



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

Navan Municipal District

Ordinary Meeting

10:00 a.m., 17th October, 2018, Navan Civic Offices

An Meára, **Councillor Jim Holloway**, presided.

Councillors Present: Sinéad Burke, Francis Deane, Edward Fennessy, Padraig Fitzsimons, Wayne Forde, Tommy Reilly.

Officials in Attendance:

Director of Service: Kevin Stewart

Meetings Administrator: Claire King

Executive Engineer: Paul O'Brien

Staff Officer: Triona Keating

1 Confirmation of Minutes

1.1 Confirmation of minutes of Ordinary Meeting held on 19th September, 2018.

The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 19th September, 2018 were adopted on the proposal of **Councillor Francis Deane** and seconded by **Councillor Sinéad Burke**.

2 Matters arising from the Minutes

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

3 Expressions of Sympathy and Congratulations

Sympathy was extended to:

- The family of the late Fr. Andrew Farrell – tributes were paid by the Mayor, councillors and the executive, who acknowledged his vision and leadership and the significant role he played within the community.



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- Oliver Carey, Corporate Services on the death of his mother, Bridget Judy.

Congratulations were extended to:

- The Simonstown ladies football team;
- The Kilmessan ladies camogie team;
- All involved in organising the Cyclocross in Blackwater Park.

4 To receive a presentation by Prosper Meath.

Sarah McAree and Ashling O'Brien, Prosper Meath outlined the background to the group, the services provided, the benefits to service users and partnerships developed in Meath.

Matters raised by councillors included:

- Acknowledged the success of the recent 'Make Way Day'.
- Queried the gaps in services and supports that are encountered – reference was made to the issues associated with the renting of premises, including security of tenure and expenditure on improvements and the benefits/challenges of acquiring premises. Reference was also made to the need to increase awareness amongst employers of the need for work placements/paid employment for service users whilst protecting the status of those in receipt of disability allowance.
- Referred to the possible participation of Prosper Meath on the council's Disability Housing Steering Committee – it was confirmed that Prosper Meath would welcome being involved.
- The possibility of improving accessibility in Navan as part of the 2030 plan – it was confirmed that the group was available to offer assistance and guidance in terms of accessibility standards.

The Mayor and councillors thanked Sarah and Ashling for their presentation and commended the excellent and valuable work they undertake.



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5 Statutory Business

5.1 Transportation

5.1.1 To receive a Progress Report on works undertaken/planned for Navan Municipal District.

The report had been circulated in advance and a further update was provided at the meeting.

Matters raised by councillors included:

- Requested that a list of trees where works are planned would be circulated and this was agreed.
- Timescale for works in Abbeygrove and Blackcastle – it was confirmed that these were being managed centrally and should commence in the coming weeks.
- Update on works on the footpath behind the Newgrange Hotel – it was confirmed that drainage works at this location should now be completed.
- Update on the provision of lighting around the path in Blackwater Park – it was confirmed that the Part 8 was complete and a further update would be sought from the Community Department.
- The possible traffic calming measures that could be installed to slow traffic at the junction at the Balreask Arms on the Trim Road – it was agreed to refer this to Transportation Planning and Design for an update as funding had been secured under the Low Cost Safety Scheme.
- Traffic speeds and poor visibility on the Athlumney Road from the bridge to the Grove, the need for additional signage and tree pruning – it was confirmed that the council had contracted hedge cutting works on private property to improve visibility and road safety.



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- The possibility of highlighting the edges of steps on Kennedy Plaza, Preston Place and outside the NCBI premises – it was agreed to review the steps to see what measures would be most suitable. It was also pointed out that there were no actual steps outside the NCBI office but it was agreed to review this location also.
- Update on the road drainage scheme at Churchtown, Dunderry – the planned works were outlined.
- The need to address the vegetation and overgrowth in Andy Brennan Park.
- Update on the traffic survey in Robinstown, opposite Hollybrook, on the Dunderry Road.
- The condition of the former leisure centre in Johnstown and the onus on the owners to maintain the site and consider the local residents who need to access their homes nearby.
- Update on the public lights on the Boyne Road being switched on.
- Commended the owners of the old Central Hotel in Navan on their window display/lights, for which they won a Pride of Place award.
- The restoration and maintenance of the green area in Kilcarn Court – it was pointed out that footpaths were the priority.
- Requested an update on the provision of a community facility in Johnstown.
- The possibility of providing a footpath from Navan to Newgate to coincide with planned road works.
- The need for realignment works on the R162 at the racecourse due to the number of accidents at this location.

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Reference was made to the draft three year roadworks programme and the changes made to the previous draft were outlined. The rationale for road selection was also outlined and the benefits of agreeing the programme as early as possible were underlined, in terms of obtaining the best possible rates.

The programme was noted.

