



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

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

### ***Ordinary Meeting***

***9:30a.m., 10<sup>th</sup> April 2019, Dunshaughlin Civic Offices***

An Cathaoirleach, **Councillor Maria Murphy**, presided.

**Councillors Present:** Brian Fitzgerald, Nick Killian, Gerry O'Connor, Damien O'Reilly, Gillian Toole, Maria Uí Ruairc.

**Officials in Attendance:**

**Director of Service:** Des Foley

**Meetings Administrator:** Claire King

**Executive Engineer:** Philip Traynor

**Staff Officer:** Triona Keating

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

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

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

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

Councillor Brian Fitzgerald referred to the increased traffic volumes and speeding through St. Patrick's Park, Dunboyne following the recent opening of Supervalu and the need for immediate action – it was confirmed that, following a meeting with residents, a temporary solution had been agreed.

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

Congratulations were extended to:



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- Gordon Elliot and the yard staff following Tiger Roll's win in the Aintree Grand National;
- Evan Scully, Navan who recently completed the marathon in Milan and who already holds the European record for a person with CF competing in a marathon;
- Karl O'Dwyer, Dunboyne who recently became the fastest Irish skier ever recorded in France;
- All groups involved in the An Taisce National Spring Clean.

#### **4 To receive a presentation from Dunshaughlin Youths F.C.**

Oliver McKenna, Dunshaughlin F.C. and Mick Somerville, Dunshaughlin A.C. attended the meeting and a presentation was delivered, which included the current status of the clubs and plans, progress to date, acknowledgements for assistance received, next steps and support being sought.

Matters raised by councillors included:

- Acknowledged the growth in numbers participating, particularly younger age groups, and the value of the clubs to the community.
- The need for funding to support the continued growth of the clubs.
- The need to consider the longer term plans and expansion of the clubs when reviewing the County Development Plan.
- Acknowledged the role of Oliver Brooks and the late John O'Mara for their role in facilitating the provision of these facilities.
- Welcomed the cooperative approach being taken by the clubs.
- Acknowledged the role of volunteers in progressing these activities and meeting the challenges to keep clubs going.



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The Cathaoirleach and councillors thanked the groups for their presentation, committed any possible support and wished them well with their plans.

### **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:

- Complaints received from residents in Rackinstown and other areas regarding traffic accessing Tayto Park, the planned events to take place, including the official opening and festival in June, and the need to coordinate with Ashbourne Municipal District. It was suggested that traffic counts be undertaken to determine the levels and sources of traffic to inform any additional measures – it was pointed out that correspondence from Google had previously been circulated and that the Road Safety Officer had been in contact with Tayto Park, with a traffic management plan in place and agreement reached regarding signage. It was agreed to circulate an update on these measures.
- Commended the level and quality of work undertaken by the engineer, overseers and crews in the municipal district, which was appreciated by residents. Particular reference was made to the clean up undertaken following the St. Patrick's Day events.
- The possibility of providing a footpath at the corner of the Avoca junction to facilitate safe access by residents following works undertaken.
- Complimented the works undertaken on the footpath at the church in Dunshaughlin and suggested that a bin be provided at this location.

5.1.2 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 &



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Development Regulations 2001-2018 on the proposed Footpath and Bus Stop Scheme on the R125 from Harlockstown Lane to the Nine Milestone roundabout.

Sandra McCormack, Graduate Planner outlined the report circulated and this was unanimously agreed on the proposal of **Councillor Nick Killian** and seconded by **Councillor Gillian Toole**.

In response to a query regarding the cost and funding of the project, it was pointed out that the cost would not be known until the tenders were received and that, whilst previous applications to the NTA for funding had not been successful, another application would be made.

### **5.2 Environment**

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

Larry Whelan, Senior Executive Officer, Environment Section outlined the update previously circulated and referred to two additional potential sites that would be assessed for suitability at the earliest opportunity.

Matters raised by councillors included:

- Requested that the trial hole assessment of the field to the rear of the existing graveyard be undertaken again, possibly at different locations – this was agreed.
- The need to determine the number of plots remaining and agree a contingency plan for when these are no longer available.
- Requested that councillors be informed when the assessments are taking place.
- The possibility of identifying an engineering solution to deal with drainage issues in the field to the rear of the existing graveyard – it was pointed out that this had been the subject of detailed assessment previously and related information had been circulated.



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### **5.3 Corporate Services**

- 5.3.1 To note Municipal District Allocations submitted by Councillors on behalf of Ratoath Municipal District.

