



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

Laytown-Bettystown Municipal District

Ordinary Meeting

09:30 a.m., 16th February, 2017, Duleek Civic Offices

An Cathaoirleach, **Councillor Tom Kelly**, presided.

Councillors Present: Eimear Ferguson, Wayne Harding, Sharon Keogan, Stephen McKee, Paddy Meade, Sharon Tolan.

Officials in Attendance:

Head of Finance: Fiona Lawless

Director of Service: Des Foley

Meetings Administrator: Claire King

Executive Engineer: Christy Clarke

Staff Officer: Triona Keating

1 Confirmation of Minutes

1.1 Confirmation of minutes of Ordinary Meeting held on 19th January, 2017.

The Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 19th January 2017 were adopted on the proposal of **Councillor Sharon Keogan** and seconded by **Councillor Eimear Ferguson**.

2 Matters arising from the Minutes

Councillor Sharon Keogan requested updates on Beamore Cross, the invitation to President Higgins and the town twinning – it was pointed out that these would be dealt with later in the meeting.

3 Expressions of Sympathy and Congratulations

Sympathy was extended to:



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- To Deirdre Morgan, former employee of Meath County Council Library Service on the death of her husband Raymond Morgan.

Congratulations were extended to:

- St. Colmcille's GFC who play in the Intermediate Final at the weekend;
- Bernadine Carry on establishing the Beach Management Committee;
- Christy Clarke for the works undertaken in Alverno Heights and Marian Villas.

4 Statutory Business

4.1 Library Services

- 4.1.1 To receive an update on the Francis Ledwidge Centenary.

Ciarán Mangan, County Librarian, provided an update on the programme of events planned by the Library, Heritage & Arts services of Meath County Council and Solstice Arts Centre.

The Cathaoirleach and Councillors thanked Ciarán for the work undertaken and commended the programme of events planned.

4.2 Transportation

- 4.2.1 To receive a Progress Report on works undertaken/planned for Laytown-Bettystown Municipal District.

The report had been circulated in advance and was noted.

4.3 To consider and adopt the 2017 Schedule of Municipal District Works.

John McGrath, Senior Engineer, 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



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central budgets that are allocated over the six municipal districts. The increase in funding to Laytown-Bettystown Municipal District was highlighted. The position with regard to the CIS and proposed LIS was outlined.

Matters raised by Councillors included:

- Welcomed certain works included, particularly Beamore, Bettystown/Laytown link road, and the increased beach cleaning.
- Asked if the unused winter maintenance budget could be reallocated – it was pointed out that the winter season extends to April and includes October to December and would be kept under review with regard to any unspent own resources.
- The omission of roads in Duleek – it was pointed out that the capital works were dealt with separately.
- Requested additional detail on specific works included – additional information was provided.
- The scope of the funding allocated to the Slane Bypass – the immediate plan was outlined with confirmation that commitment had been given for further funding as required.
- Update on the park & ride facility at Laytown – it was agreed that a report on the options would be presented at the March/April meeting.
- The need to accommodate private bus operators in terms of bus bays and bus shelters.
- The need for a footpath at Donacarney to link school to village – it was pointed out that this would require land acquisition but would be considered as part of the capital programme.
- The need for road markings at certain locations. – the road width requirement was highlighted and Councillors were asked to submit locations where these were considered to be required.



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- The need for public lighting investment throughout the municipal district – it was confirmed that a review of the public lighting programme was to take place and would form part of the capital programme review.
- The provision of school wardens - it was pointed out that a safety audit was first required and necessary measures would be implemented.
- The status of the three year roadworks programme – it was confirmed that the 2016 plan had been implemented in full and the three year programme was on track, with additional works undertaken.
- The need to maintain trees and grass margins and clean road signs – It was confirmed that trees on public roads were the responsibility of the Council, that appropriate tree planting was required in estates and that this might be considered by the Planning SPC. Councillors were asked to submit locations of signs and it was suggested that the Transport SPC might look at this.
- Update on the Duleek Bypass and HBV ban – it was confirmed that a report would be presented at the March meeting.
- The need for a bypass of Julianstown – it was agreed to discuss this with TII.
- The need for a consistent policy with regard to green & white bollards at junctions – it was pointed out that these were installed on national roads to warn of junctions but were not installed on regional roads due to the cost involved.
- The need for a structural assessment due to water retention on the R132 at the bridge in Julianstown.
- The status of roads for which applications had been made under the CIS – it was confirmed that research was being undertaken in relation to some applications.

David Jones, Housing Department outlined the categories for housing maintenance and repair and explained the background to the allocations, including those managed centrally. An update on housing activity in Laytown-Bettystown Municipal District was also circulated. It was pointed out that the proposed programme of works was based



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on the 2016 funding allocations, as the 2017 allocations had not yet been confirmed but should be similar to that in 2016, if not slightly increased. Councillors were reminded that ongoing updates would be included in the monthly Chief Executive's Report presented at the full Council meetings.

