



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

Navan Municipal District

Ordinary Meeting

10:00 a.m., 21st November, 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 17th October, 2018.

The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 17th October, 2018 were adopted on the proposal of **Councillor Tommy Reilly** and seconded by **Councillor Francis Deane**.

1.2 Confirmation of minutes of Special Finance Meeting held on 1st November, 2018.

The minutes of the Special Finance Meeting held on 1st November, 2018 were adopted on the proposal of **Councillor Francis Deane** and seconded by **Councillor Tommy Reilly**.

2 Matters arising from the Minutes

Councillor Edward Fennessy requested that the list of trees to be removed be circulated – it was confirmed that a tree maintenance contractor had recently been appointed and that the tree maintenance programme, based on the arborologist's report, would involve a minimal amount of tree removal. Whilst the budget for these works is limited, there may be scope to add a small number of other locations.



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3 Expressions of Sympathy and Congratulations

Sympathy was extended to:

- The family of the late Seán McGuirk, former player with Navan O'Mahoneys;
- The family of the late Pat Daly, former library staff member.

Congratulations were extended to:

- Julieann Forest, a 16 year old violinist, who, having completed her studies in the University of Indiana, had returned to take up the position of Master of the Dublin Youth Orchestra;
- Meath Chamber of Commerce, Meath County Council, the local business community and all involved in the recent Purple Flag events, which had succeeded in raising awareness;
- All involved in organising the civic reception to mark the centenary of the Columbans;
- Navan gymnastics team who had won gold medals in the European Championships in Italy.

4 To receive a presentation from Meath GAA on the progress of the Pairc Tailteann Re-Development Project.

Seamus Kenny, Meath GAA outlined the progress made since the last meeting and Dr. Pat McCloughan, PMCA Economic Consulting presented an overview of the cost benefit analysis of the redevelopment, the rationale for the project, value for money considerations, the social, cultural and economic impacts, and possible funding sources.

Matters raised by councillors included:

- Acknowledged the significant benefits of the development to the town and county.



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- Consideration to be given to the inclusion of retail units in the development – it was confirmed that office units would also be considered.
- The role of larger firms in supporting the development through, for example, naming rights – it was confirmed that this was being actively pursued by the development committee responsible for fund raising.
- The proposals to deal with traffic management – it was confirmed that engagement with local residents and the Gardaí had taken place and that a traffic management plan, based on the numbers attending, would be implemented.
- The timeframe for works to commence – it was confirmed that works would not commence until after the end of May 2019 due to planned fixtures, with the deadline for applications for the Department of Transport, Tourism & Sport's Large Scale Sports Infrastructure Fund being the end of April.

The Mayor and councillors thanked Seamus and Pat for the presentation and wished them well with the project.

5 Disposal of Land pursuant to the provisions of Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001

- 5.1 This was agreed on the proposal of **Councillor Tommy Reilly** and seconded by **Councillor Sinéad Burke**.

6 Statutory Business

6.1 Transportation

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

The report had been circulated in advance and the key points highlighted.

Matters raised by councillors included:



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- Street/footpath sweeping in Dunderry – it was confirmed that sweeping would be undertaken in Dunderry and Robinstown during the first week of December.
- The provision of a litter bin in Dunderry and between Ferndale and Abbeygrove – it was agreed to check this. It was also pointed out that a contract for the provision of Big Belly Bins was being considered for 2019 and may allow the relocation of some bins.
- Flooding at Bakery Lane and at the bus stop at the Ardboyne junction – it was agreed to check this.
- Acknowledged the significant amount of works undertaken relation to roads and footpaths and specifically in Claremont estate, Abbeygrove, Blackcastle, etc.
- Blocked pipe causing flooding at the bridge in Hayestown.
- Pedestrian safety at the fire station junction – it was pointed out that a full junction redesign was planned, with works to commence in the new year.
- Queried the policy for the provision of litter bins in housing estates – it was confirmed that bins are not provided in estates due to the dumping of domestic refuse.
- The installation of public lighting in Blackwater Park – it was confirmed that the contractor was on site and lighting would be operational before Christmas.
- The provision of public lighting in Preston Place.

6.2 Community

- 6.2.1 To receive an update on the proposed location for a playground in Johnstown.



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Emmanuel Mwadiwa, Executive Engineer, Community Department outlined the proposal for the provision of a playground, including equipment and parking facilities, in Johnstown, a playground having been identified as the priority requirement arising from the community needs survey.

