



**Miontuairiscí / Meeting Notes**  
**County Meath Joint Policing Committee**

**4<sup>th</sup> October 2016, Public Meeting, Ashbourne House Hotel 7.30pm-9.00pm**

**In Attendance:**

**Chairperson:** Alan Tobin

**County Council Members:** Gillian Toole, Claire O’Driscoll, David Gilroy, Maria Murphy, Trevor Golden, Joe Bonner, Sharon Tolan, Sharon Keogan, Damien O’Reilly

**Oireachtas Members:** Deputy Regina Doherty TD, Thomas Byrne TD

**An Garda Síochána:** Chief Superintendent Fergus Healy

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

**Community & Voluntary Sector:** Bernard Kenny, Jim Matthews

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

Item	Discussion / Action
1.	<p>Clr Alan Tobin welcomed everyone to the first JPC public meeting and outlined the purpose of the meeting.</p> <p>He advised that 3 questions had been received from the public in relation to the JPC.</p>
2.	<p>The first question was in relation to parking bye-laws for Ashbourne and if there are any in operation. Barry Lynch DoS advised none in Ashbourne but would progress the matter with the relevant department. He said to have byelaws in operation will take a number of months as each street/road would need to be mapped to include all markings/lines/parking spaces etc.</p> <p>A discussion ensued regarding cycle lanes, parking on cycle lanes, the safety of cyclists and educating young people on road safety.</p>
3.	<p>The second question related to the proposed Ashbourne linear park and if the gardaí would be involved in the proposed design of the park and increase patrols in the park as it progresses.</p> <p>Chief Supt Healy advised that they were involved with the design of park. He advised that over the next five years 15,000 guards will be recruited.</p> <p>He said that 2 new inspectors are due to commence in Ashbourne shortly with new sergeants starting in the south of the county. He stated that the Laytown area is now part of the Ashbourne district with one inspector covering this area and the other inspector covering the Dunboyne area.</p>
4.	<p>Question three related to the Community Alert scheme and if it is still active in Ashbourne.</p> <p>Chief Supt Healy said that these schemes are important within the communities and will discuss at their annual meeting on improving and involving more groups onto the</p>



	schemes.
5.	<p>The chairperson then opened the discussion to the floor. Various issues raised in relation to the following;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Victims of crime</li><li>• Selling alcohol to the under-aged</li><li>• Garda stations under resourced and some are not fit for purpose</li><li>• Setting up of text alert schemes</li><li>• Increase in Cyber crime</li><li>• CCTV for areas with urban crime</li><li>• Increase frequency of the Traffic Speed monitoring vans in county to deter speeding</li><li>• Removal of driver licence for mobile use crime</li><li>• Increase in the possession of drugs.</li><li>• School in Duleek up for an RSA award for developing phone pouches for parents.</li><li>• Are garda reserves a good thing or liability.</li></ul>
6.	<p>Chief Supt advised the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Victim of Crime office set up in 2015 and located in Navan</li><li>• Crime rates decreased within this District.</li><li>• Recruitment happening and will bring more guards to the County.</li><li>• Can use underage volunteers to go into shops to buy alcohol however some parents will not consent to this</li><li>• Budgets and capital infrastructure tight, trying to use private investors to invest in Public/Private infrastructure.</li><li>• If Cyber crime reported, can deal with these complaints</li><li>• If Communities want to get involved with CCTV schemes gardaí will assist.</li><li>• Traffic Speed Monitoring vans have a schedule on the website, this is drawn up for national roads and where the demand is. It is monitored nationally.</li><li>• Drugs are a problem nationally.</li><li>• Can look at Traffic calming measures with the Local Authorities to deter speeding.</li><li>• Judges can remove licence for mobile crimes.</li><li>• Meath is the 3<sup>rd</sup> worst county for mobile crimes.</li><li>• Unmarked cars are detecting mobile usage.</li><li>• Welcome reserves as they are used at special events such as the Rás event and are used in offices to release gardaí to do their job.</li></ul> <p>The chair thanked everyone in attendance and the committee for their input. End</p>