



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

Navan Municipal District

Ordinary Meeting

10:00 a.m., 22nd February 2017, Navan Civic Offices

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

Councillors Present: Sinéad Burke, Jim Holloway, Joe Reilly, Tommy Reilly.

Apologies: Councillors Pdraig Fitzsimons and Wayne Forde.

Officials in Attendance:

Director of Service: Kevin Stewart

Meetings Administrator: Claire King

Executive Engineer: Paul O'Brien

Staff Officer: Triona Keating

1 Confirmation of Minutes

1.1 Confirmation of minutes of Ordinary Meeting held on 25th January 2017.

The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 25th January 2017 were adopted on the proposal of **Councillor Tommy Reilly** and seconded by **Councillor Sinéad Burke**.

1.2 Confirmation of minutes of Special Meeting held on 8th February 2017.

The minutes of the Special Meeting held on 8th February 2017 were adopted on the proposal of **Councillor Sinéad Burke** and seconded by **Councillor Tommy Reilly**.

2 Matters arising from the Minutes

Councillor Joe Reilly enquired as to whether the meeting between SIRO and the technical staff had yet taken place – it was agreed to refer this to Transportation.



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3 Expressions of Sympathy and Congratulations

Sympathy was extended to:

- The family of the late John King, former employee of Meath County Council.

Congratulations were extended to:

- PJ Nolan, representing Cycling Ireland, on his appointment to the Olympic Council.

4 Disposal of Land pursuant to the provisions of Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001

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

5 Statutory Business

5.1 Transportation

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

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

- Welcomed the condition assessment of estates – it was confirmed that a report outlining the works required with costs would be prepared and a multi-annual programme of works to commence this year.
- Welcomed works on the Ongenstown/Dunderry/Bohermeen road.
- Potholes on Flowerhill and at Solstice – it was confirmed that repairs were being carried out.
- Illegal dumping to the rear of Lidl and Kilcarn Court – it was agreed to submit a map of this location.



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5.1.2 To receive an update on the Navan Traffic Warden Service.

Dara McGowan, Senior Executive Officer, Transportation outlined the purpose of the parking system and addressed each of the issues that had been raised on social media, etc. Planned initiatives were also outlined, including a Park & Tag initiative, long stay permits, a text service to report illegal parking in disabled spaces, and smart meters. It was also pointed out that the parking service was being monitored on an ongoing basis with compliance rates being normal.

Matters raised by Councillors included impacts on businesses, parking charges in other towns in Meath, the possibility of carrying out a survey to determine the level of available spaces at different times of the day, the need to counter false information being circulated on social media, welcomed new initiatives.

It was agreed that a report would be presented at the March meeting, to include the level of fines currently being issued compared with similar periods and survey results relating to locations/turnover. It was also agreed to undertake a PR campaign to counter any misleading information that is being circulated.

5.2 Corporate Services

5.2.1 To note Municipal District Allocations submitted by Councillors on behalf of Navan Municipal District.

The list of allocations, circulated in advance, was noted.

5.3 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 central budgets that are allocated over the six municipal districts. The increase in funding to Navan Municipal District was highlighted. Reference was also made to the CIS in 2017, with 2 schemes included for Navan Municipal District, and the proposed LIS.

Matters raised by Councillors included:



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- Acknowledged road improvements in recent years.
- The ongoing availability of NTA funding for the Public Realm Plan – it was confirmed that it was intended to launch the Public Realm Plan before Easter and that some funding may be carried over to 2018.
- The need to relocate the pedestrian crossing at the Round O.
- The need for a pedestrian crossing outside St. Paul's school – it was pointed out that, as part of the school redevelopment, a controlled pedestrian crossing was to be provided.
- The timeframe for works on the cantilever bridge – it was confirmed that funding allocated was for the design to improve pedestrian safety and that, following the Part VIII and detailed design, further capital funding would be required and would form part of the overall plan to be approved by the NTA.
- Footpath works required from Blackcastle to Clusker Park and Belcourt.
- Update on progress relating to works on the N51 – it was agreed to provide a progress report when available.
- Update on the wall in Johnstown – it was confirmed that the options were being examined and an update would be provided when available.

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 Navan Municipal District was also circulated. It was pointed out that the proposed programme of some works was based 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 role and activities of the Approved Housing Bodies.



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- Update on the application for the Local Infrastructure Housing Activation Fund for Farganstown – it was confirmed that an announcement was likely to be made before the end of March.
- The planned programme for derelict sites/units in towns – the pilot scheme in relation to vacant units was outlined and it was confirmed that derelict sites in Navan would be looked at.
- Use of infill sites – it was confirmed that these were being examined in local authority estates.
- The maintenance programme – it was agreed that the programme would be reviewed.
- The composition of the housing list – this was explained.

