



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

Ratoath Municipal District

Ordinary Meeting

9:30a.m., 11th September, 2018, Dunshaughlin Civic Offices

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

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

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 11th July, 2018.

The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 11th July, 2018 were adopted on the proposal of **Councillor Nick Killian** and seconded by **Councillor Gillian Toole**.

2 Matters arising from the Minutes

Councillor Nick Killian thanked Pat Shore for arranging the removal of the ESB box in Ratoath but referred to other works requiring completion including plasterwork on the walls, railings and grass areas. The conciliation process, and outcome, was outlined and it was confirmed that contact was ongoing with the contractors with the aim of having the snagging list finalised. The final account, which is yet to be determined, may be subject to further conciliation. It was agreed to provide a further update when available.

Councillor Gillian Toole referred to ongoing traffic issues on minor roads including the L5016/L5017 resulting from traffic being directed to Tayto Park by Google Maps. It was confirmed that a number of meetings had taken place with the Transportation Department,



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including the Road Safety Officer, and Tayto Park and that temporary signage on approach roads would be erected for the Halloween period and would then be reviewed. Google Maps had indicated that they would continue to direct traffic to the shortest route using public roads.

3 Expressions of Sympathy and Congratulations

Congratulations were extended to:

- Niamh O’Sullivan, Niamh Gallogly and Fiona O’Neill, Meath Ladies;
- Luke Mitchell and Matthew Costelloe, Meath Minors;
- Meath Ladies LGFA on reaching the All Ireland Intermediate Final this weekend;
- Rehabcare, Ratoath on their sold out performance on 18th July;
- All local winners at the Drogheda Fleadh including Brendan Roe, tin whistle and Councillor Seán Smith, Ashbourne Municipal District.

4 Statutory Business

4.1 Environment

- 4.1.1 To receive an update on the provision of a burial ground in Dunboyne.

Caroline Corrigan, Senior Executive Engineer, Environment delivered a presentation on the history of the site, the existing conditions and relevant issues, best practice, environmental and practical implications of the options proposed, water protection and environmental obligations, possible design solutions and the current situation.

The Cathaoirleach and Councillors acknowledged the comprehensive report provided and acknowledged some of the issues alluded to.

Matters raised by Councillors included:

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- The cost of undertaking some of the referenced solutions, e.g. drainage and raising ground levels against acquiring a new site – it was pointed out that, whilst the survey costs for Salestown cannot be recouped, the design is transferable to an alternative site. The provision of a burial garden would reduce the overall cost in a new burial ground. Consideration must also be given to the cost of importing soil and its quality and the cost of providing facilities, with 0.8 acres of the 2.5 acres existing land at Rooske earmarked for a car park.
- Acknowledged that an alternative site was required in the long-term but that the extension of the current site would meet the interim needs, e.g. by extending the area for plots to accommodate burials for 2-3 years – the issues with the site were again outlined. It was also agreed to talk to the Parish Priest to determine the number of plots available within the existing boundary and map these in addition to spaces available at the front of the cemetery.

It was agreed on the proposal of **Councillor Damien O'Reilly** and seconded by **Councillor Nick Killian** that the fence in Rooske cemetery should be moved back into the adjacent field, thereby facilitating the provision of two additional rows of plots.

The Executive agreed to consider the queries raised and bring further information to the October meeting.

It was agreed on the proposal of **Councillor Gillian Toole** and seconded by **Councillor Maria O'Kane** to extend the meeting by thirty minutes.

4.2 Transportation

- 4.2.1 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:

- The absence of signage indicating the twinning with Cary and the need to update the website also.



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- The use of excessive chipping when roads are resurfaced, causing drains to block.
- The need to line car spaces in Dunshaughlin.
- The availability of a contractor to cut trees and the need to remove dangerous trees in College Park – it was pointed out that, whilst there was no dedicated fund, the hedge cutting season commenced in September. It was also pointed out that a survey undertaken had recommended the removal of trees in College Park but that works had been stopped by residents and a second opinion was being sought.
- The need for a speed survey on the Drumree Road.
- The possibility of identifying the fire hydrant in Lagore with a sign.
- The need to review the directional signage and road markings at the Fairyhouse roundabout.
- The possibility of receiving updates on road opening licences issued/timing of works – the current system, which provides a 3 month window for works, was outlined and it was agreed to inform Councillors of the larger applications received although no definitive dates of works could be provided.
- The possibility of installing railings at the bridge on the riverwalk at the Meadow Bank Hill end.
- The possibility of widening the entrance to the car park in front of the civic offices. The point was also made that the Department of Education & Skills had not planned for car parking and/or traffic management.
- The rules and regulations that apply to health and safety/traffic management by hedgecutting contractors.
- The road marking programme- it was confirmed that works would start this week at Mullagh Cross.



