



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

Ashbourne Municipal District

Ordinary Meeting

9:30 a.m., 11th April 2016, Ashbourne Civic Offices

An Cathaoirleach, **Councillor Claire O'Driscoll**, presided.

Councillors Present: Joe Bonner, Suzanne Jamal, Seán Smith, Alan Tobin.

Apologies: Councillor Darren O'Rourke.

Officials in Attendance:

Head of Finance: Fiona Lawless

Meetings Administrator: Claire King

Senior Executive Engineer: Jim Colwell

Executive Engineer: Janet Murphy

Staff Officer: Triona Keating

1 Confirmation of Minutes

1.1 Confirmation of minutes of Ordinary meeting held on 14th March 2016.

The Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 14th March 2016 were adopted on the proposal of **Councillor Seán Smith** and seconded by **Councillor Claire O'Driscoll**.

2 Matters arising from the Minutes

Councillor Alan Tobin sought an update on the provision of safety clothing to the school warden in Curraha – it was confirmed that safety clothing/equipment are only provided to Council employees but that this could be raised separately with the Road Safety Officer. It was agreed that the Road Safety Officer would be invited to a future meeting of Ashbourne Municipal District and that Councillors would submit items for discussion in advance of the meeting.



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3 Expressions of Sympathy and Congratulations

Congratulations were extended to:

- All involved in the Battle of Ashbourne Commemorative Event. It was agreed that an evening civic event for the volunteers be arranged for either 28th April or 12th May in Ashbourne Civic Offices. Councillors were asked to submit a list of proposed attendees.
- Councillor Claire O'Driscoll on the birth of her daughter, Patricia.

4 Statutory Business

4.1 Planning

- 4.1.1 To receive and consider the Chief Executive's Report in accordance with Part 8 of the Planning & Development Act 2000-2015 and the Planning & Development Regulations 2001-2015 for the carrying out of proposed flood prevention works in Ashbourne, Co. Meath.

Wendy Bagnall, Senior Executive Planner, Fiona Fallon, Senior Executive Officer and Aoife Kennedy, Assistant Planner attended the meeting and highlighted the key points in the report, which had been circulated in advance.

A lengthy discussion followed, with the following issues raised:

- The cost considerations of the works being proposed and the funding available for those works – it was confirmed that this scheme was being funded under the OPW Minor Works Scheme, under which each project must be less than €0.5million. Any other required flood schemes will be identified and carried out under the national CFRAM programme. Under this programme the works identified for Ashbourne are limited to a flood warning system on the Broadmeadow River. Therefore to deliver a flood scheme for Ashbourne the only funding source is under the OPW Minor Works Scheme.



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- The impact of the second phase of Archerstown being developed and the industrial development at Churchfields – it was confirmed that planning permission had already been secured for Phase 2 of Archerstown but that the developer was in discussions with the Council to ensure that adequate measures were put in place to address the flooding issues. It was also confirmed that sustainable drainage urban systems (SUDS) were being installed as part of the development to manage surface water runoff at Churchfields. All planning permissions granted had been taken into account by the consultants.
- The concerns of residents in areas worst affected including Huntsgrove, including those who will potentially lose the amenity of part of their property.
- The need for a solution for the sewer at Brookville – it was confirmed that this matter was being dealt with by Irish Water, who would decide if it is to be diverted. It was agreed that a letter be issued to Irish Water on behalf of Ashbourne Municipal District requesting that this matter be given priority.
- The pumping station at Millennium Park – it was confirmed that this was being dealt with by Water Services with a view to minimising the number of overflows and it was agreed to seek an update on this and to request that spare pumps be available when needed.
- Insurance liability on a site where a shortcut was being used and a drain planned – it was agreed that this matter would be discussed separately with the landowner.
- Insurance cover for homes – the memo of understanding between the OPW and insurance companies was outlined and it was confirmed that the Council would, on completion of the scheme, provide letters to homeowners confirming the works undertaken if requested.
- The planned trash screen design and the impact on residents who clear out drains – it was confirmed that the screen design would facilitate easy access and cleaning and that clearing drains would require



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cooperation of the Council, the OPW and residents but that the Council would ensure regular inspections, particularly in bad weather.

- Impact of illegal dumping – it was agreed that an awareness campaign would be undertaken with enforcement, as required.
- The provision of assurances that this scheme will work, taking into account future planned development – it was pointed out the scheme proposed is the best scheme possible based on a full assessment, with a factor of safety built in.
- The limited scope and the need to consider areas outside of Ashbourne – it was confirmed that the scope was confined to the OPW channel C1/7 but that additional works had been undertaken by Transportation Operations, e.g. piping to redirect streams.
- Embankment at Millers Cottage and flooding at the golf course – it was pointed out that the scheme cannot worsen flood risk at any other location, e.g. at the golf course.
- Manhole access on drain adjacent to houses at Rath Lodge – it was agreed to check this.
- The mapping of storm drains – it was confirmed that this did not form of the project.
- The lack of detail in the report – it was confirmed that once it was agreed to proceed with the Part 8, a detailed design would be undertaken and consultation would take place with all the affected landowners and homeowners.
- The timeline for the scheme – it was estimated that it would take approximately 6 months to complete, however further details on this may be available following a progress meeting to take place this week.

It was unanimously agreed on the proposal of **Councillor Suzanne Jamal** and seconded by **Councillor Claire O'Driscoll** to proceed with the Part 8 as outlined.



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It was agreed that an update would be provided to Councillors following the meeting with the OPW and consultants on Thursday and regular updates would follow, as appropriate.

