

MINUTES OF MEETING OF DUNGANNON AND SOUTH TYRONE BOROUGH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 3 DECEMBER 2007 IN THE COUNCIL OFFICES, CIRCULAR ROAD, DUNGANNON

- MEMBERS PRESENT:** In the Chair, Councillor Daly, Deputy Mayor
- Councillors Badger, Brush, F Burton, Cuddy, Currie, Donnelly, Gillespie, Greenaway, Hamilton, McGuigan, McGonnell, McLarnon, Molloy, Monteith, Morrow and O'Neill
- APOLOGIES:** Councillors R Burton and Mulligan
- OFFICERS PRESENT:** Mr Burke, Ms Linney and Mrs Smith
- IN ATTENDANCE:** Mr Richard Hamilton, Mr James Black, Ms Maura Hackett and Mr Gerry Hackett

1 DEPARTMENT OF REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT – ROADS SERVICE

The Deputy Mayor welcomed Mr Richard Hamilton who introduced his team:

Mr James Black, Section Engineer, Mrs Maura Hackett responsible for the development of a lot of the schemes in the report and Mr Gerry Hackett, observer and responsible for number of schemes.

Mr Hamilton presented Divisional Roads Manager's Report to Dungannon and South Tyrone Borough Council 3rd December 2007 copy of which had previously been circulated to members. The report outlined the draft local transport and safety measures programme 2008 – 2010 for the borough, set out the draft programme for the next two financial years providing funding becomes available and provided an update on the progress of works in the current years strategic roads improvement, maintenance and LT&SM programmes.

Councillor Morrow arrived 7.35 pm
Councillor F Burton arrived at 7.38 pm

In response to members questions the following points were clarified:

Ballynakilly Road, Coalisland, Realignment. Proposal to realign Ballynakilly Road and Creenagh Bridge near Coalisland. Will cost in region of £750,000. Entails widening bridge and scheme will go up to Irwin's washer.

Councillor Currie arrived at 7.40 pm

Dungannon Road on to Ballynakilly Road, Filling station to bridge, need footpath. - Will look at and if can be included at little cost will do so Will clarify this for the council.

Main Road, Moygashel Footway Extension, in programme for 2008 – 2010, when will scheme commence – on programme for some time moving up list hopefully will be able to commence Spring 2008.

Milltown/Mark Street mini roundabout is that scheme complete – some remedial work in relation signage – investigating dumping of rubble.

Carriage Resurfacing from Bush Road Junction to Kilcoole Drive when will this be completed – have money in budget, hope to complete before April 2008.

Moy Road out of Dungannon, need for right turn lane into Ballynorthland Park. Appears to be adequate space and would help with traffic follow - will investigate. Have longer term plan for widening Moy Road from Ranfurly Road to dual carriageway.

Moor Road need for traffic calming – traffic survey carried out 2004/05 how often revisited. Not sure of frequency of surveys, will reassess scheme again and may possibly look at speed restrictions.

Footways at Annaghmore Crossroads near Coalisland - footway from that junction to the school – need for short link on Moor Road from new housing development to the junction – take on board come back to Council.

Mullaghmore Road/Tullydraw Road Junction improvements. How propose to do that – not sure until we look at detailed design scheme – maybe produce right turn lane. If scheme does not go ahead enough schemes in two year programme to reallocate money.

Aughareany Road - due to traffic congestion on Donaghmore Road at peak times higher volume of traffic using this road with an increasing number of minor collisions – will investigate.

Officials congratulated on improvements at Carnteel Road/Castletown Road junction and Kyle's Corner.

Need right hand turning lane on the Ballygawley/Omagh Road where Greenhill Road joins Omagh Road – will bring forward for assessment.

Dyan Road two sections not resurfaced, when will this work be completed – one section in this year's programme, other section is where embankment repaired, in programme but not enough money in this year's budget and will hopefully be completed early in next financial year.

Aughnacloy B35 at Derryhoar bridge, number of accidents over the past year, traffic coming from Aughnacloy towards Greystone – needs urgent attention - some investigation of that corner intend within next couple of months to carryout some resurfacing work.

Ballygawley Roundabout two laybys A5 on Omagh side of Ballygawley Roundabout parking facilities at bus stop grass area between layby and footpath would it be possible to put footpath between layby and join up with existing footpath – will investigate.

Right turning lane/footway at Killeeshill Crossroads, need to move forward with this - looking at this trying to incorporate footpath.

Traffic calming scheme Castlecaulfield. One road leading into Castlecaulfield not included in scheme, Lisnamonaghan Road off old Caulfield Road, there is demand from people living on this road for this - not sure why this road not included, oversight or objections, will investigate and advise Council.

Main Street Ballygawley need traffic calming measures – will carry out reassessment.

Ballymacilroy welcome work – in original proposal turn off was to lead up to parochial house - has that been completed - work about to start to complete that right turn/reorganisation of system.