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- Dips in the tarmac starting to show from the shopping centre to Fox Lodge following works undertaken.
- The number of cones and plastic barriers in the river at Newtown, Moygaddy and the Part 8 to extend the road to the roundabout – it was confirmed that discussions were ongoing with the relevant landowner.
- The possibility of budgeting for additional big belly bins in 2019.

It was confirmed that an update on the design for the junction at Avoca would be provided at the October meeting.

The Cathaoirleach and Councillors thanked Philip and his team for all the works undertaken throughout the municipal district.

- 4.2.2 To discuss road and public transport issues to inform communication with various bodies.

The list of issues, submitted by Councillors for the meeting with the NTA taking place on 26th September, was outlined. Nicholas Whyatt, Senior Engineer, Transportation was in attendance and provided responses to issues raised below as appropriate.

Other issues raised by Councillors included:

- The status of the R147 and Avoca junction – it was confirmed that the TII response to the M3 Transport Study had been received with a response to be issued.
- The reintroduction of parking charges at Dunboyne station and the lack of supervision at M3 Parkway. Reference was also made to increased traffic in Dunboyne resulting from increased traffic accessing M3 Parkway.
- The previous proposed to locate a Dublin Bus hub at M3 Parkway, which was now being proposed for Blanchardstown.

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- 4.2.3 To receive a presentation of a Proposed Footpath and Bus Stop Scheme on the R125 from Harlockstown Lane to the Nine Milestone roundabout, prior to going on public display as a Part 8 application.

Pat Shore, Executive Engineer, Transportation outlined the proposals and drawings, including two bus stops and two signalised pedestrian crossings. The Part 8 would involve the detailed design, determining the amount of land required, and it was hoped to put the plans on public display before the October meeting and after having been presented to Ashbourne Municipal District, the dates for which would be circulated by email.

Councillors queried the source of funding for the project following the decision by the Local Electoral Area Boundary Committee that this location would form part of Ashbourne Municipal District – it was confirmed that funding had yet to be secured but that the priority was to undertake the Part 8.

The Part 8 was unanimously agreed on the proposal of **Councillor Gillian Toole** and seconded by **Councillor Nick Killian**.

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

Dara McGowan, Senior Executive Officer, Transportation highlighted the implications of such a road closure and proposed that a full review of the road and related issues be undertaken prior to any decision being taken.

Matters raised by Councillors included:

- The possibility of closing the road on a temporary basis and survey the implications of the closure.
- The use of the road by trucks as a short cut and the concerns of residents in relation to safety.
- The need to ensure access by emergency services.



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It was agreed that an update would be provided at the October meeting, with information on the various options to be presented. It was confirmed that, should the road be closed, the right of way would remain in place and that public consultation would be required, as would consultation with the Gardaí and emergency services.

- 4.2.5 To receive an update on the County Meath Special Speed Limit review following on from the Statutory Public Display of the Draft Road Traffic (Special Speed Limits) County of Meath Bye-Laws (No.2) 2017.

Paul Phelan, Executive Engineer, Transportation outlined the update provided and the proposed amendments and next steps. He also provided responses to specific queries raised.

Matters raised by Councillors included:

- The exclusion of the Dunboyne/Maynooth road and the need to reduce the speed limit to 60km/ph on the section approaching the roundabout. It was confirmed that advice had been sought and that such a decision would need to be taken at a full Council meeting.
- The number of HGVs using the Drumree Road and the need to review the signage to ensure that the restriction was effective – it was agreed to review the signage on approach roads.
- Requested that the new Garda Superintendent be invited to a meeting of the municipal district to discuss issues such as traffic and speeding enforcement.

4.3 Fire Services

- 4.3.1 To receive Part 8 Chief Executive Report (reference P818008) in accordance with the Planning and Development Act 2000-2018 in relation to a development at Dunshaughlin Fire Station, Main Street, Dunshaughlin for alterations to and an extension at the rear of the existing Fire Station to provide enhanced sanitary and welfare facilities for staff.



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Brenda O'Neill, Executive Planner outlined the report, as previously circulated. Councillors welcomed the proposed development and acknowledged the excellent service provided by the local fire service. Reference was made to the need to consider the longer term needs of the service, in the context of an increasing population, and the need to plan for a more modern facility, possibly on a Greenfield site.

It was agreed on the proposal of **Councillor Gerry O'Connor** and seconded by **Councillor Nick Killian** to extend the meeting by fifteen minutes.

