



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

Laytown-Bettystown Municipal District

Ordinary Meeting

09:30 a.m., 15th February, 2018, Duleek Civic Offices

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

Councillors Present: Eimear Ferguson, Wayne Harding, Tom Kelly, Sharon Keogan, Stephen McKee, Sharon Tolan.

Officials in Attendance:

Head of Finance: Fiona Lawless

Meetings Administrator: Claire King

Executive Engineer: Christy Clarke

Staff Officer: Triona Keating

1 Confirmation of Minutes

1.1 Confirmation of minutes of Ordinary Meeting held on 18th January, 2018.

The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 18th January, 2018 were adopted on the proposal of **Councillor Tom Kelly** and seconded by **Councillor Paddy Meade**.

2 Matters arising from the Minutes

Councillor Sharon Keogan requested confirmation that the S183 in respect of Gormanston would be dealt with at the March meeting and referred to the needs of all parties to be taken account of in terms of the agreement reached.

Councillor Keogan also referred to Item 6.1 – Notice of Motion relating to the HGV ban for Duleek and pointed out that a lot of work remains to be done on Main Street and this motion was possibly premature.

3 Expressions of Sympathy and Congratulations



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Sympathy was extended to:

- The wife and family of the late Gabriel Howard, Stamullen who recently died in a farming incident and who was a leading figure in Irish and local cycling.

Congratulations were extended to:

- Pdraig McGroggan on winning the Young Sport Star of the Year award;
- Cian Barry, Wayne Rafferty and Dara Roe on their sporting achievements.

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, which had been circulated in advance, was noted.

4.2 To consider and adopt the 2018 Schedule of Municipal District Works.

David Jones, Housing Department outlined the categories for housing maintenance and repair and explained the background to the allocations, including those managed centrally. It was pointed out that the proposed programme of works was based on the 2017 funding allocations, as the 2018 allocations had not yet been confirmed but should be similar to, if not greater than, that in 2017. New units/pipeline delivery for Laytown-Bettystown Municipal District included 52 units to be delivered this year by Approved Housing Bodies with a further 35 units to be delivered in 2019 by Meath County Council.

Matters raised by Councillors included:

- Consideration given to the age of the housing stock when making allocations – it was confirmed that older stock are prioritised for preventative maintenance works.



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- Issues in Alverno Heights including electrical work needed, sewerage problems, repair & maintenance works, etc. – it was explained that a Clerk of Works oversees all maintenance and repair works with annual procurement process for maintenance crews.
- Grants from Electric Ireland to undertake energy upgrades in local authority houses – it was pointed out that there is a resource issue associated with taking up such grants but that this would be kept under review and that the Phase I, which was nearly complete, had been the priority.
- The average turnover time for vacant units – the average turnaround time in 2016 had been 20.6 weeks with efforts underway to reduce this. The time taken is dependent on the nature and extent of works required. Of the 25 vacant units in the county, 4 were in this municipal district and had been vacant for less than 3 months.
- Responsibility for driveway maintenance to improve wheelchair accessibility – reference was made to the Local Authority Adaptation Grants available but this type of works did not form part of the traditional programmes available.
- The possibility of consulting with residents in Reask before finalising the scheme design – it was confirmed that funding for 20 units had been secured with 8 – 10 private sites to be included also. It was hoped to bring the Part VIII to the March or April meeting, following which public consultation would commence.
- The inclusion of recreational space in the Donore scheme – it was confirmed that open space requirements would be included.

Des Foley, Director of Service and John McGrath, Senior Engineer, Transportation Department provided an overview of the breakdown of funding relating to transportation, the sources of funding and how these can be spent, the rationale for the allocations to the Municipal District and the central budgets that are allocated over the six municipal districts. The increase in funding to Laytown-Bettystown Municipal District was highlighted across a number of headings including footpath repairs and maintenance, drainage works and the allocation for the Slane Bypass. It was also pointed out that the figures presented did not include planned capital expenditure and changes to the CIS/LIS were outlined.



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It was confirmed that an allocation would be included in the capital programme to undertake a full study on traffic management and parking in Laytown-Bettystown.

The Cathaoirleach and Councillors welcomed the increased spend. Matters raised included:

The need to deal with the junction at the Julianstown interchange.

