



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

Navan Municipal District

Ordinary Meeting

10.00 a.m., 22nd April 2015, Navan Civic Offices

An Meára, **Councillor Sinéad Burke**, presided.

Councillors Present: Shane Cassells, Francis Deane, Wayne Forde, Jim Holloway, Joe Reilly, Tommy Reilly.

Officials in Attendance:

Director of Service: Kevin Stewart

Meetings Administrator: Claire King

Senior Executive Engineer: Fiona Beers

Executive Engineer: Ronan McEnroe

Staff Officer: Triona Keating

1 Confirmation of Minutes

1.1 Confirmation of minutes of Ordinary meeting held on 18th March 2015.

The Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 18th March 2015 were adopted on the proposal of **Councillor Francis Deane** and seconded by **Councillor Sinéad Burke**.

2 Matters arising from the Minutes

Councillor Jim Holloway requested an update on Beechmount Estate – it was confirmed that a meeting between the Housing Department, Meath County Council and the Gardaí had taken place on 20th April and that a further meeting was arranged for 30th April, to which residents would be invited.

3 Expressions of Sympathy and Congratulations

There were no expressions of sympathy or congratulations.



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4 To receive a presentation from Meath Artisan Food Group.

Des Crinion and Michael Finnegan delivered a verbal presentation to the meeting, which outlined the background to the group, their current activities and products and plans for future development, particularly in Meath. They also outlined their requirements to expand and create further jobs; this included the need for mentoring expertise to assist with marketing and meeting legislative requirements, and a location in Navan to sell products on a weekly basis, helping new producers to promote their products.

Matters raised by Councillors included:

- The purpose of a food hub – it was confirmed that this would be primarily for dairy products and would contain the equipment needed to facilitate small artisan food producers. The example of the food hub in Drumshambo, County Leitrim was given - funded by producers, the Department of Agriculture and the County Enterprise Board, it houses nine producers, with increased sales and exports.
- The Casual Trading Bye-Laws – it was confirmed that these contained designated trading areas, currently the Fairgreen only, and that they were to be discussed at the next meeting of the Environment SPC. It was agreed that a report would be sought from the Environment Department for the next meeting.
- The need to develop a brand and group identity for marketing purposes and link with bodies such as Meath Tourism.
- The need to consider local retailers and ratepayers and present a professional approach.

Kevin Stewart highlighted the mentoring service provided by the LEO and agreed to follow this up immediately. He also outlined a number of initiatives with a food focus, including the Boyne Valley Food Series in Summer 2015, Taste of Meath in June, the plans for a food hub in Navan Enterprise Centre and the Start Up Gathering in October. He agreed to meet with Des Crinion separately to discuss these.



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5 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:

- The value derived from Meath County Council's investment in MLSP and the need to consider increasing the funding allocated;
- The positive contribution of the work of MLSP to those who participate and the variety of programmes offered.

The Meóra and Councillors thanked Mary for her presentation.

6 Statutory Business

6.1 Disposal of Land in accordance with Statutory Notices circulated pursuant to the provisions of Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001

6.2 Transportation

6.2.1 To receive a further report on the proposed Cantilever Bridge on Convent Road.

Andrew Bagnall, Executive Engineer, Transportation delivered a presentation on the options reviewed and outlined the preferred option arising from the study.

A discussion followed, with Councillors raising the following issues:

- The repair work to be carried out on the 'New Bridge' – it was confirmed that €200,000 had been allocated for works to be carried out in Q4 2015, €25,000 for the design and €175,000 for the repairs. It was also confirmed that the tender for the design of both the bridge structure and repairs had been combined and that this approach had been endorsed by the NTA, who were part funding the scheme.



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- The traffic issues that exist at this junction, including the volume of heavy good vehicles, and the real or perceived dangers for cyclists and pedestrians – it was pointed out that the junction would be redesigned and that dedicated crossing points would be provided.
- The need to consider this proposal in the wider context of smarter travel – it was confirmed that this would be part of a wider programme of sustainable transport initiatives.
- The need for public consultation – it was confirmed that, if approved by Navan Municipal District, a Part VIII process would commence in June.
- A glass railing would be preferable for safety reasons – it was confirmed that this expressed preference would inform the Part VIII process.

