



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

### ***Ratoath Municipal District***

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

***9:30a.m., 13<sup>th</sup> February, 2019, Dunshaughlin Civic Offices***

An Cathaoirleach, **Councillor Maria Murphy**, presided.

**Councillors Present:** Brian Fitzgerald, Nick Killian, Gerry O'Connor, Damien O'Reilly, Gillian Toole.

**Apologies:** Councillor Maria Uí Ruairc.

**Officials in Attendance:**

**Director of Service:** Des Foley

**Meetings Administrator:** Claire King

**Executive Engineer:** Philip Traynor

**Staff Officer:** Triona Keating

### **1 Confirmation of Minutes**

#### **1.1 Confirmation of minutes of Ordinary Meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> January, 2019.**

The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> January, 2019 were confirmed on the proposal of **Councillor Nick Killian** and seconded by **Councillor Gillian Toole**.

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

Councillor Maria Murphy referred to the request for a meeting with the Minister for Transport in relation to the R147, M3 slipway, etc. and it was agreed that a further request would issue.

Councillor Gillian Toole referred to the meeting requested with the NTA and it was confirmed that the NTA had confirmed their availability to attend a meeting of Meath County Council, with the date to be agreed. It was suggested that a meeting to focus on specifically local issues was required and it was agreed to try and facilitate this request, as appropriate.



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

Sympathy was extended to:

- The family of the late William (Lally) McCormack, Batterstown;
- The family of the late Patrick O’Sullivan, Drumree, formerly of Teagasc, Grange.

Congratulations were extended to:

- Niamh Somerville, who won a bronze medal in the U11 All Ireland Cross Country Championship;
- Orlagh McLaughlin and Emma Kennedy, who were named as Captain and Vice-Captain of the Meath Senior Ladies team;
- James Scully, Ratoath on his retirement as a paralympian;
- Dermot McLouglin Racing Stables at Loughlinstown/ Bodeen, Ratoath on his winners at the Dublin racing festival in Leopardstown.

It was agreed that the civic event to acknowledge the achievements of individuals and groups in Ratoath Municipal District would take place on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> May.

### **4 Statutory Business**

#### **4.1 Transportation**

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

The Cathaoirleach and councillors acknowledged the significant amount of work undertaken throughout the year.

#### **4.2 Economic Development**



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- 4.2.1 To receive an update on the proposed Enterprise Hub to be located in Dunshaughlin Civic Offices.

Dara McGowan, Senior Executive Officer, Facilities provided an overview of the proposal and circulated the relevant drawings, which included the various facilities to be made available to accommodate long and short term arrangements, meetings, etc. It was confirmed that the works were due to go to tender in the next fortnight, to include M&E works to be carried out in the building, requiring the closure of the building for approximately three months.

It was suggested that a brochure on the service be prepared and a formal launch be arranged. Further information will be provided closer to the service being made available.

### **4.3 Environment**

- 4.3.1 To receive an update on the burial ground in Dunboyne.

It was agreed that this item would be included on the March agenda.

### **4.4 Planning**

- 4.4.1 To receive a presentation on the Strategic Housing Development application, reference no. ABP-3043433-19 (Rockture 1 Ltd.) in accordance with Section 4(c)(ii) of the Planning and Development (Housing) and Residential Tenancies Act 2016.

Padraig Maguire, Senior Executive Planner and Seán Clarke, Senior Executive Officer, Planning Department delivered a summary presentation on the Strategic Housing Development application for Dunshaughlin. This included the role and function of the planning authority, the details of the application, consultations that have taken place, background to and overview of the scheme, residential typology and next steps, including the submission of the Chief Executive's report on or before 4<sup>th</sup> March. The decision by An Bord Pleanála is due by 29<sup>th</sup> April, following which notification of the decision will issue to councillors.

