



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes
County Meath Joint Policing Committee
21st April 2016, Council Chamber, Navan

In Attendance:

County Council Members: Gillian Toole , Marie Murphy, Sharon Tolan, Eimear Ferguson
Caroline Lynch, Alan Tobin, David Gilroy ,Francis Deane, Joe Reilly .

Oireachtas Members: none

An Garda Síochána: Chief Superintendent Mangan, Superintendent Michael Devine,
Sgt Mick O Keefe

County Council Officials: Barry Lynch, Fiona Fallon, Eugene Farrelly

Community & Voluntary Sector: Carol O’Flaherty, Conor O Leary, Jim Matthews

Apologies: : Dep Regina Doherty, Bernard Kenny, Cllr Sean Drew

Item	Discussion / Action
1.	<p><u>Adoption of Minutes of 4th February 2016</u> The minutes of the above meeting were adopted on the proposal of Marie Murphy and seconded by Barry Lynch .</p>
2.	<p><u>Matters arising from the Minutes</u> There were no matters arising from the Minutes</p>
3.	<p><u>Confirmation of membership and Chair of each of the Sub –Committees of the JPC</u></p> <p>Public Order and Anti Social Behaviour SC Chair : Cllr Maria Murphy Members: Cllr Gillian Toole, Cllr Francis Deane, Bernard Kenny NSU, Angela Murphy KRC</p> <p>Road Safety and Improved Driver Behaviour SC Chair: Cllr Alan Tobin Members: Cllr S Tolan, Cllr Sean Drew ,Cllr David Gilroy, Tom Fitzpatrick MECA</p> <p>Community Safety and Crime Prevention SC Chair : Cllr Eimear Fergusson Members : Cllr Joe Reilly, J Matthews LLN, C O Flaherty StVdeP, C O Leary MnT</p>



	<p>The Members endorsed the membership of the 3 Sub-Groups as set up by the JPC and the Chair informed that meetings are to take place as soon as possible with work-plans and delivery dates for specific pieces of work outlined and report back to the next meeting of the full JPC. Chief Suptd. Mangan informed that garda resources would be allocated to each group once the members of each group were emailed to him following the meeting.</p>
<p>4.</p>	<p>Transparency Code</p> <p>Barry Lynch explained the background to the transparency policy which arises in accordance with S 5(7) of the Regulation of Lobbying Act 2015 which applies to the members of all the Councils special policy groups including the JPC. There is an exemption for members of such groups from the necessity to register as lobbyists once the group concerned complies with the Transparency code.</p> <p>The following criteria should be published on Meath County Council's website to avail of the exemption:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Name of Chairperson including their employer • Names of Members including details of their employer • Whether any non-public serving members were previously Designated Public Officials • Terms of reference of the group • Agenda for each meeting • Minutes for each meeting • Expected timeframe for the group to conclude its work • Reporting arrangements • The Chairperson of the JPC and any sub-groups set-up must include with their final or annual report a statement confirming its compliance with the Transparency code. <p>The Transparency code was agreed by the JPC and its sub-groups on the proposal of the Chair Alan Tobin.</p>
<p>5.</p>	<p><u>To receive an update from An Garda Síochana</u></p> <p>Chief Superintendent Mangan gave a verbal report to the meeting out-lining the following crime statistics in the County relative to the same period in 2015:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Property crime down 27% • Burglary down 45% • Vehicle theft down 4% • Unlawful taking of vehicles down 25% • Shop theft down 25% • Theft of Property down 20% • Crime against persons down 37% • Road fatalities up 60% (5 v 3 in 2015) • Drunk Driving up 30% (58 v 44 in 2015) • Detection rate up 3% <p>Number of Garda serving in Meath Division is 289 New appointments 2016: 7no sergeants (3 Trim, 1 Longwood, 1 Oldcastle, 1 Ashbourne, 1 Athboy.</p> <p>The Chair thanked CS Mangan for his report and invited discussion from the members</p>



who raised the following matters:

