



Miontuairiscí/Meeting Minutes

Transportation Strategic Policy Committee 26th January 2017, Council Chamber, County Hall, Navan

**Attendees -
Councillors:** Cllr. Eugene Cassidy (Chair), Cllr. Paddy Meade (Vice-Chair), Cllr. Sean Drew,
Cllr. Enda Flynn, Cllr. David Gilroy, Cllr. Johnny Guirke, Cllr Jim Holloway,

Apologies: Cllr Sean Smith

Other Cllr Trevor Golden

Councillors:

Peter Farrelly – Agriculture/Farming Representative

Attendees -

Sectoral

Representatives:

Apologies: Suzanne Brady PPN Rep Environment & Sean Boyle – Business and
Commercial Representative

Officials:

Des Foley, Nicholas Whyatt, Dara McGowan, Andrew Bagnall, Paul Phelan,
Jimmy Young, Majella Farrell

Apologies : John McGrath & Catherina O'Rourke

Item	Discussion / Action
1.	<p><u>Minutes of Previous Meeting</u></p> <p>The minutes of the previous meeting held on 13th October 2016 were approved. Proposed by Cllr Paddy Meade, seconded by Cllr Johnny Guirke.</p>
2.	<p><u>Matters Arising from Minutes</u></p> <p>It was confirmed that the Winter Gritting subgroup would meet again before the next SPC meeting with a report and proposal for extensions/amendments to the current programme, for implementation in the next Winter Gritting season.</p>
3.	<p><u>Review 2016 Roadworks Programme</u></p> <p>Review of the 2016 programme was circulated. This outlined the work of the Central Unit and the improvements that had been achieved as a result of this unit being established. Details of all expenditure and lengths of road for 2016 were included. A discussion took place on the success of the programme overall. There was a request that contractors be managed to ensure that the standard of finishing on all works is consistent and that adequate re-instatement takes place</p>
4.	<p><u>TII Allocation for 2017</u></p> <p>A copy of the full TII allocation had been circulated prior to the meeting. This outlined the grant allocations for 2017 per scheme, totaling €3,825,100.</p> <p>As the DTTAS funding allocation was confirmed on the day before this meeting, a breakdown of the full allocation of €13,490,518 was circulated at the meeting. It was noted that there was an increase of €1.2m approximately from 2016.</p>



Miontuairiscí/Meeting Minutes

5.	<p><u>Update on Speed Limit Review and Traffic Management Implications</u></p> <p>Paul Phelan presented a report on the Speed Limit Review to date. It was confirmed that MCC has carried out surveys and assessments at 120 locations throughout the county. Where appropriate, proposed changes have been drafted. The Council is awaiting feedback from TII in relation to their final proposals for the National Roads. It was agreed to circulate the report to attendees following the meeting.</p> <p>A discussion took place on the variety of engineering measures that can be utilised to assist with speed control, especially in housing estates.</p> <p>It was agreed to consider a Reduce Your Speed campaign within the worst affected estates in the County. This could consist of a flyer and the Residents Associations, through the PPN secretariat, would be asked to distribute same. It was also suggested that contact be made with the JPC around the issue of increased enforcement by An Garda Síochána in these particular areas and in general.</p>
6.	<p><u>Notice of Motion</u></p> <p>Motion referred from Meath County Council Meeting November 2016</p> <p>9.4 Submitted by Councillor Trevor Golden <i>“To call on the Transportation SPC to consider introducing a Traffic Calming Policy referencing the National Traffic Management Guidelines and to include the following local factors:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Requests from the majority of residents similar to the plebiscite used in planning for taking in charge requests.</i> • <i>Length of road</i> • <i>Recorded speed</i> • <i>Accident history</i> • <i>Traffic volumes</i> • <i>Vulnerable road users</i> <p><i>On adoption of the policy, each Municipal District would use these criteria to allocate funding and prioritise works.”</i></p> <p>Cllr. Golden explained the requirement for such a policy to ensure consistency across the county. A discussion took place on this, in the context of the previous item. Paul Phelan stated that some local authorities had introduced such a policy. It was agreed to investigate these and discuss findings at the next SPC meeting.</p> <p><u>Motion referred from Meath County Council Meeting December 2016</u></p> <p>9.2 Submitted by Councillor Eugene Cassidy <i>“The preparation of the new speed by-laws has drawn attention to the need for careful consideration to be given to traffic management measures that may be required to support new speed limits, including the 30kph limits in housing estates. I'm calling on</i></p>



