



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

Kells Municipal District

Ordinary Meeting

4.00pm, 20th March, 2017, Kells Civic Offices

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

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

Officials in Attendance:

Director of Service: Kevin Stewart

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 20th February, 2017.

The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on the 20th February, 2017 were adopted on the proposal of **Councillor Michael Gallagher** and seconded by **Councillor Sean Drew**.

2 Matters arising from the Minutes

There were no matters arising.

3 Expressions of Sympathy and Congratulations

Congratulations were expressed to the following:-

- The Meath Association in New York for hosting St. Patrick's Celebration event.



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4 To receive a presentation from Kells & District Tourism Forum regarding the provision of a Taxi Rank in Kells

Hugh Morris and Vincent Duff from the Tourism Forum attend the meeting and made the case for the provision of a single taxi space to be located outside the Heritage Centre. In response Councillors expressed broad support for the idea of a taxi rank but sought clarification from the presenters on a number of aspects of their proposal. Two issues in particular were raised. The first was whether the Heritage Centre was the best location for a rank or if a more central location would be better or indeed if more than one location should be examined. The second was whether or not the existing hackney drivers were aware of the proposal and if they had been consulted. It was confirmed that no discussions had taken place with existing hackney drivers.

Council officials then described the process involved in designating a rank including the necessity to prepare and publish draft bye-laws for public consultation. The role of the National Transport Authority in issuing taxi licences was also outlined.

Following the debate Councillors said they would consider the presentation and the issues raised and would further consider the matter at a future meeting. In the meantime they asked officials to have a look at potential locations and report back.

5 To receive a presentation from Eureka Secondary School, Kells on Campaigning for Improved Facilities for Teenagers in Kells.

Louise Cullen and Shauna Young, Students from Eureka Secondary School together with their teacher Mr McKee attended the meeting. Louise and Shauna made a presentation on behalf of their C.S.P.E. class. They outlined why they chose this project, the actions they took and their aims for Kells.

The Cathaoirleach and Councillors thanked Louise and Shauna for their great presentation and acknowledged the hard work of the group.

6 Statutory Business

6.1 Corporate Services



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- 6.1.1 To discuss the 2017 Arts, Festivals, Festive Decoration & MD Renewal Budgets.

Dara McGowan, Senior Executive Officer, Corporate Services confirmed that a balance of €13,000 was available for Kells Municipal District (€5,000 carried over from 2016 and €8,000 allocated for 2017) and asked if Councillors had any proposals on how they wished this money to be spent.

After a short discussion the following was agreed:-

- Transfer €4,000 of this fund to Dulane Cemetery subject to Loreto Guinan providing a costing for the proposed works. It was agreed that Loreto be requested to attend the April meeting to discuss the proposed works and costing for same.
- It was agreed previously that Athboy, Kells and Oldcastle would receive €1,000 each year towards Christmas lights.

It was also agreed that submissions would be made by Councillors as to how the remainder of the money should be spent and these would be considered at the April meeting of Kells Municipal District.

6.2 Transportation

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

The report had been circulated in advance and was noted by Councillors.

- 6.2.1 To receive an update on Speed Limit Review.

Dara McGowan, Senior Executive Officer, Transportation confirmed that the Speed Limit Bye Law process had commenced and outlined the process involved in the making of Speed Limit Bye Laws. He advised that 260 submissions have been received over the last number of years and he and Paul Phelan, Executive Engineer, Transportation would be available after the meeting to go through any of the submissions received with Councillors.



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6.3 Planning

6.3.1 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 Acts 2000-2015.

- Cluain Beag, Nobber

John Sweeney, Building Control Officer, Planning Department, attended the meeting and responded to queries raised as follows:-

- Removal of the pumphouse within the estate – It was confirmed that this was not a requirement of the planning permission.
- Condition of the surface at the space between Cluain Beag and O’Carolan estate – It was confirmed that this area is not part of this development.