This was agreed on the proposal of **Councillor Jim Holloway** and seconded by **Councillor Wayne Forde**.

7 Notice of Question

7.1 Submitted by Councillor Wayne Forde

"Can the executive please inform me of what it intends to do with the existing tax office site on Railway Street, once the tax office is moved out to Buvinda House in Johnstown, as I hope this land is retained by Meath County Council and would possibly be an ideal location for a bus hub and a new tourist office?"

Response:

The Council's move to its new Civic HQ at Buvinda House is scheduled to take place in Q3 2015. However, the Chamber building at County Hall will continue to be used for Council meetings pending the construction of a new Council Chamber at Buvinda House. Having regard to this scenario, the Council is at the preliminary stages in considering possible future uses of its property portfolio at Railway Street.

The response was noted.



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7.2 Submitted by Councillor Francis Deane

“What traffic management plans are in place before repair works begin at Newbridge, Timmons Hill junction and what is the proposed timescale for these repairs?”

Response:

The proposed remedial works to Newbridge Bridge on the Kentstown road are currently being designed. Once the design has been complete, it should be possible to define the timescale for the works and the traffic management plans. Until the design has been completed, it would be premature to set timescales and definitive traffic management plans.

The response was noted.

8 Notice of Motion

8.1 Submitted by Councillor Wayne Forde

“That a roundabout be installed at the Commons Road Cars junction to alleviate traffic congestion on the Commons Road arising from the new school in the area.”

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

The junction of Commons Road and Dan Shaw Road has been assessed a number of times. It was originally intended to have a roundabout there but this was changed due to a number of issues:

The additional land required for a roundabout would be severe for Commons Road cars. The cost of construction of a roundabout is of the order of €250k – 300k.

The number of pedestrians crossing there - roundabouts are generally not pedestrian friendly. If a roundabout were to be constructed there, it would most likely require pedestrian crossing lights on 2 or three arms of the junction also. There will be a pedestrian crossing at the new school and a right turn lane.



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All of the above factors were taken into consideration at the planning stage for the new school.

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Wayne Forde** and seconded by **Councillor Sinéad Burke**.

Following a short discussion, Fiona Beers agreed to check the designs previously prepared for the area but pointed out that engineering design standards must be met in order to undertake such works.

The motion was adopted.

8.2 Submitted by Councillor Jim Holloway

“That Navan Municipal District will consider a draft design for the opening of the pedestrian walkway between Millbrook and Johnstown Wood and, if thought fit, will recommend that the necessary work will be done.”

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

The Transportation Department has drawn up a preliminary design but no discussion has yet been had with the property owners immediately adjacent to the wall. The Millbrook development is not in charge as yet and this presents a barrier to undertaking construction without the necessary consent. As previously advised, the successful delivery of such a scheme will be dependent on the outcome of consultations with affected residents and stakeholders, and a general consensus for the measure being reached which has widespread support. It is Meath County Council’s intention to hold a public consultation via a Part 8 before a recommendation can be made.

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Jim Holloway** and seconded by **Councillor Sinéad Burke**.

A short discussion followed and it was confirmed that consideration had been given to grouping a number of pedestrian access routes to form a Part VIII process that would tie in with the wider smarter travel programme. Councillors expressed reservations at any delay that might arise as a result of this approach. It was also pointed out that some residents would not support this pedestrian access and their views must be considered.



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The motion was adopted.

8.3 Submitted by Councillor Jim Holloway

“In the interest of safety and proper traffic management, markings such as double yellow lines or "No Set Down" or some such will be put in place extending from the existing double yellow lines at Beech Grove to No. 4 Beech Grove and No. 1 Beech Drive.”

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

Appropriate road markings or signage will be considered to address the parking of school traffic at Beech Grove.

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Jim Holloway** and seconded by **Councillor Sinéad Burke**.

The motion was adopted.

8.4 Submitted by Councillor Francis Deane

“That Navan Municipal District will make a better effort at promoting and advertising the 2015 Pride of Place initiative, by encouraging participation from more housing estates and community groups in Navan town and Johnstown.”

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

The Pride of Place Initiatives 2015 were launched with electronic notification and hard copy application packs forwarded to 270 groups/residents associations who are registered, of which approximately 70 groups are located within the Navan Municipal District area.

