



## ***Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes***

### ***Laytown-Bettystown Municipal District***

#### ***Ordinary Meeting***

***10:00a.m., 15<sup>th</sup> January 2015, Duleek Civic Offices***

An Cathaoirleach, **Councillor Sharon Tolan**, presided.

**Councillors Present:** Eimear Ferguson, Wayne Harding, Tom Kelly, Sharon Keogan, Stephen McKee, Paddy Meade.

#### **Officials in Attendance:**

**Head of Finance:** Fiona Lawless

**Meetings Administrator:** Claire King

**Senior Engineer:** John McGrath

**Senior Executive Engineer:** Jim Colwell

**Administrative Officer:** Alan Rogers

**Executive Engineer:** Christy Clarke

**Staff Officer:** Triona Keating

**Clerical Officer:** Edita Zolotuchina

### **1 Confirmation of Minutes**

**1.1** Confirmation of minutes of Ordinary meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> December 2014.

The Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> December 2014 were adopted on the proposal of **Councillor Tom Kelly** and seconded by **Councillor Sharon Keogan**.

### **2 Matters arising from the Minutes**

In relation to Item 4.2.1, Carronstown Grant Scheme, it was agreed that the Community Department had been asked to request the Committee to consider the extension of the boundaries within which applications would be considered eligible.



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### **3 Expressions of Sympathy and Congratulations**

There were no expressions of sympathy or congratulations.

### **4 To receive a presentation from Duleek Youth Café.**

Ms. Anita Lynch informed the meeting that Duleek Youth Café would open in central premises in the village by the end of January on Wednesdays and Saturdays to start with. A committee had been established and the focus would be on young people of 8 years upwards. The intention was to complement the work of Foróige, which opens on a Friday night. The committee was in the process of collecting equipment for the facility and support was being sought to assist with the establishment of the facility. A survey is being undertaken of young people to see what they would like to see being made available.

Councillors acknowledged the need for such a facility in Duleek and congratulated all those involved in its establishment. Queries raised included the suitability of the premises in terms of its size and location and it was confirmed that training was being provided by Youth Work Ireland.

The Cathaoirleach thanked the representatives for attending and Councillors wished them well with the initiative.

### **5 Statutory Business**

#### **5.1 To discuss the 2015 Schedule of Municipal District Works.**

Fiona Lawless 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.

John McGrath, Senior Engineer, Transportation Operations outlined the new structure being established across the six Municipal Districts, with Jim Colwell, Senior Executive Engineer for Laytown-Bettystown and Ashbourne Municipal Districts and Christy Clarke, Executive Engineer being the contact for operational issues within Laytown- Bettystown Municipal District. Alan Rogers, Administrative Officer has also been assigned to Transportation Operations. He outlined the process to be taken in preparing the Schedule of Municipal District Works and the funding for related works, including the



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additional funding available locally – Housing Estates Fund, Members Discretionary Fund and the additional allocation made to Laytown-Bettystown Municipal District. Reference was made to the main activities that will fall under the roadworks programme.

Fiona Lawless outlined the means by which Councillors can raise issues, through direct contact with the District Engineer for operational issues, through direct contact with departments, via the customer service desk in Duleek Civic Offices or the central customer service contacts. It was agreed that the Schedule of Municipal District Works would be brought to the February meeting for adoption and that Councillors should submit relevant projects in advance for consideration.

Matters raised by Councillors included:

- The potential for the new structure to increase value for money;
- The allocation of additional outdoor staff to the Laytown-Bettystown Municipal District;
- The potential for the new structure to improve the situation locally – it was pointed out that a review would be carried out in May, that flexibility would be central to the new approach being adopted and that customer service and revised local government structures would give rise to a better service;
- The need for a standardised approach to the Community Involvement Scheme across the county.

The Cathaoirleach thanked John for his presentation.

### **6 Notice of Question**

#### **6.1 Submitted By Cllr. Tom Kelly**

“Can the Executive please confirm if the two roundabouts at Colpe have been taken in charge by Meath County Council?”

