



## ***Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes***

### ***Laytown-Bettystown Municipal District***

#### ***Ordinary Meeting***

***09:30 a.m., 18<sup>th</sup> January, 2018, Duleek Civic Offices***

An Cathaoirleach, **Councillor Paddy Meade**, presided.

**Councillors Present:** Eimear Ferguson, Wayne Harding, Tom Kelly, Stephen McKee.

Apologies: Councillors Sharon Keogan, Sharon Tolan.

**Officials in Attendance:**

**Head of Finance:** Fiona Lawless

**Executive Engineer:** Christy Clarke

**Staff Officer:** Triona Keating

**Clerical Officer:** Edita Zolotuchina

**Apologies:** Claire King, Meetings Administrator

#### **1 Confirmation of Minutes**

##### **1.1 Confirmation of minutes of Ordinary Meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> December, 2017.**

The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> December, 2017 were adopted on the proposal of **Councillor Tom Kelly** and seconded by **Councillor Eimear Ferguson**.

#### **2 Matters arising from the Minutes**

There were no matters arising.

#### **3 Expressions of Sympathy and Congratulations**

There were no expressions of sympathy or congratulations.



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### **4 Statutory Business**

#### **4.1 Transportation**

- 4.1.1 To receive a Progress Report on works undertaken/planned for Laytown-Bettystown Municipal District.

The report, circulated in advance, was noted.

#### **4.2 Corporate Services**

- 4.2.1 To receive an update on the use of lands at Gormanston by North Dublin MX club Ltd.

Dara McGowan provided a summary of the background to the lands at Gormanston, which are in both Laytown-Bettystown and Ashbourne municipal districts. Reference was made to the High Court decision in 2005, which affirmed the usage by the motocross club and with which the club had complied. The Council however could not apply any provisions or conditions due to the absence of any agreement being in place. Negotiations have been ongoing for nine months with the club, residents and local community groups and, whilst the residents wish for the activities to cease, the Council cannot go against the court decision and an agreement is the only option. Residents had requested the inclusion of a number of conditions, some of which can be included. It was pointed out that the club was affiliated with Motocross Ireland and complied with all relevant codes of practice. It is proposed that a S183 be brought to the February meetings of both Laytown-Bettystown and Ashbourne municipal districts for a 35 year lease with conditions for approval prior to being brought to the March full Council meeting. Once passed, this will enable the club to apply for funding. It was also confirmed that residents would have an opportunity to review the draft agreement.

A short discussion followed with Councillors commending the work undertaken in negotiating the outcome. Queries were raised in respect of time restrictions, illegal dumping at this location and Meath County Council's liability.

- 4.2.2 To discuss proposals to be considered by the Protocol Committee in relation to



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the allocation of the 2018 Twinning budget.

Dara McGowan, Senior Executive Officer, Corporate Services confirmed that of the €30,000 2018 allocation for Town Twinning, €15,000 was being allocated for a trip to Cary, with a balance of €15,000 for the six municipal districts. Whilst all proposals will be brought to the Protocol Committee for approval, no proposal had yet been received from Laytown-Bettystown Municipal District.

It was noted that Slane Community Group were proposing a number of activities with Downpatrick, however, no proposal has yet been received. If they wished to be considered they would have to submit a proposal to Dara McGowan within the next week to have it included for consideration by the Protocol Committee.

### **5 Notice of Question**

There were no Notices of Question.

### **6 Notice of Motion**

#### **6.1 Submitted by Councillor Stephen McKee**

*“That Meath County Council immediately progress a HGV ban for Duleek.”*

#### **Supporting information subject to the motion being proposed, seconded and considered:**

At the March 2017 Laytown-Bettystown Municipal District meeting, the Transportation Department provided a report on the request to introduce a HGV ban in Duleek. It was the position of the Council that as there was no alternative route for HGV's that did not involve excessive distances, interim traffic management measures were being progressed to reduce the speed of traffic and improve safety in the village.

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Stephen McKee** and seconded by **Councillor Eimear Ferguson**.



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A discussion followed and while the works carried out on Main Street, Duleek were complimented it was felt that these works would have to be redone in a short period of time due to the volume of trucks passing through the village which also cause such issues as traffic congestion, visuals, noise pollution, and road safety. It was asked what unknown damage these lorries are doing to the buildings on the main street. It was pointed out that there are two potential planning permissions in Duleek and if granted the amount of lorries going through Duleek will be increased even further. It was advised that existing towns with HGV bans have alternative routes close by. For these lorries to bypass Duleek it would involved an 11km to 13km round trip which is excessive. The new layout of the main street will not allow for trucks to speed through the town. It was agreed that if any applications are received from Transportation in respect of abnormal loads they be requested to condition them not to go through the village. It was also agreed that Transportation Department would write to Indaver and Irish Cement requesting that they do not sent their trucks through the village. A formal count was requested to be carried out of the number of lorries going through Duleek.