Following a short discussion, it was agreed on the proposal of **Councillor Eugene Cassidy** and seconded by **Councillor David Gilroy** that this estate be taken in charge.

6.3.2 To receive an update on Variation 1 of the Kells Development Plan 2013-2019, following on from the presentation given to the Members at the July meeting of Kells Municipal District held on 18th July, 2016.

Fergal O’Bric, Executive Planner, attended the meeting and delivered a presentation that included an overview of the amendment, variation in context, reasons for and objectives of the amendment, timelines and next steps.

Matters raised by Councillors included:-

- Confirmation of the housing figure for Kells in the Development Plan – It was confirmed that there are 250 additional units. In addition to this



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there are also 299 units with extant permissions that haven't yet commenced.

It was agreed that a copy of the presentation would be circulated to Councillors.

7 Notice of Question

There were no Notices of Question

8 Notice of Motion

8.1 Submitted by Councillor Sarah Reilly

“That the current objective in the Kells Development Plan, to provide a link road between the Navan Road and Slane Road, be varied to prioritise its establishment through NTA/NRA funding rather than the current development driven means as proposed.”

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

It appears that the obligation for the developer to construct this road arises from planning application KA 151346 which extended a previous application K901964 (granted by An Bord Pleanála) until 1st November 2020. It is considered that the TII's remit does not extend to this road and therefore they will have no interest in funding its construction. In 2012, Meath County Council discussed with the NTA whether they would be willing to provide an allocation towards the development of this road. At the time, an application was prepared and subsequently discussed with the NTA, however, their view was that this was very much a road-based measure which did not sit well with their sustainable transport priorities.

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Sarah Reilly** and seconded by **Councillor Eugene Cassidy**.

A short discussion followed and it was agreed that the motion be referred to Transportation SPC for discussion.



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The motion was noted.

8.2 Submitted by Councillor Michael Gallagher

“That Kells Municipal District includes the provision of footpath from Drumconrath village to the GAA football pitch on the Slane Road in their Works Programme.”

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

The distance from the end of the existing footpath to the GAA grounds is 480m. An initial estimate for the works is €120,000, but this may increase depending on land acquisition requirements. A request for this section of footpath has been placed on the Requests for New Works Database, and it will be considered when prioritising schemes if any funding becomes available.

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Michael Gallagher** and seconded by **Councillor Eugene Cassidy**.

The motion was noted.

9 Strategic Policy Committee & Corporate Policy Group Reports – For Information Purposes

- 9.1 To note the report from the Housing, Community and Cultural Development SPC meeting of 17th February 2017.

The report was noted.

- 9.2 To note the report from the Planning, Economic Development and Enterprise CPG meeting of 23 February, 2017.

The report was noted.

10 Correspondence

There was no correspondence.



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11 Any Other Business

11.1 Councillor Bryan Reilly raised the following issue:-

- Requested that Mark Smith could attend a future meeting to discuss the importance of the Victorian Print Works - It was agreed that he would be invited to the next available meeting.

11.2 Councillor Michael Gallagher raised the following issue:-

- Requested an update on Ardmagh bridge.

11.3 Councillor Sean Drew raised the following issue:-

- Asked if there was any funding available for shop fronts in Kells – It was confirmed that New Shop Front Guidelines were recently issued. There was an announcement for Heritage Funding and it was agreed to check with Loreto Guinan as to whether any of that can be used for shop fronts.
- Asked if there was funding for the redesign of the road outside Paddy Powers – It was confirmed that a small amount of funding is available from the NTA to look making some junctions pedestrian friendly following the one way trial. Meath County Council are currently looking at options for a mini roundabout at this location.

11.4 Councillor Sarah Reilly raised the following issue:-

- Asked if anything could be done to progress the provision of a pedestrian crossing at the Railway Bar – It was advised that an assessment can be carried out at this location to determine the need for a pedestrian crossing.

11.5 Councillor Michael Gallagher raised the following issue:-

- Requested an update on the bridge



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This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed:

Cathaoirleach