Street lighting, Quinns Corner on the A4 – two busy commercial enterprises in the location - generally do not light rural junctions, criteria includes accident history, volume of housing – will have checked.

Councillor Cuddy arrived at 8.07 pm

Footpath Redford to Moy – will investigate.

Traffic calming at Clonfeacle Chapel – will investigate.

Traffic calming scheme works on points system, what is criteria – prioritisation in place, do large areas rather than single street, residential area or main arterial route. Looking at bringing villages up to standard as set out in Regional Transport Plan. Criteria includes number of houses in the area, accident history, traffic volumes etc.

Meenagh Park in Coalisland two fatalities in last two months – need for traffic calming in this area – will have area assessed again.

Councillor Monteith arrived 8.10 pm

Strategic road improvement A4 dualling. Imminent closure on section of contract. On target for starting main works in January 2008, 3 year contract. What about movement and free flow of traffic during scheme. Three quarters of the scheme off line towards Ballygawley, first part on line built into contract keep flow of traffic ie refrain from working until after 9.30am etc.

Carland Bridge scheme progressing well and subject to availability of resources should start in Spring. Hedge clearance will be completed by separate contract.

Fivemiletown Bypass one of the schemes listed still under consideration. Hope to bring forward in the not too distant future.

What is situation with Eastern Distributor Road in Dungannon. Looked at that in detail in relation to Dungannon Area Plan but was omitted because of inspectors report following public enquiry. Major rezoning of land needed to accommodate this and it will be some time before planning revisiting zoning. Taking forward some interim measures ie widening of Moy Road.

Councillors Donnelly and McGuigan left at 8.23pm.

Maybe time to look at Western Distributor which would have more effect to alleviate problems in Castlecaulfield and Donaghmore. Looked at Western Route so far out would not attract traffic to use it. Survey shows that most traffic from M1 wanting to access Dungannon with passing traffic in order of 15 to 20 per cent. Survey report accessible on website.

Roads Service sold on idea that there should be Eastern Distributor route rather than bypass and this is long term programme.

Need for upgrading of road from Dungannon to Granville, main approach from west into Dungannon. One road we have our eye on and investigating taking forward scheme under regional transport plan.

Councillor Morrow left at 8.35 pm

Circular Road closed for two weeks end August for weeks and weeks after couple of area left unfinished, Milltown roundabout same, impression given not taking Dungannon seriously. Projects need to be taken more seriously and brought to conclusion in acceptable timeframe without a start and stop approach with the public blaming the Council. Points taken on board and can ensure members that Dungannon not treated differently than any other area, while should have control of contracts sometime problems arise.

What is situation with Granville Industrial Estate and lack of parking? Had been discussions between Council and Roads Service and agreed to take away and compile report. Number of things identified ie operators abandoning vehicles on roadway as do not have space on their premises, trailers left on road overnight, need for traffic markings, enforcement issues etc. Will check situation with report and come back to Council.

Acting Chief Executive stated that issues about capacity for car parking within estate and that Council had highlighted this to Minister Dodds. Need further discussion on how to facilitate businesses which need extra space.

Councillors Monteith and O'Neill left at 8.40 pm.

Concern expressed that mini roundabouts at Donaghmore Road/Newell Road/Quarry Lane junction causes traffic congestion.

Blackisland Road/Derryhirk Road junction improvements and Tamnamore Road/Verner's Inn junction improvements. What is proposed at these junctions – schemes currently being designed hopefully to commence in early 2008 and will entail the squaring off of these junctions.

Can you confirm that £4m would be spent in the Dungannon area in this current financial year and what will be spent in 2008/2009. Yes that will be spent. There was a tightening of the belt this last year, spending

money is not an issue. In relation to next year have not been told what budget but not expecting any less.

Was Roads Service budget pilfered to pay for land needed for Newry Bypass? Was that the case and if so has that money been returned. Rumours going round about that, you could say same thing about dualling in Dungannon. Cost of land purchase global thing rather than local thing. Construction costs risen, in reality getting less schemes for money we have. Bid throughout the year for more funds. In monitoring round in December have been reasonably successful.

Depot in Moygashel, any plans to move from that site - currently no plans.

Need for surfacing on Aughintober Road out to Quinns Corner - have added to resurfacing programme and when money becomes available will complete, hopefully this will happen before April.

Mr Hamilton reported that currently traffic restrictions on Verner's Bridge and due to poor repair will likely be in place for some time. Consultants have been briefed to look at this.

Bawns Bridge, weight limit in place, any plans to replace/upgrade. This is listed property. Consultants have also been briefed on this bridge. Priority would be Verner's bridge.

Metal bridge in Clogher is another one looking at.

The Deputy Mayor thanked the representatives for their attendance, following which they expressed greetings of the season and left the meeting.

2 DURATION OF MEETING

The meeting was called for 7.30 pm and ended at 9.00 pm.

Mayor _____

Chief Executive
(Acting) _____