Matters raised by Councillors included:

- The composition of the housing list – this was explained.
- The detail of the acquisition and construction programmes and the upgrade of the existing estates – the information was provided.
- The allocation of housing to those with disabilities – reference was made to the Housing Strategy for Disability and the progress updates provided to the Housing SPC.
- The Tenant Purchase Scheme – a progress update was provided.
- The advertisement for expressions of interests for the provision of sites/units – it was confirmed that an assessment of submissions made was currently underway.
- The management of housing stock – it was pointed out that there were no regulatory powers regarding 'downsizing', but the provision of new units suitable to the needs of smaller households, in appropriate locations, may provide the incentive to tenants who would be deemed to be over accommodated.
- The availability of EU funding to invest in social housing – it was confirmed that elements of the existing programme, including energy upgrades, did receive EU support.
- The provision of Traveller accommodation – reference was made to the 2014-2018 Traveller Accommodation Programme.



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- The eligibility for housing for those on rent supplement – it was pointed out that the Housing Needs Assessment is carried out every three years, most recently in 2016, and those who do not respond are removed from the list.
- The Rural House Scheme – it was confirmed that this was still available for those eligible for social housing and subject to Department funding.
- The installation of back boilers – it was pointed out that the solid fuel heating was not in compliance with the energy upgrade scheme.
- The use of infill sites – it was confirmed that a number of projects would be submitted to the Department by the end of March.
- The allocation of emergency accommodation – it was confirmed that most providers are based in Navan, but that the Council does utilise other providers throughout the County were available, and when the need arises.

The 2017 Laytown-Bettystown Schedule of Municipal District Works was unanimously adopted on the proposal of **Councillor Sharon Keogan** and seconded by **Councillor Wayne Harding**.

It was agreed on the proposal of **Councillor Tom Kelly** and seconded by **Councillor Sharon Keogan** to extend the meeting by thirty minutes.

5 Notice of Question

There were no Notices of Question.

6 Notice of Motion

6.1 Submitted by Councillor Wayne Harding

“I call for emergency funding to put in place road safety measures outside the Castle Glen Estate in Mornington in light of a number of recent accidents.”



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

The roadway outside Castleglen Housing estate is within a 60km Zone and having reviewed the location, additional Chevron signs will be provided to highlight the acute bend.

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Wayne Harding** and seconded by **Councillor Sharon Keogan**.

The motion was adopted.

7 Strategic Policy Committee Reports – For Information Purposes

7.1 To note the report from the Transportation SPC meeting of 26th January 2017.

The report was noted.

8 Other Matters Arising

8.1 Councillor Eimear Ferguson raised the following issues:

8.1.1 The provision of Big Belly Bins – it was pointed out that these are being subject to a 6 month monitoring period due to issues with domestic refuse being deposited and that signs were being erected to counter this.

8.1.2 The extension of the Beach Warden season to September to coincide with the Sand Yachting Championship – it was agreed that this should be possible.

8.1.3 The need for reminders regarding the closure of the hedge cutting season – it was confirmed that advertisements would be placed by Transportation.

8.2 Councillor Wayne Harding raised the following issues:

8.2.1 The lack of notification to Councillors and the local community with regard to the N51 road closures – it was pointed out that the works were undertaken in



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Louth and it was agreed to check if any advertisements were issued.

8.2.2 The removal of trees at Dean's Bridge, Duleek – it was agreed to check with Ashbourne Municipal District.

8.2.3 The need for lighting at Rathkenny Hall and pitch.

8.3 Councillor Stephen McKee raised the following issues:

8.3.1 The road surface at the junction at the graveyard in Duleek – it was confirmed that Kilsaran had been appointed to undertake works on behalf of Irish Water following a burst main but that no timeframe for completion was yet available.

8.3.2 The need for placename signs entering Duleek on the Navan Road – it was confirmed that the type of signage needed was being considered as part of the speed limit review and one would be installed.

8.4 Councillor Paddy Meade raised the following issue:

8.4.1 The need for road markings at the junction in Heronstown following two recent collisions and the need to adjust the signs at the school.

8.5 Councillor Sharon Keogan raised the following issues:

8.5.1 The damaged wall on the Tubberfin Road.

8.5.2 Update on the meeting with the OPW – it was confirmed that no response had yet been received.

8.5.3 The possibility of pruning the trees at 'The Family' monument before March – it was confirmed that this would be done in September.

8.5.4 The need for a footpath and lighting on Larrix Street, Duleek – it was pointed out that the road width did not allow for a footpath and that the need for lighting would be referred to the public lighting unit.

8.6 Councillor Tom Kelly raised the following issue:



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- 8.6.1 Update on Seafields, Laytown – it was confirmed that maps were being prepared to ascertain the full community potential of the site and that this would be brought to the April Municipal District meeting for discussion.

9 Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

10 Any Other Business

10.1 Town Twinning

Dara McGowan outlined the protocol that applied, the available funding and expenses covered and emphasised the need for community involvement to lead any successful twinning initiative. Following a short discussion on possible suitable twinning initiatives, including Downpatrick, it was agreed that community groups would be invited to submit proposal(s) for discussion at the April Municipal District meeting and, if agreed, a proposal would be brought to the Protocol Committee for approval.

- 10.2 It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Tom Kelly and seconded by Councillor Sharon Keogan to change the date of the March meeting to Thursday 9th March.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed:

Cathaoirleach