



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

Kells Municipal District

Ordinary Meeting

4:00 p.m., 21st March 2016, Kells Civic Offices

An Cathaoirleach, **Councillor Bryan Reilly**, presided.

Councillors Present: Eugene Cassidy, Seán Drew, Michael Gallagher, David Gilroy, Johnny Guirke, Sarah Reilly.

Officials in Attendance:

Director of Service: Kevin Stewart

Senior Executive Engineer: Fiona Beers

Executive Engineer: Aaron Smith

Staff Officer: Triona Keating

Clerical Officer: Edita Zolotuchina

Apologies: Claire King, Meetings Administrator

1 Confirmation of Minutes

1.1 Confirmation of minutes of Ordinary Meeting held on 15th February, 2016.

The Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 15th February 2016 were adopted on the proposal of **Councillor Johnny Guirke** and seconded by **Councillor Michael Gallagher**.

2 Matters arising from the Minutes

There were no matters arising.

3 Expressions of Sympathy and Congratulations

Sympathy was extended to:



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- Amanda Murtagh, Meath County Council employee, on the death of her brother, Keith Smith.
- The Sweeney Family on the death of their mother, Anna Sweeney.
- Gerry Kelly, Meath County Council employee, on the death of his father, Con Kelly.
- The family of the late Brian Smyth, former Meath County Council employee.

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 Michael Gallagher** and seconded by **Councillor Johnny Gurke**.

5 Statutory Business

5.1 Corporate Services

- 5.1.1 To receive a presentation on Event Management Guidelines.

Dara McGowan, Senior Executive Officer, Corporate Services delivered a presentation on the event management guidelines, which included information on procedures, event categories, pre-planning, risk management and requirements.

Matters raised by Councillors included:

- The procedures if an event was being organised on private property – It was pointed out that the organisers would then go through the property owner and a Traffic Management Plan may be required if there was an overflow of traffic onto the public road.
- Notice required for planned street events – a minimum of 8 weeks notice is required and a limit of 8 weeks notice must be given for a road closure.



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A short discussion followed on the 1916 Garden and the Councillors outlined their dissatisfaction with regard to the quality of the stone and the standard of the work involved in the erection of same and that perhaps it could have been placed further out from the hedge. It was confirmed that works are not yet complete and the plaque on the limestone was going to be rectified. The Contractor will install an area of level paving in front of the plinth and the hedge will be trimmed parallel to the plinth. The Contractor will also put in heads/pavement pieces and all works will be completed by the 23rd April. Councillors asked if a separate plaque or notice board could be erected explaining its purpose. It was agreed that this could be looked at separately after the event.

- 5.1.2 To note Municipal District Allocations submitted by Councillors on behalf of Kells Municipal District.

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

5.2 Community

- 5.2.1 The provision of a guarantee under S66 (1) (a) of the Local Government Act 2001 for lands at Athboy Cowpark.

Aine Bird, Administrative Officer, Community Department attended the meeting and outlined the background to this proposal. Two of the Councillors, who are members of the board of Athboy Social Needs and Recreational Company, were not aware of this and felt that a meeting of the board should have been called in advance to discuss this matter.

It was suggested that Councillors Gilroy and Guirke, as members of the board of the company, could request the company secretary, Aidan Hora, to call a meeting. The matter will be regarded as passed for now but if either Councillor considers that there are further issues to be addressed, they should notify officials before the April meeting of the full Council and the item can be deferred. It was hoped that would not be necessary as there is some urgency in having the matter concluded.

This was approved on the proposal of **Councillor David Gilroy** and seconded by **Councillor Sarah Reilly**.



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5.3 Planning

5.3.1 To consider taking in charge the following estate and the making of a declaration that the roads within the estate shall be public roads in accordance with Section 11 Roads Act 1993 and the Planning & Development Act 2000-2014.

- Townparks Manor, Kells.

Councillors pointed out that residents remain unhappy with the remedial works undertaken on the boundary walls. Councillors have spoken to the Developer and nothing has happened. As the works have been passed by the Planning Department, there is no leverage on the builder. The Councillors are not satisfied that the conditions have been met with regard to the boundary wall. Residents would be satisfied if the Builder fixed the cappings on the wall.

It was agreed on the proposal of **Councillor Michael Gallagher** and seconded by **Councillor Sean Drew** to defer this matter to the April meeting and that a representative from the Planning Section will be asked to attend.