The motion was noted.

### **7 Strategic Policy Committee Reports – For Information Purposes**

- 7.1 To note the report from the Environment SPC meeting of 15<sup>th</sup> December, 2017.

The report was noted.

### **8 Other Matters Arising**

There were no other matters arising.

### **9 Correspondence**

- 9.1 Correspondence received from An Garda Síochána in response to the Notice of Item 6.3 – Notice of Motion as adopted at November meeting re Community Policing Plan for the Laytown Garda Station.

The correspondence was noted.



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### **10 Any Other Business**

#### 10.1 Cllr Stephen McKee raised the following issues:

10.1.1 Received correspondence from Louth County Council re proposed footpath from Deep Forde to Five Oaks. They indicated they had no plans to provide the footpath but suggested a joint initiative with Meath County Council be undertaken as the footpath services household residents in Meath. Cllr McKee asked Meath County Council to liaise with Meath County Council to resolve this issue for the benefit of the residents. – It was confirmed that the Management Team of Meath County Council met with the Management Team of Louth County Council and this footpath was specifically brought up on the basis of it's necessity. Disappointment was expressed with the response. It was pointed out that Meath County Council cannot spend money in localities outside of Meath. It was suggested that Councillors put pressure on the Councillors in Louth to have these works carried out.

10.1.2 Irish Water works on the Carronstown to Drogheda Road. While the works are welcome it was asked that in future Irish Water communicate with the business who are going to be affected by any future works.

#### 10.2 Cllr Eimear Ferguson raised the following issues:

10.2.1 Requested bus time tables be put up on the signs at the bus stops in Duleek and Laytown – It was confirmed that contact had been made with Bus Eireann who gave a commitment that bus poles would be provided for two locations in Duleek. These would be asked for Laytown also.

10.2.2 Requested the footpath around the Maudlins at the Bridge be upgraded – It was pointed out that all footpaths would be looked at for this year with priority given to risk mitigation.

10.2.3 Asked about the possibility of a pedestrian crossing at Louths considering a lot of the traffic park on the opposite side of the road – It was advised that the long term plan would be signalling the junction between the Donore road and the Ashbourne Road and will then consider a pedestrian leg on that junction.



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10.2.4 It was asked that when the bins are been put bank on the main street in Duleek that one be placed close to the take away. A bin on the Golf Links road was also requested – It was pointed out that a review of bins in the district is underway.

10.3 Cllr Wayne Harding raised the following issues:-

10.3.1 Lay Bye in Slane village on the Dublin Road was hit – It was confirmed that work is being carried out on this.

10.3.2 Requested the reinstatement of the sing on the Mattock Bridge – It was advised that the Bridges Department have requested a list of bridges in need of repair and this one will be included on the list.

10.4 Cllr Tom Kelly raised the following issues:-

10.4.1 Asked about the possibility of putting chevron signs on the railings at the Roundabout in Colpe.

10.4.2 The light at the Voyager in Laytown is still out.

10.4.3 The need for Mornington Bridge to be repaired.

10.4.4 Asked about traffic lights at the Railway Bridge in Laytown

10.4.5 Parking at petrol filling stations and the cafe in Bettystown continues to be abused.

10.4.6 Requested an update on the €16m allocated for coastal work in Louth and Meath.

10.4.7 Asked when the coastal protection work will take place at Laytown – It was indicated that works will commence this year.

10.4.8 Dog signs on the beach are too small and dogs remain to run loose on the beach.



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10.4.9 Asked of a submission on the Spatial Strategy for East Midland Region Authority would be made by the Municipal District – It was advised that this would be done by the Planning Department for the whole of the county.

10.5 Cllr Paddy Meade raised the following issues:

10.5.1 At the December meeting Ardee was congratulated on getting a by-pass but having seen the drawings they are only getting half a bypass as it doesn't loop the whole town. As a result the R165, of which one third of it is in county Meath, is expected to become one of the busiest small roads in the county.

10.5.2 The road from Grangegeeth to the N2 – it was confirmed that this is part of the roadworks programme.

10.5.3 A new boundary commission being set up for the Municipal Districts and asked Councillors to make submissions on same.

10.5.4 Asked if a letter has issued to Minister Michael Ring in the Department of Rural Affairs thanking him for the additional funding allocated to Meath for LIS Schemes and ask that in future a longer time line be given for applications – It was confirmed that this letter issued following the December meeting of Laytown Bettystown Municipal District.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

**Signed:**

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**Cathaoirleach**