Miontuairiscí/Meeting Minutes

	<p>Meath County Council to seek funding from the Department so these safety measures can be implemented.” Cllr Cassidy stated that he felt this had been adequately dealt with by the report presented under item no. 5.</p>
7.	<p><u>Vehicle Activated Signage</u></p> <p>A draft policy on Vehicle Activated Signage was presented by Andrew Bagnall. This policy was proposed for adoption by Cllr. Enda Flynn and seconded by Cllr. David Gilroy, and agreed. A discussion took place around the issue of the implementation of the policy. Clarification was sought if the policy would apply even if a community group, school or Councillor was willing to fund the sign themselves. It was confirmed that the policy must apply to all signs, to ensure their effectiveness throughout the county.</p>
8.	<p><u>Community Involvement Schemes – Programme for 2017</u></p> <p>A report was circulated and presented by Nicholas Whyatt, outlining the expenditure on CIS schemes from 2013 to 2016, including the spread across the municipal districts to date. The presentation also confirmed the number of schemes outstanding from the previous years and the total number of applications for 2017. It was confirmed that 19 of the applications were deemed to be not valid, due to the roads/lanes in question not being in charge. Two options were put forward in relation to the allocation of funding for the scheme across the Municipal Districts.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take 7.5% of the Restoration Improvement allocation and divide across the MDs based on the applications ranking on a county wide basis (how the scheme works at the moment) • Allocate the RI fund to each MD and then take 7.5% of this money for the CIS schemes in that MD. <p>There was a discussion about the advantages and disadvantages of each method and how funding has been, and is, allocated across the county. Reference was made to money allocated for the strategic regional roads and the ongoing unfunded balance, the Main Street in Ashbourne, NTA funding for Navan, historic payment of loans in the Trim MD. The view of the SPC was that the need for CIS money lies in the north of the County and that available funding for the local tertiary roads and cul-de-sacs needs to be directed to where the greatest need exists. It was acknowledged that if Option 2 was selected, it would take longer to complete the works associated with the current applications.</p> <p>Cllr. Eugene Cassidy proposed that Option 1 would be implemented and this was seconded by Cllr. David Gilroy, and agreed.</p> <p>Cllrs. suggested that the applicants that were longer on the list, should be prioritised.</p> <p>A discussion took place in relation to the roads/lanes that were deemed not to be valid, as they are not on the roads schedule register. Cllr Meade enquired about the accuracy of the register, and asked if the Council could review these roads & lanes again to confirm their status. It was agreed that for 2017 the Council had to proceed</p>



Miontuairiscí/Meeting Minutes

	<p>with the de facto position as it currently exists. However it was also agreed that if it was subsequently established that any of these roads should be on the register, they would be added back into the CIS scheme, for consideration next year. Applications for roads deemed not in charge should be notified of this and that their applications are invalid.</p> <p>A proposal was put forward in relation to introducing a Local Improvement Scheme in 2017, to deal with roads and lanes that are not in charge. It was suggested that an allocation of €20,000 per Municipal District be taken from the Discretionary Grant and put towards this scheme. It was stated that this allocation should stay with the discretionary funds of the MD, if there are no applications for LIS funding. This option is a matter for each MD to decide as part of the Schedule of Municipal District Works.</p> <p>This scheme could be progressed following the review of the register.</p>
	<p><u>AOB</u></p> <p>An issue was raised in relation to the Hogweed that has been identified across the County. It was confirmed that the TII and the DTTAS have a joint initiative for dealing with Invasive Alien Plant Species on the national and regional road network and that Westmeath County Council would be managing this, on behalf of Meath County Council, under a Section 85 agreement. Treatment is commencing on the National Roads and the regional network is being surveyed. The Council understands that the position regarding the survey and treatment of IAPS on county roads will be clarified in due course.</p> <p>Kells By Pass – there was a request to look at the signage from Kilmainham to say that there are slow moving vehicles. It was mentioned that there may be similar signage in Tipperary. It was confirmed that the TII have requested that the HGV ban in Kells be amended to provide for emergency situations that may arise on the motorway. The Council also propose to make the wording of the existing HGV byelaw clearer in relation to agricultural machinery through Kells.</p> <p>Concern was expressed regarding the planning of new roads in housing estates and how they are laid out. It was confirmed that the management of same must be controlled by inputting to the new County Development Plan</p> <p>It was stated that the set down and pick up points used by private operators along the N2 bus route has been greatly affected by the recent tragic accident at Hunterstown. Stops have been reduced and as a result there is an increase in the number of commuters parking in Slane to catch the bus. It was suggested that a strategy for Park and Ride facilities should be looked at on a County-wide basis.</p> <p>The issue of dumping on the public roads was raised and it was suggested that the recycling centres could promote one free day, to ensure all waste from Christmas, etc is disposed of responsibly. This item to be referred to the Environment SPC.</p> <p>The next Transportation SPC meeting was scheduled for Thursday 27th April at 4pm</p>