintenance which reflected the increased level of funding for this type of work in recent years across Northern Ireland, 83 per cent of which was spent on the minor route network. During the 2005/2006 financial year approximately £3.45 million will be spent an increase of 11 per cent on last year which compares favourably with a reduction of 12 per cent across Roads Service generally.

Local Transport and Safety Measures spend was £800k, significantly up on 2003/2004. For the current year the funding available is similar to last year.

Mr Doherty thanked elected members and staff for their co-operation and partnership working over the past year, wished Mr Beattie well in his retirement and welcomed Mr Campbell to his new post and looked forward to having the same working relationship with him.

During discussion members sought explanation and commented as follows:

Members congratulated Mr Doherty on the quality and clarity of the report and the support and help given by Mr Black and his staff.

B35 Aughnacloy to Dungannon, particularly Greystone to Carnteel section in bad state – **Some sections of scheme will be completed this year.**

What is policy on speed ramps, Churchill Caledon, fast traffic on minor road what is possibility of ramp on this type of road – **Only provided as part of traffic calming scheme and should be requested under such a scheme. We will assess area and prioritise provision based on accident history.**

Welcome scheme for Moor Road, Coalisland.

Elaborate on pelican crossing in Coalisland – **Located somewhere in the Square, will consult with shop frontagers etc and hopefully get agreement on sighting.**

Brackaville Road close to Newmills need speed limit and repeat signs – **Schemes under local transport and safety measures and traffic calming will take this on board. This scheme is well advanced and hopeful for a start on ground in the Autumn time.**

Good work carried out in recent years on minor roads across the borough – **appreciate comments word of caution, funding dropping back urge Council to lobby and keep pressure on those responsible.**

A4, Eglisk junction a welcome scheme. Give consideration to flashing 60 mph signs at end of dual carriageway section and maybe intermittently on the road. Due to increase in traffic until dualling scheme complete continue with right hand turning lanes on this roadway particularly mentioned Whites Road, Cabragh and also need for traffic calming measures Sheers Place to Cabragh – **note concern around Cabragh will look at Whites Road. A4 Dualling and A5 Tullyvar Road schemes being fast tracked, plan to publish statutory procedures, Environmental Statement, Direction Order and Vesting Order in October 2005, with public enquiry held in Spring 2006, Hopefully will be in a position to commence construction early in 2007 and project will take three years to complete.**

Traffic calming around Dungannon town welcome. Would urge Roads Service when consulting on planning applications that traffic calming be built into private developments as part of condition of planning –

during consultation Roads Service encourage developers to include traffic calming and indeed to organise layout of roads so that they are self restricting.

Arterial routes into town, need for full footpath provision on all these routes – **developers have to include provision, particularly evident on the Donaghmore Road and the local transport study should take all these issues on board.**

Councillor Cavanagh left at 8.20 pm

Acknowledge efforts roads service making in relation traffic calming in the Borough. The need for pedestrian crossing and some form of traffic calming in Donaghmore village – **does not meet criteria for pelican crossing. Will look at scheme for traffic calming.**

Community looking towards Roads Service with assistance in preserving cross in Donaghmore, plans for road to be realigned creating site for cross and for parking. Scheme should alleviate parking in the area – **would be happy to be involved provided can deliver some road safety benefit and scheme would be prioritised with other schemes in the district.**

Castlecaulfield/Donaghmore Road in need of major improvement – **on resurfacing programme for this year, some drainage and widening involved in this programme.**

Need for traffic calming at schools on the Killymeal Road – **scheme to provide mini roundabout at junction of Killymeal Road/Killyman Road will provide some form of traffic calming.**

A29 Cookstown Road at Carland Bridge - **Design currently being progressed and intend to publish statutory orders, environmental statement and direction order in spring 2006, Roads Service own land and given history hopeful not to have to hold a public enquiry. Construction to commence early in 2007.**

Cappagh to Ballygawley to A4, lot of HGV traffic and road in bad condition – **Two way thing, HGV traffic to pit damaging minor road if new pit to be opened would require developer to assist with improving road conditions. Appreciate economy of the area depends on that road but only have limited funding.**

Galbally Community Centre to Donnelly's cross roads has not met criteria for footpath or street lighting, only a short stretch of street lighting required, lot of pedestrian traffic in the area – **Will review assessment.**

White centre lining on some roads would be useful on all roads – **White lining, while helpful, restricted to road widths.**

Grass cutting programme when will it commence – **Target is to finish 90 per cent of first cut before the end of June. Contractor penalised if target not met. Started at lough shore area and working way across borough.**

A5 Errigal Road Junction, improvements to this junction appear to have created a further problem – **Will check out this situation.**

What is time frame for completion of Ballygawley Main Street and Church Street. DRD should not be tolerating this type of work from contractors – **Apologise for lack of progress, having difficulties with contractor, trying to resolve these and hopefully scheme will be completed by July.**

Councillor Mulligan left at 8.40 pm.

