



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

Laytown-Bettystown Municipal District

Ordinary Meeting

9:30 a.m., 14th April 2016, Duleek Civic Offices

An Cathaoirleach, **Councillor Paddy Meade**, presided.

Councillors Present: Eimear Ferguson, Wayne Harding, Tom Kelly, Sharon Keogan, Stephen McKee, Sharon Tolan.

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 10th March, 2016.

The Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 10th March 2016 were adopted on the proposal of **Councillor Wayne Harding** and seconded by **Councillor Eimear Ferguson**.

2 Matters arising from the Minutes

There were no matters arising.

3 Expressions of Sympathy and Congratulations

Sympathy was extended to:

- Councillor Wayne Harding on the death of his father-in-law.



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4 Statutory Business

4.1 Corporate Services

- 4.1.1 To agree the naming of the M1 motorway bridge MH-M01-012-00 in memory of James McCormack.

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

4.2 Environment

- 4.2.1 To receive an update on the Beach Management Plan.

Fiona Lawless provided an update to the meeting, which included:

- Property purchase at the entrance to the beach – correspondence is awaited to confirm the boundaries and checks are being undertaken regarding protected structures, the need for an EIA/AA, etc.;
- Workshop for Councillors – once the map footprint has been agreed, it is proposed to hold a facilitated workshop for Councillors to consider ideas for the site;
- Beach Wardens/Lifeguards – the closing date for applications was 30th March and interviews are planned;
- Water Safety – vandal-proof lifebuoys are being assessed;
- Casual Trading Licences – the closing date for receipt of applications for the six licences was 31st March, a mix of trading facilities is planned and the licence fee has not been increased this year;
- Car Park – a meeting is to be arranged with a local business to discuss possible parking options;



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- Public Conveniences – it is proposed to terminate the agreement currently in place and redirect the funding towards equipment, the future of the permanent structure is to be decided and other facility options will be considered;
- Accessibility – a demonstration on the beach wheelchairs has taken place and consideration is to be given to storage;
- Beach Management Committee – arising from a recommendation in the AECOM report, a committee with representation from Elected Members, local residents, community and voluntary organisations and the business sector is proposed, with a suggestion that expressions of interest now be sought;
- Events on beach – all groups should consult with the Event Management Guidelines, available on the Council's website;
- Kiosk – this is to be assessed;
- Dog free zone – other examples are to be looked at and a decision on this will be taken by the committee, with dog bags already provided.

Matters raised by Councillors included:

- The public support for the retention of the house fronts at the beach entrance;
- The possibility of providing a hoist for the beach wheelchairs – it was confirmed that this would be provided if required;
- The need to ensure that all necessary certification is displayed by those awarded a casual trading licence;
- Traffic management issues – it was confirmed that ongoing works would not impede on those planned and the role of the beach wardens in terms of traffic management was underlined;
- The possibility of introducing the dog free zone for the summer months only;



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- Coastal erosion and protection – it was confirmed that the rock armour programme was going out to tender and would alleviate the worst effects of tidal erosion, including that affecting some private sites, e.g. where historic footpaths were in place.
- Plans to rehabilitate the dunes – it was pointed out that these were not in Council ownership.

The Cathaoirleach and Councillors welcomed the progress to date and agreed that expressions of interest be sought immediately for the Beach Management Committee.

4.3 Transportation

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

The report had been circulated in advance. It was pointed out that, arising from savings on public liability claims in 2015, an additional allocation of €140,000 for footpaths within the Municipal District was being made available this year and the following projects were proposed:

- Alverno Heights – footpath accessing the health centre;
- Alverno Court – roads/footpath;
- Marian Terrace and Villas – complete footpath;
- Harry's Garage to Garrow Road - footpath;
- Blackhall Crescent, Donacarney – footpaths & tree pruning;
- Ledwidge Terrace and St. Eric's Terrace, Slane – footpaths;
- Ardrea and Newtown School – drainage;



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- Duleek – public lighting to GAA pitch.

