



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

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

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

***10:00 a.m., 12<sup>th</sup> March 2015, Duleek Civic Offices***

An Cathaoirleach, **Councillor Sharon Tolan**, presided.

**Councillors Present:** Eimear Ferguson, Wayne Harding, Tom Kelly, Sharon Keogan, 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

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

##### **1.1 Confirmation of minutes of Ordinary meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> February.**

The Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> February 2015 were adopted on the proposal of **Councillor Tom Kelly** and seconded by **Councillor Eimear Ferguson**.

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

Councillor Paddy Meade requested that the minutes be amended to reflect that he had stated under Item 4.2 that every road he had identified since November 2014 as being in bad repair was either still in bad repair or had deteriorated and that action was required.

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

There were no expressions of sympathy or congratulations.



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### 4 Statutory Business

#### 4.1 Planning

4.1.1 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 2000-2014.

- Castle Garden, Slane.

This was agreed on the proposal of **Councillor Paddy Meade** and seconded by **Councillor Eimear Ferguson**.

- Churchlands, Slane.

This was agreed on the proposal of **Councillor Paddy Meade** and seconded by **Councillor Tom Kelly**.

- Seabury Lawns Phase 1, Mornington.

After a brief discussion, Councillors agreed to defer a decision on the taking in charge of Seabury Lawns Phase 1, Mornington until clarification had been provided by the Planning Department in relation to compliance with planning conditions in respect of traffic calming measures in the estate.

- Stoneyford Green, Duleek.
- This was agreed on the proposal of **Councillor Sharon Keogan** and seconded by **Councillor Tom Kelly**.

#### 4.2 Community

4.2.1 To adopt the Report on Community Development Grant 2015 –Lobinstown.

This was agreed on the proposal of **Councillor Paddy Meade** and seconded by **Councillor Sharon Tolan**.



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### **5 Notice of Question**

#### **5.1 Submitted by Councillor Eimear Ferguson**

“To ask the total development levies and contributions owed, collected and outstanding from the development of the Steeples estate in Duleek (Ref 99/2603 01/4024 SA/30274) and what this money was spent on and is to be spent on.”

**A response was provided by the Planning Department, as follows:**

*The quantum of Development contributions on this development was €259,422 broken down as follows:*

*Water - € 50,980*

*Waste Water - €115,851*

*Amenity - € 92,591*

*The development contributions have been paid in full.*

*Development contributions are levied on a county at large basis, and are applicable to qualifying infrastructure anywhere in the administrative area of the Planning Authority .*

*Contributions have been applied to infrastructural projects as part of the financial accountancy practices of the Local Authority and are applied in the first quarter of the next following year after payment has been received.*

The response was noted.

### **6 Notice of Motion**

#### **6.1 Submitted by Councillor Eimear Ferguson**

“That Meath County Council, in light of recent developments and subsequent incidents in the area, will carry out a full safety review of traffic flow and management along the



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R152 in and around the Kavanagh DOE Test Centre and that this would involve full consultation with residents and business owners alike, and propose a suitable resolution.”

### **Supporting information was provided by Transportation Department, as follows:**

*The Transportation Department would like to ascertain what ‘recent developments and subsequent incidents in the area’ are being referred to in the Notice of Motion. We would be grateful if this would be indicated to the Municipal District Engineer who will be present at the meeting and who can subsequently discuss and agree an appropriate course of action with the relevant staff in the Transportation Department. Once this is done a note on how we intend to proceed can be circulated to Councillors.*

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Eimear Ferguson** and seconded by **Councillor Tom Kelly**.

A brief discussion followed on the effectiveness of the measures implemented and their impact on residents and businesses in the area. It was agreed that the effects would be monitored and further works undertaken and monitored.

The motion was adopted.

### **6.2 Submitted by Councillor Eimear Ferguson**

“That Meath County Council would designate an area at the southern end of the Bettystown/Laytown beach as a car free zone/family area and that signs would be erected to advise visitors of this; same to be completed by 1st June 2015 and incorporated into the Beach Management Plan/beach bye laws.”

### **Supporting information was provided by the Environment Section, as follows:**

*The Meath County Council Foreshore Bye Laws 2010 at clause 4.20 prohibits the parking of vehicles on the Foreshore outside such areas as maybe designated from time to time by the Council for parking. The Council have designated a car free zone /family on the north side of the Bettystown entrance to the beach and clearly defined with signage indicating “ NO CARS BEYOND THIS POINT” - This designated car free zone/family area is the area that the beach lifeguards patrol during the summer season.*



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*The bye –laws do not contain any map showing the location of such designated areas for due to environmental and other changing circumstances these may have to be moved from one location to e.g. soft sand. There is therefore flexibility in allowing designations of areas such as car free zones without the need to go through the statutory process which would be involved in amending the Bye Laws were such maps included.*