- The need for drainage works at Mosney Road and on the Coast Road, Bettystown – it was confirmed that this would be included.
- The need for additional safety measures and a new surface and relining of the Pilltown Road – it was pointed out that, if the road could be widened, then lines could be added to the worst bends and that works were planned but that an Improvement Grant may be required to do further works.
- Welcomed the footpath planned for Donacarney.
- Requested that street sweeping take place twice per month – it was agreed to look at this when the new tenders issue.
- The need for additional public lighting at the end of the Narrowways Road, Rathdrinagh and at Pilltown Cross – it was confirmed that a capital allocation had been made for a public lighting programme with a number of locations to be considered.
- Works being undertaken by Irish Water on the N2 Slane Southern Approach – it was confirmed that the Council would liaise with Irish Water who were undertaking mains rehabilitation works in the area.
- Welcomed the allocation for the Slane Bypass and requested that an allocation be made to use the actual visual impact of the M3 to demonstrate how the Slane Bypass might actually appear.
- Update on works on Main Street, Duleek – it was confirmed that when the weather improves, works would continue to cover the full extent of the village, including future proofing the junction, installing ducting, etc.



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- The need for a footpath to link Southgate shopping centre to the community centre in Donacarney, Donore to Newgrange/Oldbridge and Deep Ford to the Five Oaks – it was confirmed that the latter was being discussed with Louth County Council.
- The need for safety measures at Beamore Cross.
- The possibility of winter gritting at school locations – the difficulties in implementing this were outlined.
- Dangerous parking at filling stations, particularly by HGVs.
- Safety measures required on Colpe Bridge, on the Minnistown Road and the need for pedestrian safety measures on the Square, Bettystown.
- The need to ensure trees and hedges along roads are maintained by those responsible.

The 2018 Schedule of Municipal District Works for Laytown-Bettystown was adopted on the proposal of **Councillor Sharon Tolan** and seconded by **Councillor Wayne Harding**.

5 Notice of Question

5.1 Submitted by Councillor Wayne Harding

“Can I get clarification on what intention there is to provide slipways for boat launches on the River Boyne between Slane Bridge and Drogheda?”

Response:

The Council have no proposal for the provision of a slipway between Slane Bridge and Drogheda. Some years back the Council constructed a slipway on the footprint of a disused slipway on the Meath/Louth border, a development which was funded by Interreg.

The response was noted.



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6 Notice of Motion

6.1 Submitted by Councillors Sharon Keogan and Stephen McKee – Emergency Motion

“We call on Meath County Council to allocate monies from the 2018 Capital Investment Plan towards a topographical study to progress the proposed Duleek Bypass as set out in the current Meath County Development Plan.”

Following a short discussion, it was agreed that this did not constitute an emergency motion and would be deferred to the March meeting with the Transportation Department to provide relevant supporting information.

The motion was deferred.

7 Strategic Policy Committee Reports – For Information Purposes

- 7.1 To note the report from the Housing, Community & Cultural Development SPC meeting of 23rd January, 2018.

The report was noted.

- 7.2 To note the report from the Planning, Economic Development & Enterprise SPC meeting of 23rd January, 2018.

The report was noted.

- 7.3 To note the report from the Transportation SPC meeting of 24th January, 2018.

The report was noted.

8 Other Matters Arising

There were no other matters arising.

9 Correspondence



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- 9.1 Correspondence received from Bettystown Retailers Alliance re traffic management issues.

It was agreed that a response would issue pointing out that any decisions taken regarding Laytown-Bettystown Municipal District would be taken at Municipal District level and that no notice parties would be designated. It was also suggested that Retail Excellence Ireland would be invited to contact the group in relation to any available supports.

10 Any Other Business

- 10.1 Councillor Tom Kelly raised the following issue:

10.1.1 Requested an update on the County Development Plan review – it was confirmed that a full update would be provided at the March full Council meeting.

- 10.2 Councillor Stephen McKee raised the following issues:

10.2.1 The provision of WiFi in all libraries – it was pointed out that this was under review and would be provided when possible.

10.2.2 The timeframe for the Local Area Plan review – it was pointed out that the County Development Plan review was due to be finalised by the end of the year, following which the Local Area Plan reviews would commence.

- 10.3 Councillor Paddy Meade raised the following issue:

10.3.1 Submitted a petition from residents regarding the provision of a footpath in Donore.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed:



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Cathaoirleach