



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

Laytown-Bettystown Municipal District

Ordinary Meeting

09:30 a.m., 10th March, 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

Executive Engineer: Christy Clarke

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 16th February, 2017.

The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 16th February, 2017 were adopted on the proposal of Councillor Eimear Ferguson and seconded by Councillor Wayne Harding.

2 Matters arising from the Minutes

To mark the Francis Ledwidge Centenary it was proposed by Councillor Tom Kelly and seconded by Councillor Sharon Keogan that Councillors Tom Kelly and Wayne Harding and Fiona Lawless attend the Francis Ledwidge function in Belgium.

3 Expressions of Sympathy and Congratulations

Congratulations were extended to the following:-



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- St Colmcilles GFC for their achievement in reaching the Intermediate Final in Croke Park.
- All the Councillors, Chief Executive and staff for their support in relation to the Boundary Commission Report.

4 Statutory Business

4.1 Transportation

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

The report had been circulated in advance and was noted.

- 4.1.2 To receive a report on the proposal to introduce a HGV ban in Duleek.

Dara McGowan, Senior Executive Officer, Transportation attended the meeting and outlined the alternative route available if a HGV ban was to be introduced in Duleek. He outlined the existing route on the R150 through Duleek to Curtis Cross is a distance of 6.7km. The alternative route along the R152 and N2 would be 18.4km. This alternative route would be likely to cause congestion at Kilmoon Cross if all HGV's heading east from Duleek were diverted to Kilmoon Cross to take a right turn across the N2. It was likely that the length of the diversion may lead to short cuts being taken along the L1610 and the L1004 at Boolies Little which could result in a rat run and a bridge across the river Nanny which is prone to flooding.

It was recommended that the HGV ban in Duleek should only be introduced following the construction of the Duleek Bypass. The interim proposal is to bring forward a village enhancement scheme for the village and part of that is to install speed tables at either end of the village in conjunction with the existing one at the Garda Station. Once this is in place a review of the traffic will be carried out.

Matters raised by Councillors included:-



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- €360,000 has been set aside for Duleek for resurfacing and village enhancement and these works should proceed this year.
- Irish Cement currently has a planning application in and if granted planning permission should be conditioned to provide a traffic management plan and traffic routes should be restricted.
- HGV ban should proceed for the village of Duleek and for sections of roads to avoid rat runs. – It was outlined that this might be of concern to local agricultural farmers as they may not be able to use the sections of road which have a HGV ban.
- A bypass is required for the village of Duleek and a significant amount of money has been set aside for this - It was pointed out that the money set aside for this bypass was diverted to the Duleek resurfacing and village enhancement scheme. The Transportation Department are making a case for Government support for a bypass of Duleek. A part of this case is the traffic counts including the level of HGV's passing through Duleek.
- Requested a copy of documentation issued to the TII by Meath County Council requesting a bypass for Duleek and any response received from TII regarding same. It was also requested that Laytown-Bettystown MD would write to the Minister for Transport outlining the traffic management problems and the necessity of a bypass for Duleek.

Councillors were asked to wait until traffic calming measures were put in place in Duleek this year and see if it improves the situation and if not Transportation Department will come back and see what measures can be taken then.

4.1.3 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



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any of the submissions received with Councillors.

4.2 Corporate Services

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

Dara McGowan, Senior Executive Officer, Corporate Services confirmed that a balance of €10,500 was available for Laytown-Bettystown Municipal District (€2,500 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.

It was agreed that submissions would be made by Councillors and these would be considered at the April meeting of Laytown-Bettystown Municipal District.

4.2.2 To receive an update on Boundary Commission.

Fiona Lawless, Director of Services provided an update on the Boundary Commission. Reference was made to Chapter 7 of the Boundary Commission Report which identified a number of issues. Communication was received on the 6th March which indicated the Department required an initial scoping and progress report. The Chief Executive has been in contact with the Chief Executive of Louth County Council and are looking with liaising with some other counties with similar issues to deal with. A report has to be submitted to the Department by the 31st May. It is hoped that a draft of the report will be brought to the May meeting of Laytown-Bettystown Municipal District.

Matters raised by Councillors included:-

- Congratulated Chief Executive, Staff and Councillors for the efforts they made in making and delivery submissions and their attendance at Boundary Review meetings.
- The need to work with counter parts in Louth.



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- Requested a copy of the draft submission to give them the opportunity to make any comments they may have prior to submitting it to the Department.
- The need for a working group to be set up between Drogheda Municipal District and Laytown-Bettystown Municipal District to work for the betterment of the area. – Councillors were asked to hold off meeting with Drogheda Municipal District until they receive the report in May.
- Submissions should be made to the National Planning Framework Document for the East Meath area – It was agreed to refer this to the Director of Planning.

5 Notice of Question

There were no Notices of Question.

6 Notice of Motion

6.1 Submitted by Councillor Stephen McKee

“That Meath County Council honour the sporting success of St.Colmcille's GAA Club in reaching the Club Intermediate All-Ireland Final and in respect of this, I propose that the Council hold a Civic Reception in Laytown-Bettystown Municipal District to mark the Club's achievements.”

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

If this motion is adopted, the proposal will be brought to the next meeting of the Protocol Committee for consideration. Following this, if this proposal is approved, a civic reception will be organised for a date and time to be decided in consultation with the Members of Laytown-Bettystown Municipal District.



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The motion was proposed by **Councillor Stephen McKee** and seconded by **Councillor Sharon Tolan**.

The motion was adopted.

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

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

The report was noted.

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

The report was noted.

