



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

Laytown-Bettystown Municipal District

Ordinary Meeting

09:30 a.m., 13th March, 2018, Duleek Civic Offices

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

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

Apologies: Councillor Stephen McKee.

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 15th February, 2018.

The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 15th February, 2018 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 from the minutes.

3 Expressions of Sympathy and Congratulations

Sympathy was extended to:

- The family of the late Shaun Lynch, Duleek, former Meath County Councillor;



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- The family of the late Tom Leonard, Julianstown, Chair of the Irish Power Kite and Sandyacht Association.

Congratulations were extended to:

- The three publicans in Drumconrath who have decided not to open on Good Friday;
- Christy Clarke and all staff involved in dealing with the recent adverse weather conditions.

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 had been circulated in advance and matters raised by Councillors included:

- The provision of a footpath between Deep Forde and Five Oaks – it was confirmed that the Transportation Section had reviewed the scope of works with Louth County Council's Infrastructure Department and it had been agreed to develop a proposal and get quotations with a view to seeking funding to proceed.
- Welcomed the works undertaken in the playground in Bettystown and requested that signage be erected at the playground in Laytown to deter long term parking.
- Requested an update on the replacement of litter bins.
- Welcomed the issuing of hedge cutting notices.
- Welcomed works on the pedestrian crossing at Frank's Cottage, Donore.



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4.2 Environment

- 4.2.1 To receive an update on the Architectural Competition for the development of a Seafront Building and Civic Space at Seaview Terrace, Bettystown.

Larry Whelan, Senior Executive Officer, Environment outlined the update circulated in advance with a further update to be provided at the April meeting, following selection of the company to prepare the detailed design.

Matters raised by Councillors included:

- The possible use of the existing building to accommodate the beach warden – it was pointed out that the structural survey indicated that this could not be facilitated but that the use of the area to the rear of the building would be reviewed for the location of a temporary welfare unit.
- The possibility of extending the timeframe for the beach warden from Easter to the end of September – as the post was only now being advertised, it was not feasible to provide the service for Easter but it was agreed to consider this for September.
- The need to secure the buildings to prevent anti-social behaviour – this was agreed.
- The need to monitor parking at the entrance to the beach to prevent blockages – it was agreed to ask the Gardaí to monitor this and ask Transportation Operations to consider additional measures.
- A number of suggestions were made in respect of the future facilities to be provided in the building – Councillors were requested to submit these in writing in order that they can be considered when preparing the detailed design.
- The availability of the lifeguard – this was confirmed for June, July and August.



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- The previous reports done in relation to coastal protection, racefields, etc. – it was confirmed that all previous reports would be taken into account.
- The need for drainage works at the entrance to the beach at Bettystown.
- The need to review the Foreshore Bye-laws – this would be done if considered necessary.
- The possibility of including a condition that successful applicants for casual trading licences, and their staff, be Garda vetted – it was pointed out that, whilst meeting all requirements, the responsibility of the local authority in this regard could not extend to the monitoring/enforcement of such a condition were it to be included.
- The need for a review of lifebuoys on rivers and on the coast.

4.2.2 To receive an update on Timoole Remediation Project.

Caroline Corrigan, Executive Engineer, Environment delivered a presentation to the meeting, which included information on the waste, works completed to date, project challenges, PR and communications, challenges and positives to date and administration of the project.

The Cathaoirleach and Councillors commended Caroline on her work on the project, in particular the PR and communications programme and project management. Matters raised included the concerns of local residents, the impact on the stream and the planned reinstatement works, with responses provided.

4.3 Housing

- ### 4.3.1 To receive the Chief Executive's Report in accordance with Part 8 of the Planning & Development Act 2000–2017 and the Planning & Development Regulations 2001–2017 on proposed housing development of 15 housing units at Narrowways Road, Bettystown (P818001).



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Brenda O'Neill, Executive Planner outlined the report circulated and responses were provided to queries raised. Matters raised included the need to provide affordable housing sites in new housing developments, the provision of disability friendly units and traffic management measures.

The Cathaoirleach and Councillors welcomed the proposal.