B45 – Caledon to Aughnacloy piecemeal development when can expect completion – **scheme in programme for surface dressing and some resurfacing.**

Traffic calming in Aughnacloy any plans for scheme on approaches to the town on the Monaghan Road and Tullyvar Road – **no plans for such difficult road layout will look at enhanced signs.**

Moy, footpath needed on Eglis Road out to Currans Brae – **request noted.**

Moy, footpath Gorestown Road – **request noted.**

Moy, footpath to Redford – **request noted.**

Councillor McGonnell left at 8.45 pm.

Moy Road, Dungannon need for junction improvements, Grange Road, Limekill Road, Syerla Road – **will investigate.**

Provision of some form of traffic calming on approach roads to all primary schools – **Last year 'Safer Routes to School Initiative' launched by Minister under which a number of projects to enhance safety measures have been programmed for this year.**

Benburb to Moy Road narrow in places and in poor condition – **will investigate.**

Dyan and Carntall not eligible for speed limit need for some form of traffic calming – **will look at signage.**

Carricklongfield Lane, road narrow - **Will investigate.**

Brackaville Road need extension of speed limit – **Will look at along with other improvements listed for Brackaville Road.**

Kingare Road to Coalisland in poor condition – **will investigate.**

Augharan cross roads, need for right turn lanes – **Scheme in this years programme to provide two right turn lanes.**

B35 Carnteel Crossroads need for improvement has been a number of fatalities.

Craigs Bog Road, problems in this area.

Sidney Street in Aughnacloy need for traffic calming – **will investigate.**

Pelican crossing on Main Street in Aughnacloy at Poundhill agreed subject to yellow boxes to allow traffic to emerge – **If that is what was agreed that is what will be provided.**

Dualling scheme at Annahilla and Tullyvar will split Lisbeg Road, Ballygawley and will adversely affect a number of people in this area – **In terms of individuals that are affected would encourage them to contact our people and talk to them (Arnold Hamilton and Michelle Greer). Before publishing statutory orders will have another public consultation day. Scheme will benefit a lot of people and will mitigate against small number.**

Area Plan and Eastern Distributor Road, what is current position and is there any measures to deal with the serious traffic problem around Dungannon town - **Starting again and currently local transport study ongoing in the town and will be used to form case for Eastern Distributor Road. Lost out at public enquiry and one of the weaknesses was that Roads Service did not have formal programme. Regional Transportation Study and RSTN 2015 will set long term planning strategies and for the EDR so that we can have entered into long term planning schedule and before the next area plan we will have a line in recognised programme and go to area plan with descent case to have line protected.**

Tescos are planning development at their current site and have taken on board traffic problems at Railway Road junction. Met with Council

who asked that they look at traffic problems at the Windmill Hill junction. Tesco's has agreed to approach Roads Service on this matter – **Be glad to work with Tesco's but can only do so if traffic impact assessment identifies need.**

By Pass, Coalisland – **Not sufficient priority to get into RTS and in a sense Moor Road almost operates as by pass. Appreciate that there is traffic problems in Coalisland.**

Have opportunity under DSD town centre initiative to redesign Market Square, Dungannon and look at Coalisland. Welcome opportunity to create market stalls in Market Square, Dungannon and bring business back into town centre.

Coalisland, at consultation 4 years ago mini roundabout provided at Oliver's Filling Station and was to be reviewed. Need for review number of accidents, need for traffic lights at this location – **Roundabout verses lights, lights can cause delays and cause frustration. Need to run consultation exercise and all this will be dealt with in up coming review.**

Ballynakelly Road Junction to Henderson's filling station, road to be widened – **will investigate.**

Brackaville Road issue around Cyril Campbell's premises – **Land issue and hopeful that it has been resolved.**

Killylary Lane both ends need to be widened, like Roads Service to inspect – **Will inspect.**

Stewartstown Road at Glen Entrance, request forwarded to Roads Service to widen road and footpath have had no reply – **Will investigate.**

Corrick House, need for right turning lane coming from Dungannon.

