



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

### ***Navan Municipal District***

#### ***Special Meeting***

***10:00 a.m., 10<sup>th</sup> January 2017, Navan Civic Offices***

An Meára, **Councillor Francis Deane**, presided.

**Councillors Present:** Sinéad Burke, Pádraig Fitzsimons, Wayne Forde, Jim Holloway, Joe Reilly, Tommy Reilly.

**Officials in Attendance:**

**Director of Service:** Kevin Stewart

**Meetings Administrator:** Claire King

**Senior Engineer:** Nicholas Whyatt

**Senior Executive Planner:** Wendy Bagnall

**Executive Engineer:** Paul Phelan

### **1 Transportation**

**1.1 To consider the following motions submitted following circulation of the Chief Executive's report on the Part 8 process for the N51 Navan to Slane Road**

The Mayor confirmed that Councillor Sinéad Burke's motion would be taken first.

**1.1.1 Submitted by Councillor Sinéad Burke (*Deferred from the December Ordinary Meeting*)**

*"I, Sinéad Burke, propose an amendment to the proposed Part8/16004 N51 Dunmoe Phase 2. I propose access be granted on to the proposed new route from the existing N51 route at chainage 1060 to 1080 OR at chainage 1250 to 1300 for the Mennis family farm .This would also accommodate residents on the New Lane (L74165). This is all within the red line on the Part 8 planning application and it is critical that the needs of residents are met."*



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

It is an objective of the project to minimise the access points to the proposed realigned N51 in the interest of road safety. This has been achieved in the current design by combining as many junctions and accesses together so as to reduce the number of conflict points onto the N51. The design team has made significant changes to the scheme following discussions with the Menis family including the addition of an underpass. The Council has also agreed to consider at the detailed design stage pedestrian accesses from the old N51 to the new scheme at chainages 750 and 1200 approx.

A previous proposal to provide a junction at chainage 1000 was analysed and rejected by the design team. Providing an additional access in a similar location at either ch 1060-1080 or ch 1250-1300 would increase the risk of a collision on the scheme where an alternative is available. It would also compromise overtaking opportunities on the scheme. The Transportation Department therefore consider, the proposed amendment is undesirable and detrimental to road safety.

The current design has been prepared in accordance with the latest TII Design Manual for Roads and Bridges to provide a much needed road improvement with a design speed of 100kph. Where possible, Meath County Council and the designers have sought to incorporate the views expressed by affected parties during the development of preliminary design. This has been done in a way which balances the impact of the scheme without compromising the objectives of the project or the design standards.

Having taken this approach, we believe that we have maximised the chances of progressing the scheme and gaining approval of An Bord Pleanála for the CPO. It is accepted that this Notice of Motion is made on behalf of constituents in good faith and with the best intentions. However, there is a risk that modifications to the design may result in a scheme which the TII cannot approve as it is not compliant with TII standards. I therefore appeal directly to Councillors not to make technical modifications to the scheme which are not supported by the executive of Meath County Council or the designers of the scheme.

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The motion was proposed by **Councillor Sinéad Burke** and seconded by **Councillor Tommy Reilly**.

The discussion that had taken place at the December ordinary meeting was again outlined. It was also confirmed that legal advice had been obtained reinforcing the need to provide appropriate evidence, including technical evidence, to support any decision taken. The views of the TII were also outlined, in that any scheme being proposed must be in compliance with the requisite standards and that the amendment being proposed did not, in their view, meet this compliance requirement.

Following a short discussion, **Councillor Sinéad Burke** proposed the following motion, which was seconded by **Councillor Tommy Reilly**:

*"That the following conditions be attached to the Chief Executive's report on the proposed upgrading of the N51:*

- *The Council acknowledges the considerable inconvenience the proposed plan will cause to some residents along the route;*
- *At the detailed design stage, the Council will omit the proposed junction located at chainage 350 to a revised location between chainage 700 and 1300. This proposed change is within the red lines of Part 8 and will eliminate 6 entrances and approximately 500 meters of carriage way;*
- *The Council recognises the importance of public transport and, to alleviate some local needs, will work with the NTA and Bus Éireann to provide safe and accessible bus stops on the upgraded route;*
- *The Council, during the CPO process, acknowledges that there are residents being affected by increased noise levels and as part of this acknowledgement will bring these residents into the CPO process;*
- *Where possible, anti-dazzle barriers and sound barriers should be substituted with clay barriers and landscaped with natural planting."*

It was confirmed that the Chief Executive's Report already included a condition requiring designated bus stops along the route. It was also agreed that the



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report could include a reference in relation to the noting by Councillors of the inconvenience being caused to a number of residents and that the clay barriers with natural planting would be provided where possible.

It was pointed out the local authority could not include the condition relating to the CPO process as this process only applied to those whose land was required to progress the scheme and could not be extended beyond that.

A lengthy discussion took place around the proposed condition to move the junction. It was confirmed that this had previously been considered and been rejected on technical grounds and in favour of the scheme being proposed. It was also pointed out that this would represent a material change and would require the Part 8 process to be recommenced. The potential impact of this was outlined, as was the competitive funding environment.

It was agreed to adjourn the meeting for ten minutes.

When the meeting resumed, **Councillor Sinéad Burke** proposed the following amendment, which was seconded by **Councillor Tommy Reilly**:

*"That the following conditions be attached to the Chief Executive's report on the proposed upgrading of the N51:*

- *The Council acknowledges the considerable inconvenience the proposed plan will cause to some residents along the route;*
- *A residents liaison committee will be formed and recognised by the council to represent the views and concerns of residents throughout the process;*
- *The Council recognises the importance of public transport and, to alleviate some local needs, will work with the NTA and Bus Éireann to provide safe and accessible bus stops on the upgraded route;*
- *Where possible, anti-dazzle barriers and sound barriers should be substituted with clay barriers and landscaped with natural planting."*

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It was agreed to hold a roll call vote on the amended motion and the result was as follows:

Councillor	For	Against	Abstain	Absent
BURKE, Sinéad	FOR			
DEANE, Francis	FOR			
FITZSIMONS, Padraig	FOR			
FORDE, Wayne		AGAINST		
HOLLOWAY, Jim	FOR			
REILLY, JOE	FOR			
REILLY, Tommy	FOR			
<b>RESULT</b>	6	1		

The amended motion was therefore adopted.

Councillor Sinéad Burke wished to note that this is the start of a very long process, particularly for residents, and that, through good will, it is hoped that a lot of the concerns can be addressed.

The Mayor, Councillor Francis Deane, thanked the residents in attendance and thanked officials for their efforts in reaching a resolution.

### 1.1.2 Submitted by Councillor Wayne Forde (Deferred from the December Ordinary Meeting)

*“Can I call on the Executive to reject the current proposals for the part 8 process on the N51 on the basis that they don't take into consideration the needs of many residents along this stretch of road.”*

As the decision in respect of Item 1.1.1 had been taken following a vote, this motion did not proceed.



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This concluded the business of the meeting.

**Signed:**

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**An Meára**