



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

Ashbourne Municipal District

Ordinary Meeting

10:00 a.m., 8th April 2019, Ashbourne Civic Offices

An Cathaoirleach, **Councillor Conor Tormey**, presided.

Councillors Present: Joe Bonner, Suzanne Jamal, Claire O’Driscoll, Darren O’Rourke, Alan Tobin.

Officials in Attendance:

Head of Finance: Fiona Lawless

Meetings Administrator: Claire King

Executive Engineer: Mel Cronin

Staff Officer: Triona Keating

1 Confirmation of Minutes

1.1 Confirmation of minutes of Ordinary Meeting held on 11th March, 2019.

The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 11th March 2019 were confirmed on the proposal of **Councillor Alan Tobin** and seconded by **Councillor Suzanne Jamal**.

2 Matters arising from the Minutes

There were no matters arising.

3 Expressions of Sympathy and Congratulations

Sympathy was extended to:

- The family of the late Ann (Ena) Tobin, Navan, sister of Meath footballer, Seán.

Congratulations were extended to:



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- Councillors and all those involved in organising the Ashbourne St. Patrick's Day Festival;
- Leona Maguire, who trained in Blackbush Golf Club, and who had a recent Masters win in the US.

4 Statutory Business

4.1 Transportation

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

The report had been circulated in advance and it was also confirmed that additional funding had been secured for a footpath, pedestrian crossing, public lighting and drainage works in Bellewstown, from the estate to the school, with works due to commence the week after Easter.

- 4.1.2 To discuss Primatestown/Kilmoon Cross Junctions

An update on the tender procedure had been circulated in advance.

4.2 Community

- 4.2.1 To receive an update on the Ashbourne Linear Park.

An update had been circulated in advance and a further progress update was provided by Emmanuel Mwadiwa, Executive Engineer, Community Department.

Matters raised by councillors included:

- The timeframe for opening the facility - the facility should be ready to open in approximately 3 months.
- Requested that an update be published in Ashbourne News following the May meeting, when a better timeline will be available.



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- The need to consider and address potential issues of people congregating under the bridge – further information was requested.
- The possible provision of motion sensor lighting – this has been submitted to the designer and should not be an issue.
- The possible provision of CCTV – whilst ducting is being installed, there are currently no plans to install cameras, similar to other playgrounds in the county.

Reference was also made to the large-scale sports infrastructure funding available, under which the Council had made two applications for Council owned lands. It was pointed out that efforts were being made to facilitate and support groups in coming together to apply for funding for projects on non-Council owned lands, with a panel of consultants in place to assist groups in developing feasibility studies.

Matters raised by councillors included:

- The pressure on clubs due to having no space for expansion and the lack of school sporting/playing facilities.
- The match funding required under this scheme – 30% match funding is required and can be secured from a number of sources, including sporting parent organisations, fund raising, etc.
- The possibility of applying for funding under the Outdoor Recreation Scheme for a community park – it was agreed to check the eligibility under this scheme, which does not cover land acquisition.
- The need to discuss with the Planning Department the broader issue of including suitable lands for green space, recreation, sporting facilities, etc. in the County Development Plan review – it was agreed to refer this to the Planning Department in the context of the development plan review process, suitable approach, etc.



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4.3 Corporate Services

- 4.3.1 To note Municipal District Allocations submitted by Councillors on behalf of Ashbourne Municipal District.

The list of allocations, circulated in advance, was noted. Councillors were reminded of the deadline for the receipt of completed applications.

Councillor Alan Tobin referred to a visit by Transition Year students from Ashbourne Community College to Corcubion at Easter and requested that funding be allocated to cover the bus transportation costs. It was agreed that this could be funded from the Twinning budget and a letter would issue to the school confirming same.

Councillor Claire O'Driscoll referred to the allocation made at the March meeting under the Arts, Festivals, Festive Decoration & MD Renewal budget for the 'Hooley in the Hollow' Festival, Kentstown. She confirmed that it was intended that this would be a bi-annual festival and therefore the allocation is not required this year but would be requested in 2020.

Councillors were requested to encourage local groups to register with the PPN and avail of funding under the Community Grants Scheme.

Reference was made to the volunteer groups who do significant work in maintaining graveyards and it was agreed to refer this to the Environment Department to see what supports are available and also to get a list of sites for which the Council or the OPW is responsible.

5 Notice of Question

There were no Notices of Question.

6 Notice of Motion

6.1 Submitted by Councillor Alan Tobin



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“I am calling on Meath County Council’s Community Department to bring to Part 8 an acre of land previously earmarked for a scout den but is on an area now deemed to be a flood plain. I would like the Council to consult with the public and put forward designs for a playground in this space complete with secure parking. Bringing this project to Part 8 will enable us to utilise funding streams, when they become available, with immediate effect.”

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

As set out in the capital programme, there is substantial investment being made in the Ashbourne Linear Park. Work has commenced on the delivery of the playground area in Zone 4 with completion expected in early summer. There are no further plans to develop other playgrounds in Ashbourne.

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Alan Tobin** and seconded by **Councillor Suzanne Jamal**.

A short discussion followed, with reference made to the limitations that exist with regard to funding further playground facilities and the alternative funding sources that could be used to provide such facilities. Reference was again made to the need to plan for such facilities, with the role of developers highlighted in providing these. It was suggested that this should be discussed further at full council level.

The motion was adopted.

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

- 7.1 To note the report from the Environment SPC meeting of 22nd March, 2019.

The report was noted.

- 7.2 To note the report from the Housing, Community & Cultural Development SPC meeting of 28th March, 2019.

The report was noted.



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8 Correspondence

- 8.1 Correspondence received from Prosper Meath, Ashbourne.

The correspondence was noted. It was pointed out that a meeting had taken place with representatives from Prosper Meath and their request will be facilitated.

- 8.2 Correspondence received from Retailers of Garden City SC Group.

The correspondence was noted. It was confirmed that the issue of public lighting was being looked at and that all other possible works will be undertaken.

9 Any Other Business

- 9.1 Councillor Conor Tormey raised the following issue:

9.1.1 Requested that a letter issue to the Department of Education & Skills in support of Ministers in making a case regarding school places.

- 9.2 Councillor Darren O'Rourke raised the following issues:

9.2.1 Requested an update on the speed survey undertaken in The Grange, Stamullen.

9.2.2 The possibility of moving the flashing speed signage from Skryne N.S. to an alternative location following the completion of works – it was pointed out that the pedestrian lights must first be activated.

- 9.3 Councillor Joe Bonner raised the following issue:

9.3.1 Requested that a letter of congratulations issue to the new respite centre in Ashbourne.



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This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed:

Cathaoirleach