



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

Navan Municipal District

Ordinary Meeting

10:00 a.m., 20th January 2016, Navan Civic Offices

An Meára, **Councillor Joe Reilly**, presided.

Councillors Present: Sinéad Burke, Shane Cassells, Francis Deane, Wayne Forde, Jim Holloway, Tommy Reilly.

Officials in Attendance:

Director of Service: Kevin Stewart

Meetings Administrator: Claire King

Senior Executive Engineer: Fiona Beers

Executive Engineer: Noel Finnegan

Staff Officer: Triona Keating

1 Confirmation of Minutes

1.1 Confirmation of minutes of Ordinary meeting held on 16th December, 2015.

The Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 16th December 2015 were adopted on the proposal of **Councillor Tommy Reilly** and seconded by **Councillor Wayne Forde**.

2 Matters arising from the Minutes

There were no matters arising.

3 Expressions of Sympathy and Congratulations

Sympathy was extended to:

- Councillor Joe Reilly on the death of his mother, Christina.



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- Francie Power and the family of the late Paddy Power, Reask Green, Commons Road, Navan.
- Former Meath County Councillor Conor Tormey on the death of his brother, Christopher.

Councillor Joe Reilly thanked Councillors and officials for their expressions of sympathy following his recent loss.

Congratulations were extended to:

- Michael Mills and Navan Road Club on the Cyclocross event in Blackwater Park.

4 Statutory Business

4.1 Corporate Services

4.1.1 To discuss the 1916 commemorative garden.

Dara McGowan, Senior Executive Officer, Corporate Services attended the meeting and outlined the proposed design and location for the 1916 commemorative garden for Navan Municipal District, which is to be on the grounds of Buvinda House.

Matters raised by Councillors included:

- Welcomed the location, due to its accessibility and security.
- The timescale for the garden and its opening – it was confirmed that works would commence at the beginning of March and that the date of the official opening had not yet been confirmed but that it was intended to open it by Easter. It was also pointed out that the defence forces were due to attend one event, which may be closer to the 100th Anniversary on 24th April, that a 1916 exhibition was due to open in Solstice on 14th April and that a twinning event was also due to take place around the same time.



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- The provision of a footpath from the entrance – it was confirmed that a path would be provided to facilitate access to the proclamation.
- The possibility of adding seating.
- The need to ensure compliance with the guidelines on the use of the national flag.
- The possibility of including an acknowledgement of all 16 who died, rather than just the seven signatories – it was confirmed that, whilst the six gardens would follow a consistent design, a further programme of events was being planned.

4.2 Transportation

- 4.2.1 To inform the Navan Municipal District Members that Meath County Council Transportation Section intend to apply for Part 8 planning approval in accordance with the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended).

Paul Phelan, Transportation Planning & Design, and Ambrose Clarke, Westmeath National Roads Design Office attended the meeting and outlined the proposed works as part of the N51 Dunmoe Phase 2 and the related Part 8 process.

Matters raised by Councillors included:

- Welcomed the scheme on this strategic route;
- The impact on residents and landowners – the consultation process undertaken was outlined and it was confirmed that the scheme was amended where possible to take into account issues raised.
- The reinstatement of walls, boundaries, etc. – it was confirmed that these would be reinstated on a like for like basis.
- The proposed layout at various junctions and access routes.



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- The funding available and timeline – the process and timeframe were outlined.
- The flood management proposals – these were outlined.
- The provision of cycle lanes – it was pointed out, as a Type 1 carriageway, the design included hard shoulders adequate for cyclists and therefore no dedicated cycle lanes were to be provided.

It was agreed on the proposal of **Councillor Francis Deane** and seconded by **Councillor Sinéad Burke** to proceed with the Part 8.

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

The Mayor welcomed Noel Finnegan to the meeting as he is taking over from Ronan McEnroe as Navan Municipal District Executive Engineer.

The report had been circulated in advance and matters raised by Councillors included:

- The status of the playground in Claremont estate – it was confirmed that the playground was officially closed and that a decision was required as to whether the playground should be retained and a further investment made or removed. Following a discussion, it was agreed to consider this further at the February meeting.
- Update on the introduction of play equipment for younger children and children with a disability in the playground in Blackwater Park – it was confirmed that requirements were being identified and prices sought.
- Acknowledged the success of the recent Cyclocross event in Blackwater Park, the works undertaken by Council staff to facilitate the event and the professional approach to its organisation.
- The availability of sponsorship for four dog fouling bins in Blackwater Park – it was pointed out that resources were needed to maintain these



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and that bins were already provided in the car park. It was agreed that additional signage and spot checks for enforcement would be considered.