In addition, Pride of Place has been advertised on our website at <http://www.meath.ie/Community/PrideofPlace/>, and Meath County Council’s twitter account. Advertisements will be placed in the local papers (Meath Chronicle, Drogheda



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Independent, The Forum) and posters will be placed in our public building, including the Municipal District Civic offices and local libraries.

The motion was deferred.

8.5 Submitted by Councillor Wayne Forde

"I call on the executive to consider resurfacing the footpath on Railway Street, from Smyth's public house to the Loft restaurant, as there are sections of this footpath in urgent need of repair in the interest of public safety."

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

The footpath on Railway Street has been examined and it was found that the existing bituminous surfacing is out of shape, although it is intact along most of the length of the footpath. There are two localised areas that have deteriorated and require repairs. No specific funding is currently allocated to these works in the Schedule of Municipal District Works. These works could be included on a list of proposed works should funding become available at a later date.

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Wayne Forde** and seconded by **Councillor Sinéad Burke**.

The motion was adopted.

8.6 Submitted by Councillor Francis Deane

"That the minutes of the Navan Urban District Council meeting of May 4th 1916 be put on public display in Navan Civic Offices, Watergate Street, Navan for 2016. The minutes of the aforementioned meeting referred to the fierce battle at Rath Cross, Ashbourne of Friday 28th April 2016."

The motion was deferred.



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9 Correspondence

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

The correspondence was noted.

10 Any Other Business

- 10.1 Councillor Jim Holloway raised the following issue:

10.1.1 That Hand on Heart Enterprises be invited to make a presentation at the May meeting of Navan Municipal District – this was agreed.

10.1.2 Damage caused to the green area in Springfield Glen – it was agreed that this would be checked.

- 10.2 Councillor Shane Cassells raised the following issues:

10.2.1 Complimented Meath County Council staff on the work undertaken in Market Square and asked that the graffiti on the bull be removed.

10.2.2 That the policy in relation to the playing pitches in Blackwater Park should have been presented to the Council and that the FAI and GAA, being part funded by Meath County Council and having sponsored the goalposts in the park, should not have to pay a fee for the use of the pitches – it was agreed that consultation should have taken place and that no fee would apply for coaching courses with a nominal charge being applied to contribute towards the maintenance of the pitches. It was confirmed that Councillors would be consulted prior to any decisions being taken.

10.2.3 Enquired as to the date of the official opening of the playground in Blackwater Park.

10.2.4 The need to monitor the loading bay in the Cornmarket, where lorries were parking all day outside a new shop premises.



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- 10.2.5 The works being carried out at night and over a number of nights on Canon Row and the disruption being caused for residents who were not informed of this – it was confirmed that these works were being carried out by Irish Water in conjunction with the Water Services Department and that contact had been made with complainants.
- 10.2.6 The need for a yellow box at the entrance to Navan O'Mahony's and the need to assess line markings for upgrade.
- 10.2.7 The need for a white line on the Borallion road following the resurfacing.
- 10.2.8 Issues of anti-social behaviour at vacant houses on the Slane Road backing onto Blackcastle Estate and Belcourt with problems being caused for local shop owners – it was agreed to refer this to Environment.
- 10.3 Councillor Wayne Forde raised the following issues:
 - 10.3.1 The safety issues at the pedestrian crossing on Railway Street.
 - 10.3.2 Repairs needed to the wall at the entrance to Balreask Village.
- 10.4 Councillor Sinéad Burke raised the following issue on behalf of Councillor Francis Deane:
 - 10.4.1 The derelict house in Abbeylands, beside the vets centre – it was agreed to refer this to the Environment Section.
- 10.5 Councillor Joe Reilly raised the following issue:
 - 10.5.1 The need for a yellow box at the exit from Silverlawns.
- 10.6 Kevin Stewart raised the following issue:
 - 10.6.1 Springboard are seeking a site to develop a new premises, with parking and a garden, and, having considered a number of sites that have proved unsuitable, have approached Meath County Council with regard to the possibility of acquiring approximately half an acre on the old Scoil Naomh Eoin site. The preliminary views of Councillors are being sought, prior to a formal response



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issuing and the process commencing. Councillors expressed their support for this and it was agreed to commence the formal process and revert as required.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed:

An Meára