



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

Laytown-Bettystown Municipal District

Ordinary Meeting

09:45 a.m., 14th June, 2018, Duleek Civic Offices

An Cathaoirleach, **Councillor Wayne Harding**, presided.

Councillors Present: Eimear Ferguson, Tom Kelly, Sharon Keogan, Paddy Meade, 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 17th May, 2018.

The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 17th May, 2018 were adopted on the proposal of **Councillor Paddy Meade** and seconded by **Councillor Tom Kelly**.

2 Matters arising from the Minutes

Councillor Tom Kelly enquired as to when the agreement regarding representation on the Indaver committee would commence – Councillor Sharon Tolan confirmed that she had emailed the Community Department confirming that she would vacate the position, as per the agreement, and that Councillor Sharon Keogan would take up the position from the next meeting.

3 Expressions of Sympathy and Congratulations

Sympathy was extended to:



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- Councillor Wayne Harding on the death of his brother, Gary;
- Councillor Sharon Tolan, on the death of her father, John Donohoe;
- The family of the late Councillor Joe Reilly.

Congratulations were extended to:

- Councillor Wayne Harding on being elected as Cathaoirleach;
- Councillor Tom Kelly on being elected as Cathaoirleach of Meath County Council;
- Councillor Frank Godfrey, Duleek/Donore on being elected as Mayor of Drogheda;
- Councillor Paddy Meade on his term as Cathaoirleach;
- The Boundary Committee on their report, which resulted in Millrace and other rural townlands being returned to Laytown-Bettystown Municipal District;
- Councillor Sharon Keogan and Duleek Heritage Group on being awarded funding for an audio tourist trail;
- Duleek Heritage Group on their film on the River Nanny;
- Bellewstown Heritage Group on the Bealtaine Festival held last month.

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.

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- 4.1.2 To receive an update on the N52 Grange to Clontail national secondary road realignment scheme.

Paul McNulty, Senior Executive Engineer, Transportation and Ursula O’Higgins, Atkins attended the meeting and outlined the nature of the proposed scheme, progress to date and the next steps. Subject to TII approval and funding, it is hoped to implement the formal planning process in 2019.

Matters raised by Councillors included:

- The timeframe for works to commence on the next segment of road – it was pointed out that this would be done first and, as the N52 is a strategic route, works are likely to continue to Kells.
- The provision of an overtaking lane – it was confirmed that this would form part of the detailed design with desirable minimums of at least 50% overtaking capacity.
- The provision of cycleways – it was pointed out that there were regulations for the provision of cycle facilities and this would form part of the detailed design and it is hoped to tie in with the north/south greenway.

4.2 Environment

- 4.2.1 To receive an update/report re Beach Management Plan and the Architectural Framework Competition.

Larry Whelan, Senior Executive Officer, Environment, and Bernadine Carry, Environmental Awareness Officer delivered a presentation on submissions received for the Natura Impact Statement (NIS); recommendations including parking, traffic management, access, initiatives, enforcement, litter and animal management, signage, water quality, outcome of discussions with Drogheda Port, progress to date, key issues, the proposal and process to amend the Foreshore Byelaws and next steps. It was also confirmed that an update on the architectural framework competition would be provided at the July meeting.

Matters raised by Councillors included:



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- The need to expedite the traffic and parking survey – it was agreed to raise this with the Transportation Department.
- The provision of additional litter bins, e.g. at the bathing area/lifeguard station, near the bridge at Laytown and at the picnic tables – it was agreed to check the locations of existing bins but it was pointed out that issues remain with the disposal of domestic waste.
- Support increased fines and the need to ensure that wardens can issue fines – it was confirmed that wardens can be Authorised Officers to issue fines.
- The need to ensure that the byelaws are enforceable – whilst it was conceded that resources remain a challenge, the main changes relate to horses and dogs.
- The capacity for enforcement relating to dogs in the SPA during the winter – it was pointed out that, whilst user friendly signage with contact numbers would be erected, the traffic wardens can also visit the area.
- The plans to surface the parking area at Mornington – it was confirmed that driving on the dunes would be prohibited with plans for a small number of structured parking spaces, with the remaining area cordoned off.
- Welcomed the provision of temporary toilet facilities at Bettystown and the need for similar facilities at Laytown – it was agreed to look at this.
- The need for a Beach Manager to be appointed.
- The need to consult with Irish Rail to provide adequate commuter parking at Laytown.
- The need for beach wardens to be in place from the beginning of May until the end of September.



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- The possibility of acquiring additional land for parking when undertaking the CPO for the spine road – it was agreed to check this with Transportation.
- The need to strive for Blue Flag status – it was pointed out that all parking would have to be removed before the beach would be considered for Blue Flag status.
- The need for a park & ride facility at Laytown.
- The possibility of contaminated sand being spread further out to sea following dredging works.
- The need to erect a notice at the footbridge at Laytown warning of currents/tides – it was agreed to look at this.
- The possibility of extending the coastal protection works to Mornington.