4.2 Transportation

4.2.1 To receive a Progress Report on works undertaken/planned for Ashbourne Municipal District.

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

- The possibility of installing smaller signs on the Thomas Ashe roundabout – it was agreed to check this.
- Update on pedestrian lights on Castle Street – it was confirmed that this was with the ESB.
- Update on the footpath and public lighting in Kentstown – it was confirmed that there was a delay on the footpath with the contractor and it was agreed to check regarding the lighting.
- Update on the speed reflective monitors – it was confirmed that a draft protocol was to be presented to the Transportation SPC.
- Update on the rumble strips in Skryne.
- The walkway through the estate in Stamullen – the efforts to date were outlined with further suggestions made and further discussions with residents to take place.
- The capital funding for footpaths and suggested locations – a list of possible locations were outlined and it was agreed to circulate this to Councillors for review.
- Request for sweeper in White Ash Park.



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- Need for Jetvac to clear blocked drains.
- Broken surface around drains on the Ballybin Road.
- Need for signage on cycle tracks to prevent illegal parking and assist with enforcement.
- Abandoned cars on the beach at Gormanstown – it was agreed that this would be raised at the next meeting of the Environment SPC by Councillors.

5 Notice of Question

5.1 Submitted by Councillor Alan Tobin

“Can I ask for an update on the much needed parking bye laws in the Ashbourne area?”

Response:

In a previous Notice of Motion, it was advised in the response that to implement such a proposal would require significant capital and operational funding.

On further examination of the issue with the Members, it was understood the issues of concern related to infringements (in relation to Road Traffic Act) by motorists.

Meath County Council liaised with the Gardaí in relation to these concerns and is now satisfied that the Gardaí can enforce such offences under the Roads Traffic Acts.

The response was noted.

6 Notice of Motion

6.1 Submitted by Councillor Alan Tobin

“That Meath County Council considers the planting of 31 native Irish tree species in the following locations and with significance and meaning as outlined: 10 trees from the Pillo hotel to Rath Cross junction; 10 trees from the monument to the site of the old RIC



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barracks. (Please see upgrade works maps Phase 2 sheets 1 & 2 of 6). The significance of these twenty trees is to remember the 20 Fingal Old IRA men that went to Dublin; On the opposite side of the road, 8 trees to commemorate the RIC officers killed; and 3 trees separately for the civilians killed.”

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

The drawing referred to by Councillor Tobin is related to the Part 8 scheme for the Ashbourne refurbishment works. There appears to be 25 trees proposed as part of the refurbishment works in the locations indicated by Councillor Tobin. We would suggest that if the Council were disposed to agreeing to Councillor Tobin’s request that the most straight forward approach would be to amend the landscaping design to reflect Councillor Tobin’s suggestions. Please note that the NTA have funded the majority of the works in relation to Ashbourne and therefore further sections are dependent on funding being made available.

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Alan Tobin** and seconded by **Councillor Seán Smith**.

Councillor Alan Tobin pointed out that there were 2 civilians and not 3 as outlined in the motion.

The motion was adopted.

6.2 Submitted by Councillors Alan Tobin and Seán Smith

“To ask Ashbourne Municipal District Councillors to support a town twinning proposal with Corcubi3n, Galicia, Spain, the twinning to be based on the following four headings: cultural, musical, linguistic and trade.”

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

Meath County Council’s Draft Twinning Protocol is still being developed and it is anticipated that it will be brought to the June Protocol Committee for discussion.



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Once the Twinning Protocol has been finalised, consideration can be given to this request.

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Alan Tobin** and seconded by **Councillor Seán Smith**.

Councillor Alan Tobin circulated a report and confirmed that he and Councillor Smith were due to visit Corcubión in June.

The motion was adopted.

6.3 Submitted by Councillor Seán Smith

“That Meath County Council proceeds with engaging with the Department of Education & Skills to purchase the lands at Killelland, on approach to the GAA club, for a large Community Park for Ashbourne.”

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

Meath County Council continues to engage with the Department of Education and Skills in relation to the proposed purchase of lands at Killelland for the purposes of delivering the Ashbourne Linear Park Project. An update on the land valuation of the site was sought from the Department on 30th March and Councillors will be kept informed of developments as they occur.

The motion was withdrawn and it was agreed that a further email would be submitted to the Department of Education and Skills.

6.4 Submitted by Councillor Suzanne Jamal

“That all Ashbourne Municipal District Councillors support and encourage Meath County Council in completing the proposed Linear park from Milltown Bridge through to the Ballybin Road, to the highest standards available to create a community green-space for all to enjoy.”



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The motion was proposed by **Councillor Suzanne Jamal** and seconded by **Councillor Seán Smith**.

The motion was adopted.

6.5 Submitted by Councillor Suzanne Jamal

"I call on Meath County Council to upgrade the public lighting on Chapel Road, Skryne and within the estate known as "New Houses", Oberstown in the vicinity of Chapel road, Skryne."

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

Meath County Council has no plans at present to undertake an upgrade of public lighting on Chapel Road, Skryne or within the estate known as "New Houses", Oberstown in the vicinity of Chapel Road, Skryne. Consideration will be given for the upgrading of lighting in this estate and Chapel Road under any future planned works, which is subject to the availability of funding and resources.

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Suzanne Jamal** and seconded by **Councillor Alan Tobin**.

Councillor Suzanne Jamal requested that consideration be given to replacing the light heads rather than the whole lamp standard if a full upgrade was not possible and it was agreed to check this with the Public Lighting Section.

The motion was adopted.

7 Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

8 Any Other Business

8.1 To identify additional Bus Stops within Ashbourne Municipal District.



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A short discussion followed on the provision of bus stops and bus shelters and responsibility of same. It was confirmed that the Council has no role in the provision of bus shelters and it was agreed that a meeting would be sought with the NTA to discuss issues relating to bus services in the Municipal District.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed:

Cathaoirleach