



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

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

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

***10:00a.m., 12<sup>th</sup> February 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 Executive Engineer:** Jim Colwell

**Executive Engineer:** Christy Clarke

**Staff Officer:** Triona Keating

**Also in attendance:** John McGrath, Senior Engineer; David Jones, Senior Executive Officer; Larry Whelan, Senior Executive Officer; Tom Traynor, Senior Executive Engineer; Fiona Fallon, Senior Executive Engineer; Bernard Greene, Senior Executive Planner; Fergal O'Bric, Executive Planner; Pdraig O'Shea, Assistant Planner.

#### **1 Confirmation of Minutes**

##### **1.1 Confirmation of minutes of Ordinary meeting held on 15th January 2015.**

The Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> January 2015 were adopted on the proposal of **Councillor Tom Kelly** and seconded by **Councillor Sharon Keogan**.

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

Councillor Eimear Ferguson requested that Item 7.1, Notice of Motion be amended to reflect that Councillor Wayne Harding had seconded the motion.



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

There were no expressions of sympathy or congratulations.

### **4 Statutory Business**

#### **4.1 Environment**

- 4.1.1 To consider a draft issues paper associated with the preparation of a Beach Management Plan for Laytown-Bettystown.

Larry Whelan outlined the key points contained in the documents circulated in advance of the meeting, including the draft Issues Paper, extracts from the Meath County Development Plan 2013 – 2019 and the associated SEA Statements in respect of policies and objectives as they relate to beaches and coastal issues, a copy of the Meath County Council Foreshore Bye-Laws 2010 and a list of the 33 criterion to achieve Blue Flag status.

Matters raised by Councillors, and responses received, included:

- Traffic management, car parking provision and paid parking;
- Inadequate toilet facilities;
- Access to the beach;
- Anti-social behaviour and liaison with the Gardaí;
- Coastal erosion and an update on the coastal protection works;
- The use of the casual trading pitches to promote local food businesses;
- The establishment of a Beach Management Committee;
- The extent of the beach to which the management plan should apply;
- The role of aquaculture;



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- The need to have in put from Drogheda Port Company;
- The need to update the signage in the area and the effectiveness of the notice boards;
- The condition of the boardwalk in Bettystown;
- Traffic access on the Jimmy Tully Bridge, Laytown;
- Enforcement of the horses ban;

The benefits of a five year plan with annual programmes of works.

Responses received included:

- It was confirmed that a design for the coastal protection works was being prepared and that works should commence in 2-3 months;
- The capital programme and amenity levies could be considered to provide facilities in the area;
- It was agreed to circulate copies of all relevant reports and the Pollution Response Plan to Councillors.

The next steps were outlined as being the consideration of the views of the Councillors, publication of a notice in the paper regarding the draft Issues Paper, receipt of submissions from the public, report presented to the Laytown-Bettystown Municipal District and Environment SPC and a recommendation to be made to Meath County Council.

### **4.2 To consider and adopt the Draft 2015 Schedule of Municipal District Works.**

David Jones, Housing Department outlined the categories for housing maintenance and repair and explained the background to the allocations, including those managed centrally. John McGrath SE, Transportation Department provided an overview of the breakdown of funding relating to transportation, the sources of funding and how these can be spent, the rationale for the allocations to the Municipal District and the central budgets that are allocated over the six municipal districts.

Matters raised by the Councillors, and responses received, included:



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- The number of applications received for adaptation works, including house extensions, and the process involved in their assessment;
- The Special Improvement Grant for the three former town council areas – it was pointed out that these areas had been excluded from the former roadworks programme and now need to be incorporated;
- The need for each of the six municipal districts to receive an equitable distribution of the available funding for road maintenance and repair;
- The decrease in overall national funding towards road maintenance and repair and comparisons with other local authorities;
- Community Involvement Scheme;
- The number of positive aspects contained in the schedule and the need for the various stakeholders to work together;
- The public lighting allocation – the rationale for the central management of public lighting was explained;
- The need for the NRA to provide additional funding to maintain the official non-tolled routes;
- The need to maintain signage and road markings;
- Countywide review of parking charges;
- The cost of the footpath at the schools in Laytown – it was agreed to provide a costing at the March meeting;
- The provision of a car park at the Ledwidge Museum – it was pointed out that this could be looked at as part of the amenity scheme and that planning permission would first be needed;
- The allocation of the estates funding.

An amendment to the 2015 Schedule of Municipal District Works was proposed by **Councillor Tom Kelly** and seconded by **Councillor Sharon Tolan** as follows:

- That the €25,000 allocation under the General Municipal Allocation Housing Estates Grant for Alverno Heights be transferred to Marian Villas.