5.4 Transportation

5.4.1 To receive a Progress Report on works undertaken/planned for Kells Municipal District.

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

- It was asked that Transportation be invited to the next meeting to discuss the speed limit review around the county and in particular the timeframe, roads completed to date and feedback on the findings.
- It was asked if any additional funding was available for Kells Municipal District for the Schedule of Municipal District Works – Kevin Stewart confirmed that arising out of a better outcome of the 2015 AFS, the Chief Executive was in a position to allocate €140,000 to each Municipal District under Road Maintenance Projects and an additional €35,000 was allocated for public lighting for each Municipal District. Fiona Beers



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suggested that most of the funding be used for footpath repairs. A list of proposed works will be drawn up and circulated to Councillors for comments/agreement. Initially it is proposed to upgrade footpaths in Crossakiel at a cost of €50,000. These works were agreed on the proposal of Councillor **Eugene Cassidy** and seconded by Councillor **Johnny Guirke**.

- Of the €400,000 that came to the County for flooding, how much of this is for Kells Municipal District – Fiona Beers informed Councillors that they are still looking at this but she is hoping to get something towards the repair of gabions at the back of Headfort Woods.
- The inadequate promotion of tourism at Loughcrew Cairns by the OPW, the opening of the Cairns during the Equinox (6.00am to 8.00am) and the removal of the key from Loughcrew Gardens to facilitate access during the day, as was previously the case - it was agreed that a letter be submitted to the OPW requesting an explanation as to why the procedure has changed this year.

6 Notice of Question

There were no Notices of Question.

7 Notice of Motion

There were no Notices of Motion.

8 Correspondence

- 8.1 Correspondence received Dominic Mullaney, Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport in response to Notice of Item 4.5 of February ordinary meeting re 2016-2018 Multi-Annual Restoration Improvement Programme.

The correspondence was noted and Fiona Beers confirmed that the 2016-2018 Roadworks Programme was submitted to the Department by the closing date of 11th March, 2016.



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The following matters were raised by the Councillors:-

- Disappointment was expressed with the tone of the letter, in particular paragraph 4 therein.
- Meath has a heavier volume of traffic on our roads passing through Meath to Dublin. A stronger case needs to be put to the Department for additional funding. It is not the length of the road but the volume and use of the roads that should be considered.

It was agreed that a further letter be written to the Department expressing Councillors dissatisfaction with the content and the tone of the letter and invite them to a morning meeting in Kells and bring them on a tour of our roads.

9 Any Other Business

9.1 Councillor Johnny Guirke raised the following:-

9.1.1 If McKeown's lane in Kilskyre could be taken in charge – Although an old map shows this lane with a road number of "0", it is to be confirmed whether it is in charge or not. A full review of all previous minutes is being undertaken in order to update the roads schedule. The executive still advise against taking lanes in charge as resources to maintain them are not available.

9.2 Councillor David Gilroy raised the following:-

9.2.1 Requested a list of those who have been contacted with regard to the CIS Scheme as he may be able to assist some of them through the Municipal District Fund – it was agreed to circulate a list of roads for which people have been approached.

9.2.2 A presentation on the proposed Bus Stop for Athboy is going on display in Buvinda House and Kells Civic Office and it was asked if this could also go on display in Athboy Library – It was agreed that a copy would be put on display in Athboy Library.

9.2.3 Plans for Social houses on Connaught Street, Athboy are going on display in



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Buvinda House and Kells Civic Offices and it was asked if they could also go on display in Athboy Library – It was agreed to forward this request to the Housing Department.

9.3 Councillor Seán Drew raised the following:-

9.3.1 The new application for Castletownmoor Wind Farm, which is with An Bord Pleanála, and whether Meath County Council have any input into this – Kevin Stewart confirmed it is a matter for An Bord Pleanála to determine whether or not it is a Strategic Infrastructure Development (SID). Once a decision is made, An Bord Pleanála will write to the Council with their determination. If they determine it is not a SID, it becomes a planning application. If it is a SID, the timeframe then commences for Meath County Council to make a report and the public will be notified at that stage.

9.3.2 Recent publicity regarding a previous proposal from Kells Heritage Park for lands at Lloyd and whether there has been any movement on this proposal – Dara McGowan confirmed that the group had made contact seeking funding for a footpath and gate and they are proposing to do the works themselves. They have been asked for proposals; however, there is no funding available to cover this at present.

9.3.3 Queried as to whether there was a change in the letting terms for Lloyd - Dara McGowan confirmed that a request had been received from the Company to let the lands for sheep only. It was left as it was for this year, which is cattle grazing.

9.4 Councillor Michael Gallagher raised the following:-

9.4.1 Requested an update on the line to be put through Lloyd to Kells Windows – it was thought that Kells Windows are already connected through an alternative route.

9.5 Councillor Bryan Reilly raised the following:-

9.5.1 An update on the Chain of Office for Kells Town Council – Kevin Stewart confirmed that the chain had been returned and a display cabinet has been made for it. The chain is up to date and is in the safe keeping of the Council.



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This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed:

Cathaoirleach