



**Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes**  
**County Meath Joint Policing Committee**  
**28<sup>th</sup> November 2016, Council Chamber, Navan**

**In Attendance:**

**Chairperson:** Cllr Alan Tobin

**County Council Members:**, D Gilroy, F Deane, C Lynch, M Murphy, J Reilly

**Oireachtas Members:** Dep. Shane Cassells TD, Dep. Thomas Byrne TD, Alan Boyce, observer for Dep. R Doherty

**An Garda Síochána:** Chief Superintendent Fergus Healy, Ronan Farrelly

**County Council Officials:** Barry Lynch DoS, Jackie Maguire CE, Fiona Fallon SEO

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

**Co-ordinator:** Áine Bird, Meath County Council

**Apologies/Absent:** Cllr T Golden, Cllr S Tolan, Dep P Toibin, Dep H McEntee, Cllr J Fox, Cllr S Drew, Cllr W Harding, Supt M Devine, , A Murphy, T Fitzpatrick. Cllr G Toole, Cllr E Ferguson, Cllr C O'Driscoll, Carol O'Flaherty, Eboni Burke, Minister D English TD, Cllr P Fitzsimons

Item	Discussion / Action
1.	<p><b><u>Adoption of Minutes of 6<sup>th</sup> September 2016</u></b></p> <p>The minutes of the above meeting were adopted on the proposal of Cllr Maria Murphy and seconded by Jim Mathews.</p>
2.	<p><b><u>Matters arising from the Minutes</u></b></p> <p>The committee conveyed their sympathy on the bereavement of Sgt John Hyland.</p>
3.	<p><b><u>Provision of CCTV for Duleek and Donore</u></b></p> <p>The members were advised that correspondence had been received from the CCTV committee for Duleek/Donore. It stated that a letter of approval from the JPC was required as part of their submission to the Garda Commissioner to proceed with the provision of CCTV in Duleek and Donore.</p> <p>It was agreed to provide a letter of support to the committee.</p>



4.

**To receive an update from An Garda Síochána**

Chief Superintendent Fergal Healy gave a verbal report outlining the following crime statistics in the County.

He advised that the crime figures have decreased.

- Burglary down 37%
- Theft of property down 26%
- Crimes against the public down 14%

Committee raised the following issues:

- Any plans regarding potential shoplifting at Christmas
- Ongoing burglary issues in Stamullen
- Can guards publicise that they are tackling illegal parking
- Compliments to guards on the quickness in responding to crime
- Best wishes to Sgt John O'Dwyer on his retirement
- Helpful if communities knew who their garda liaison officer is
- Councillors should also inform groups who their garda liaison officer is
- Seek report on exclusion orders for anti-social behaviour, should look at how Louth dealing with this.
- Public are being approached at bus stops for money which can be intimidating.
- Facebook sites for cars being advertised for €600 and have valid disc's displayed.
- Do the guards have powers to crush abandoned cars.

Chief Supt. Healy responded to the above queries:

- Reduction in crime due to the arrest of travelling criminals
- Crime prevention officer is actively canvassing shops and businesses in the run up to christmas regarding security and cctv
- Public need to be vigilant when shopping .
- Advertise traffic free flow, will look at something similar for illegal parking
- Victim's office set up in Navan, looking at its role and reaching out to communities and victims of crime.
- Very few exclusion orders for anti social behaviour, will take on board what Louth is doing and liaise with the Drogheda Chief on the matter.
- Legislation complicated with regard to begging at bus-stops, this can be dealt with locally.
- Under legislation cars can be ceased for having no disc's displayed, road's authority looking at a solution to fake discs.
- Under S41 cars can be seized, after 21 days notice issued, with a daily charge on the vehicle. This charge can be more than the car's worth, thus cars left for scrappage. Process to follow for scrapping cars.



5.	<p><b><u>To receive an update from the sub-groups</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b><u>Road Safety &amp; Improver Driver Behaviour</u></b> Discussed having cycle signs on popular routes similar to Fingal. Initiative by local school children which is up for an award, they have developed a pouch for phones to be used whilst driving. Something similar could be rolled out county wide. Noted that 30km signs are now erected in housing estates.</li> <li>• <b><u>Public Order &amp; Anti-Social Behaviour</u></b> Discussed having bye-laws for anti social behaviour/ drinking in public parks and playgrounds county wide. It was suggested to use and enforce the Navan bye-laws for a year to get feedback and then roll-out countywide. Chief Supt. Healy advised the difficulty to impose a bye-law across the county, easier to tackle as it occurs and in specific areas. The current bye-law allows the guards to issue fines with the council following up on outstanding fines. Guards and the council are seeking legal advice and clarity regarding the current bye-laws. Chief Supt Healy said that they are currently checking licensed premises to see who is being sold alcohol. He said it is also very difficult to enforce bye-laws at night time especially after closing time of night clubs.</li> <li>• <b><u>Community Safety &amp; Crime Prevention</u></b> Crime prevention officer attended the sub group meeting and gave updates. Looking at simplifying the panic alarm system application form similar to Monaghan. Laterlife OPC and Comhairle na Nog working together on an intergenerational project.</li> </ul>
6.	<p><b><u>Agree a date for the next meeting:</u></b></p> <p>The next meeting is scheduled for Monday 27<sup>th</sup> February 2017 at 4pm.</p>
7.	<p><b><u>Any Other Business</u></b></p> <p>Cllr Lynch stated that the timing of the meetings and venue is not ideal.</p> <p>She was advised that the chamber is the only venue available at present to cater for the number of members on the JPC. The timing of the meeting has now been pushed back to 4pm.</p>

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Chair Cllr Alan Tobin

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