4.4 Planning

4.4.1 To consider taking in charge of the following and the making of a declaration that the roads within the developments shall be public roads in accordance with Section 11 Roads Act 1993 and the Planning & Development Acts 2000-2017."

- Deepforde Housing Estate Phase 5, Colpe.

This was agreed on the proposal of **Councillor Sharon Tolan** and seconded by **Councillor Wayne Harding**.

- Cill Carban Housing Estate, Duleek.

This was agreed on the proposal of **Councillor Sharon Keogan** and seconded by **Councillor Eimear Ferguson**.

4.5 Community

4.5.1 To consider and adopt the revised Carranstown Environmental Projects Grants Scheme.

Fiona Fallon, Senior Executive Officer, Community Department outlined the changes to the scheme, which were required to comply with procurement legislation. It was confirmed that the scheme was reviewed every 2 years, with the next review in 2019.

The revised scheme was adopted on the proposal of **Councillor Sharon Tolan** and seconded by **Councillor Eimear Ferguson**.

4.5.2 To receive details of the recommended grant offers by the Indaver Community



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Liaison Committee under the Carranstown Environmental Projects Grant Scheme and if in agreement to forward to the Full Council of Meath County Council for approval.

The list of recommended grant offers had been circulated in advance.

Matters raised by Councillors included:

- Reference to the defined area of eligibility and grants allocated outside of this area - it was confirmed that the area was defined in the grant scheme and that groups outside of this area could apply if they could demonstrate benefits to those within the defined area.
- The timeframe to draw down grants – the process of draw down and reallocation of grants not drawn down was outlined.

The recommendations were agreed on the proposal of **Councillor Sharon Tolan** and seconded by **Councillor Eimear Ferguson**.

4.6 Corporate Services

4.6.1 To receive an update on the proposed development of the Seafield lands.

Dara McGowan, Senior Executive Officer, Corporate Services presented three options for the general layout arising from the desk based study and based on the list of items requested by local groups. The challenges in progressing any development on the site were outlined and include the costs involved in the development, the number of groups involved, sourcing funding and ongoing management and maintenance, and the nature of the site with a Special Protection Area surrounding it and the related limitations and requirements to progress through the planning process. It was suggested that if a decision was taken to proceed, then an Appropriate Assessment should be prepared and an ecologist appointed to determine the feasibility of the proposal. It was also highlighted that this was the only Council owned land in the municipal district.

Matters raised by Councillors included:



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- Acknowledged the complexities of the site and process.
- The possible links to works being undertaken by the GAA club – it was pointed out that the works being planned by the club were separate from the proposal outlined.
- The possibility of including an all-weather pitch – it was agreed to consider this.
- The possibility of including a community centre incorporating an indoor sports facility – it was pointed out that such a building would not be feasible on this site.
- The need for a community centre in the municipal district – it was suggested that such a facility would be better suited to a more central and accessible location.
- The additional traffic that would be generated and the need for improved access – it was pointed out that a traffic impact assessment would be undertaken at the appropriate stage.
- The possibility of progressing some elements of the proposal initially, e.g. the picnic areas and parking for beach access.
- The potential of securing Blue Flag status for the beach.
- The need to ensure that access by cyclists, motorcyclists, etc. is restricted to adjacent lands.
- The possibility of using the old water pumping station.
- The importance of ensuring the ongoing maintenance of any facility provided.

It was unanimously agreed, on the proposal of **Councillor Tom Kelly** and seconded by **Councillor Wayne Harding**, to proceed with the Appropriate Assessment and appoint an ecologist.



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4.6.2 To note Municipal District Allocations submitted by Councillors on behalf of Laytown-Bettystown Municipal District.

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

5 Notice of Question

There were no Notices of Question.

6 Notice of Motion

6.1 Submitted by Councillor Wayne Harding

“I request that regular updates be given to the Laytown/Bettystown area in relation to the progression of works on the unstable wall on the N51 in Slane Village.”

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

At present some of the vegetation is being removed and when this is completed in the next two weeks, there will be a further two weeks of work removing some of the overburden. As the structure becomes more exposed the design will be completed. When the design of the proposed works is complete, a schedule for undertaking the works will be prepared. When this schedule is known, information will be forwarded to the MD Members.