Practice of private residences placing large stones at edge of road to protect grass on road verges causes road safety issue.

The Mayor thanked the officers for their attendance following which they left the meeting at 9.30 pm.

Councillors Brush, F Burton, Currie, Gildernew, Gillespie and Mr McMinn left at 9.30 pm.

4 NORTHERN IRELAND HOUSING EXECUTIVE

The Mayor welcomed Mr Eamonn McKeown, Area Manager, Mr John Quigley, District Manager, Mr Comghal McQuillan, Programme Manager, Mr Chris Cunningham, Area Planning and Ms Joanne Boyd, Information Officer, to the meeting.

Mr McKeown presented report 'District Housing Plan Dungannon 2005-2006'. The purpose of the plan is to inform and consult Councils on the various programmes and initiatives the Housing Executive is developing to meet local housing needs. The plan outlines the trends and influences that have had an impact on thinking when preparing programmes. The plan addresses the programme for 2005/2006 and proposals for subsequent years are also outlined.

Mr McKeown thanked elected members and staff for their co-operation and partnership working over the past year, wished Mr Beattie well in his retirement and welcomed Mr Campbell to his new post and looked forward to continuing working with the Council on matters of mutual interest.

During discussion members sought explanation and commented as follows:

Replacement grants and requirement to knock down old house some of which are mud wall houses and part of our heritage – **Policy has attracted criticism over the years from people interested in preserving the vernacular heritage of Northern Ireland. A pilot exercise is being carried out with the Environment and Heritage Service of the Department of the Environment to retain existing dwellings that have been identified as having architectural or historical merit.**

Welcome new social housing build for the town area, needs to be higher priority put on it, 40/50 unit not enough, people on low income squeezed out of housing market. Executive has basically advocated its responsibility in relation to new build. Hope Executive will use powers available to it to zone land for social housing – **Have to take into account supply and demand and to look at all aspects of the waiting list. Following earlier discussion undertook to look at the extent of the provision and arising from that added a couple of schemes to the programme. Zoning land is something that can be done in relation to area plan.**

Demolition of derelict property, need for fast track option to deal with this matter – **Accept that not happening as fast as would like. There is a two part process, dealing with public assets and need to get approval then to get work done on the ground ie availability other**

agencies in relation to removal of services and availability of contractor resources.

Important part of the delivery mechanism working with Housing Associations – **There has been concerns as targets over the past 3 or 4 years have not been met and consultation has taken place whereby delivery mechanism will be Housing Associations while management of the programme and delivering targets will fall to the Housing Executive.**

Derelict bungalows in Coalisland – **Technical Team looking at possibility of design conversion.**

Disability adaptations – **Spending a lot of money. Eight major schemes listed for this financial year.**

Need for four bedroom houses – **Number of possible routes, possibility of acquiring a house, extension to existing property if possible or transferring to house that is capable of being extended.**

Bouyant economy and important that Housing Executive as stake holders in the housing market identify sites for housing - **Engaging with Planning Service and increasingly involved with area plan process. Housing needs assessment done at the beginning of the process and if planners in agreement with Housing Executive will identify sites in the plan for social housing. This was done at the commencement of the plan and at review stage.**

Councillor Daly left at 10.05 pm.

Need for more ground to be opened up for all types of housing.

Councillor Monteith left at 10.10 pm.

Eight new units at Aughnacloy. Are they on vacant ground at Orchard Park – **Site has not yet been identified. Will investigate vacant ground at Orchard Park.**

Town centre living initiative, any in this area – **Pilot in Lisburn, not aware of any projects in Dungannon.**

Dungannon Regeneration Partnership has identified a possibility and survey being undertaken.

Any proposals for Travellers. Voids in Coalisland created by some of the allocations to travellers. In Gortgonis four blocks of houses derelict and travellers living in back gardens. Major scheme in this estate a number of years ago – **Travellers site scheme proposed to address various issues. In relation to voids in Gortgonis discussions ongoing with**

housing association in relation to project for the area which would bring in home ownership mix. In discussion with travellers with a view to them moving swiftly on.

The Mayor thanked the officers for their attendance following which they left the meeting.

The need for a review as to how Councillors concerns and questions could be dealt with in a more constructive manner, at such meetings as this, was discussed including the possibly of written questions in advance of the meeting.

5 DURATION OF MEETING

The meeting was called for 7.30 pm and ended at 10.20 pm.