



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

### ***Navan Municipal District***

### ***Ordinary Meeting***

***10:00 a.m., 20<sup>th</sup> March, 2019, Navan Civic Offices***

An Meára, **Councillor Jim Holloway**, presided.

**Councillors Present:** Sinéad Burke, Francis Deane, Edward Fennessy, Padraig Fitzsimons, Wayne Forde, Tommy Reilly.

**Officials in Attendance:**

**Director of Service:** Kevin Stewart

**Meetings Administrator:** Claire King

**Executive Engineer:** Paul O'Brien

**Staff Officer:** Triona Keating

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

##### **1.1 Confirmation of minutes of Ordinary Meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> February, 2019.**

The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> February 2019 were confirmed on the proposal of **Councillor Padraig Fitzsimons** and seconded by **Councillor Tommy Reilly**.

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

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

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

Congratulations were extended to:

- Councillor Padraig Fitzsimons for his role in organising the Navan Shamrock Festival – Councillor Fitzsimons thanked the committee, stewards, Gardaí, Civil Defence, councillors and council staff for their contribution.



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### **4 Statutory Business**

#### **4.1 Transportation**

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

The report had been circulated in advance and a further update was provided at the meeting. Matters raised by councillors included:

- Welcomed the works undertaken at Scoil Naomh Eoin, Beechmount and Dean Cogan Place.
- The need to check the gullies on the N51 at the end of Graigs Lane where flooding had occurred and on the Boyne Road at Farganstown – a list of locations where works are needed on drains, gullies, etc. is being prepared.
- The need to repair the ramps in Parnell Park and McDermott Villas – these are being monitored, with a view to resurfacing if required.
- Requested an update on the closure of the alleyway in Ferndale – councillors were reminded that the alleyway was privately owned and that the legal process for the council to take ownership was ongoing.
- Requested that contact be made with Eir regarding lines down on the grass at Benildus Villas.
- The possibility of removing the bushes opposite Reask Drive, where illegal dumping is taking place – it was agreed to trim these back later in the year and after the nesting season and to check if other assistance can be provided regarding a clean up.
- The need for a pipe between Abbeygrove and Ferndale to address flooding in Abbeygrove.
- The need to replace the bollards at St. Oliver's Cottages.



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- The need for the shrubbery to be pruned in Athlumney Village.

### **4.2 Corporate Services**

- 4.2.1 To receive an update on the development of the feasibility plan for the lands at Blackwater Park.

Jim Colwell, Senior Executive Engineer, Transportation outlined the approach being taken to avail of sports capital grants, for which a feasibility study is first required and must be submitted by the end of March. He introduced Stuart Hood and Brendan McLernon of Parkhood Landscape Architects, who outlined the key aspects of the site and a number of options.

Matters raised by councillors, with responses provided, included:

- Welcomed the progress made, including the proposed footbridge across the Blackwater that will improve access from the south of the town, the changing facilities and car park.
- The possible inclusion of a separate dog walking area.
- Expressed concern regarding the proposed access to Silverlawns and the need to undertake adequate engagement with residents.
- The need for adequate landscaping/buffering to ensure the noise and visibility of the proposed new road is minimised – the options for this screening were outlined.
- The timeframe for the project – the feasibility study is to be submitted to the department by the end of March. With the timeframe for applications and decisions regarding stream 2 funding being unknown.
- The need to maximise access and connectivity from the town and wider region – it was pointed out that further decisions would be required in terms of the target area and the whether the creation of a destination building/visitor experience is desired considering the associated cost.

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The Mayor and councillors unanimously welcomed the proposal.

- 4.2.2 To note Municipal District Allocations submitted by Councillors on behalf of Navan Municipal District.

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

### **4.3 Planning**

- 4.3.1 To receive the Chief Executive's Report in accordance with Part XI of the Planning & Development Act 2000–2018 and Part VIII of the Planning & Development Regulations 2001–2018 on the proposed construction of a Local Distributor Road, LDR1B, between the R161 Trim Road and the Navan South Road (connecting to Junction 8 of the M3 motorway), and crossing the L8010 Borallion Road/Kilcarne Lane, Navan, Co. Meath in the townlands of Balreask Old, Ballybatter or Balreask New and Kennastown. (P8/18015).

Wendy Bagnall, Senior Executive Planner outlined the proposal, report and submissions received. The Part 8 process, with timeline, was outlined. Nicholas Whyatt, Senior Engineer, Transportation was also in attendance.

Matters raised by councillors, with responses provided, included:

- Queried how the road would be funded – due to the economic development and third party development, the urban regeneration fund will be targeted.
- Expressed concerns regarding increased traffic to Balreask, the impact on the Borallion and queried as to the measures planned for the junction at the Borallion, i.e. traffic lights/roundabout – whilst the junction is not included in this report, this will be looked at separately, with the intention to signalise the junction and deter traffic from the area.
- The need to ensure the road is delivered in one phase rather than piecemeal – it was confirmed that this would be the intention.