*It is understood that the Notice of Motion refers to a designation of an area of the beach accessed from Delaney’s entrance which is located circa 500 m south but which has been closed off for a number of years. There are a number of issues of concern associated with the designation of an additional car free zone / family area at this location and these include:*

- The Council simply doesn’t have the resources to manage a second and separate family area, including a bathing area and the associated lifeguard services at this location.*
- While the designated area may be car free there would be a requirement for traffic management by Council employees for the area where car parking is permitted and this is borne out by experiences in the past especially during warm weather periods.*
- The beach area from the Neptune to the Nanny estuary has traditionally been used to facilitate beach events, some of which need an extensive beach area e.g. annual horse racing event, cricket competition, sand castle competition, kite surfing, and sand yachting.*
- Parts of the beach south of the Neptune entrance and practically all the way to the Nanny estuary are subject to the outflow of surface water from beach side properties and the Brookside stream. The beach area to the north of the Neptune entrance does not have drainage issues and the majority of beach goers accordingly use this section of beach.*

*The members will recall the discussions on the preparation of a beach management plan for Bettystown/Laytown at the recent Municipal District meeting and it is suggested that the designation of areas on the beach for particular purposes and the associated resource requirements can be considered as part of this process.*



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The motion was proposed by **Councillor Eimear Ferguson** and seconded by **Councillor Sharon Tolan**.

A brief discussion followed on the current arrangements and the possibilities for including an additional area at the southern end, and the constraints that exist in relation to same. The role of the Environment SPC and the Beach Management Plan was also highlighted.

The motion was adopted.

### **7 Correspondence**

#### **7.1 Update on progress of installation of second Indaver artwork – ‘Tree’.**

The correspondence was noted.

### **8 Any Other Business**

#### **8.1 Councillor Tom Kelly raised the following issues:**

8.1.1 The access to the beach, particularly during busy periods, the impact of parking controls on traffic, the facilities available – it was pointed out that the Beach Management Plan would include a review of access to the beach and that the capital programme may include measures to address some of the issues.

8.1.2 The provision of additional funding by the NTA for non-tolled routes – it was pointed out that these were regional roads and that the priority remained the Slane Bypass for NRA funding. It was agreed on the proposal of **Councillor Tom Kelly** and seconded by **Councillor Eimear Ferguson** to contact the NRA to request additional funding for the repair and maintenance of official non-tolled routes.

#### **8.2 Councillor Paddy Meade raised the following issues:**

8.2.1 The lack of Wifi in Slane and Duleek libraries – it was pointed out that the priority in libraries was to provide computer access but that the IT Department would be requested to review Wifi availability at these locations.



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- 8.2.2 The poor road conditions causing vehicle damage, the need for pothole repair on the L-16051, L-55291, L-56297 and L-1624, and the need for Meath County Council to support rural business by improving road conditions.
- 8.3 Councillor Eimear Ferguson raised the following issues:
- 8.3.1 The possibility of using Gateway staff for litter picking in Duleek – it was pointed out that transportation and training had to be provided for Gateway staff and that Environment were reviewing this. An update would be provided at the next meeting.
- 8.3.2 The cutting of a hedge at Alverno and the removal of the debris – it was agreed that this would be removed.
- 8.4 Councillor Wayne Harding raised the following issues:
- 8.4.1 Welcomed the works undertaken on the Rochestown Road.
- 8.4.2 Highlighted the efforts of Slane Tidy Towns group in collecting litter on the approach roads to the village and the high level of volunteerism with the assistance of the Council.
- 8.5 Councillor Sharon Keogan raised the following issues:
- 8.5.1 The need for additional social housing and the impact of rent increases.
- 8.5.2 The need to request all waste plants and Roadstone to ensure that all trucks using their facilities are adequately covered to prevent debris from littering roadsides and affecting pedestrians – this was agreed.
- 8.5.3 The number of applications received for the CIS and the possibility of reducing the LPT payable by homeowners who make a contribution to a CIS – it was confirmed that approximately 30 applications had been received countywide and were being reviewed.
- 8.6 Councillor Sharon Tolan raised the following issues:



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- 8.6.1 Welcomed the completion of the works on the stream at the Eastham Road.
- 8.6.2 The inclusion of the footpath from Laytown school to Anchorage on the NTA funding list and the possibility of diverting the NPPR funding elsewhere – it was confirmed that the NTA funding was for the southward section of footpath but that negotiations were ongoing with a landowner to acquire land and if this was not resolved, it may be necessary to transfer the funding to the northward section but this was not yet finalised. The full costings were not yet available as a number of issues remain outstanding and the Transportation Department is preparing the design.
- 8.6.3 The positive meeting regarding the Boyneside Trail held last week.
- 8.7 Fiona Lawless referred to the capital programme being developed and the need for councillors to consider the projects to be included for Laytown-Bettystown Municipal District. The key considerations and types of eligible projects were outlined. It was agreed that Councillors would meet separately to discuss.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

**Signed:**

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**Cathaoirleach**