



Miontuairiscí/Meeting Minutes

Transportation Strategic Policy Committee 20th July 2017, Training Room, Room 128, Buvinda House, Navan

**Attendees -
Counillors:** Cllr. Eugene Cassidy (Chair), Cllr. Paddy Meade (Vice-Chair), Cllr. Sean Drew, ,
Cllr. David Gilroy, Cllr. Johnny Guirke, Cllr Jim Holloway, Cllr Gerry O'Connor,

Apologies: Cllr Sean Smith & Cllr Bryan Reilly, Cllr. Enda Flynn

**Attendees -
Sectoral
Representatives:** Sean Boyle – Business and Commercial Representative, Geoffrey Clarke -
Environment Representative

Apologies: Peter Farrelly – Agriculture/Farming Representative, Ben Bailey –
Community Representative

Officials: Des Foley, John McGrath, Dara McGowan, Duncan Byrne, Sarah Lynch, Lara
Fagan, Jimmy Young.

Apologies : Nicholas Whyatt

Item	Discussion / Action
1.0	<p><u>Minutes of Previous Meeting</u></p> <p>The minutes of the previous meeting held on 27th April 2017 were approved. Proposed by Cllr P Meade and seconded by Cllr D Gilroy.</p>
2.0	<p><u>Matters Arising from Minutes</u></p> <p>There were no matters arising from the minutes.</p> <p>The Chairman Cllr E Cassidy welcomed Mr Geoffrey Clarke who is the new Environment Representative for the Transport SPC.</p>
3.0	<p><u>Draft Public Lighting Policy – for discussion purposes</u></p> <p>Duncan Byrne made a presentation on the Draft Public Lighting Policy. It was noted that Meath County Council would like to have this policy in place for 2018 and that the SPC members could review the draft policy already circulated to them and come back with any comments to the officials in the Transportation Department.</p> <p>Following the presentation the following matters were raised:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Could a saving be made in the use of public lighting by reducing the time period lights were switched on during night time hours. - Will this be checked with the Council's insurers, IPB to ensure that any reduced period of lighting is safe. - Could a document dealing with the taking in charge of public lighting be put in place.



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- On what criteria is it decided to replace lights in public lighting schemes.
- Concern was expressed that rural areas will be forgotten about.
- What is the capital budget for public lighting in 2017.
- Some % should be provided for new lighting out of the Capital allocation.
- How advanced is the draft Public Lighting Policy compared with other Councils.
- Do the present regulatory standards cover LED (light-emitting diode) lighting.
- Does the Council purchase electricity from renewable sources.
- Can LED lighting be enforced in planning permissions.

The Council officials responded as follows:

- There is the potential to save up to 50% in energy cost by using LED lighting, in addition to trimming and dimming lighting. A technical specification document has already been prepared regarding the taking in charge of public lighting.
- The criteria used to decide on which public lights are to be replaced is based firstly on energy reduction.
- The capital budget for 2017 is € 400,000 approx. and maintenance budget is € 2.1million. There will be a provision for new lighting within the Capital Budget.
- The estimated cost for upgrading the public lighting network in County Meath is approx €20 million (that's just replacing lanterns, serious health warning as based on a very rough estimate of the potential cost – could run into much more depending in the condition of the entire stock, rewiring, accommodation works, etc.
- MCC's draft Public Lighting Policy is at the same position as other adjoining Counties. The policies of the Dublin & Cork Authorities would be more advanced.
- The present regulatory standards cover LED lighting.
- MCC is obliged by the Office of Public Procurement to obtain electricity via the Electricity Framework for Supply.
- The Road Management Office (RMO) is looking at the possibility of procuring public lighting via Energy Service Companies (ESCO's) and other methods as part of their cost benefit analysis for Ireland. The RMO is also investigating whether the lighting is procured at a National, Regional or Local levels. All local authorities were required to compile a detailed inventory of their lighting stock in 2016 – the RMO are using this data to develop a business case for Public Lighting
- The use of LED lighting can be enforced in planning permissions by the use of



