



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

Ordinary Meeting

8th January 2018, Council Chamber

Presiding

Cathaoirleach, Councillor Gerry O' Connor

Councillors Present:

Councillors Joe Bonner, Sinéad Burke, Eugene Cassidy, Francis Deane, Seán Drew, Eimear Ferguson, Brian Fitzgerald, Padraig Fitzsimons, Enda Flynn, Wayne Forde, Joe Fox, Noel French, Michael Gallagher, David Gilroy, Trevor Golden, Johnny Guirke, Wayne Harding, Jim Holloway, Suzanne Jamal, Tom Kelly, Sharon Keogan, Nick Killian, Caroline Lynch, Stephen McKee, Ronan McKenna, Paddy Meade, Maria Murphy, Claire O'Driscoll, Maria O' Kane, Damien O' Reilly, Darren O'Rourke, Bryan Reilly, Joe Reilly, Sarah Reilly, Tommy Reilly, Alan Tobin, Sharon Tolan, Gillian Toole.

Apologies: Cllr. Seán Smith

Officials in attendance:

Chief Executive: Jackie Maguire

Directors of Service: Des Foley, Fiona Lawless, Barry Lynch, Kevin Stewart

Meetings' Administrator: Olive Falsey

Senior Executive Officers: Larry Whelan, David Jones, Dara McGowan

1 Confirmation of Minutes

1.1 Confirmation of minutes of Ordinary meeting held on 4th December 2017.

The minutes of the Ordinary meeting held on 4th December 2017 were confirmed on the proposal of **Councillor Brian Reilly** and seconded by **Councillor Nick Killian**.

2 Matters arising from the Minutes

No matters arising.



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3 Expressions of Sympathy and Congratulations

Sympathy was extended to:

- Mick Gallagher, GSS, Laytown/Bettystown MD, on the death of his father, Pat Gallagher
- Lorraine Gallagher, Finance Department, on the death of her brother, Derek Gallagher
- The family of the late Darren Rogers, Kells
- The family of the late Dr. Kate McGarry, former consultant physician at Our Lady's Hospital, Navan
- The family of the late Rosemary Fahey, former Principal of St. Ultan's School, Navan
- The family of the late Peter Sutherland, former Attorney General.

Congratulations were extended to:

- Councillors O' Kane and O' Rourke on the birth of their son, Art.
- Councillor Forde on the recent addition to his family
- Horse trainer, Gavin Cromwell, Navan, on his recent success
- Monsignor Dermot Farrell, Dunboyne Parish, on his appointment as Bishop of Ossory
- All those involved in the official opening of Buvinda House
- Colin Marry on winning the Best Business Idea in County Louth.

4 Disposal of Land in accordance with Statutory Notices circulated pursuant to the provisions of Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001

5 Statutory Business

5.1 Corporate Services

- 5.1.1 To approve the appointment of two replacement Councillors to the Board of Boyne Valley Tourism, following the resignations of Councillors Johnny Guirke and Noel French.

Councillor Sharon Tolan was appointed on the proposal of **Councillor Joe Fox** and seconded by **Councillor Maria Murphy**.

Councillor Eimear Ferguson was appointed on the proposal of **Councillor Johnny Guirke** and seconded **Councillor Sinéad Burke**.

- 5.1.2 To consider and adopt the draft 2018 Protocol for the Municipal District Allocation.



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Adopted on the proposal of **Councillor Joe Fox** and seconded by **Councillor Sharon Tolan**.

- 5.1.3 To receive presentation on Information Security and GDPR (General Data Protection Regulations).

Valerie Lyons (BH Consulting) made a presentation which included information on:

- cyber crime in Ireland, the root causes and the challenges
- EU General Data Protection Regulation and its impact on organisations
- information security
- how Meath County Council protects its data

Following the presentation, a lengthy discussion took place and Councillors raised a number of issues on the matter. Responses were provided by Valerie Lyons and by Fergus O' Rourke, Head of Information Systems.

5.2 Finance

- 5.2.1 To note the Audit Committee Report in relation to the Annual Financial Statement and Local Government (LG) Auditors Report for the year ended 31 December 2016.

Noted by the Councillors. Councillors raised a number of issues in regard to the comments made by the Local Government auditor, and responses were provided by the Chief Executive and the Head of Finance.

5.3 Transportation

- 5.3.1 To receive a presentation on the Roadworks Programme for 2017.

