



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

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

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

***10 a.m., 16<sup>th</sup> April 2015, Duleek Civic Offices***

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

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

**Apologies:** Councillor Stephen McKee

**Officials in Attendance:**

**Head of Finance:** Fiona Lawless

**Meetings Administrator:** Claire King

**Executive Engineer:** Christy Clarke

**Staff Officer:** Triona Keating

**Apologies:** Jim Colwell, Senior Executive Engineer

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

##### **1.1 Confirmation of minutes of Ordinary meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> March 2015.**

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

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

There were no matters arising.

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

There were no expressions of sympathy or congratulations.



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### **4 To receive a presentation from Mary Murphy, Meath Local Sports Partnership - Overview of the LSP.**

Mary Murphy, Meath Local Sports Partnership (MLSP) delivered a presentation to the meeting that provided an overview of MLSP, its structure, funding, activities and key events planned.

Matters raised by the Councillors included:

- Welcomed the schools and disability programmes;
- The consideration of increased support by Meath County Council as part of the budgetary process;
- The encouragement of further collaboration particularly around the sharing of facilities.

The Cathaoirleach and Councillors thanked Mary for her presentation and for her support of local events.

### **5 Statutory Business**

#### **5.1 Environment**

##### **5.1.1 To receive a report on derelict sites in Laytown-Bettystown Municipal District.**

Grainne Tuomey and Jarlath Flanagan, Environment Section delivered a presentation on the legislation (Derelict Sites Act, 1990), the available staffing and resources, the process for dealing with derelict sites, an overview of sites in Meath and in the Laytown-Bettystown Municipal District, and the status of a number of local sites.

Matters raised by the Councillors included:

- Requested a list of the 18 derelict sites in the Municipal District;



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- The use of section 14 (acquisition of derelict sites) – it was pointed out that this would be subject to funding being available and the potential of the site to serve a planned purpose;
- The approach adopted and timeframe where owners intend to carry out works – it was pointed out that each case is approached on an individual basis and based on available resources;
- Sites that are part of NAMA, in receivership or liquidation – it was agreed that this can further complicate the process but that each case is unique and that the owners retain responsibility even if the property is in NAMA;
- A number of specific properties were identified as being potential derelict sites;
- The possibility of applying 100% commercial rates to derelict commercial buildings – it was pointed out that the legislation does not permit this as all derelict sites are also vacant sites;
- The need to apply a charge on the property and alert property owners that this may be done – it was pointed out that there were legal costs in taking this approach;
- The difference between a derelict site and a dangerous building – it was pointed out that the location of a site will determine if it is considered a dangerous building, for example on a road or street.

The Cathaoirleach and Councillors thanked Grainne and Jarlath for her presentation and for her support of local events.

- 5.2 Disposal of land in accordance with Statutory Notices circulated pursuant to the provisions of Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001.

This was approved on the proposal of **Councillor Tom Kelly** and seconded by **Councillor Eimear Ferguson**.



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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.

- Seabury Lawns Phase 1, Mornington.

John Sweeney, Building Control Officer, clarified that this taking in charge referred to Phase 1 only. He also confirmed that contact had been made with regard to the implementation of the planning conditions attached to the other permissions.

This was approved on the proposal of **Councillor Tom Kelly** and seconded by **Councillor Sharon Tolan**.

### 5.4 Transportation

5.4.1 To note draft Section 85 Agreement with Kildare County Council pursuant to Section 85 of the Local Government Act, 2001 whereby Kildare County Council will exercise the statutory powers, functions and duties of Meath County Council in relation to the widening / rehabilitation works to MH-N52-007.00 Siddan Bridge in the County of Meath which is described in the Schedule to the Agreement.

This was agreed on the proposal of **Councillor Wayne Harding** and seconded by **Councillor Tom Kelly**.

## 6 Notice of Question

### 6.1 Submitted by Councillor Wayne Harding

“Can I ask when the report will be published in relation to the unused and derelict buildings within the world heritage site of Brú Na Boinne?”