5.2 Corporate Services

5.2.1 To receive an update on the 2018 Christmas Campaign.

Audrey Norris, Senior Staff Officer, Corporate Services outlined the proposed programme of events planned for the 2018 Navan Christmas Campaign, including the tree locations, launch planned for 24th November with a parade and the switching on of the lights, the live animal crib and the increased participation of the businesses in the town. The initiatives planned for Kennedy Plaza were also outlined. It was also proposed that the Christmas parking initiative run from 24th November to 24th December and this was unanimously agreed. The Mayor and councillors welcomed the proposed programme and the beneficial relationship developed with the new Meath Chamber of Commerce.

The initiatives planned for the Purple Flag weekend, to be held on 26th – 28th October inclusive, were also outlined, including the lighting of businesses and public buildings, the promotion of events, the participation of sectors such as taxi drivers and the Busking Festival, being organised by the Meath Chamber of Commerce on 28th October. It was confirmed that one of the prizes on offer was a spot on the Gig Rig at the 2019 Fleadh in Drogheda. Congratulations were then extended to Athboy/Rathcairn on securing the 2019 Leinster Fleadh.

The Mayor and councillors commended Audrey and her colleagues on the plans outlined. It was suggested that Prosper Meath be invited to join the planned Christmas parade and that the Men's Shed be approached to offer assistance, if required.

5.2.2 To note Municipal District Allocations submitted by Councillors on behalf of Navan Municipal District.



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The list of allocations, circulated in advance, was noted.

5.3 Arts

5.3.1 To receive an update on the public display of the Fr. Farrell portrait.

It was unanimously agreed to proceed with the proposal to locate the portrait of the late Fr. Farrell in the credit union building, subject to the requirements of the Arts Office. It was also agreed to consult with the family in advance at the appropriate time.

6 Notice of Question

6.1 Submitted by Councillor Francis Deane

“What measures, including signage, are planned in relation to the bye laws that exist disallowing consumption of alcohol in public places, e.g. warning that it is illegal to drink on the streets and the fines that apply if said law is broken, and who is responsible for their enforcement?”

Response:

Navan Municipal District Transportation Operations Section shall consider locating signs in the central areas of the town subject to an agreed wording that is consistent with the objectives of the said bye-laws. The bye-laws are enforceable by members of An Garda Síochána only.

The response was noted.

6.2 Submitted by Councillor Wayne Forde

“What plans have the Executive to employ more staff for outdoor cleaning of streets etc as the current employees are excellent at their Job? It would be great to see more outdoor staff employed by Meath County Council in the Navan Municipal District Area to keep our beautiful town even more cleaner.”

Response:



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Meath County Council's staffing complement is informed by a workforce planning process. The aim of this process is to ensure that the Council is appropriately staffed so as to deliver required services. The appointment of extra General Operatives in the Navan MD, for the purposes of street cleansing, has not been included in the workforce planning process to date. It is noted that the national staffing approval requirements remain in place across the local government sector in terms of the creation of new positions. The Council must adhere to this as well as overall budgetary implications.

The response was noted.

6.3 Submitted by Councillor Edward Fennessy

“Can I ask Meath County Council for a timescale around when current funding applications might be approved for the Navan to Kingscourt Greenway and the project delivered in full?”

Response:

There is a current application for phase 1 of the scheme between Navan and Wilkinstown with the Department of Rural and Community Development for consideration. We anticipate that they will announce if the funding application has been successful this month. The Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport currently have a call for funding for Greenways, with applications due on 30th November 2018. We anticipate that the successful schemes will be announced in early 2019 and if successful, the Navan to Kingscourt scheme could be completed in approximately 2 years.

The response was noted.

7 Notice of Motion

7.1 Submitted by Councillor Francis Deane

“That Meath County Council would work with a body of stakeholders (the Ramparts Canal Enhancement Group) in relation to developing the Ramparts area of Navan over a three year period. Members of the group include Navan Anglers, OPW, An Taisce and Inland Waterways.”



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

Meath County Council Environment section has attended a number of meetings with the Ramparts Canal Enhancement Group this year. We will continue to work with this group in an advisory capacity with regard to environmental matters eg protection of Special areas of Conservation, improving Water quality, litter prevention measures etc.

We propose to construct a Boat Slipway onto the Boyne on the Ramparts close to the Car park beside 'Spicers' to facilitate safe and swift access for the Emergency Services. Our proposal is presently at Planning stage and with an Bord Pleanála; we will liaise with the group should this project proceed.

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Francis Deane** and seconded by **Councillor Sinéad Burke**.

The motion was adopted.

7.2 Submitted by Councillor Francis Deane

“That Meath County Council will consider facilitating commercial vehicles unloading stock for local shops on Kennedy Road between the hours of 8am and 10.30am (on the stretch from AIB entrance to PTSB). If deliveries are made later than these hours it is reported by business owners that serious traffic congestion occurs.”