Matters raised by councillors included:

- The need for car parking facilities – it was pointed out, that due to the large catchment area and the needs of certain user groups, the car park is required.
- The need for a suitable pedestrian crossing if the car park is located on the opposite side of the road – it was confirmed that the pedestrian crossing would be designed to link in with the playground entrance.
- The proposed timeline for the delivery of the project – the process and timeline were outlined, including the Part 8 process, and it is expected that, subject to approval of a Part 8 and completion of a tendering process, works could commence within about of 20 weeks of the Part 8 being published.
- Access and security to protect the investment and avoid the issues experienced in other locations arising from anti-social behaviour – it was pointed out that restricted access at night required a resource allocation which may not be available and that CCTV was problematic as a result of data protection legislation.

The Mayor and councillors welcomed the progress on this project and thanked Emmanuel for his work on it.

6.3 Corporate Services

6.3.1 To discuss a civic event to commemorate Paddy Pryle.

Robert Collins, Senior Executive Officer, Corporate Services outlined the proposal for a civic event to take place at 1.00pm on Saturday 15th December in the Civic Offices, to which the family and close friends of the late Paddy Pryle



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would be invited. It was unanimously agreed on the proposal of **Councillor Tommy Reilly** and seconded by **Councillor Wayne Forde** to proceed as outlined.

Reference was also made to the Christmas tree and lights event taking place at 4.00pm on Saturday 24th November and the event relating to the exhibition of the portrait of the late Fr. Andrew Farrell in the Credit Union on Friday 7th December, for which invitations had issued.

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

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

The Mayor requested councillors to adhere to the protocol surrounding the appropriate use of Notices of Question, as per previous advice issued.

7 Notice of Question

7.1 Submitted by Councillor Sinéad Burke

“Can I ask Navan Municipal District when they plan to install a bus stop and footpath from Newgate on the R147 (Kells Road) to Navan town?”

Response:

There is currently no proposal to install a bus stop and footpath from Newgate on the R147 (Kells Road) to Navan town. The proposal to include a footpath to the “Park and Ride” site proposed to the north of Navan is not contained within the scope of the Navan Town Scheme. It is unclear if adequate demand would exist for such a link, as the purpose of the facility is to provide parking for those accessing public transport to the town or onward journey.

It is noted the provision of a footway of approximately 2km in length at this location along the R147 would result in significant additional costs to the Navan Town Scheme, and any such change to the scheme would necessitate approval from the National Transport Authority.



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Regardless of the above, as part of the detailed design for the Scheme, including the Park and Ride site, a review will be undertaken by the designers to identify if there would be sufficient demand to justify inclusion of the suggested footway linking the proposed Park and Ride site to the town.

As part of the Navan Town Scheme, two new bus stops are to be provided adjacent to the “Park and Ride” on the R147.

The response was noted.

7.2 Submitted by Councillor Wayne Forde

“What plans have the Executive to totally refurbish housing estates in Clogherboy and all housing estates in Reask going forward, as some of these houses are in poor conditions and are in dire need of refurbishment just like Townspark which was a huge success a number of years ago when it was completely refurbished?”

Response:

There are currently no plans to undertake estate wide refurbishment schemes in any of Meath County Council’s social housing estates in Navan.

In recent years, investment in Meath County Council’s housing stock has been channelled through a number of different mechanisms, including response maintenance, pre let expenditure on vacant units that arise, the energy upgrade programme, and specific planned maintenance programmes, for example door and window replacements.

However, the matter of estate wide refurbishment schemes will be considered in the context of available budgets that may be identified in the future.

The response was noted.

7.3 Submitted by Councillor Francis Deane

“With reference to the proposed plans for the Athlumney cycle and pedestrian scheme, Convent Road, and taking into consideration recent cases of anti social behaviour in Old



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Athlumney Graveyard, does Meath County Council plan to extend plans for CCTV to Old Athlumney Graveyard and install floodlights on Old Athlumney Castle? As this route is part of the Navan points of pride tour, the floodlighting of the castle could be of benefit to attracting extra local tourism.”

Response:

The expansion of the CCTV Scheme for Navan shall be catered for within the proposed Sustainable Transport Scheme for Convent Road and the placing of a camera in the vicinity of Athlumney Cemetery shall be considered as part of that scheme. The issue of providing floodlighting to Athlumney Castle is a worthwhile proposal but unfortunately not one that can be considered or put in place by Meath County Council as this is an OPW controlled site and all such requests should be directed to the ‘National Monuments Section’ of the OPW.

