



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

Kells Municipal District

Ordinary Meeting

4:00p.m., 19th January 2015, Kells Civic Offices

An Cathaoirleach, **Councillor Eugene Cassidy**, presided.

Councillors Present: Seán Drew, Michael Gallagher, David Gilroy, Johnny Guirke, Bryan Reilly, Sarah Reilly.

Officials in Attendance:

Director of Service: Kevin Stewart

Meetings Administrator: Claire King

Senior Engineer: John McGrath

Senior Executive Engineer: Fiona Beers

Administrative Officer: Alan Rogers

Executive Engineer: Aaron Smith

Assistant Staff Officer: Rose McManus

Clerical Officer: Edita Zolotuchina

1 Confirmation of Minutes

1.1 Confirmation of minutes of Ordinary meeting held on 15th December 2014.

The Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 15th December 2014 were adopted on the proposal of **Councillor Bryan Reilly** and seconded by **Councillor Michael Gallagher**.

2 Matters arising from the Minutes

There were no matters arising.

3 Expressions of Sympathy and Congratulations

There were no expressions of sympathy or congratulations.



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4 Statutory Business

4.1 To discuss the 2015 Schedule of Municipal District Works.

Kevin Stewart introduced John McGrath, Senior Engineer, Transportation Operations, who outlined the responsibility of both Transportation Operations and Transportation Design & Strategic Issues. He outlined the new structure being established across the six Municipal Districts, with Fiona Beers, Senior Executive Engineer for Kells and Navan Municipal Districts and Aaron Smith, Executive Engineer being the contact for operational issues within the Kells Municipal District. Alan Rogers, Administrative Officer has also been assigned to Transportation Operations.

He referred to Circular LG 27/2014 / FIN 21/2014, which was circulated to Councillors at the January meeting of Meath County Council. The Schedule of Municipal District Works will outline the works to be undertaken in the Municipal District during 2015 and will include the activities that were included in the former roadworks programme in addition to other operational activities, such as street cleaning, and other departmental activities, such as housing maintenance and repair. He outlined the process to be taken in preparing the Schedule of Municipal District Works and confirmed that Aaron would meet with Councillors in the coming two weeks to discuss the programme of works and any issues with a view to adopting the Schedule of Municipal District Works at the February meeting.

Reference was also made to the new customer service model being developed and further information will be circulated to Councillors regarding points of contact. The different funding streams were also referenced, including government grants, which should be confirmed in the next two weeks, and the General Municipal Allocation.

Matters raised by Councillors included:

- The possibility of using discretionary funding to hire private contractors for pothole repair;
- The continuation of the Community Involvement Scheme, the allocation of discretionary funding to the CIS and the options to undertake works in cul de sacs;
- The percentage allocation of government grants for road restoration in Kells Municipal District – it was confirmed that the pavement condition survey index and the length of road in each district would inform the preparation of the roads programme for inclusion in the Schedule of Municipal District Works;
- The durability of surface dressing works and the related standards – it was confirmed that there were a number of variables that impacted on the



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durability of these works but that if defects were identified within the contract period and were attributable to the contractor, the contractor would be liable to rectify these defects;

- The use of the recycling machine for road restoration – it was confirmed that this method had worked well and would continue to be used at suitable locations.

The Cathaoirleach thanked John for his presentation.

5 Notice of Question

There were no Notices of Question.

6 Notice of Motion

There were no Notices of Motion.

7 Correspondence

- 7.1** Correspondence received from National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht – Acknowledgement of Submission made regarding the review of legislative controls set out in Section 40 of the Wildlife Acts 1976 to 2012 governing the control of burning and hedge cutting.

The correspondence was noted.

- 7.2** Correspondence received from Tommy Grimes – Meath London Association and Colmcille's Trail.

The correspondence was noted.

Kevin Stewart pointed out that whilst the Meath London Association would continue to be supported on a countywide basis, Colmcille's Trail was particularly associated with Kells Municipal District and that Councillors might consider how best to support that link.

It was proposed by Councillor Seán Drew and seconded by Councillor Eugene Cassidy that a letter would issue to both groups outlining the new structure in Kells Municipal District and confirm that the relationships would continue to be supported.

- 7.3** Correspondence received from the Department of Environment, Community and Local



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Government regarding Wind Energy Development Guidelines.

The correspondence was noted.

8 Any Other Business

8.1 Councillor Johnny Guirke raised the following issue:

8.1.1 The procedure for taking in charge a lane whose residents had recently submitted a related request – it was confirmed that a procedure was outlined in the Roads Act, that the decision was a reserved function but that regard must be had to the implications for the council finances and the proposed road was of general public utility. It was agreed that the request would be reviewed. Should a proposal be made to commence the procedure, an assessment would need to be undertaken and the issue brought back to a future meeting of the Municipal District.

8.2 Councillor Michael Gallagher raised the following issue:

8.2.1 Gritting on roads leading to and from adjacent counties – the winter gritting programme, and available resources, was outlined.

8.3 Councillor Seán Drew raised the following issues:

8.3.1 The provision of salt/grit in locations for community access – it was agreed that a list of possible locations would be identified for consideration;

8.3.2 CCTV in Kells – it was confirmed that the CCTV system was operational in the Town Hall car park, but that the recording facility was being checked and that the Gardaí had recently enquired about its availability.

8.4 In relation to gritting, a number of locations were referenced - Aaron Smith highlighted some of the issues that impacted on the limitations and affects of the gritting programme and agreed to check the specific locations mentioned:

8.4.1 Moynalty village to GP surgery on the Carlanstown Road,

8.4.2 Millbrook to Oldcastle past Loughcrew,



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8.4.3 White's Hill, Drumconrath,

8.4.4 Mullagh to Wellmans,

8.4.5 Navan Road.

8.4.6 Mullingar Road from M3 roundabout to the corner at the Railway Bar.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed:

Cathaoirleach