8 Other Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

9 Correspondence

- 9.1 Correspondence received from NTA in response to the Notice of Item 8.1 from December meeting re the proposed new train station at Bettystown.

The correspondence was noted.

- 9.2 Correspondence received from Environment Department re trading concessions on Laytown/Bettystown beach for the summer season 2017.

The correspondence was noted. It was agreed that when stalls are allocated this would be subject to Garda Vetting of applicants. It was also agreed that Meath County Council would notify the HSE of any food stalls allocated and ask that they ensure compliance with their requirements.



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- 9.3 Correspondence received from OPW in response to the Notice of Item 4.2.2 from November meeting re the invitation to meet with Laytown-Bettystown Municipal District Councillors to discuss relevant issues.

Councillors expressed their dissatisfaction with the wording of this letter. It was agreed that a further letter be issued to the OPW requesting a full list of sites for which they have responsibility for in the Laytown-Bettystown Municipal District area.

It was asked who had responsibility for the Maudlin Bridge (MH 027-026) which is the only wicker bridge in use today by traffic. It was agreed to refer this to Barry Hanley, in Transportation Department.

10 Any Other Business

- 10.1 Councillor Wayne Harding raised the following issues:

- Welcomed what the Council are doing in relation to commemorating Francis Ledwidge. The Francis Ledwidge Museum Committee are designing a statue and hoping to install it in the village centre garden which was open last year by the Tidy Towns. Asked if Meath County Council could provide any further assistance towards the statue or something small for Slane National School or some signage on the Hill of Slane. He also asked if perhaps the Council could look at commencing the process of a writer centre beside Francis Ledwidge cottage. – Fiona Lawless advised that there are two sources of funding, a retained budget for 1916 and a specific amount which had been reserved for Slane by a previous Councillor. Meath County Council could do something as an initiative. It was agreed by all that the money reserved for Slane would be used for the piece of artwork and signage.
- Primatestown lights are causing a problem for the area.
- The need for Brink Cross to be addressed.

- 10.2 Councillor Paddy Meade raised the following issues:-

- The bridge on the old road from Rathbran to Smarmore is in dangerous condition. The bridge is in Louth County Council but they don't have the funding to do anything with this and ask if Meath County Council could provide any assistance – It was agreed to refer this to Barry Hanley, Transportation Department.
- Asked if cul de sacs which won't be completed through CIS schemes in the coming



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years could have patchwork carried out on them – It was advised that a review process is taking place on works required on lanes and an estimate will be carried out on each laneway which will determine which lanes will be done this year.

- Requested that Mitchelstown and Killeary graveyards be cut and hedges cut back for the commemoration of 14 people from Lobinstown who died in World War I. – Graveyard committees are encouraged to cut their grasses through grants available. Resources are limited.

10.3 Councillor Eimear Ferguson raised the following issues:-

- Thanked Christy Clarke and Michael Finnegan, Road Safety Officer for meeting her at Beamore Cross and looks forward to proposals being carried out at this junction.
- Alverno footpaths have been completed in some areas but there are some areas not yet done – It was confirmed that there will be no additional footpath works in Alverno at the moment.
- Temporary work was carried out on Barnswell Road but now requires further works – It was confirmed that no decisions have been made in relation to CIS schemes. Transportation are currently reviewing a list of Cul de Sacs and will be included on the schedule of works if works had previously been carried out.

10.4 Councillor Stephen McKee raised the following issues:-

- Dangerous crossing at Colpe roundabout at the new bus bay with lack of lighting and no visible road markings.
- Dangerous junction at Church Road Mornington – Marsh Road – It was pointed out that works were carried out as part of the road safety scheme approximately 4-5 years ago.

10.5 Councillor Sharon Tolan raised the following issues:-

- The stream which runs through Eastham Village estate has become narrowed down as a result of overgrowth and the fence along the stream has disintegrated – it was outlined that some of the planting is landscape planting and if a fence is erected there would be maintenance issues. It was agreed to check if anything can be done with what might be impeding the flow of water.



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- Requested an update on the footpath on the Coast Road – Advised priorities have been diverted to Duleek main street. Communication has taken place with the landowner and there are a number of issues which have been identified by one of the affected parties along the route.
- Road markings required at Bettystown Cross – It was agreed that this would be added to the programme of junction signage.
- Poor visibility at the junction at the end of the Minnistown Road onto Pilltown road – It was advised that this scheme was included for Low Cost Safety Schemes but wasn't included for 2017 and will be reviewed for next year.

10.6 Councillor Sharon Keogan raised the following issues:-

- Asked when herbicide control commences – It was pointed out that limited spraying of footpaths etc. is carried out when growth starts.
- The need for Irish Water to complete the patch up job they did at Duleek-Julianstown Junction.
- Two caravans parked on the Drogheda – Plattin Road with no water or sewerage facilities and illegal dumping is being carried out – It was agreed to refer this matter to the Housing Department.
- Chicanes in Inchabay – 93% of residents have requested they be replaced with more aesthetically pleasing alternatives for speeding.

10.7 Councillor Tom Kelly raised the following issues:-

- Requested an update from Bus Eireann following their attendance at a meeting last year – It was agreed to issue a further reminder to Bus Eireann.
- At the Mosney road junction white lines are not properly marked and a right hand turn is needed – It was confirmed that road lining will be carried out at this junction.
- Requested an update on the pedestrian crossing at Laytown – It was confirmed that this is currently on the tender website.



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- Asked if signs could be erected on bridges naming the river the bridge is built over.
- Requested an update on N51 Part 8 work – It was agreed to refer this to Transportation Department.
- Asked that tree planting would take place next year in the Municipal District during Tree Planting Week.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed:

Cathaoirleach