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It was agreed on the proposal of **Councillor Wayne Harding** and seconded by **Councillor Sharon Keogan** to adopt the amended 2015 Schedule of Municipal District Works.

It was agreed that the monthly update on the roadworks programme would include updates on all elements of the Schedule of Municipal District Works, as appropriate.

### **4.3 Planning**

4.3.1 To consider the Chief Executive's Report prepared pursuant to Section 20 (C) (1) of the Planning & Development Act 2000-2014 on submissions and observations received with respect to the proposed amendments to the Local Area Plan for the Southern Environs of Drogheda 2009-2015. Following consideration of the Chief Executive's Report, to make a recommendation to Meath County Council to accept, or not to accept, the recommendation contained in the Chief Executive's Report to alter the proposed amendments or to alter the amendments other than as recommended in the Chief Executive's Report.

Fergal O'Bric, Executive Planner delivered a presentation to the meeting that outlined the background to the process to date and also the submissions received and recommendations made.

Matters raised by the Councillors, and responses received, included:

- The availability of submissions in Duleek Civic Offices – it was pointed out that the Chief Executive's Report provided a summary of submissions received and that there was no requirement to make the submissions available to Councillors. However, had the Planning Authority been made aware by one of the councillors that they wished to view the submissions in Duleek, they would have been facilitated;
- The employment generating opportunities in Drogheda were to be welcomed;
- The submission received from the NRA regarding the Leinster Orbital Route was welcomed – it was pointed out that, whilst the route has no status and was not part of a national funding programme, the NRA had contacted Meath and Kildare local authorities regarding junction protection on the route corridor in relevant plans and that all planning applications for these areas would be referred to the NRA for comment.



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It was agreed on the proposal of **Councillor Sharon Tolan** seconded by **Councillor Paddy Meade** to accept the recommendations made in the report.

### **5 Notice of Question**

#### **5.1 Submitted by Councillor Tom Kelly**

*“Will Laytown-Bettystown Municipal District be provided with monthly updates on the Beach Management Programme?”*

The notice of question was dealt with under Item 4.1.1.

### **6 Notice of Motion**

#### **6.1 Submitted by Councillor Wayne Harding**

*“I call on Meath County Council to rename the Mattock Bridge at Rossin, Slane “The Philip Clarke Bridge”, in the run up to the centenary anniversary of his death in 2016.”*

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Wayne Harding** and seconded by **Councillor Stephen McKee**.

Councillor Wayne Harding pointed out that a commemorative event was being organised by descendants of Philip Clarke in 2016 and that a lot of work was being undertaken in organising this by the community.

The motion was unanimously adopted.

### **7 Correspondence**

#### **7.1 Launch of 2015 Anti Litter Initiative – Application Form.**

The correspondence was noted.

### **8 Any Other Business**



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### 8.1 Update on Northlands Flood Prevention Works

- 8.1.1 Consultants, URS Ireland Ltd., have been appointed to carry out the design for the Northlands Flood Prevention Works. The consultants are currently assessing the existing hydraulic model and identifying potential flood prevention works options. They are due to report back to Meath County Council within the next 2 weeks to discuss the outcomes of the assessment, outline the solutions considered and present the recommended option. It is intended to provide regular updates to Councillors and residents.

Councillors welcomed the progress being made and the contact with residents. It was confirmed that a Part VIII would probably be required, with a recommendation sought from Councillors. A detailed design would be followed by a tender process and the OPW are considering the funding options available. A query was raised regarding planning applications being made in areas where flood prevention works have taken place and whether the flood risk maps would suffice as evidence that a particular area was not in danger of flood risk. It was pointed out the flood risk maps are to go on public display and are not yet finalised but that any applications received are submitted to the OPW for comment and any works undertaken in that area would be identified then.

- 8.2 Councillor Sharon Tolan requested that the roadside approaching City North Hotel be cleaned in advance of the Boyne Valley Tourism Conference taking place 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> February – it was pointed out that contractors had already been brought in to clean this area and that the roadworks programme had to take priority but that it would be looked at.

### 8.3 Councillor Wayne Harding raised the following issued:

- 8.3.1 Ducting had been installed for public lighting at Rathdrinagh Cross on the N2 and could the lighting now be erected – it was agreed to refer this to the Public Lighting Unit;
- 8.3.2 Timeline for the roadworks programme to recommence;
- 8.3.3 Thanked Meath County Council for emergency works undertaken at the bridge on the school bus route.



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- 8.4 Councillor Paddy Meade referred to recent incidents that took place on roads due to potholes, e.g. L-5627.
  
- 8.5 Councillor Tom Kelly referred to traffic management issues outside the grounds of East Meath Utd, Minnistown Road, Laytown following soccer matches – it was agreed to refer this to the Planning Department.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

**Signed:**

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**Cathaoirleach**