The response was noted.

7.4 Submitted by Councillor Edward Fennessy

“Can I ask for an update on Council's application to the serviced site fund for funding to construct affordable housing on the site in Tailteann adjacent to the Aura Leisure Centre and Council's plan for same?”

Response:

A first call for proposals under the Service Site Fund issued to Local Authorities in Dublin, the Greater Dublin Area, Cork and Galway on 29th June 2018.

Closing date for receipt of applications was 31st August 2018. An application was made to this fund in respect to the Meath County Council owned site at Tailteann, Navan, for the provision of affordable units.

Overall, fifteen proposals were received by the Department of Housing, Planning & Local Government from nine Local Authorities. Proposals are currently being assessed, and announcements are expected shortly.

The response was noted.



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8 Notice of Motion

8.1 Submitted by Councillor Edward Fennessy

“That Navan Municipal District installs a yellow box or a similar practical measure at the entrance to Troytown Heights on the R162 (Proudstown Road).”

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

A yellow box marking would only be warranted at this location, under Chapter 7 of ‘The Traffic Signs Manual 2010’, if the northbound traffic queues on the R162 blocked the entrance to the housing estate. In this instance a yellow box would then allow southbound traffic to turn right into the housing estate, preventing a build up of traffic on the southbound carriageway. At the moment, traffic queues appear to develop on the southbound carriageway, and placing a yellow box at this location, would be an inappropriate use of this road marking.

However, traffic movements at the location will be monitored, to identify the direction of the traffic build up and if deemed necessary, the installation of any potential road markings will be considered, but the installation would be dependent on available funding.

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Edward Fennessy** and seconded by **Councillor Francis Deane**.

The motion was adopted.

8.2 Submitted by Councillor Wayne Forde

“Can I call on the Executive, without any further delay, to close off the Alleyway in Ferndale Estate between 142 and 143 for public safety.”

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



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This matter was previously considered by councillors at the March municipal district meeting when officials were asked to further investigate options for closing the alleyway. Councillors will recall that the main issue was the existence of underground services and the service providers made submissions against closure on the basis that they needed long term and ongoing access for maintenance, repair and renewal. There were three submissions from residents of the estate, two (the immediate neighbours) favouring closure and one against.

Since then there has been considerable interaction with the solicitor for one of the adjoining property owners (No. 142), within whose property folio the alleyway is situated.

Notwithstanding that the alleyway appears to be in private ownership, the Council has offered to facilitate a transfer into Council ownership and negotiate with the service providers to put in place wayleaves to secure future access rights. The Council has also confirmed that it will meet any costs associated with putting the wayleaves in place and extinguishing the right-of-way. Extinguishment of the right-of-way is a reserved function.

As the alleyway is not currently in public ownership, the Council has indicated that it will not meet the cost of any physical works needed to close the alleyway and there is no budget for same. The Council has obtained an estimate for the basic work involved in closure and has also suggested that the two residents might find it more cost effective to arrange the works themselves given the alleyway is within their control. The solicitor for the residents confirmed in a letter on 18th June that his clients “were prepared to meet the reasonable costs incurred by the Council in relation to the works to be carried out...”. However at a subsequent site meeting and in a representation received since then, they appear to have resiled from that position. That’s where the matter currently stands.

The Council is willing to meet again with the property owners to see if things can be advanced and officials will raise no objection to the proposed extinguishment of the right of way when all other matters are resolved.

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

It was pointed out that, since the supporting information had been issued, further engagement with the residents had taken place and would continue.



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The motion was adopted.

8.3 Submitted by Councillor Wayne Forde

"Can I call on the Executive to ensure, with the huge construction of houses out Windtown Road , Simonstown , Farganstown and on the Commons Road, that there are plenty of green areas for children to play on and that the Developers be required to construct playgrounds and soccer/rugby pitches to encourage children to play sports and provide other facilities such as a clubhouse for meeting rooms, changing rooms, etc."

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

11.2.2 of the Meath County Development Plan 2013-2019 states 'Public open space shall be provided for in residential development at a minimum rate of 15% of total site area. Where residential developments are close to existing facilities or where, in the opinion of Meath County Council, it would be in the interest of proper planning and sustainable development of the area, the Meath County Council may require a financial contribution towards the provision of public open space or recreational facilities in the wider area in lieu of public open space within the development...'