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### **Response:**

*Lotts Architecture and Urbanism Ltd on behalf of Meath County Council are currently completing an assessment of the potential for the adaptive re-use of existing vacant or derelict buildings within the UNESCO Brú na Bóinne World Heritage Site.*

*An initial desk-top survey using the first and second editions of the Ordnance Survey maps identifying a number of potential buildings was undertaken. Following field work thirty sites were then selected for this study. The majority of owners were identified through land registry searches and local knowledge and were contacted by letter to outline the project prior to it taking place.*

*The inventory has now been completed. 3 sites were then selected as case studies in response to expressions of interest from the owners. The case studies involve a survey of the buildings and the preparation of designs in consultation with the owners, the Planning Department and the Dept of Arts Heritage and the Gaeltacht.*

*The architects are currently finalising these case studies and designs and have arranged meetings with 2 of the 3 owners for the week beginning April 13<sup>th</sup> and are awaiting confirmation from the 3<sup>rd</sup> owner of a suitable date for a meeting.*

*Following final approval of the designs, the project report will be submitted to Meath County Council. It is estimated that this will be end of April or early May. As part of the project the findings of the report will be presented to all owners, following which it is our intention that the report will be published.*

The response was noted.

### **7 Notice of Motion**

There were no Notices of Motion.

### **8 Correspondence**

8.1 Correspondence received from Laytown Development Association regarding the Old Library and Green Site, Laytown.



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Councillor Tom Kelly pointed out that the group had engaged a landscaping firm to draft plans for a communal garden. It was agreed that the group would be invited to attend a future meeting of Laytown-Bettystown Municipal District when their plans were finalised.

- 8.2 Correspondence received from the Environment Section, Meath County Council regarding Indaver.

Councillor Eimear Ferguson enquired as to whether this company would provide funding for a civic amenity facility as was included in the original EIS – it was agreed to ask Environment to check this. Councillor Tom Kelly enquired as to whether the planning conditions would still apply – it was agreed to check with Environment.

- 8.3 Correspondence received from Community and Enterprise Department, Meath County Council with regard to 2015 Meath Pride of Place Competition.

The correspondence was noted.

## **9 Any Other Business**

- 9.1 Councillor Paddy Meade raised the following issues:

9.1.1 He referred back to Item 5.4.1 and the control of bridges by Kildare County Council with no input from Meath County Council, particularly those of archaeological significance – it was agreed that all relevant information on these bridges would be passed to Kildare County Council.

9.1.2 The need for public lighting at Rathdrinagh Cross.

- 9.2 Councillor Wayne Harding raised the following issues:

9.2.1 The ownership and responsibility for the roadway connecting the Greenway at Oldbridge – it was agreed to check this.

9.2.2 The blocked access on the Greenway due to a landslide on the Louth side – it was agreed to check this.



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- 9.2.3 A petition of 500 signatures was handed in regarding safety concerns at Rathdrinagh Cross and the need for public lighting due to the businesses located there – it was agreed to refer this to Transportation and check if NTA funding was available. It was also suggested that MCD might contribute towards the cost of the lighting as they erected temporary lighting during the concerts at Slane.
- 9.2.4 The responsibility for land maintenance and public liability insurance along the Greenway where rights of way were provided – it was agreed to check this.
- 9.3 Councillor Tom Kelly raised the following issues:
- 9.3.1 Whether Bettystown library, to be funded under the capital programme, would be housed in a new or existing building – it was pointed out that an existing building was being considered but that the Library Council needs to approve this option and provide the necessary funding to progress the project. It was also pointed out that the design could not be finalised until the site was confirmed. It was agreed to invite Ciaran Mangan, County Librarian to the next meeting to provide an update.
- 9.3.2 The possibility of accessing EU Interreg funding for the coastal erosion programme, the closing date for outline applications being 18<sup>th</sup> May – it was agreed to refer this to the Environment Section.
- 9.3.3 The extent of the new “touring region” – Ireland’s Ancient East – and the representation of Meath at the launch.
- 9.3.4 The progress being made with regard to economic development and employment opportunities in Laytown-Bettystown Municipal District – it was agreed to refer this to Kevin Stewart, Director of Services for Economic Development and to issue an invitation to attend a future meeting.
- 9.4 Councillor Sharon Keogan raised the following issue:
- 9.4.1 The issue of fly tipping and litter on roads around the coast and on the N2 and the poor impression this is creating.
- 9.5 Councillor Sharon Tolan raised the following issues:



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- 9.5.1 Welcomed the allocation made under the capital programme to projects in the Laytown-Bettystown Municipal District.
  
- 9.5.2 Requested an update on the issue of transportation for Gateway staff – it was confirmed that assessment and training would take place, following which a vehicle will be procured.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

**Signed:**

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**Cathaoirleach**