- Neighbourhood watch and Text Alert Scheme need to operate in a co-ordinated approach and follow strict guidelines from the Gardai including close liaison with specific community gardai.
- Text alert groups should have at least 2 specific meetings with the community garda during the year
- Problem with keeping interest going in text alert schemes –set up following a crisis but interest may wane later on.
- CCTV Schemes have been installed in a number of locations by local groups in association with the gardai in Co Laois and Kildare recently which might provide a template for same in Co Meath such as Duleek/Donore Areas. An increase in ASB in some urban areas particularly targeting the elderly citizens.
- New Text Alert Scheme being set-up on a pilot Project across a cluster of estates in North Navan
- Need to co-ordinate an approach with HSE/Tusla to seek to encourage vulnerable youth to focus their energy in a more productive manner. Number of reports of ASB in Co Co Estates is considerably increased over the last 3 years per info from the Housing SPC recently.
- Restorative Justice The Ministry of Justice (MoJ) is running a campaign themed 'I've got something to say' to mark this year's International Restorative Justice Week (15-22 November).The campaign seeks to increase general awareness and understanding of restorative justice and emphasise the benefits for victims. The theme highlights how restorative justice can help empower victims, give them a voice and help them to move forward with their lives.
- CES Scheme for drug rehabilitation has been discussed at the NE Drug Task Force. Parents responsibilities need to be addressed and awareness sessions rolled-out in urban areas. **Caroline and Gillian to present a briefing document to the next meeting of the JPC.**
- Abandoned cars has become an increasing problem in particular along the coastal area where numerous cars have been abandoned and burnt-out .Delays in getting garda clearance to move same in the event of same being involved in illegal activity. **-Gardai to examine the issue .**
- Problem of underage drinking in the parks and common areas and in particular at the dunes at Mornington /Bettystown which increases when the summer season gets underway
- Discussions have taken place with Ashbourne Station re rolling out the Neptune project to Laytown Bettystown area in association with Macra na Feirme
- Operation Irene to be rolled-out to Bettystown during the summer season –



	<p>Can gardai confirm same</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can the Gardai submit the list of existing Community Alert Schemes. Neighbourhood Watch Schemes to the Secretary for info of the Committee. Gardai will consider the matter and revert. • Incidents of car-theft from cars at supermarket car-parks where valuables have been stolen –can car-park security be improved? • Problem with back-up of traffic as recently occurred on the M3 last Saturday morning where there were 2 motorbike incidents that morning with the carriageway closed for a lengthy period as a result. Can garda traffic management be put in place so as to divert traffic via appropriate routes rather than build up. • Parking issues with people parking up on footpaths preventing buggys /wheelchairs passing –can gardai enforce the law in this area. • Social medias involvement in solving crimes such as stolen property and missing persons –can be a help, but can prevent the reporting of same to the Gardai
6.	<p><u>Consider Motions passed at recent Council Meetings:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submitted by Councillor Stephen McKee “That Meath County Council calls on the Minister for Justice and Equality, the relevant Garda Authorities and the Garda Commissioner to reverse the decision to merge the Ashbourne and Laytown Garda Districts, in effect since 2012, and to provide a well resourced policing service for the two areas.” <p>The Chair invited some discussion on this matter from the members who outlined the difficulty in getting timely call-outs during times when the station in Laytown which serves a population of some 11,000 people is unmanned, and in particular during the busy summer months when the population can double in numbers .The matter of crime going unreported may be an issue and there is a need for a higher visible gardai patrols on the beach and village areas as a deterrent measure to public drinking at the beach in particular.</p> <p>CS Mangan informed that 2 extra gardai and 1 sergeant had been allocated to Ashbourne Station recently which should assist with this and will examine the issues raised with local management. He also informed that regular review meetings with local management teams are being held on an ongoing basis.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submitted by Councillor Wayne Forde "That the Executive write to the Garda Commissioner with a view to the possibility of a full time Garda station in Johnstown." Adopted at the February meeting of Navan Municipal District and it was



	<p>agreed to forward same to the JPC seeking a letter of support.</p> <p>Chair opened the matter to the members for discussion .The matter of Johnstown being a new town development with significant issues arising in such a young neighbourhood of some 11,000 population was raised. The matter of a sub-station for the area would be considered by the Gardai ,however the local Community garda for the area had achieved some level of success in engaging with residents groups in the area.</p>
7.	<u>Date for next meeting : Wed 20th July at 3pm</u>
8.	<u>JPC Annual Public Meeting:</u> Date to be arranged at July Meeting and venue Ashbourne House Hotel
9.	<u>AOB:</u> Scam going on in relation to the selling of cars and none being handed over Audit of drug programmes currently in place Pilot “Befriending Older persons” programme in Kildare