



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

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

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

***9:30a.m., 13<sup>th</sup> March, 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

As the Cathaoirleach was delayed and the Leas-Chathaoirleach was absent, it was agreed that Councillor Brian Fitzgerald would assume the Chair.

### **1 Confirmation of Minutes**

#### **1.1 Confirmation of minutes of Ordinary Meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> February, 2019.**

The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> February, 2019 were confirmed on the proposal of **Councillor Gillian Toole** and seconded by **Councillor Gerry O'Connor**.

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

Councillor Brian Fitzgerald referred to the concerns of residents at the delay in implementing the closure of the through road at St. Patrick's Park, Dunboyne and the possibility of introducing interim measures until such time as the closure was introduced – it was agreed to deal with this under Item 5.1.3

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



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

Congratulations were extended to:

- Gavin Cromwell on his success in the Champion Hurdle, Cheltenham.

### **4 Disposal of Land pursuant to the provisions of Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001**

#### **4.1 Agreement in principle to disposal of Land at Castlefarm, Rooske Road, Dunboyne, Co. Meath.**

The background to the proposal was outlined, including the development of the pitches in conjunction with St. Peter's GAA, the public area, parking, walkway and new bridge, for which the plans are currently on display as part of the Part 8 process. It was pointed out that no formal agreement would be put in place until after the planning process was complete and, if successful, an application for grant funding can be made.

This was agreed on the proposal of **Councillor Damien O'Reilly** and seconded by **Councillor Gerry O'Connor**.

The executive, particularly Dara McGowan, was commended for their work on this project.

### **5 Statutory Business**

#### **5.1 Transportation**

##### **5.1.1 To receive a Progress Report on works undertaken/planned for Ratoath Municipal District.**

The report had been circulated in advance and matters raised by councillors included:

- Complimented works recently undertaken including footpaths.
- The issue of Bus Éireann buses dropping off passengers on the zebra crossing on the Drumree Road and also using the bus stop on the R147, for which the agreement with the landowner relates to drop off and pick up only, for their statutory breaks.



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

- The issues for residents in Dunboyne with private bus operators parking at inappropriate locations and the role of the Gardaí in enforcement.
- The need to review the signage directing HGV traffic away from the Drumree Road and the need for traffic calming on the Drumree Road due to speeding and the number of residential and educational developments at this location – it was agreed to review this and discuss further at the April meeting.
- The need for traffic calming measures on the Skryne Road, Ratoath, where facilities include the pitch & putt and soccer clubs – it was agreed to consider this at the April meeting.
- The need to reconsider the Dunshaughlin town boundary and speed limit boundary as Dunshaughlin expands.
- Acknowledged the success of the sofa collection day but highlighted the distance to Navan, Trim or Kells and recommended that the process commence to develop a civic amenity site in south Meath- it was suggested that this be considered in the context of the capital programme.
- The possibility of installing CCTV at the bottle banks in Dunshaughlin to detect the individual(s) responsible for regular dumping.
- The proposal made in 2018 to organise a one off day in each of the municipal districts/towns in to accept large waste items in conjunction with Oxigen – it was pointed out that, whilst it was hoped to expand on this initiative, it required proper management and supervision in an appropriate facility. The example of the mattress collection was given, with a disposal cost of €21 per dry mattress.
- Acknowledged the provision of the public lighting at Tattersalls.

Councillor Maria Murphy joined the meeting and assumed the Chair.

- 5.1.2 To consider a recommendation that the lane at Knocks, Dunshaughlin Co Meath be made a public road by Meath County Council as per Section 11 of the Roads Act, 1993.



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

Paul Phelan, Senior Executive Engineer, Transportation outlined the background to the proposal, the report circulated and confirmed that no objections had been received.

This was unanimously agreed on the proposal of **Councillor Gerry O'Connor** and seconded by **Councillor Gillian Toole**.

- 5.1.3 To consider a request for the permanent closure of access for through traffic, at St. Patrick's Park, Dunboyne.

Paul Phelan, Senior Executive Engineer, Transportation outlined the background to the proposed closure of access for through traffic at St. Patrick's Park, Dunboyne, and outlined the requirement for a second Section 38 process to be undertaken with a view to implementing a permanent closure at the east end with turning area. Works are expected to be complete in approximately 6-7 months.

Councillors expressed their support for proceeding with a new Section 38 to implement a permanent closure at the east end of the road but noted their concerns in relation to the timeline for delivering the scheme on site and a discussion took place in relation to possible interim measures which should be considered to alleviate the concerns of the residents in the short term.

It was agreed on the proposal of **Councillor Damien O'Reilly** and seconded by **Councillor Nick Killian** that a meeting take place with residents to agree an interim solution including the provision of adequate visible no through road signage to ensure that all traffic is aware of the restriction and that consideration be given to the imminent opening of Supervalu.