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- 4.3.2 To receive the Chief Executive's Report in accordance with Part XI of the Planning & Development Act 2000–2018 and Part VIII of the Planning & Development Regulations 2001–2018 on the proposed Navan Cycle Network (Athlumney to Trim Road Cycle and Pedestrian Scheme) in the townlands of Balreask Old, Limekilnhill, Dillonsland, Townspark and Athlumney. (P8/18014).

Billy Joe Padden, Executive Planner outlined the key aspects of the report, including submissions received, responses made and key recommendations. It was confirmed that, as the majority of the submissions related to the Convent Road section, it was being recommended that this section be omitted. The Part 8 process, including timeframe, was outlined. It was also pointed out that, in order to complete the loop and provide a safe coherent cycle connection to Johnstown, all possible options would be considered again in due course.

Matters raised by councillors included:

- Welcomed the omission of the Convent Road section.
- Suggested that funding be sought to repair/repoint the wall to the railway bridge.
- Acknowledged the increased awareness of Athlumney Castle and its heritage value in Navan and the possibility of working with key stakeholders, including the OPW, to promote it further.
- Acknowledged the rationale for the scheme including addressing climate change and improving health.

## **5 Notice of Question**

### **5.1 Submitted by Councillor Francis Deane**

“How many applicants are registered for social housing in Navan Municipal District and how many residents are availing of the HAP scheme in the Navan Municipal District?”

**Response:**



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*There are currently 1,288 applicants from the Navan Municipal District on Meath County Council's social housing waiting list, of which 697 applicants are currently in receipt of HAP.*

The response was noted.

### **5.2 Submitted by Councillor Edward Fennessy**

“With growing opposition towards the installation of a playground in the Johnstown Wood Estate, has consideration been given to relocating the playground to the council owned site zoned ‘community infrastructure’ located adjacent to the Joe Norris Motor Company on the Kentstown Road?”

**Response:**

*The Council does not own any land adjacent to the Joe Norris Motor Company on the Kentstown Road. The provision of a playground was highlighted as the primary need for the community following the extensive public consultation carried out in the Johnstown area in 2017. The proposed location is the only land owned by Meath County Council in the Johnstown area.*

The response was noted.

## **6 Notice of Motion**

### **6.1 Submitted by Councillor Edward Fennessy**

“That Navan Municipal District carry out a feasibility study on the provision of ‘age friendly’ parking spaces in the town, the recommendations of which be implemented without delay.”

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

*The Community Section is reviewing the provision of Age Friendly parking spaces throughout the county and will include Navan under this review process.*

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The motion was proposed by **Councillor Edward Fennessy** and seconded by **Councillor Sinéad Burke**.

The motion was adopted.

### **6.2 Submitted by Councillor Edward Fennessy**

“That Navan Municipal District, in the interest of ensuring the safety of disabled drivers accessing the disabled parking space at Walsh’s Jewellers on Watergate Street, take corrective action by transferring the space to the opposite side of the street to facilitate disabled drivers with the time and space required to exit a vehicle and unload mobility aids from the safety of a footpath.”

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

*Meath County Council’s Transportation staff has met with the Irish Wheelchair Association recently and will consider their advice in the design and location of disabled bays in all streets in County Meath towns.*

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Edward Fennessy** and seconded by **Councillor Sinéad Burke**.

The motion was adopted.

### **6.3 Submitted by Councillor Jim Holloway**

“That Meath County Council will, in the context of the range of existing and new policy options and the very significant government funding available for development and urban regeneration in Navan, provide for housing on sites close to Navan Town Centre taking into consideration the demand from people wishing to move from the outer parts of Navan and its hinterland to a location nearest to a variety of essential services, the need to provide for people wishing to downsize/rightsize and the imperative to provide for sustainable communities in terms of design and layout.”

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



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*This motion will be considered in the context of the Written Statement for Navan in the pending review of the Meath County Development Plan 2019-2025.*

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Jim Holloway** and seconded by **Councillor Sinéad Burke**.

The motion was adopted.

### **6.4 Submitted by Councillor Francis Deane**

“That Navan Municipal District will look at the possibility of reintroducing a paint scheme for owners of properties in the centre of Navan. There are several shops and vacant premises in Navan which could benefit from such an initiative. At the same time a paint scheme would serve by adding to the attractiveness of our town.”

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

*The Community Section, under the Community Grants Scheme 2019, has a category to assist Tidy Towns groups to improve their town or village and facilitate its participation in the National Tidy Towns competition. Grant funding up to a maximum of €1,000 may be made available to the applicant. The closing date for this scheme is March 8<sup>th</sup>.*

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Francis Deane** and seconded by **Councillor Sinéad Burke**.

The motion was adopted.

