



Miontuairiscí/Meeting Minutes

Transportation Strategic Policy Committee 15th December 2022, Swift Room, Buvinda House, Dublin Rd, Navan at 3.00 pm

Attendees – (Councillors): Cllrs T Golden, N French, A. Smith, G. O’Connor, S. Tolan, W. Harding

Attendees – (Sectoral Representatives): G Clarke, A Watson, D Ward

Apologies: None

(Officials): M Murray (MM), C Corrigan (CC), K Foyle (KF), M Farrell, M Loughran

Item	Discussion / Action
1.0	<p><u>Minutes of Previous Meeting</u></p> <p>The minutes of the previous meeting held on 29th September 2022 were approved. Proposed by Cllr G O’Connor and seconded by Cllr S Tolan.</p>
2.0	<p><u>Matters Arising from Minutes</u></p> <p>No matters arising</p>
3.0	<p><u>Presentation from Caroline Corrigan – National Road Safety Strategy & Meath Road Safety Plan 2022-2024</u></p> <p>C Corrigan gave the presentation and asked that the Draft Actions dated 15/12/2022 be treated as private & confidential as the document was currently with the RSWG (Road Safety Working Together Group) for agreement. CC stated that the aim of the actions is to ensure deliverability with increased Education awareness together with the other 3 “E’s”, namely Engineering, Enforcement & Evaluation being critical for effective delivery</p> <p>Following the presentation, the following was noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr G O’Connor referred to Action 8 – safe speeds at schools and pointed out that there can be an issue with reducing speeds at schools that are located on Regional Roads. He also stated that there is an issue with enforcement due to limitations on An Garda Síochana (AGS) resources. • Cllr N French thanked CC for the presentation and referred to the JPC & Head of Traffic Corps who have noted that even the most law-abiding citizens will speed. He also welcomed the introduction of new type of drug test which is quicker for roadside testing. • A Watson queried if Transport liaise with Planning in relation to school developments and referred specifically to Julianstown School. • Cllr. T Golden referred to Action 8 relating to schools, and that while 30km speed limits are in place, enforcement lies with the gardai He stated that the Local Authority does everything in its power to encourage the Dept. of Education or any other bodies to submit

Miontuairiscí/Meeting Minutes

	<p>detailed plans to address any road safety issues, together with plans for footpaths, lighting etc. He stated that personal responsibility is also required, and that the communication of the plan will provide positive reminders to citizens.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• G Clarke referred to signage, road marking etc. & Road Safety Audits He suggested that where signs are obscured at junctions that a second stop sign 50m in advance be considered• Cllr S Tolan asked if a retro- fit can be carried out on all pedestrian crossings that do not have raised tables, and if we can seek more funding. She also requested if the provision of Safety Improvement Schemes (SIS) and Safe Routes to School (SRTS) could be speeded up.• Cllr G O'Connor suggested that rubber type bollards be used at schools• D Ward referred to widening of roads, more lay-bys for the agricultural sector etc. <p>Council officials responded as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• In relation to SRTS, quite often MCC are retro-fitting with an existing build, the risk being significantly reduced on a new build eg. New school plans will demonstrate a set down / car parking, whereas extensions to existing builds often cannot address the issues with access/egress.• In relation to Road Safety Audits etc, MM confirmed that Action 28 actively addresses this, together with MCC's 100% compliance with completing LA16 forms.• In relation to the delivery of SIS and SRTS schemes, MM stated that the current issue is staff & consultant resources due to difficulty of recruiting & retaining same. It was noted that when carrying out project's, Transportation aims to identify similar projects and tender at same time to maximise efficiency.• When it comes to road widths and lay-bys, MCC complies with design standards as set out by National Policy. <p>Cllr T Golden, Chair, concluded that the Report presented was excellent and it was agreed as an SPC to put forward to the full council meeting.</p>
<p>4.0</p>	<p><u>Notice of Motion referred to SPC for consideration</u></p> <p><i>“We call on the Ministers for Justice and Transportation to explore the Introduction/amendment of road traffic legislation to allow Local Authorities to deploy technologies to combat speeding and enforce speed limits within urban areas (Towns & Villages”</i></p> <p>The Motion was proposed by Cllr. T Golden and seconded by Cllr. N French</p> <p>Cllr T Golden wishes for legislation to be changed to allow Local Authorities to install more technologies e.g moveable / static speeding cameras in speed limit zones, and then issue fines for speeding offences. This should be more cost effective than installing traffic calming measures at multiple locations. It was noted that Data Protection issues should be overcome by this new legislation. The motion refers specifically to built up areas and could the legislation be used to support the work of AGS.</p>



Miontuairiscí/Meeting Minutes

	<p>MM suggested to the following change to the motion wording “<i>We call on the Ministers for Justice and Transportation to explore the Introduction/amendment of road traffic legislation to allow THE REQUISITE AUTHORITY to deploy technologies to combat speeding and enforce speed limits within urban areas (Towns & Villages)</i>”.</p> <p>Clr T Golden agreed with the suggested wording, and further amendments deemed necessary.</p> <p>It was agreed to proceed with the motion, on this basis</p>
<p>5.0</p>	<p><u>AOB</u></p> <p><u>The members raised the following issue:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Winter Gritting Programme was highly commended with significant improvements since 2011, and particularly in the lifetime of this SPC. There was an enquiry if other routes, including new bus routes can be added to the plan. Treatment of roads and footpaths in the larger urban areas was also discussed. <p>The Council officials responded as follows</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - MCC are at maximum capacity at the moment, given the resources available, and that the current routes will remain for the remainder of the 2022/2023 season.
	<p><u>Recommendations from SPC Committee to Corporate Policy Group and to Full Council.</u></p> <p>Agreed to proceed with presenting Meath Road Safety Plan to full Council</p> <p>Motion as in 4.0 to progress (check wording), suggested wording at meeting “<i>We call on the Ministers for Justice and Transportation to explore the Introduction/amendment of road traffic legislation to allow THE REQUISITE AUTHORITY to deploy technologies to combat speeding and enforce speed limits within urban areas (Towns & Villages)</i>”.</p>