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

The motion was adopted.

8.4 Submitted by Councillor Francis Deane

"That Meath Council will include Old Johnstown Village in their 2019 Roadworks Programme. This village has to endure serious volumes of traffic in an area where the infrastructure is about to crumble. In recent years population growth in Old Johnstown has exploded and Meath County Council has been in receipt of huge levies. In this light it is now time for the residents to see some investment in their village."

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



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A section of this Road the L5050 was resurfaced this summer as part of the 2018 Roads Programme. This section of road was categorised as having a pavement condition rating of 1 to 4 prior to the works. The remaining section past the church to the centre of the village has a condition rating of 5 to 6 and this section of roadway is not proposed to be surfaced as part of the current 3 year programme, however it will be kept under review for consideration in future programmes.

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Francis Deane** and seconded by **Councillor Edward Fennessy**.

The motion was adopted.

8.5 Submitted by Councillor Francis Deane

“I call on Meath County Council to carry out a report on Navan's old housing estates, including those recently taken in charge, with a view to erecting proper number signage at the beginning of each internal road or avenue. Examples of estates in question are Emmet Terrace, St Fenian's Terrace, St Patrick's Terrace, Limekiln and Glenveigh.”

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

Meath County Council has no current plans for a scheme of estate name signage in Navan and there is currently no funding available for such a scheme. The matter of additional name signage to estates that are taken in charge could be progressed through the relevant Residents Association of the estate with the assistance of Meath County Council's Community Grant Scheme.

The Community Section operates the annual community grant scheme which is normally advertised in late January. The scheme has a number of various categories including one for residents associations where they can apply for funding to assist in maintenance and upkeep of their estate which can include signage. All applications submitted are assessed and should they meet the criteria set out, the applicant is allocated an amount. All recommendations for grants are submitted to the SPC and Full council for final approval by the Community section and following completion of works, the applicant may then submit their receipts for payment by the section.



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The motion was proposed by **Councillor Francis Deane** and seconded by **Councillor Edward Fennessy**.

The motion was adopted.

8.6 Submitted by Councillor Padraig Fitzsimons

“I propose the motion to discuss increasing the number of bins in the Navan area.”

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

In response to a request to provide more litter bins in Navan, the purchase of litter bins requires a budget and there is some scope for purchasing a small number of bins at present, if required. However the difficulty with purchasing new litter bins, is that these will have to be serviced and as Navan MD resources are currently at capacity, there is insufficient scope to service an increased number of litter bins. If the Members are aware of any bins that may be underutilised in their current position, Meath County Council will consider relocating these two areas that the Members may deem to have a greater need for a litter bin.

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Padraig Fitzsimons** and seconded by **Councillor Wayne Forde**.

The motion was adopted.

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

9.1 To note the report from the Planning, Economic Development and Enterprise SPC meeting of 17th October, 2018.

The report was noted.

9.2 To note the report from the Transportation SPC meeting of 25th October, 2018, together with Policy Document School Wardens.

The report was noted.



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10 Correspondence

- 10.1 Correspondence received from the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government in response to the Notice of Item 7.11 – Notice of Motion as adopted at September meeting re tree pruning in urban areas.

The correspondence was noted.

11 Any Other Business

- 11.1 Councillor Tommy Reilly raised the following issue:

11.1.1 The need to address the overgrown vegetation along the river banks in Navan and the responsibility for same – it was agreed to look into this.

- 11.2 Councillor Wayne Forde raised the following issue:

11.2.1 Update on the pitch and playground in Claremont.

11.2.2 The need to address damaged surfaces in the playground in Clogherboy.

- 11.3 Councillor Francis Deane raised the following issues:

11.3.1 The possibility of installing Christmas lights on Flower Hill.

11.3.2 Update on the new road from the M3 to the Trim Road – it was confirmed that this went on public display this week.

- 11.4 Councillor Sinéad Burke raised the following issue:

11.4.1 Update on the plans for the link road from Ratholdren to the Kells Road and the related public consultation.

- 11.5 Councillor Jim Holloway raised the following issue:

11.5.1 Referred to the previous proposal that one civic event be arranged during the



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year to acknowledge the achievements of relevant individuals and groups – this was agreed.

11.6 Councillor Edward Fennessy raised the following issue:

11.6.1 Update on the erection of a plaque to commemorate Liam Mellows – it was confirmed that this proposal had been referred by the Protocol Committee to the Commemorative Committee.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed:

An Meára