The Cathaoirleach and Councillors thanked Bernadine and Larry for the presentation, commended them on the progress to date and acknowledged the potential of this project for the wider area.

4.3 Corporate Services

- 4.3.1 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

5.1 Submitted by Councillor Wayne Harding

“Can I ask for an up to date assessment of The Philip Clarke bridge on the Meath/ Louth border at Rossin?”



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Response:

TII approval has been received to appoint a contractor to carry out the necessary repairs. Works are expected to commence in the coming weeks.

The response was noted. Councillor Wayne Harding requested a specific timeframe for works and it was agreed to refer this to Transportation.

6 Notice of Motion

6.1 Submitted by Councillor Wayne Harding

“Can I call on this Municipal District to open up contact with the OPW to address what is the deteriorating state of the wall at Monknewtown graveyard.”

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

The Conservation Officer will make contact with the OPW.

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Wayne Harding** and seconded by **Councillor Stephen McKee**.

A short discussion followed, where the extent of the damage to the wall was outlined.

The motion was adopted.

7 Strategic Policy Committee Reports – For Information Purposes

7.1 To note the report from the Planning, Economic Development and Enterprise SPC meeting of 29th May, 2018.

The report was noted.

8 Other Matters Arising



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There were no other matters arising.

9 Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

10 Any Other Business

10.1 Councillor Sharon Keogan raised the following issues:

10.1.1 The possibility of installing adult disabled friendly equipment and improving wheelchair access in Duleek playground – it was agreed to check this.

10.1.2 The recent outbreak of botulism and the role of the different agencies in investigating and containing it. Councillor Paddy Meade pointed out that the Department of Agriculture was on site to investigate the issue.

10.1.3 The role of the Council in discouraging swimming in quarries – it was pointed out that quarries are generally in private ownership and the role of the Council is limited to advising them of the issues.

10.2 Councillor Stephen McKee raised the following issues:

10.2.1 Requested that a letter issue to the Reception and Integration Agency on behalf of Municipal District Councillors requesting assurance that the basic needs of families being accommodated in Mosney are being adequately met.

10.2.2 The roll-out of speed ramps – it was pointed out that a speed assessment determines the measures required, with Garda enforcement being the first option and speed ramps the last resort.

10.2.3 The need for road resurfacing in older estates, e.g. Ardlea – it was confirmed that a survey of the road network would be carried out towards the end of the year and this would determine the next roadworks programme.

10.2.4 The need to audit junctions to ensure that signage and bollards are not obstructed by overgrown grass – it was confirmed that there was a verge



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cutting programme ongoing with junctions being prioritised.

10.2.5 The need for road markings at the Colpe roundabout in advance of the Fleadh.

10.3 Councillor Eimear Ferguson raised the following issues:

10.3.1 The need to check the disabled parking space on Main Street, Duleek to ensure adequate space for the removal of wheelchairs – it was agreed to check this although the bays were standard size.

10.3.2 Parking at bus stops – it was agreed to refer this to the Gardaí.

10.3.3 Parking at Brookside/GP surgery preventing large vehicle access – it was agreed to look at installing bollards and to talk to the GP.

10.3.4 The possibility of installing lights along the pathway in the Memorial Park, Laytown – it was agreed to refer this to Corporate Services.

10.4 Councillor Paddy Meade raised the following issues:

10.4.1 Requested that the verges along the N2, e.g. at Glasallon junction, be cut to ensure adequate visibility – it was agreed to check this.

10.4.2 Overgrown grass on the L1607 at the junction near Dowth.

10.5 Councillor Sharon Tolan raised the following issues:

10.5.1 Grass cutting needed at Shepherd's Lodge, Narrowways.

10.5.2 The poor condition of the Gormanston/City North junction – it was pointed out that the required works were being discussed with Ashbourne Municipal District.

10.5.3 The commencement of road markings, e.g. Balbriggan Lane – it was confirmed that this would commence in approximately three weeks.

10.5.4 Parking on footpaths entering Bettystown affecting pedestrian movements and



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the possibility of installing bollards or flower pots – it was agreed to check this but the impact of flower pots on footpath access was highlighted.

10.6 Councillor Tom Kelly raised the following issues:

- 10.6.1 The need for remedial works to deal with parking issues at Relish Café.
- 10.6.2 Enforcement of reduced speed limits in areas such as Alverno Court and Marian Villas.
- 10.6.3 Complaints received regarding the height of ramps on Bettystown Road.
- 10.6.4 The need for signage and traffic calming measures on the Minnistown Road.
- 10.6.5 The possibility of upgrading Beach Grove estate, if funding is made available.
- 10.6.6 The need to ensure roads are open and grass verges cut for the Bellewstown Races – it was confirmed that this would be prioritised.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed:

Cathaoirleach