### **6.5 Submitted by Councillor Francis Deane**

“That Meath County Council would consider upgrading the Supervalu roundabout at Metges Road, Johnstown, by researching the feasibility of providing a slip road from R153 Metges Road to Johnstown Wood, left turn, in addition to a slip road from Johnstown Wood to Metges Road, left turn, in an effort to relieve congestion resulting from traffic approaching/exiting the school campus at peak hours.”





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

*Meath County Council is monitoring this junction in the context of ongoing planning applications. The addition of a slip road at this roundabout would not meet current design standards. If additional capacity is required at this location it would be best provided by signalling the junction. Whilst it is difficult to cater for peak hour traffic, and given the proposals for development in the local area, the situation will be kept under review.*

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Francis Deane** and seconded by **Councillor Sinéad Burke**.

A short discussion followed on the need to manage traffic in Johnstown and the possibility of allowing access to the schools campus from Casey's Cross for pedestrians and cyclists.

The motion was noted.

### **6.6 Submitted by Councillor Sinéad Burke**

“That this Municipal District will explore the possibility and viability of installing traffic calming measures such as signage and speed radar monitoring on the Slane road on the approach from both sides to the pedestrian crossing.”

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

*Major traffic calming works including gateways, islands, cycle paths, footpaths, pedestrian crossing, public lighting and resurfacing works were undertaken on this section of the N51 in 2012/2013. It is not envisaged that any further works will be undertaken at this location in the medium term.*

*In terms of traffic speed we will add this section of the N51 to the list of locations for a speed survey in the coming month to determine if there is an issue with speeding which we can then raise with An Garda Síochána, if required, with regard to speed detection and enforcement.*



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The motion was proposed by **Councillor Sinéad Burke** and seconded by **Councillor Edward Fennessy**.

The motion was adopted.

### **6.7 Submitted by Councillor Sinéad Burke**

“That this Municipal District look at dropping kerbs on the footpath on the pathway running alongside the entrance to Mercy Primary to facilitate wheelchairs accessing the Primary Care Health Centre next door, will consider placing two disabled car parking spaces at the gates of the Primary Health Centre and will ensure traffic wardens increase their presence in this area from 9am to 3pm weekdays.”

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

*Meath County Council Navan Municipal District will investigate the request for the footpath alterations and disabled parking bays at this location and will enter same on the ‘Requests for Works’ database with a view to having works completed under the current Works Programme as deemed to be required.*

*Traffic wardens regularly patrol this and other schools in Navan at opening and closing times. Illegal parking at schools is a persistent problem.*

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Sinéad Burke** and seconded by **Councillor Edward Fennessy**.

The motion was adopted.

### **6.8 Submitted by Councillor Padraig Fitzsimons**

“I propose the motion that Meath County Council apply to the NTA for low cost safety measures at Robinstown National School.”

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



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*Measures have been installed at Robinstown National School in recent years, including new footpaths, road markings and flashing school signals. Any additional measures should be identified and these will be considered, as appropriate.*

The motion was withdrawn by **Councillor Padraig Fitzsimons**.

### **6.9 Submitted by Councillor Wayne Forde**

“Can I call on the Executive that Ashbrook, Clogherboy Navan be considered for any future regeneration upgrade programmes, something similar to Townspark in previous years.”

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

*There are currently no plans to undertake estate wide refurbishment schemes in any of Meath County Council’s social housing estates in Navan.*

*In recent years, investment in Meath County Council’s housing stock has been channelled through a number of different mechanisms, including response maintenance, pre let expenditure on vacant units that arise, the energy upgrade programme, and specific planned maintenance programmes, for example door and window replacements.*

*However, the matter of estate wide refurbishment schemes, including Ashbrook, will be considered in the context of available budgets that may be identified in the future for such schemes.*

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Wayne Forde** and seconded by **Councillor Edward Fennessy**.

The motion was adopted.

### **6.10 Submitted by Councillor Jim Holloway**



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“That Navan Municipal District will contact Bus Éireann enquiring as to their plans to introduce a revised Navan Town Bus Service, including the provision of new fleet and the relevant timeframes for this service.”

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Jim Holloway** and seconded by **Councillor Sinéad Burke**.

The motion was adopted.

### **7 Correspondence**

There was no correspondence.

### **8 Any Other Business**

**8.1** Councillor Padraig Fitzsimons raised the following issues:

8.1.1 The Navan street cleaning programme for Sundays – it was confirmed that 2/3 staff do two and three hours on Saturdays and Sundays respectively, with litter picked and bins emptied.

8.1.2 The possibility of installing the mobile CCTV at the bottle banks at the fire station to deter illegal dumping.

8.1.3 The possibility of maintaining the grass on council property in front of a residence in Windtown – it was agreed to check this if details of the location were submitted.

**8.2** Councillor Edward Fennessy raised the following issue:

8.2.1 Footpath maintenance required in Woodlands, coming from Woodview.

This concluded the business of the meeting.



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Signed:

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An Meára