



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

Laytown-Bettystown Municipal District

Ordinary Meeting

09:30 a.m., 12th April, 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 13th March, 2018.

The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 13th March, 2018 were adopted on the proposal of **Councillor Tom Kelly** and seconded by **Councillor Eimear Ferguson**.

2 Matters arising from the Minutes

Councillor Sharon Keogan requested an update on Deepforde/Five Oaks – it was pointed out that an update would be provided under Item 4.1.1.

3 Expressions of Sympathy and Congratulations

Sympathy was extended to:

- The family of the late Max Mason, Mornington following a tragic road accident.



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

Congratulations were extended to:

- Slane N.S. on coming 6th in the National Credit Union finals and runners-up in the 5 a side finals;
- Fairyhouse and Tattersalls on the commissioning and installation of the horse sculptures on the Fairyhouse roundabout;
- The entrants to the LMETB Robert Ballagh Art Competition and Sarah Gordan, Coláiste na hInse, who received first place in the senior section.
- Eureka School and Meath Age Friendly Alliance on winning a national award for their project on promoting social media through the generations.

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, circulated in advance, was noted.

- 4.1.2 To meet with Michael Finnegan - Road Safety Officer to discuss road safety issues in the municipal district.

Michael Finnegan outlined the ongoing programme of works with schools, including in the municipal district. He pointed out that in 2016, 12 road fatalities had occurred in Meath, 8 in 2017 and 2 to date in 2018. Based on issues raised by Councillors previously, he provided updates on issues relating to a number of schools, roads and villages in the municipal district.

Matters raised by Councillors included:

- Commended the road safety programme in schools.



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

- The safety issues associated with the narrow width of the footpath from the community centre in Donacarney, with the possibility of installing barriers, and the need for further traffic calming measures – the narrow road width was highlighted.
- The need for infrastructure to encourage walking and cycling.
- The need for traffic calming on the Beamore Road, Coney Hall, Alverno Heights and Minnistown Road - it was pointed out that the resources available to Gardaí for speeding enforcement had doubled and they would be requested to target the areas mentioned.
- The need for public lighting at Southgate, Colpe and at the junction of the Pilltown Road and the old N1 – the plans for the Pilltown Road were outlined.
- Additional signage needed at the playground on Station Road.
- The need for 30km signs in all estates taken in charge – it was pointed out that these estates, once taken in charge, were inspected and that signage and/or ramps installed as appropriate.
- The need to promote the HGV ban for Duleek until a bypass is provided – reference was made to the absence of a viable alternative route were a HGV ban to be introduced.
- It was agreed that a letter issue to the Board of Management of Donacarney N.S. requesting that they consider widening the exit to incorporate a left filter lane whilst ensuring pedestrian safety.
- The increased traffic volumes in the municipal district, which were likely to increase further.
- Issues with parking/visibility at the junction at the graveyard, Duleek and the possibility of erecting bollards to prevent parking.



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

- Safety measures needed on the Rathmullen Road, to the rear of the Riverbank estate, where pedestrians access the river boardwalk but where there is no footpath.
- Signage needed to warn of horses at Oldbridge/Tubberfin.
- Road markings needed on the R132 to R150, in Lobinstown/Grangegeeth and from Donore to Rosnaree.
- Footpath needed on the Mosney Road.
- Double yellow lines needed at the GP surgery, Brookside.
- Consultation with the Road Safety Officer regarding planning applications – it was confirmed that consultation does take place with regard to school developments.
- Safety issues at roundabouts – it was pointed out that the RSA planned a promotional programme for the proper use of roundabouts.
- The dangers posed by trees overhanging roadways – it was pointed out that, where trees are considered to be dangerous or overhanging, the landowner is notified and the local authority will cut them down, if necessary, and charge the landowner.
- The legal position with regard to parking on footpaths – it was pointed out that parking was illegal on double yellow lines and that flower pots, etc. could be placed on footpaths to prevent parking.
- The need to ensure that footpaths and public lighting are provided prior to estates being developed and occupied – it was agreed to refer this to Planning for consideration.
- The need for a yellow box at the Mosney junction on the R132.



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

- It was agreed that a letter would issue to the NTA referring to the 2014 Arrup study on walking and cycling and request that funding be allocated to implement the recommended schemes.
- The need to provide a footpath at Rathmullen Hill for the local community and for those participating in the Boyne 10K run.

The Cathaoirleach and Councillors thanked Michael for attending and for the information provided.

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.

David Keyes, Senior Executive Engineer, Environment outlined the process currently underway, which should see an architect appointed by the end of May, with the programme and timeframe for completion of the scheme to be presented at the June municipal district meeting. It was pointed out that feedback received to date and submissions made would be taken into account during the scheme design, within the limitations.

The Cathaoirleach and Councillors welcomed the progress to date.

4.3 Community

- 4.3.1 To receive a presentation on the current LEADER programme & updates to the scheme.

Michael Ludlow, CEO and Colin Ludlow, Senior Project Officer, Meath Partnership delivered a presentation on the LEADER 2020 programme, including an overview of the programme, the thematic framework 2014-2020, eligible project areas, ineligible activities, available grant rates, benefits of changes to programme delivery, progress 2017 – 2018 including progression of applications in 2018 and applications approved 2017 – 2018.