## **5.2 Environment**

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

Caroline Corrigan, Senior Executive Engineer, Environment confirmed that two additional sites had been considered in broad terms and the issues regarding each were outlined. Expressions of interest are to be sought again and the available plots in the existing burial ground to be agreed with the parish. Regular contact is ongoing with estate agents.



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

Councillors suggested that information on the expressions of interest be circulated as widely as possible. A number of other site suggestions were made and it was agreed to assess these. Following a request, it was agreed that a press release be prepared outlining the efforts undertaken to date. It was suggested that consideration be given, as part of the discussion on the capital programme, to improve the facilities at Rooske including a new entrance, parking, etc.

### **5.3 Corporate Services**

- 5.3.1 To discuss proposals to be considered by the Protocol Committee in relation to the allocation of the 2019 Twinning budget.

Reference was made to the new protocol on twinning, recently adopted by the full council, and which sets out some key requirements and considerations. It was suggested that this matter be deferred for consideration later in the year.

Councillors made a number of suggestions including:

- Northern Ireland – it was suggested that a lot of people from Tyrone now reside in the municipal district and that a survey could be undertaken on social media to establish stronger linkages.
  - Cary – reference was made to links already established as Meath's Sister City.
  - Belgium – reference was made to the work already undertaken in relation to the Ledwidge connection with Slane and also the connections relating to World War I and Dunsany.
  - Poland – Reference was made to the increasing Polish population in the area.
- 5.3.2 To note Municipal District Allocations submitted by Councillors on behalf of Ratoath Municipal District.

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



## **Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes**

### **6 Notice of Question**

#### **6.1 Submitted by Councillor Damien O'Reilly**

“Can Meath County Council provide in tabular format how many new graveyard sites / fields have active Part 8 planning processes complete in Meath and the land purchase price for each field at each location?”

**Response:**

*The Part 8 Planning process for graveyard sites only commences when all supporting documentation has been assembled, including land ownership details, conceptual designs and results from surveys in respect of such matters as topography, ecology, archaeology and traffic surveys .*

*While there are a number of site suitability investigations ongoing for graveyard sites including Dunboyne, Trim and Stamullen, no sites have progressed to the Part 8 stage as yet.*

*The most recent Part 8 processes were completed for the Derrockstown Burial Garden near Dunshaughlin and the Rooske Road, Dunboyne site in 2009. However, following more recent assessments by an eminent Hydrologist, the latter site is deemed unsuitable for burials.*

The response was noted. Councillor Damien O'Reilly requested information on the land purchase price for sites on which the Part 8 process was completed.

### **7 Notice of Motion**

#### **7.1 Submitted by Councillor Damien O'Reilly**

“I call on Meath County Council to write to the Minister of Transport, Tourism and Sport to request emergency funding for urgent safety measures to realign the Mullagh Cross (R125/ R156) junction.”

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



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

*In relation to safety concerns at the R125/R156 Mullagh Cross junction in county Meath:*

*Meath County Council has received funding previously from the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport (DTTAS) to progress the design of a realignment of the R156 at this location, which included the junction with the R125.*

*Funding was stopped in 2014 and I can confirm that Meath County Council intend to make a new application to DTTAS for funding to allow this scheme to be revived.*

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Damien O'Reilly** and seconded by **Councillor Nick Killian**.

The motion was noted.

### **7.2 Submitted by Councillor Damien O'Reilly**

"I call on Meath County Council, to write to the Minister of Transport Tourism and Sport, Iarnród Éireann Management and the National Transport Authority requesting they reinstate free parking at Dunboyne Train station due to the recent failures in public transport leading to traffic choas in the south Meath area."

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Damien O'Reilly** and seconded by **Councillor Gillian Toole**.

The motion was adopted.

## **8 Correspondence**

There was no correspondence.

## **9 Any Other Business**

9.1 Councillor Nick Killian raised the following issues:

9.1.1 The issues regarding parking in Ratoath, including on double yellow lines, footpaths, etc.



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

9.1.2 The lack of available housing in the municipal district for social housing.

9.2 Councillor Gerry O'Connor raised the following issues:

9.2.1 The distributor road off the R147 would open up lands for social housing and should be included in the county development plan.

9.2.2 Referred to the recent public meeting on policing in Ratoath where the allocation of Garda numbers in the Ashbourne district relative to population was significantly lower.

9.3 Councillor Gillian Toole raised the following issue:

9.3.1 Requested that representatives from Bus Éireann be invited to the April or May meeting to follow up on issues previously raised.

9.4 Des Foley raised the following issue:

9.4.1 Reminded councillors that the sod turning for the LIHAF road in Ratoath would take place on 25<sup>th</sup> March.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

**Signed:**

---

**Cathaoirleach**