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	<p>the Technical Specification document.</p> <p>It was agreed by the meeting that the draft policy would be brought back to the SPC meeting in October.</p>
<p>4.0</p>	<p><u>Draft County Development Plan – Transportation Policies</u></p> <p>Sarah Lynch, Executive Planner made a presentation on Transportation Policies in relation to the Draft County Development Plan.</p> <p>Following the presentation the following matters were raised:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Policy for Greenways needs to be included in County Development Plan. - There is a need for a management plan for maintenance of greenways. - There is a need to strengthen the requirement for infrastructure such as the Ashbourne/Ardee road, R132 Julianstown Bypass and Navan to Dunboyne rail link in the County Development Plan. - Leinster Outer Orbital Route is a key piece of infrastructure. - Rail does not provide best means of transport to a town the size of Navan. - Bus interchange required on Dublin side of Navan and should not be located in centre of Navan. - Concerns were expressed at the feasibility of getting buses through narrow streets in Navan. - Need to facilitate the provision of a bridge over Boyne River between the Boyne Road and the Slane Road. - Are there any means of consultation between MCC and the National Transport Authority (NTA) regarding the planning of bus routes. - Development should be curtailed until infrastructure is in place. - To facilitate the creation of employment there is a requirement to remove one of the tolls on the M3 and ultimately removal of all tolls on M3. <p>Officials responded that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A section in the Draft County Development Plan on Tourism covers the provision of greenways. There is strong policy content in the Draft Plan for the provision of greenways. Meath County Council has recently made a submission to the public consultation process on the development of a new Greenways Strategy. There are management plans in place for maintenance of greenways. - There are strong policies in the Draft Plan on the Leinster Outer Orbital Route and on employment. - The provision of more funding for Express Coaches is noted in the NTA



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	<p>Strategy.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- There is provision for a Park & Ride site on the Kells Road, Navan and also a proposal for a Park & Ride facility on the Dublin side of Navan.- Meath County Council can make proposals to NTA on bus routes.- There is funding for the greenway at the Royal Canal this year which is part of the Dublin-Galway greenway.- The removal of tolls is outside the remit of the Draft County Development Plan.
5.0	<p><u>Draft Roundabout Sponsorship Policy</u></p> <p>Dara McGowan made a presentation to the meeting on the Draft Roundabout Sponsorship Policy.</p> <p>Following the presentation the following matters were raised:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- How many signs can be provided on each roundabout.- Can particular roundabouts be set aside for Boyne Valley Tourism.- Reservations on signage and flora on roundabouts.- Local business should get first chance at sponsorship.- Signage should be of a different colour to other signage to avoid confusion with directional signage.- Are the Road Safety Authority and An Garda Síochána satisfied with the provision of signage on roundabouts.- Should withdraw policy if not working after three years.- Businesses should have a say as to what is on the signage. Existing roundabouts that have already been sponsored have logos, contact details, etc on the signage so will not be complying with what the Council is offering now. <p>Officials responded that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Businesses can join together to sponsor a roundabout.- If there is more than one sponsor interested then could use criteria such as closest to roundabout.- There would be one sign per approach road.- Roundabouts could be set aside for Boyne Valley Tourism.- Can provide images of signage to show SPC members.



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Council is looking for a system to deal with cost of maintaining roundabouts. <p>It was agreed by the meeting to recommend the Draft Policy to the full Council for adoption.</p>
6.0	<p><u>Notices of Motion</u></p> <p><u>6.1 Motion referred from Trim Municipal District Submitted by Cllr Noel French</u></p> <p><i>“That Meath County Council investigates the feasibility of adopting the Community Hedge Cutting Grant Scheme in this local authority area as has been done in Clare County Council, which encourages a joint approach between local residents and landowners to address the issue of ongoing maintenance of roadside boundaries.”</i></p> <p>John McGrath introduced this Notice of Motion which was submitted by Cllr Noel French at a Trim Municipal District meeting and referred to the Transport SPC Meeting.</p> <p>Following this introduction, the SPC Members raised the following issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Should trial this scheme for one year.- This scheme is not necessary as there are already powers to enforce landowners to cut hedges.- Landowners should be sent letters to maintain hedges.- There is a need to prosecute landowners who do not comply with hedgecutting notices.- No necessity to cut hedges every year.- Can the time period for cutting hedges on roadsides be changed. Noted that there is currently a proposal with the Oireachtais to amend the time period. <p>The meeting agreed not to adopt the Community Hedge Cutting Grant Scheme.</p>



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7.0	<p><u>AOB</u></p> <p>The Chairman of the Transport SPC Cllr Eugene Cassidy stated that he would be stepping down as Chairman of the Transport SPC and that Cllr Paddy Meade would take over the Chairmanship from the October 2017 meeting onwards.</p> <p>The members and officials expressed their thanks to Cllr Cassidy for his contribution as Chairman of the SPC.</p> <p>The next Transportation SPC meeting was scheduled for 19th October 2017 at 4pm.</p>
8.0	<p><u>Recommendations from SPC Committee to Corporate Policy Group and to Full Council.</u></p> <p>1. The Draft Roundabout Sponsorship Policy is recommended for adoption.</p>