- The use of water cuts in managing flood risk – it was agreed to focus on this.

4.3 Tourism

4.3.1 To discuss the Boyne Valley Tourism Strategy 2016-2020

The need for Navan to feed into the county strategy was acknowledged. The correspondence received from the OPW in relation to Athlumney Castle, Item 7.2, was discussed and it was agreed that Navan & District Historical Society should be encouraged to make a submission to the OPW under the Communities Initiative/Friends of Irish Heritage Scheme as suggested.

4.4 Planning

4.4.1 To consider taking in charge the following estates and the making of a declaration that the roads within the estates shall be public roads in accordance with Section 11 Roads Act 1993 and the Planning & Development Act 2000-2015.

- The Orchard, Navan

This was approved on the proposal of **Councillor Jim Holloway** and seconded by **Councillor Francis Deane**.

- Oak Court, Dunderry, Navan

This was approved on the proposal of **Councillor Sinéad Burke** and seconded by **Councillor Jim Holloway**.

- Fitzherbert Court, Navan

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This was approved on the proposal of **Councillor Sinéad Burke** and seconded by **Councillor Jim Holloway**.

- Ferndale, Navan

This was approved on the proposal of **Councillor Francis Deane** and seconded by **Councillor Sinéad Burke**.

- Blackwater Drive, Navan

This was approved on the proposal of **Councillor Francis Deane** and seconded by **Councillor Sinéad Burke**.

- Blackwater Abbey, Navan

This was approved on the proposal of **Councillor Shane Cassells** and seconded by **Councillor Francis Deane**.

- Aylesbury Lodge, Navan

This was approved on the proposal of **Councillor Jim Holloway** and seconded by **Councillor Francis Deane**.

Matters raised by Councillors included:

- Councillors commended the comprehensive report and survey results provided but highlighted the amount of works required, for which insufficient funding was available.
- Reference was made to the roads in certain estates where signage had been erected indicating that no parking was permitted and the use of clamping to prevent parking – it was confirmed that there was no provision for clamping on public roads.
- A query was also raised in relation to the works to be undertaken and as to whether these would include all works required or based on the

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bonds available – it was agreed to refer this to the Planning Department.

- It was suggested that, given the number of estates proposed for taking in charge, it would be beneficial to have a representative from the Planning Department in attendance to respond to the queries raised.

5 Notice of Question

5.1 Submitted by Councillor Francis Deane

“What is the update in relation to limiting HGVs entering the Iarnród Éireann Bridge on the R153 and will Meath County Council be erecting signage to divert the traffic at Metges Road?”

Response:

Iarnród Éireann is proposing a shuttle system through the bridge. The design should be complete by the end of January/early February. If the design is acceptable, the shuttle system will be implemented on a trial basis for approximately one week. If the trial is successful, consideration will be given to installing it permanently. If not, a diversion route around Metges Road may be undertaken as an alternative.

The response was noted.

5.2 Submitted by Councillor Wayne Forde

"Are there plans by the Executive to improve and increase public lighting in the Beechmount Avenue area of Navan?"

Response:

There are no plans to undertake works to the public lighting in the Beechmount Avenue area in Navan at present.

The response was noted.



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6 Notice of Motion

6.1 Submitted by Councillor Wayne Forde

“I call on the support of my fellow Councillors for the erection of barriers going up the Boreen Keel on the left hand side as far as the pedestrian crossing from St Patrick’s Terrace to Emmet Terrace, for public safety, and a gap halfway up the hill for pedestrians to cross into the car park and playground area.”

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

Both the road width and footpath width are narrow on Boreen Keel and the request for a guardrail is understandable as traffic can drive very close to pedestrians. However, the installation of a guardrail would further reduce the width of the footpath and it may make it impossible for wheelchairs or prams to pass. In addition, the Design Manual for Urban Roads and Streets states that:

“Segregated design solutions (particularly where the car is dominant) have tended to fail as places, increase car dependency and reduce pedestrians and cyclist activity”.

It also states that:

“The use of guardrails may be counterproductive as:

- *It may increase vehicle speeds and aggressive behaviour.*
- *Create a false sense of safety for both drivers and pedestrians (guardrails will only stop vehicles travelling at very low speeds).*
- *Block visibility between drivers and children.*
- *Result in pedestrians/cyclists being trapped on the carriageway or found in locations that are not anticipated by drivers.*
- *Reduce the width and capacity of footways and crossings.*



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- *Create a collision hazard for cyclists where built in close proximity to cycle lanes.”*

Meath County Council recommends that the provision of guardrails or barriers is not a suitable solution to the problem, and that an alternative solution would have to be sought.

The motion was deferred, as the proposer, Councillor Forde, was not present.