Des Foley, Director of Services, introduced the item, and Senior Engineers John McGrath and Nicholas Whyatt, made a presentation on a summary of the works undertaken under the Roadworks Programme, 2017 to include:

- the Schedule of Municipal District Works (SMDW)
- routine maintenance, housing estates/minor works and bridge repairs
- Community Involvement Schemes (CIS) and Local Improvement Schemes (LIS)



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- resurfacing and PSCI Ratings
- health and safety
- National & Non-National Road Schemes
- Sustainable Transport Schemes (1 & 2) and Low Cost Safety Scheme
- proposed works - 2018

Following the presentation, a lengthy discussion took place in regard to various aspects of the roadworks programme, the CIS schemes, funding and resource issues and the requirements at specific locations in the county.

Responses were provided on the matters raised.

6 Reports

6.1 Chief Executive's Report

Councillors sought clarification on a number of matters in the Chief Executive's report. The main issues raised and discussed included:

Housing:

- an emergency task force should be established to address the housing needs in the county
- sites should be facilitated for people who are not on the housing list
- new housing projects in Ashbourne welcomed and update requested re lands under Rebuilding Ireland Programme
- information requested re any proposals to purchase additional land for housing
- figures welcomed re approved housing bodies
- information requested re applications for mortgages
- update requested on progress re vacant homes scheme
- emergency accommodation placement figures: is it planned to have meetings in 2018 with the probation service and social inclusion services.

Community: imminent commencement of works on Lobinstown playground welcomed.

Environment: Air monitoring station should be considered for Duleek as part of the National Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Programme 2017-2022.

6.2 Report from the Corporate Policy Group

The Meetings Administrator advised that the Corporate Policy Group reviewed the agenda for the full Council meeting and received information on the particulars of some items. The report from the Environmental SPC meeting held on the 15th December was noted.

6.3 Report from the Protocol Committee



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The Meetings Administrator advised the meeting of the recommendations arising as follows:

- The Protocol Committee considered a motion submitted by **Councillor Wayne Forde** calling on the Council to hold a Civic / Public Reception in Buvinda house for the emergency services following a recent search of the river Boyne. It was agreed to recommend that, as the emergency services received a civic reception in 2016, the Council would not be in a position to hold another event at this time.

Councillor Forde then requested that a letter of appreciation would be sent to the emergency services, and this was agreed by the Councillors.

- reports on conferences submitted by Councillors were noted, and a list of conferences relevant to the business of the Council was approved.

7 Correspondence

7.1 LGMA re. E-Planning Project.

Noted and welcomed by the Councillors.

7.2 Correspondence from the Department of Health in response to Notice of Motion 9.8 adopted at the November 2017 meeting of the Full Council re. possibility of introducing the 'Zero Suicide Model' into Irish hospitals and clinics.

Noted by the Councillors.

7.3 Correspondence from the NTA in response to Notice of Motion 9.2 adopted at the December 2017 meeting of the Full Council re. request to launch joint marketing campaigns highlighting that Meath commuters can now connect to all LUAS services from Dunboyne and M3 Parkway train stations with LUAS Cross City.

Noted by the Councillors.

7.4 Circular LG 09/2017 – Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government re. Adjustments to elected members' representational payment in connection with the Public Service Pay and Pensions Act 2017.

Noted by the Councillors.



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- 7.5 Circular F.14/17 – Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government re. Electoral Amendment (Dáil Constituencies) Act 2017 Revision of Dáil Constituencies.

Noted by the Councillors.

- 7.6 Transport Infrastructure Ireland re. 2018 National Roads Allocations.

Noted by the Councillors.

8 Notice of Question

n/a

9 Notice of Motion

n/a

10 Schedule of Chief Executive & Approved Orders (For Information Only)

- 10.1 Schedule of Chief Executive's Orders – Transportation

- 10.2 Schedule of Chief Executive's Orders – Environment

- 10.3 Schedule of Chief Executive's Orders – Housing

- 10.4 Schedule of Chief Executive's Orders – Community & Enterprise

Noted by the Councillors

11 Presentations by other Bodies/Statutory Agencies

- 11.1 To receive a presentation from Clann Credo.

Jennifer Hennessey, from Clann Credo, made a presentation, which included information on the nature of social finance, community loan finance and grants, and the application process.

The Cathaoirleach thanked the representatives who attended and the presentation was noted by the Councillors.



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12 Any Other Business