**Minutes of February Monthly Meeting of Trim Town Council held 11th February, 2014 at**

**7.00 p.m. in the Council Chamber, at Mornington House, Summerhill Road, Trim.**

**Members Present:**

Cllrs O’Shea (Cathaoirleach), Bligh, Cantwell, French, Golden, Kenny, McHugh, McKenna, and Reilly.

**Officials in Attendance:**

D. Foley, Trim Town Manager, F. Skehan, Trim Town Clerk, V. Collins, Town Engineer,

T. Keating, Staff Officer.

It was agreed to suspend Standing Orders to deal with Items 6 and 5 first.

**1.0 Confirmation of Minutes of meeting held on the 14th January, 2014.**

Proposed by Cllr. Reilly and seconded by Cllr. Kenny with amendments as follows:-

Page 2 of 4.  Item 4, 4th bullet point.  Replace with the following:-

*“Members referred to the response from the Area Councillors regarding the new layout at Newtown and Cllr. Bligh asked if it was in the remit of the County Council to close the bridge.  Town Engineer advised that the bridge could be closed as long as there was an alternative.”*

# Matters arising from the minutes

The following points were raised:

* It was asked about closing ceremony for the Town Council in May.
  + Town Clerk advised that the battering ram is going ahead and she will know next week if the pop up museum is going ahead.
* It was suggested that a time capsule be placed underground for a period of time to be agreed and a plaque placed on the ground beside its location. Invite current and past Councillors and Officials for a closing ceremony.
* Advised that Lectures will be held in Trim Library on the 6th March at 7.30 p.m. run by Meath Archaeological and Historical Society and all Members were invited to attend.
* With the abolishment of the Town Council provision needs to be made for the Town Maces being available for successors and not to go centrally.

**3.0 Expressions of Congratulations and Sympathy**

Congratulations

*Congratulations were expressed to the following:*

* Eleanor Murray who won Local Hero. She has been a tremendous example.
* Cllr. McKenna and his wife on the birth of their baby girl.
* Cllr. McHugh on the additions to his family.
* Local Jockey Colin Kane who was awarded Meath Sports Personality of the Year.
* Congratulated the Management and Staff and the Choir for the beautiful

memorial service to Shane Donnelly.

* Town Manager thanked those who attended the Memorial and for their kind

comments and various businesses in the town who attended.

Sympathy

Sympathy was expressed to the following:-

* + To all those who passed away recently.

**4.0 Correspondence raised by the Town Manager and Town Clerk**

None

**5.0 Statutory Business**

**5.1 End of year Financial Report as at 31st December, 2013.**

Town Clerk made a presentation to the Members on the end of year financial report for 2013.

The members raised the following issues: -

* Asked why milk was not being supplied to schools under Division G.
  + Town Clerk advised that milk supply was too expensive and supplying extra buns instead as agreed with the school. The Council only deals with the tendering and recoupment of School Meals and does not deal with the distribution. She suggested going forward the contribution be given to the school and they can deal with School Meals.
* It was asked under Division C now that water supply and services has transferred over to Uisce Eireann were staff not to transfer over also.
  + Town Manager advised that the staff dealing with water are still employees of the Council while a service level agreement is in place.
* Asked if Division H could be broken down further as it has the second biggest expenditure.
* Asked if there was significant under spending as outlined in the summary.
  + Town Clerk advised that this was not the case as they own 75% of County Demand in 2013.

**6.0 Town Engineer’s Report**

Members raised the following issues;

* Thanked Engineer for erection of sign at Loman Street for all other routes.
* Asked if there was still vandalism at the playground.
* Thanked Engineer for removing water in a lot of places following the heavy rainfalls.
* Thanked the Engineer for placing double yellow lines in Abbey Lane and asked if they could be extended as access is continuing to be blocked.
* Traffic is blocking the entrance into Abbey Lane and asked if Traffic Wardens could enforce.
* Thanked the Engineer for clearing drains on the Kildalkey Road.
* Asked if footpaths on Castle Street could be repaired.
* Asked if traffic lights on Patrick Street could be looked at as they are out of sync.
* A request was made for mpas of ducting on Market Street to enable UPC place cables underground.
  + Town Engineer advised ducting was only put down for Telecom at the time.
* Asked if the Town Maces could be displayed and if the Cathaoirleach would take them for St. Patrick’s Day Parade.
* Asked if broken bollards on Emmet Street could be repaired.
* Cobblelock has fallen in on Emmet Street at the building next to the Credit Union.
* Asked about the broken sign in Aura
  + Town Clerk advised that the sign had warped and was being repaired.
* Asked about steel rusting in Aura.
  + Town Clerk advised that steel was on the builders snag list at the time. Aura have nothing to do with maintenance of the structure.

**7.0 Notice of Motion**

**7.1 Notice of Motion from Cllr. Vincent McHugh**

*“Is Minister Quinn's position on religious teaching Government policy?*

*I am asking the Office of the Taoiseach to clarify the Government's position on religious education in primary schools. Minister Quinn's comments are unhelpful, uninformed and unwelcome in the context of improving our children's all round education and preparation for life. They also show contempt for parental choice. Academic progress is critically important of course, but so too is preparing children for the spiritual and emotional challenges that life presents. Regardless of one's faith the teaching time available currently for religion makes a critical contribution in this regard.*

*I am calling on the Taoiseach's Office to clarify whether the views as expressed by Ruairi Quinn represent Government policy?”*

Notice of Motion was read out by Cllr. McHugh for which 3 Members voted for the Motion, 5 Members voted against the Motion and 1 Member abstained.

Therefore, the motion was rejected.

**8.0 Schedule of Managers Orders**

Noted

**9.0 Matters raised with the consent of the Cathaoirleach**

* Asked for an update on a survey carried out regarding speeding around the town. Asked if motorists could be requested to stick to the speed limits in place at present. It was asked if the Chairman of the JPC would bring it to the attention of the Superintendent.
* Asked when the diversion of HGV’s onto Patrick Street would take place.
  + Town Engineer advised that it would be part of the Roadworks Programme for 2014.
* Asked if the Pedestrian crossing on the Ring Road could be looked at.
* Asked that the OPW be written to regarding the National Flag which should be raised at sunrise and lowered at sunset.

OPW to be written to requesting they do so with their flag.

* Asked for an update on the river walk at Linear Park.
  + Town Manager advised that it is planned for this year and will endeavour to have it done as early in Spring/Summer.
* Asked that the Council’s Solicitors provide documents to Trim Heritage Group as soon as possible in relation to the Folk Park as they are holding things up.
* During Trim Development Plan submissions a submission was made for the Porchfields to develop the southern field as a walkway. As this wasn’t accepted it is now agreed to look at an alternative.
* Asked if the OPW are considering handing over projects to the Council or organisation e.g. the Castle to be run. Cllr French advised an advert was in the paper in connection to this.

***This concluded the business of the meeting at 8.25 p.m.***

**Signed: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Cathaoirleach**

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