6.2 Submitted by Councillor Wayne Forde

"That the Executive write to the Garda commissioner with a view to the possibility of a full time Garda station in Johnstown."

The motion was deferred, as the proposer, Councillor Forde, was not present.

6.3 Submitted by Councillor Francis Deane

"That Navan Municipal District will oblige a request from residents of an un-named laneway off the Proudstown Road and officially name said lane as 'Fagan's Lane'."

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

As this laneway has not been taken in charge by Meath County Council, the Council has no role in the naming of this laneway.

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Francis Deane** and seconded by **Councillor Sinéad Burke**.

It was pointed out that, as the road is not taken in charge, residents could opt to name the laneway.

The motion was noted.



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6.4 Submitted by Councillor Francis Deane

“That Navan Municipal District will carry out a report to examine traffic calming measures on the approach road from Bohermeen to the Navan Retail Park in an effort to reduce speeding vehicles as they approach the junction and also improve visibility from the business park exit. This motion follows several requests and questions from business owners as well as customers.”

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

Navan Municipal District will request a report to examine traffic calming measures at this location.

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Francis Deane** and seconded by **Councillor Sinéad Burke**.

The motion was adopted.

7 Correspondence

- 7.1 Correspondence received from Eirgrid in relation to Item 7.5 – Notice of Motion, as adopted at July 2015 monthly meeting re. North- South 400kV Interconnection Development.

The correspondence was noted.

- 7.2 Correspondence received from the Office of Public Works in relation to Item 6.10 – Notice of Motion as adopted at September 2015 monthly meeting re. request to make regular tours during the summer months of Athlumney Castle.

The correspondence was noted.

- 7.3 Correspondence received from Sarah Douglas, the owner of O'Briens Sandwich Bar in relation to unfinished site at Metges Lane, Navan.



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A discussion followed on the issues affecting businesses in Metges Lane including drainage, the condition of the hoarding around different sites and the need to maintain public investment. It was confirmed that the issue highlighted in the correspondence had been looked at in 2015 and land ownership clarified. It had been proposed to remove the hoarding and pave the left hand strip entering the lane. However it was understood that construction works were planned by the developer at that location and also broadband connections were possibly to be installed so the planned Council works were delayed until these other works were complete but these had not progressed since. It was agreed to revisit the site and see what could be done. The recurring issues with damage to bollards and trees were highlighted. It was agreed that an acknowledgement letter would issue to Ms. Douglas.

8 Any Other Business

8.1 Councillor Shane Cassells raised the following issues:

- 8.1.1 The need to contact Eir to request that they enable the broadband cabinet in Athlumney Wood, the only one not enabled in Navan.
- 8.1.2 Complimented Meath County Council staff on the flood management works undertaken in December and January, particularly on Academy Street.
- 8.1.3 The ongoing issue regarding the accumulation of surface water to the rear of Beechmount.

8.2 Councillor Jim Holloway raised the following issues:

- 8.2.1 The removal of an indigenous boundary hedge along the L5055-0, Johnstown Road, as part of the Cois Glaisin development, and its replacement with a metal railing, the cutting of the remaining hedge and whether the retention of this hedge had not been included as a planning condition – it was agreed to refer this to the Planning Department.
- 8.2.2 Visibility issues for traffic turning left off the L5055-5 onto the L5055-0 in Johnstown village.
- 8.2.3 Leaves on the footpath along the L5055-0 Johnstown Road and the danger for pedestrians, particularly the elderly.



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8.3 Councillor Sinéad Burke raised the following issue:

8.3.1 Update on the wall removed between Johnstown Wood and Millbrook and the need for landscaping at this location – it was agreed to refer this to Transportation.

8.4 Councillor Francis Deane raised the following issues:

8.4.1 Two gullies blocked on the Trim Road.

8.4.2 The smell at the former Spicers site when flooding occurred.

8.4.3 The need to fill in the open pipe in Blackcastle.

8.4.4 The motion recently passed regarding the acknowledgement of those who reach 100 years of age in 2016 – it was confirmed that the County Librarian was dealing with this.

8.4.5 That a letter be issued to Gus & Olive Martin in respect of their donkey's participation in the Live Animal Crib – this was agreed.

8.4.6 The removal of graffiti.

8.5 Councillor Joe Reilly raised the following issues:

8.5.1 Welcomed the purchase of 25 housing units by Cluaid in Tubberclaire Meadows and of 20 apartments by the Council in Mill Lane.

8.5.2 The need for immediate action with regard to the trees and other vegetation growing from the Poolboy Bridge – it was confirmed that the bridge was subject to annual inspection and maintenance.



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This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed:

An Meára