Matters raised by Councillors included:



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

Welcomed local investment made under the LEADER programme.

- The perception by many community and voluntary groups that the process is complex and onerous, the need to remove as much red tape as possible and to increase awareness amongst the community that the process has been simplified – it was suggested that a workshop could be arranged locally to provide information to the community. It was also suggested that Meath Partnership could consider using the civic offices as a venue to meet people locally as additional staff were being recruited.
- The need to increase the overall fund available – it was pointed out that Meath consistently had more money awarded and that it was likely that additional funding would be allocated as time progresses.
- The amount paid out versus that applied for – it was confirmed that any project submitted for payment received that payment but that often the rules of the programme made certain projects ineligible and that capital projects took time to complete and receive payment.
- The need to ensure that projects are sustainable.
- The funding available for rural broadband – it was pointed out that the programme could not fund anything that the state intended to do but, in light of increasing paperless transactions by state bodies, there was a need for hardware, software and connectivity.
- The opportunities to avail of different sources of funding – it was confirmed that this would suit larger projects.

The Cathaoirleach and Councillors thanked Michael and Colin for attending and providing information on the programme.

4.4 Corporate Services



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

- 4.4.1 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 Councillors Sharon Keogan and Stephen McKee

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

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

The 3 Year Capital Programme has been drafted by the Transportation Department and, due to competing priorities; this scheme has not been included in the current programme.

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Stephen McKee** and seconded by **Councillor Sharon Keogan**.

A short discussion followed on the reasons why the project would not be included in the local authority's capital programme, i.e. that it had been omitted from the national capital programme, and that any works undertaken now may have to be redone in the future as standards change. It was agreed that a meeting would be sought with the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport to request that money be allocated in the next national capital programme.

The motion was adopted.



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

6.2 Submitted by Councillor Sharon Tolan

“To call on Meath County Council to progress the tender process for the R150 Bettystown Spine Road, simultaneously with the Compulsory Purchase Order Scheme, in order to progress the delivery of this crucial road as quickly as possible.”

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

The programme for the R150 Laytown to Bettystown Spine Road has been prepared to allow for the delivery of the scheme and the detailed design is currently running in parallel with the CPO statutory process. The statutory process provides for submissions to the scheme to be lodged with An Bord Pleanála during the period 4th April to 25th May and this will indicate whether there is a requirement for an Oral Hearing. Construction document preparation will precede the tender & award. It is noted that the scheme is included in the capital plan but will still be subject to confirmation of the CPO and formal approval from Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport to proceed.

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

The motion was adopted.

6.3 Submitted by Councillor Stephen McKee

“That Meath County Council, working with Donacarney National Schools, act on the road safety and traffic management issues on the school road as a matter of urgency.”

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

Meath County Council are currently preparing plans for the provision of a footpath and cycleway from Donacarney National Schools, to

Whitefield Manor, which will provide safe pedestrian facilities from Bettystown village to the schools. There are a number of landowners affected by this proposal, and Meath County Council is currently in discussion with these people.



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Stephen McKee** and seconded by **Councillor Paddy Meade**.

The motion was adopted.

7 Strategic Policy Committee Reports – For Information Purposes

7.1 To note the report from the Environment SPC meeting of 29th March, 2018.

The report was noted.

8 Other Matters Arising

There were no other matters arising.

9 Correspondence

9.1 Correspondence received from Bettystown Retailers Alliance in response to the Notice of Item 9.1 from February meeting re matters raised in correspondence.

The correspondence was noted.

9.2 Correspondence received from OPW in response to the Notice of Item 6.3 – Notice of Motion as adopted at March meeting re St Michael's Grange in Duleek.

The correspondence was noted.

10 Any Other Business

10.1 Councillor Sharon Keogan raised the following issues:

10.1.1 Update on the entrance at Ardrea/Meadowview – it was confirmed that talks were ongoing with Louth County Council with regard to providing a safe crossing for students.



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

10.1.2 The possibility of tidying up the grass areas and verges at the new houses towards Tesco and the litter in the ditches from Duleek to Kilmoon – it was pointed out that TII provided funding for litter picking on national primary and secondary roads, that the gateway crew had assisted last year and that tidy towns committees were could assist.

10.1.3 The need to stabilise the pole at the entrance to Northlands.

10.2 Councillor Tom Kelly raised the following issue:

10.2.1 The legislation that applies to erecting referendum posters and responsibility for their removal – it was agreed to refer this to the Environment Section.

10.3 Councillor Wayne Harding raised the following issues:

10.3.1 Update on the sign at Slane bridge – it was confirmed that this would be dealt with as part of the bridge refurbishment works.

10.3.2 The signs in Slane not working – it was pointed out that these had be bi-lingual and may need to be replaced, for which quotes would be sought.

10.4 Councillor Sharon Tolan raised the following issues:

10.4.1 The safety issues at the junction at Reddans.

10.4.2 The damage caused to the cobble lock paths at Funtasia and to caravan park by trucks parking and the failure by the ESB to reinstate the paths properly – it was confirmed that a list was being compiled.

10.5 Councillor Paddy Meade raised the following issue:

10.5.1 The need to replace the sign at Creevagh Cross;

10.5.2 The possibility of using contractors for roadworks – the different approaches being adopted were outlined.



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed:

Cathaoirleach