***A response was provided by the Transportation Section, as follows:***

*The two roundabouts at Colpe on the R-132 have been taken in charge by Meath County Council in 2010.*

The response was noted.



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### **7 Notice of Motion**

#### **7.1** Submitted by Councillor Sharon Tolan

“I propose that this Municipal District agrees that the former library site adjacent to St. Anthony's Villas continues in use as an enhanced community green space without the need for further building development on this site.”

**A response was provided by the Community Section, as follows:**

*There are currently no plans for any form of development on this site. As members have been previously advised in respect to the Library Service, it has been agreed that any new library facility in east Meath will be in the Bettystown town centre.*

*Notwithstanding the above, in the absence of any overall development framework for this particular area, it would be premature to restrict this site to one particular use that may impede on the overall environmental enhancement of the area at a later stage in the future.*

An amended motion was proposed by **Councillor Eimear Ferguson** and seconded by **Councillor Wayne Harding** as follows:

“I propose that this Municipal District agrees that the former library site adjacent to Marian Villas continues in use as an enhanced community green space without the need for further building development on this site.”

A discussion followed on the views of the community with regard to the site and the need for a community childcare facility in the area.

The amended motion was adopted.

### **8 Correspondence**

There was no correspondence.

### **9 Other Matters Arising**

#### **9.1** Councillor Sharon Tolan raised the following matters:



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- 9.1.1 The possibility of additional routes on the winter gritting programme, including the Colpe Road, the Pilltown Road and the Laytown-Julianstown Road – the current gritting programme, including the resources required and the timing, was outlined;
  - 9.1.2 Receding verges on the road from Ozanam to Harry's and opposite Duleek graveyard;
  - 9.1.3 The poor condition of the car park at Reilig Mhuire graveyard – it was pointed out that this was a private car park, belonging to the church, and was not a priority.
- 9.2** Councillor Paddy Meade raised the following matters:
- 9.2.1 The issues raised at the December meeting were still valid;
  - 9.2.2 The need to ensure accuracy around the housing figures for Laytown-Bettystown Municipal District;
  - 9.2.3 The facilitation of community and private sector involvement in the gritting of roads.
- 9.3** Councillor Stephen McKee raised the following matters:
- 9.3.1 The need for road markings at the filter lane opposite Platin;
  - 9.3.2 Ongoing issues with the sewerage in Millrace – it was agreed to refer this to Water Services for onward referral to Irish Water;
  - 9.3.3 The relatively high number of people in Duleek diagnosed with Guillain-Barré syndrome, a rare condition, which had resulted in a number of groups calling on the HSE and EPA to undertake an investigation into the possible causes of the incidences – it was agreed that a letter on behalf of Laytown-Bettystown Municipal District Councillors could be submitted to the HSE supporting any such investigation;
  - 9.3.4 The wall at Balsaran – it was confirmed that a consultant was undertaking the design work, following which the contractor would be appointed and talks



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would commence with the landowner.

### **9.4** Councillor Eimear Ferguson raised the following matters:

- 9.4.1 The need to clear the hard shoulder at Pilltown to Smithstown;
- 9.4.2 The need to clear the gullies to prevent water collection at the raised table in Duleek;
- 9.4.3 The possibility of improving the road markings at Donore in advance of the RÁS taking place in May 2015 – it was confirmed that this stretch was in the 2015 roads programme but that the resurfacing and road markings would not commence until May;
- 9.4.4 The need for companies delivering waste to Indaver to comply with the planning conditions relating to access through the village – it was agreed to refer this to Planning Enforcement with a reminder to issue to Indaver;
- 9.4.5 A request for digital mapping of Julianstown Community Garden, which is due for renewal on January 1<sup>st</sup> 2016 and they wish to include additional lands in their plans – it was agreed to see if this could be facilitated.

### **9.5** Councillor Wayne Harding raised the following matters:

- 9.5.1 The provision of salt to communities for gritting of local roads;
- 9.5.2 Start date for the footpath to the Hill of Slane – it was confirmed that this would commence within the next two weeks.