Matters raised by councillors included:



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- Queried whether a management company would be established – it was pointed out that certain aspects would be subject to be taken in charge, e.g. roads, open spaces, etc., but that other aspects of the development would come under the responsibility of a management company.
- Queried the number of access points in addition to the distributor road – it was pointed out that the proposed Distributor Road would be the main access to the site and there would be four accesses off the Distributor Road into the Residential Development.
- Concerns of residents in adjacent estates regarding increased pedestrian access and parking to access schools and playing facilities and the lack of consultation with these residents - it was pointed out that DMURs principles are important in terms of getting connectivity between existing and proposed sites.
- Issues in adjacent estates that are not taken in charge, including poor road surfaces and speeding traffic.
- Queried the need for a variation on the land for the proposed education campus – it was confirmed that a variation would not be required as education uses are open for consideration.
- Queried whether the proposed site for the education campus is adequate to accommodate buildings and ancillary facilities, including parking and playing facilities – it was pointed out that the school would have access to recreation and playing facilities to the east of the site and that an application for an education campus would be subject to a planning application, which will have to comply with CDP Standards.
- Queried the appropriateness of the proposed density and building height of some of the proposed buildings – it was pointed out that the density was driven by the National Planning Framework and SHD process.
- The impact of such density levels on other areas in the county and how these comply with the Council's core strategy in the County



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Development Plan, the National Planning Framework and the Regional Spatial & Economic Strategy.

- Concerns regarding increased traffic being directed onto the Lagore Road, which is a narrow road, and increasing congestion on the Fairyhouse roundabout.
- Queried the number of social housing units to be provided under Part V and the provision of affordable housing – it was confirmed that the social housing needs had been discussed with the developer and agreed with the Council’s Housing Section.
- The provision of adequate parking facilities and the need for access by emergency services.
- The impact of the development on existing transport issues and the possibility of providing the distributor road to the M3 – it was confirmed that discussions were taking place with the Transportation Department and that this is a developer led road which will be subject to all relevant development Contributions. The transportation issues would be referred to in the Chief Executive report.
- Acknowledged the masterplan that included features such as green spaces, planting, biodiversity, cycleways and walkways.
- The possibility of extending the rail line to Dunshaughlin.

The Cathaoirleach and councillors thanked Pádraig and Seán for the information provided.

4.4.2 To consider taking in charge of the following and the making of a declaration that the roads within the development shall be public roads in accordance with Section 11 Roads Act 1993 and the Planning & Development Acts 2000-2018

- Foxbrook Phase 2, Ratoath.

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This was agreed on the proposal of **Councillor Nick Killian** and seconded by **Councillor Gillian Toole**.

### **4.5 Corporate Services**

#### **4.5.1 To discuss the 2019 Arts, Festivals, Festive Decoration & MD Renewal Budgets.**

Robert Collins, Senior Executive Officer, Corporate Services confirmed that a budget of €8,000 was available and referred to the allocations made in 2018. Councillors were reminded that the deadline for applications under the Community Grants Scheme is 8<sup>th</sup> March.

It was agreed on the proposal of **Councillor Gerry O'Connor** and seconded by **Councillor Nick Killian** to make the following allocations:

<b>Town/Village</b>	<b>Amount €</b>
Dunshaughlin – Festive Decoration	€2,120
Ratoath – Festive Decoration	€2,120
Dunboyne – Festive Decoration	€1,120
Dunboyne – Spirit of Dunboyne	€1,000
Kilmessan – Festive Decoration	€540
Clonee – Festive Decoration	€275
Kiltale – Festive Decoration	€275
Kilcloon – Festive Decoration	€275
Batterstown – Festive Decoration	€275

#### **4.5.2 To discuss proposals to be considered by the Protocol Committee in relation to the allocation of the 2019 Twinning budget.**

Robert Collins confirmed that no formal twinning arrangement was yet in place and reference was made to previous proposals made and arrangements in place in other municipal districts. It was agreed to consider this further at the March meeting.

#### **4.5.3 To note Municipal District Allocations submitted by Councillors on behalf of Ratoath Municipal District.**

The list of allocations, circulated in advance, was noted.



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It was agreed on the proposal of **Councillor Gerry O'Connor** and seconded by **Councillor Gillian Toole** to extend the meeting by thirty minutes.

### **4.6 To consider and adopt the 2019 Schedule of Municipal District Works.**

David Jones, Senior Executive Officer, Housing Section outlined the schedule of works as they relate to housing, including the service categories, funding allocations per municipal district, the centralised budgets and updates on the previous year.

Matters raised by councillors included:

- Commended the work of the maintenance team for their quick responses and acknowledged the quality of the refurbishment works and energy efficiency measures.
- Queried the increase in stock levels since 2016 – it was pointed out that the stock levels are impacted by the Tenant Purchase Scheme and that the figures provided did not include the new units to be completed or those provided by Approved Housing Bodies. The levels will increase further once Part V allocations are included and new projects come on stream.
- The provision of maintenance free doors and exteriors where possible.
- The lead in time for units to become available and the possibility of commencing plans now for the site adjacent to Lagore Road – it was pointed out that this was a large estate and its development would be phased accordingly.