The motion was withdrawn by Councillor Wayne Harding.

6.2 Submitted by Councillors Sharon Keogan and Stephen McKee

“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.”

The motion was deferred to the April meeting as Councillor McKee was not in attendance.



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6.3 Submitted by Councillor Sharon Keogan

“We, the members of the Laytown Bettystown Municipal District, request that Minister of State, Kevin Boxer Moran, with responsibility for the OPW, investigate the possibility of a compulsory purchase order to be put in place for securing St Michael's Abbey in Duleek in the interest of our national heritage, given that St. Michael's is the oldest Abbey in Ireland.”

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Sharon Keogan** and seconded by **Councillor Wayne Harding**.

Councillor Sharon Keogan proposed an amendment as follows:

“We, the members of the Laytown Bettystown Municipal District, request that Minister of State, Kevin Boxer Moran, with responsibility for the OPW, investigate the possibility of a compulsory purchase order to be put in place for securing St Michael's Grange in Duleek in the interest of our national heritage, given that St. Michael's is the oldest Abbey in Ireland.”

The amended motion was adopted.

6.4 Submitted by Councillor Wayne Harding

“To call on the Council to make every effort to provide additional slipway access to the River Boyne between Slane and Drogheda.”

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

As the Members will be aware the Council have advanced plans for the provision / upgrading of 7 No slipways on the Boyne / Blackwater the locations for which were chosen based on the presence of existing structures or locations identified by the emergency services who are involved in river rescue operations.

It is pointed out that a new Slipway was provided in Oldbridge in 2014/2015 however the Council will discuss with such organisations the necessity they may see for any additional slipways along the stretch of the Boyne from Slane to Drogheda.



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The motion was proposed by **Councillor Wayne Harding** and seconded by **Councillor Paddy Meade**.

The motion was adopted.

7 Other Matters Arising

7.1 Councillor Wayne Harding raised the following issue:

7.1.1 Requested an update on the structural survey of the bridge in Slane – it was agreed to refer this to Transportation.

7.2 Councillor Eimear Ferguson raised the following issues:

7.2.1 Referred to recent activity in a field on the Dublin Road with an entrance coming onto the road – it was suggested that this could be a matter for Planning Enforcement.

7.2.2 Hedges blocking a road sign on Cooperhill Road.

7.2.3 Maintenance works needed on and around the Whistling Bridge – it was confirmed that the Public Lighting section had been requested to undertake maintenance works on the lighting columns and works were needed to deal with recent subsidence.

7.2.4 The arrangements in place for school buses during planned culvert works on the Eastham Road – it was pointed out that these works were part of the Northlands scheme and diversions would be in place.

7.3 Councillor Sharon Tolan raised the following issues:

7.3.1 The need to progress the taking in charge of Northlands estate following completion of the flood alleviation works and the need to ensure that public lighting in the estate is operational – it was pointed out that the ongoing works were separate from the taking in charge process, which would be referred to Planning.



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- 7.3.2 Requested an update on coastal erosion works – an update was provided, with works to commence in April for approximately 5 weeks.
- 7.3.3 Complaints received regarding low water pressure in Deep Forde.
- 7.3.4 Requested that flooding in The Dunes estate be raised with the OPW.
- 7.3.5 The possibility of introducing the Go Car on a pilot basis in Laytown/Bettystown.
- 7.3.6 Requested that the Broadband Officer contact Eir with regard to approximately 60 homes in the Maydenhayes estate in Mornington which have had no broadband access for 9-12 months.
- 7.4 Councillor Sharon Keogan raised the following issue:
 - 7.4.1 The issues with water supply and capacity in the municipal district due to the reliance on the Staleen network – it was agreed to request an update from Water Services on plans to improve the network.
- 7.5 Councillor Paddy Meade raised the following issues:
 - 7.5.1 The flashing speed signs at both ends of Slane are out of order.
 - 7.5.2 Repairs needed to the bridge at Kellystown.
 - 7.5.3 The need to increase water storage capacity to prevent water disruptions.

8 Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

9 Any Other Business

There was no other business.



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This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed:

Cathaoirleach