The 2017 Navan Schedule of Municipal District Works was unanimously adopted on the proposal of **Councillor Tommy Reilly** and seconded by **Councillor Francis Deane**.

6 Notice of Question

6.1 Submitted by Councillor Francis Deane

“In relation to remedial works that have to be carried out in the Ferndale Estate, will Meath County Council be liaising with Irish Water with regard to sewage problems which need to be addressed?”

Response:

It is the Council's intention to carry out the remaining agreed contract works within the development and then, further to liaising with Irish Water, tender for the additional works required in the sewage networks within the development.

The response was noted. Clarification was sought as to the exact nature of the works referred to in the response and it was agreed to refer this to Planning for response.



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7 Notice of Motion

7.1 Submitted by Councillor Francis Deane

“I propose that Navan Municipal District install chevron bollards to prevent all day parking on the roadside, outside of the FBD building, and Academy Square apartments. This has health and safety implications because parked cars are hampering the visibility of customers and residents when exiting onto Academy Street.”

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

Navan Municipal District Transport Operations Section shall arrange for a technical inspection of the mentioned location to determine if any action is required. The site location may then be considered for future works based on prioritisation of projects and having regard to availability of budgets and resources.

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Francis Deane** and seconded by **Councillor Joe Reilly**.

The motion was noted.

7.2 Submitted by Councillor Francis Deane

“I propose that, when considering the local area plan, Meath County Council, would make provision for a decking walkway, from the New Bridge on the N3 R147 to St Martha's Bridge.”

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

This motion will be considered as part of the review of the Navan Local Area Plan.

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Francis Deane** and seconded by **Councillor Jim Holloway**.

The motion was adopted.



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7.3 Submitted by Councillor Sinéad Burke

“Following on from the installation of ‘No Dog Littering’ signs in Blackwater Park, that these signs are installed on a selection of streets in the town also, in particular on Flower Hill, where many regular walkers in the area have expressed annoyance and concern at the level of dog littering in the area.”

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

In the course of 2016 the Environment Department initiated a wide range of initiatives relating to Dog Fouling including the provision of additional signage at popular walking locations, stencils in parks and the holding of a number of dog awareness days designed to promote responsible dog ownership and alerting owners of the human health and other risks associated with dogs fouling in public places.

Such initiatives were in addition to enforcement duties carried out by the Dog Wardens in public parks etc.

Further initiatives are planned for 2017 including the putting in place of additional signage or stencils on footpaths (which washes away) and consideration will be given to such action in Flower Hill or other areas of the Town where there are particular difficulties.

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

The motion was adopted.

7.4 Submitted by Councillor Sinéad Burke

“That Meath County Council will consider buying the former Jackie Skelly gym in Johnstown for community use.”

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



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A discussion followed on the developments that have taken place and are planned for Johnstown and the absence of amenities and community facilities. Whilst it was acknowledged that this particular building may not be feasible, it was pointed out that an action plan was required to ensure that progress is made in the delivery of such facilities. It was pointed out that there were a number of factors that needed to be considered, including the forthcoming capital programme review and the review of the County Development Plan and Navan Local Area Plan. It was agreed that Navan Municipal District was the most appropriate structure through which any agreed actions should be progressed and that a proposal would be developed for consideration.

The motion was adopted.

8 Strategic Policy Committee Reports – For Information Purposes

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

The report was noted.

9 Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

10 Any Other Business

10.1 The provision of linkages from Johnstown to Navan town centre via Athlumney.

Des Foley, Director of Services – Transportation, welcomed residents who were in attendance at the meeting and confirmed that Meath County Council and the NTA were hoping to advance proposals, taking account of the issues and concerns raised previously. It was confirmed that a more meaningful consultation process with residents and other stakeholders would be undertaken following progress on the Navan Public Realm Plan.

10.2 Councillor Jim Holloway raised the following issue:

10.2.1 Potholes requiring repair on the L-40232-0 – it was agreed to check this.



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10.3 Councillor Joe Reilly raised the following issues:

10.3.1 The trees and shrubbery growing from the bridges in Navan and along the riverbank, thereby obscuring the view of the river and undermining the bridge structures – it was agreed to refer this to Transportation.

10.3.2 Update on the traffic light head replacement programme.

10.3.3 The impact of heavy traffic on road verges.

10.3.4 The need to be able to distinguish between litter fines and dog fouling fines.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed:

An Meára