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

Meath County Council has requested the parking wardens to monitor this loading bay to observe any problem with traffic at this location. The need for loading by business premises may arise throughout the day until 18.00, including restaurants open until 12.00 midnight.

If the times are changed on one loading bay at one location only users would move to another loading bay on another street.

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Francis Deane** and seconded by **Councillor Sinéad Burke**.



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The specific issue was outlined and it was agreed that this was not an appropriate use of the loading bays and would be referred to the Traffic Wardens for attention. It was also pointed out that the wider issue of loading bays/Kennedy Road would be addressed as part of the Navan 2030 plan.

The motion was noted.

7.3 Submitted by Councillor Wayne Forde

“Can I call on the Executive to erect new and improved slow down signage, rumble strips and flashing orange beacons at the pedestrian crossing at the Round O Roundabout for public care and safety please.”

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

A review of pedestrian facilities at the Round O roundabout is currently being undertaken by the Transportation Department. Proposals, if any, will require TII approval. The road markings on the approaches to the Round O roundabout have been refreshed recently.

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Wayne Forde** and seconded by **Councillor Francis Deane**.

The motion was adopted.

7.4 Submitted by Councillor Wayne Forde

“Can I call on the Executive to improve / repair existing speed ramps in Parnell Park and Mc Dermotts Villas for public safety.”

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

The replacement of existing speed control ramps in Parnell Park does not form part of the SMDW for Navan Municipal District for 2018 which was adopted by Members earlier



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this year. Subject to condition survey and assessment etc, these works could be considered in the plan for 2019.

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Wayne Forde** and seconded by **Councillor Francis Deane**.

The motion was adopted.

7.5 Submitted by Councillor Sinead Burke

“That the Council examine and begin rectifying, liaising with stakeholders as necessary the current dangerous situation of lorries unloading at Johnstown Shopping Centre. Lorries are using the public path to park on, leading children and other pedestrians to walk onto the road to pass. These lorries are also blocking necessary sight lines for other drivers as they attempt to pass.”

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

Transportation Operations Navan Municipal District Section shall carry out observations of traffic movements in the mentioned location and liaise with management of Johnstown Shopping Centre as necessary if the situation demands so. It should be highlighted that the matter of parking on and obstructing footpaths is an offence under the Road Traffic Act and therefore enforceable by An Garda Síochána and dangerous situations should be reported to Navan Garda Station when they occur.

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Sinéad Burke** and seconded by **Councillor Jim Holloway**.

The motion was adopted.

7.6 Submitted by Councillor Sinead Burke

“That the council examine the current quality of Swan Lane, Navan and add this stretch of road to the municipal works list for 2019.”



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

The Department of Transport Tourism & Sport (DTTAS) has requested local authority's to submit their multi-annual programme to the Department by the 9th November covering the years 2019, 2020 & 2021. This programme will be based on the prioritisation of schemes following an engineering screening/evaluation assessment. Swan lane (L-34141) is included on the draft 3 year programme for 2021. There is scope to amend the programme in the future, as in any event, the proposed programme is dependent on the funding available and may be affected by other factors such as severe weather etc.

Please note that pavement works were carried out on Swan Lane in late September 2018 at two locations.

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Sinéad Burke** and seconded by **Councillor Jim Holloway**.

The motion was adopted.

7.7 Submitted by Councillor Edward Fennessy

“That Navan Municipal District carry out a pedestrian safety assessment at the junction behind St Oliver's Church accessed by school children from Clusker Park as they make their way to and from St Oliver's National school.”

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

Transportation Section Navan Municipal District in conjunction and with the assistance of the Road Safety Officer, shall investigate this location to assess if there any issues of pedestrian safety to be addressed.

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Edward Fennessy** and seconded by **Councillor Sinéad Burke**.

The motion was adopted.



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7.8 Submitted by Councillor Edward Fennessy

“That Navan Municipal District, in the interest of pedestrian safety, installs an extra speed ramp in St Mary’s Park at the entrance where the link road from the N51 meets the circular road that runs around the green area in the estate.”

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

The installation of additional speed control ramps in housing estates was not included in the SMDW for Navan Municipal District for 2019; however assessments shall need to be made of traffic speed in the specified location to determine the requirement for additional works as requested.

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Edward Fennessy** and seconded by **Councillor Sinéad Burke**.

The motion was adopted.

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

8.1 To note the report from the Housing, Community and Cultural Development SPC meeting of 14th September, 2018.

The report was noted.

9 Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

10 Any Other Business

10.1 Councillor Jim Holloway raised the following issue:

10.1.1 Referred to a request received from the Meath GAA Infrastructure Committee to present to the municipal district on the progress of the Pairc Tailteann



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redevelopment project – it was unanimously agreed to facilitate this request.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed:

An Meára