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

## **6 Notice of Question**

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

“Can Meath County Council provide a costing for the provision of a gravel based pathway/footpath from Kilmessan village to Kilmessan Hurling Pitch?”

**Response:**

*It is approximately 1km from where the footpath ends in Kilmessan Village to the Kilmessan Hurling Club entrance. If a footpath at this location was to be provided for by Meath County Council, a ‘gravel based pathway/track’ would not be an option due to health& safety reasons. An estimate to provide a proper footpath, i.e. kerbs, surfacing, drainage, public lighting, possible land purchase, etc. would be circa €250,000.*

The response was noted.

## **7 Notice of Motion**

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

“I call on Meath County Council to extend the speed limit on the L2221 (Rooske Road, Dunboyne) of 50km to Rooske Graveyard, Dunboyne to increase safety levels for people visiting the graveyard and parking along the L2221 at the graveyard.”

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



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*Meath County Council adopted a new Special Speed Limit Bye-Law for County Meath at its meeting in December 2018. This new Bye-Law came into effect on 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2019. We can confirm that there is no proposed change to the speed limit on the L-2221 at this location as part of the new Bye-Law.*

*This location has been included on a schedule for review as part of the next Countywide Special Speed Limit review. It should be noted that, from an initial assessment, a 900m long extension to the existing 50km/h speed limit at this location would not appear to be in accordance with the current Guidelines for Setting and Managing Speed Limits in Ireland, which was issued by the Department of Transport, Tourism & Sport in 2015.*

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Damien O'Reilly** and seconded by **Councillor Gerry O'Connor**.

The motion was adopted.

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

“That Meath County Council moves the 60km speed sign at Kiltale to the Batterstown side of Kiltale GAA to increase safety for people coming and going from the GAA complex.”

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

*Transportation can confirm that the new Special Speed Limit Bye-Law for County Meath, which was adopted by the members of the full council at their meeting in December 2018 and which comes into effect on 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2019, includes an extension to the 60km/h speed limit at Kiltale and the entrance to Kiltale GAA is within the new 60km/h zone.*

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Damien O'Reilly** and seconded by **Councillor Gerry O'Connor**.

The motion was noted.

## **8 Strategic Policy Committee & Corporate Policy Group Reports – For Information Only**



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- 8.1 To note the report from the Environment SPC meeting of 22<sup>nd</sup> March, 2019.

The report was noted.

- 8.2 To note the report from the Housing, Community & Cultural Development SPC meeting of 28<sup>th</sup> March, 2019.

The report was noted.

### **9 Correspondence**

- 9.1 Correspondence received from the Department of Transport, Tourism & Sport in response to the Notice of Item 7.2 – Notice of Motion as adopted at the March meeting.

The correspondence was noted.

### **10 Any Other Business**

- 10.1 To discuss 2019 Local and EU Election Posters.

A discussion took place on recent suggestions around the adoption of a voluntary policy to refrain from erecting election posters in town and village centres. Reference was made to the value of posters in increasing awareness of elections taking place, increasing voter turnout and raising the profile of candidates, particularly new candidates. Legislation is also in place, which determines the timeframe in which posters can be erected and must be removed, with fines applicable where this is not adhered to. Points raised included the timeliness of the discussion so close to the election, the voluntary nature of any such policy and its enforcement if adopted. It was suggested that this needed to be dealt with and agreed at national level and in advance of future elections.

- 10.2 Councillor Maria Murphy raised the following issues:

- 10.2.1 Correspondence received regarding illegal dumping at Harlockstown – it was confirmed that a meeting had taken place with residents, that the dumping was not confined to one location but spread along a long road with large drains, and therefore the use of CCTV was not suitable. The area would be reviewed for



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additional signage and supports would be provided to local residents/groups to facilitate a clean up.

10.2.2 The need for enforcement by Gardaí of traffic management plans in areas such as Summerhill and Rooske roads, Dunboyne and Skryne and Fairyhouse roads, Ratoath.

10.3 Councillor Gerry O'Connor raised the following issue:

10.3.1 The design being prepared for the Drumree Road, Dunshaughlin to divert HGV traffic.

10.4 Councillor Gillian Toole raised the following issue:

10.4.1 The meeting requests made to the Department of Transport, Tourism & Sport, Bus Éireann and the NTA – an update was provided in respect of each request.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

**Signed:**

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**Cathaoirleach**