



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes
County Meath Joint Policing Committee
27th February 2017, Council Chamber, Navan

In Attendance:

Chairperson: Cllr Alan Tobin

County Council Members: D Gilroy, C Lynch, M Murphy, T Golden, S Tolan, G Toole, E Ferguson, C O'Driscoll,

Oireachtas Members: Dep. Shane Cassells TD, Dep P Toibin, Alan Boyce, observer for Dep. R Doherty

An Garda Síochána: Chief Superintendent Fergus Healy, Supt. M Devine

County Council Officials: Barry Lynch DoS, Fiona Fallon SEO

Community & Voluntary Sector: Bernard Kenny, Jim Mathews, Conor O'Leary

Co-ordinator: Áine Bird, Meath County Council

Apologies/Absent, Minister D English TD, Dep H McEntee, Cllr J Fox, Cllr S Drew, Cllr W Harding, A Murphy, T Fitzpatrick, Carol O'Flaherty, Eboni Burke/Jessica Bennett Cllr P Fitzsimons, Dep. Thomas Byrne TD, Cllr F Deane, Cllr J Reilly, Jackie Maguire CE, T McElhinney.

Item	Discussion / Action
1.	<p><u>Adoption of Minutes of 28th November 2016</u></p> <p>The minutes of the above meeting were adopted on the proposal of Cllr Maria Murphy and seconded by Cllr David Gilroy.</p>
2.	<p><u>Matters arising from the Minutes</u></p> <p>n/a</p>
3.	<p><u>Correspondence</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Correspondence was received from South Dublin County JPC seeking support for the proposal for legislation to be put in place to make it compulsory that motorised scramblers and quad bikes are registered at the point of sale to prevent antisocial behaviour and dangerous use of scramblers and quad bikes in parks and along the road. <p>It was agreed to provide a letter of support to the committee on the proposal of Cllr Sharon Tolan and seconded by Cllr Maria Murphy.</p>



	<p>Chief Supt. Healy advised that bikes need to be taxed and insured to use them in a public area. Different rules apply if using bikes off road in private areas with the guarai having limited powers to do anything if causing a nuisance.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Correspondence received from the Policing Authority on the new Code of Ethics for An Garda Síochána which was noted by the committee. ❖ Correspondence received from the Local Policing Forum in Dublin 15 seeking support for the Safer Blanchardstown “Think before you Buy “ campaign to target recreational drug users. It was agreed to provide a letter of support.
4.	<p><u>To receive an Annual Report on the performance of the JPC under Section 36(5) of the Garda Síochána Act 2005 and JPC revised guidelines 2014</u></p> <p>The Annual report for 2016 was approved by the JPC on the proposal by Cllr Gillian O’Toole and seconded by Cllr Maria Murphy.</p> <p>The committee was advised that this report will be submitted to the full council, Department of Justice and the Policing Authority.</p>
5.	<p><u>To discuss preparation by the Sub-Groups of a 2017 action plan</u></p> <p>The committee was advised that Eugene Farrelly will contact the chairperson of the 3 sub-groups within the next few days and organize a date to meet with the sub-groups within the next 2 to 3 weeks in order to identify actions for the 2017 Implementation plan.</p> <p>A query was raised in relation to the intoxicating bye-laws in Navan and if fines can now be issued. It was advised that the necessary documentation is not yet in place to issue the fines.</p> <p>Members queried if legal advice and clarity was sought regarding the current parking bye-laws. Chief Supt Healy advised that he had verbal advice and needed confirmation on the consultation process that has already taken place for these bye-laws.</p>
6.	<p><u>To receive an update from An Garda Síochána</u></p> <p>Chief Superintendent Fergal Healy gave a verbal update outlining the following crime statistics in the County as at the 31st December 2016</p> <p>He advised that the crime figures have decreased by the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Burglary down 32% • Theft of property down 26% • Crimes against the public down 13% • Theft in shops down 9% • Theft of cars down 24% <p>He advised that there were 3 fatalities in early 2017. The priority for 2017 is to tackle speeding, non wearing of seat belts and using mobile phones whilst driving. The</p>



	<p>committee was advised that new recruits were due to commence shortly in district.</p> <p>The committee was told that there are currently less than 300 officers in the County compared to 335 officers in 2008. He said that Meath has 16 guards per 10,000 head of population which is double in other counties with Kildare being the lowest county.</p> <p>Members queried the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If a sub-station was planned for Johnstown, Navan • Is Laytown station on the planned capital improvement works • Acknowledge the reduction in crime figures, any information and awareness initiatives being rolled out • A community centre is required for Johnstown as opposed to a sub-station. An Garda Síochána should make a submission to the county development plan which is currently under review. The 2040 Planning Framework is also being drafted and currently open to submissions. • Update on the Victim Support Office • Is it feasible for stations to have more administrative staff instead of guards doing this work.- • Need assistance from Guards to organise meetings with Text Alert groups in the Navan and Kells districts. • Condolences expressed on the recent passing of Sergeant James Keogan, Athboy/Kells District. <p>An Gardaí replied as follow:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No sub-station planned for Johnstown • Resources for the County is based on demand • Limited amount of capital funds available to upgrade stations, Navan and Ashbourne stations identified for refurbishment works • Laytown station is not on this list to upgrade however there is ongoing co-operation between Drogheda division and the Ashbourne district to police this area. • Victim support office has a number of staff in place to operate the service • New recruits need to work in the station offices where they will receive appropriate training.
<p>7.</p>	<p><u>Agree a date for the next meeting:</u></p> <p>The next meeting is scheduled for Monday 22nd May 2017 at 4pm.</p>
<p>8.</p>	<p><u>Any Other Business</u></p> <p>Cllr O’Driscoll raised the issue of illegal dumping in Blundellstown and along the N2 and also complaints received regarding the operation of the hunt in Rathfeigh.</p> <p>Chief Supt. Healy advised the a licence is required to operate a hunt from the National Parks and Wildlife department. The Gardaí only deal with issues of a hunt in public areas under the road traffic act.</p> <p>Illegal dumping is the responsibility of the Local Authorities under the waste management act with the gardaí are the secondary enforcers.</p>



	<p>The committee was advised of the Transport SPC proposal to work with other agencies and committees to consider a “reduce your speed awareness” campaign. It was suggested that the JPC and the 3 sub-groups work together and support the campaign. On the proposal of Cllr Tobin and seconded by Cllr Tolan the JPC accepted the SPC proposal and proposed that the Road Safety and Improved Driver Behaviour sub-group work on this campaign.</p>
	<p>END</p>

Signed: _____
Chair Cllr Alan Tobin

Date: _____