### **9.6** Councillor Tom Kelly raised the following matters:

- 9.6.1 Speeding on the L5614 and the damage to the road signs which were now on the ground and signs were also damaged and on the ground at the Pilltown Road junction;
- 9.6.2 Whether the roads at the junction of the Le Chéile School were taken in charge as there were a number of lights out of order;



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- 9.6.3 The specification for the development of the Coastal Management Scheme – it was confirmed that this was at an early stage and would be brought to the Municipal District, probably in March;
  - 9.6.4 A blocked drain at the junction between St. Anthony’s Villas and Marian Villas and also a drainage issue at the Golf Links Road, both of which were causing flooding;
  - 9.6.5 The bottle bank at Laytown was full after Christmas and who should be contacted in relation to same – it was agreed to refer this to the Environment Section;
  - 9.6.6 A request for a report on derelict sites for the March meeting including a survey of existing sites and how they are being managed;
  - 9.6.7 The removal and non-replacement of the public light at the archway at Marian Villas – it was agreed to refer this to the Public Lighting Unit.
- 9.7** Councillor Sharon Keogan raised the following matters:
- 9.7.1 The junction on the Platin Road beside the DoE centre, which was dangerous for local residents and pedestrians;
  - 9.7.2 The need for road markings at Beamore;
  - 9.7.3 The pedestrian crossing in Duleek is at the same level as the footpath and cars using footpath to turn around;
  - 9.7.4 The timeframe for the provision of the bus bays and raised ramps – it was confirmed that the bus bays were under construction and would be in place in 3/4 weeks and the raised ramps were subject to a Part 8 and a date would be sought from the Transportation Section;
  - 9.7.5 An update on the library site as the Town Centre, Bettystown had recently gone to sale agreed.
- 9.8** Fiona Lawless informed the meeting that consultants had been appointed with regard to the Northlands Flood Prevention Works, a joint initiative between Meath County



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Council and the OPW, and that works can now commence – it was confirmed that a briefing will be delivered at the February meeting.

### **10 Any Other Business**

#### **10.1 Leader Programme 2014-2020**

As requested at the December meeting, the following report was provided by the Community Department:

*The process for the roll out of the new Leader Programme 2014-2020 has recently been finalised between the Department of Environment, Community and Local Government, the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine and the European Commission. It is proposed to change the oversight and delivery of the new Rural Development Programme in line with recent significant local government reforms.*

*The delivery of the Leader programme 2014-2020 will involve the selection of a Local Action Group (LAG) and the design of a Local Development Strategy (LDS).*

*In summary, the LAG will be responsible for agreeing strategy priorities and approving expression of interests and the LDS prior to submission to the Department of Environment, Community and Local Government. There will be a designated lead LAG partner who will take a lead role in the preparation of the LDS and will be the implementation body of the Leader Programme. Each LDS will have a minimum spend which will be in the range of €2m-€2.5m. The total value for Co Meath will not be decided until the completion of the LDS stage, which will form the basis for the application for county funding from the overall national funding allocation.*

*It is Government policy that a partnership approach, which includes local authorities and other key stakeholders such as existing Local Development Companies, is considered in implementing LEADER LDS. It is encouraged that the Local Community Development Committee be the LAG in their designated areas. LCDCs were established under the Local Government Reform Act 2014 for the purpose of developing, coordinating and implementing an integrated approach to local and community development.*

*There will be an initial call for Expression of Interest for groups that wish to be considered LEADER LAGs. It is expected that the Expression of Interest phase will commence in January 2015. Once LAGs have been approved, the process will then move to the design of LDS.*

*Meath LCDC is currently liaising with County Meath LEADER Partnership with a view to fulfilling government policy on its approach to the delivery of the LEADER Programme 2014-2020 in Meath.*





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David Jones, Senior Executive Officer, Community Department was in attendance. In response to issues raised, he outlined the timeframe for the process and the establishment of the secretariat.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

**Signed:**

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**Cathaoirleach**