4.4 Corporate Services

4.4.1 To discuss the 2018 Arts, Festivals, Festive Decoration & MD Renewal budget.

It was unanimously agreed, on the proposal of **Councillor Damien O'Reilly** and seconded by **Councillor Gillian Toole**, to allocate the budget of €8,000 for festive decoration to the following towns and villages:

- Dunboyne - €2,120
- Dunshaughlin - €2,120
- Ratoath - €2,120
- Kilmessan - €540
- Clonee - €275
- Kiltale - €275
- Kilcloon - €275
- Batterstown - €275

4.4.2 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 deadlines for the receipt of applications and of the amount outstanding for allocation within the municipal district.

5 Notice of Question

5.1 Submitted by Councillor Damien O'Reilly



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“As per no Irish guidelines or Codes of Practice relating to environmental impacts of burials or national legislation, I request Meath County Council to complete ‘Cost Benefit Analysis’ and provide results and comparison of the 2 proposals below.

(1) Completing proposed Salestown, Dunboyne Graveyard on 15 acres and purchasing land as per consultant’s report included in June 2018, Ratoath Municipal District agenda.

(2) Extending current Rooske Dunboyne Graveyard into field purchased some years ago for extension and provision made for 20 carpark spaces and 1 water tap.”

This was dealt with under Item 4.1.1.

6 Notice of Motion

6.1 Submitted by Councillor Damien O’Reilly

“I call on Meath County Council to provide the publication date of the updated report of the Dunboyne/Clonee Flood Study.”

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

As the Members will be aware the OPW Catchment Flood Risk Assessment & Management (CFRAM) assessments and its resulting flood risk mapping for the Dunboyne / Clonee area was withdrawn from the OPW Website last year because of recognised inaccuracies.

Meath County Council rely on such flood Risk assessments and mapping in finalising our Development Plans and in assessing particular Planning applications.

On withdrawal of the CFRAMS information, Meath Co Co then needed to carry out a flood risk assessment and associated flood risk mapping to inform our imminent County Development Plan for the Dunboyne / Clonee area and in co-operation with the OPW, the Council engaged JBA Consulting Engineers to carry out this work.



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The resulting report and flood risk mapping will also be used to form the basis of CFRAM reports and flood risk mapping for the Dunboyne / Clonee area for OPW publication /website.

JBA produced their second draft report last week and this is currently under consideration by both MCC and the OPW and it is hoped that such consideration will be completed within the next three weeks.

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

The motion was noted.

6.2 Submitted by Councillor Damien O'Reilly

"I call on Meath County Council to provide an update on the planned maintenance of the Flood Alleviation Works at the Tolka and Castle Stream in Dunboyne and Clonee."

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

Works are to be carried out on a section of the Castle Stream near the Summerhill Road in the coming weeks and inspections are currently being undertaken as to the extent of other maintenance works required at the Tolka and Castle Streams and will be carried out in due course as resources permit.

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

The motion was noted.

7 Strategic Policy Committee Reports – For Information Purposes

7.1 To note the report from the Transportation SPC meeting of 26th July, 2018.

The report was noted.



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8 Correspondence

- 8.1 Correspondence received from The Residents Association of St. Patrick's Park, St Patrick's Lodge & Boyne Court, Dunboyne.

This was dealt with under Item 4.1.4.

It was agreed on the proposal of **Councillor Maria Murphy** and seconded by **Councillor Damien O'Reilly** to extend the meeting by fifteen minutes.

9 Any Other Business

- 9.1 Dara McGowan raised the following issue:

9.1.1 Referred to Dunboyne Park, for which it is hoped to bring a Part 8 in October in respect of moving the bridge to its original location and for which Town & Village Renewal funding would be required.

- 9.2 Councillor Gerry O'Connor raised the following issues:

9.2.1 The possibility of making the road/junction at Tara News a public road – it was pointed out that if made a public road, the infrastructure would have to be maintained but that the public lights were connected to the development and therefore could not be taken in charge. It was agreed to first identify all relevant issues relating to making the road a public road, the maintenance requirements and costs. An update would be provided at the October or November meeting.

9.2.2 The publication of criteria relating to the affordable housing on the Lagore Road – it was confirmed that this was being brought to this week's meeting of the Housing SPC.

9.2.3 The possibility of negotiating the lands in Dunshaughlin for the provision of a park & ride facility/

- 9.3 Councillor Nick Killian raised the following issue:



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9.3.1 The lack of lands in the municipal district to provide social housing and the possibility of acquiring lands from NAMA for social and affordable housing.

9.4 Councillor Maria Murphy raised the following issue:

9.4.1 Reminded Councillors of the local Pride of Place awards taking place on 18th October.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed:

Cathaoirleach