Des Foley, Director of Service, Transportation referred to additional resources, including funding and staffing, allocated to transportation services in recent years. As funding for roads represents approximately one third of the overall council budget, the challenge is the delivery of the programme taking into account issues such as tender prices and securing the services of contractors. In addition to the works outlined in the schedule, works are ongoing on footpaths, public lighting and CIS/LIS. The SMDW refers to the revenue budget only.

John McGrath, Senior Engineer, Transportation outlined the schedule of works in detail.



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Matters raised by councillors included:

- The need to remove the bend at Jenkinstown to avoid traffic having to cross the white line – it was noted that the grant funding in the Draft Schedule of Municipal District Works 2019 is for expenditure on resurfacing works only. This scheme was progressed through the Part 8 process and previously received funding under the separate funding heading of Specific Improvement Grant, which funds larger improvement works including realignment or new road construction of non-national roads. The Council will liaise with the Department of Transport to determine what is required to have this scheme considered for further funding under the Specific Improvement Grant funding.
- The road closure in St. Patrick's Park – it was confirmed that one submission had been received as a result of the public consultation and that a meeting is to be arranged with residents.
- The need to progress the Part 8 for the Kilcock to Moyglare road – it was confirmed that a site visit had taken place and that the options would be considered, taking into account the environmental issues.
- The increased traffic on the Dunboyne to Maynooth road and the bends at the rear entrance to Carton House – it was confirmed that discussions were ongoing with regard to a future link between Dunboyne, Maynooth, the M3 and M4.
- The need for refurbishment works, the replacement of equipment and the provision of disability equipment in Ratoath playground – it was confirmed that a report was being prepared and a tender for works would be issued, subject to funding being identified.
- The need to install adequate drainage when undertaking resurfacing works to avoid driveways being flooded.
- The need for adequate reinstatement following watermain works in Ratoath and after SIRO works were completed – the Council will liaise with Irish Water regarding their reinstatement works and the proposed re-surfacing works planned for later this year. SIRO's reinstatement works will be followed up through the Road Opening Licence System.





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- The need to ensure that visibility and sightlines were improved at Glascarn Lane and Mullinam Lane, the possibility of moving the speed sign on Glascarn Lane and removing the hedge at Mullinam Lane.
- The possibility of allocating funding to grass cutting on approach roads and in estates that were taken in charge but have no residents associations in place – it was agreed that approach roads would be maintained but that there were no plans to undertake grass cutting in estates, with grants available for estate maintenance.
- The need for resurfacing works in St. Peter's Park and St. Patrick's Park following works by Irish Water.
- The possibility of providing a footpath at the junction of Grange Hall/Bog Road under the CIS/LIS – it was suggested that an application be submitted for consideration under CIS.

The 2019 Schedule of Municipal District Works for Ratoath was unanimously adopted on the proposal of **Councillor Damien O'Reilly** and seconded by **Councillor Gerry O'Connor**.

It was agreed on the proposal of **Councillor Damien O'Reilly** and seconded by **Councillor Gerry O'Connor** to extend the meeting by thirty minutes.

### **5 Notice of Question**

There were no Notices of Question.

### **6 Notice of Motion**

There were no Notices of Motion.

### **7 Strategic Policy Committee & Corporate Policy Group Reports – For Information Purposes**

- 7.1 To note the report from the Planning, Economic Development & Enterprise SPC meeting of 19<sup>th</sup> December, 2018.



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The report was noted.

- 7.2 To note the report from the Housing, Community & Cultural Development SPC meeting of 1<sup>st</sup> February, 2019.

The report was noted.

### **8 Correspondence**

- 8.1 Correspondence received from Garda Superintendent Fergus Dwyer in response to the Notice of Item 5.1.1 from January meeting re speeding issues at Glascarn Lane.

The correspondence was noted. Councillors noted that Superintendent Dwyer is due to attend the April meeting, as a follow up to his attendance in October and a number of issues were raised for discussion.

### **9 Any Other Business**

- 9.1 Councillor Nick Killian raised the following issues:

9.1.1 The parking issues being experienced in Ratoath.

9.1.2 The introduction of a copying fee payable by public representatives when accessing planning files – it was suggested that this be raised with the Protocol Committee.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

**Signed:**

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**Cathaoirleach**