The list, as proposed, was unanimously agreed.

Other matters raised by Councillors included:

- Welcomed the proposed works outlined, particularly in Alverno, Marian Terrace and Villas, Duleek and at Harry's Garage.
- The issue of cars parking on footpaths in Alverno, preventing residents from accessing their homes and the need for considerable work on footpaths throughout the estate.
- The works needed in Barnswellstown – it was pointed out that works had been carried out but would not be undertaken on cul-de-sacs.
- The tender process for the grass cutting contract – it was confirmed that the tender was by invitation and that any interested company should make contact to be added to the tender list, once pre-approved.
- Welcomed the work by Gateway staff in the playground in Slane.

5 Notice of Question

5.1 Submitted by Councillor Eimear Ferguson

“Can the executive inform the members of Laytown-Bettystown Municipal District if Meath County Council has plans to develop council owned lands in Duleek, Laytown and Bettystown?”

Response:

Currently, the Housing Department is progressing the development of 16 units on Meath County Council's site in Narrowways, Bettystown. There are currently no plans for other Council owned lands in the areas identified above.



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The response was noted.

6 Notice of Motion

6.1 Submitted by Councillor Sharon Tolan

"In an attempt to improve parking conditions in Bettystown, I call on the Council to open discussions with the Management Company of the Anchorage, Matthews Coaches and Bus Éireann, to look into options for weekly/monthly commuters to be permitted to park at the back of the shopping complex, in order to free up parking at the front for short term shoppers, post office and pharmacy customers etc."

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Sharon Tolan** and seconded by **Councillor Eimear Ferguson**.

A short discussion followed on the issues as they relate to the proposal and it was agreed that Transportation Planning & Design were considering all options relating to parking.

The motion was adopted.

6.2 Submitted by Councillor Sharon Tolan

"I welcome the recently allocated funding by the NTA of €50,000 for the feasibility and design of a park and ride facility west of the bridge at Laytown Train Station, and I call on the Transportation Department of Meath County Council to progress this project as a matter of urgency."

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

Meath County Council will endeavour to progress this facility as quickly as possible.

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Sharon Tolan** and seconded by **Councillor Eimear Ferguson**.

The motion was adopted.



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6.3 Submitted by Councillor Eimear Ferguson

“I call on this council to repaint the parking spaces, disabled spaces and roads where necessary in Duleek. This is to ensure safe parking for motorists, proper usage of disabled spaces and for the safety of pedestrians.”

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

Meath County Council is currently working on a scheme to refurbish Duleek main street. These proposed works will include the provision of raised tables for traffic calming, additional disabled parking spaces and renewal of roadmarkings. We hope to be in a position to have drawings ready for the Part 8 submission by the end of April.

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Eimear Ferguson** and seconded by **Councillor Sharon Tolan**.

A short discussion followed, where it was confirmed that the Part VIII process was being advanced, with works to commence on Main Street before the end of the year. It is intended to circulate the draft Part VIII before the May or June meeting of the Municipal District.

The motion was adopted.

7 Other Matters Arising

7.1 Councillor Sharon Keogan raised the following matters:

7.1.1 The possibility of installing speed ramps in The Belfry.

7.1.2 Update on the speed limit review for housing estates – it was confirmed that funding for ‘Children at Play’ signs had been made available and their effect would be monitored. The speed limit review for estates was 75% complete with speed testing to take place towards the end of the year followed by a programme of applying new speed limits.

7.1.3 The possibility of installing community CCTV cameras on the façade of the Civic



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Offices – it was advised that contact be made with Corporate Services – Corporate Estate & Buildings.

- 7.1.4 The impact of the new Bus Éireann route and timetable changes on commuters, particularly those having to change in Ashbourne to proceed directly to Dublin.
- 7.1.5 Update on the matters raised with Bus Éireann at a previous meeting – it was confirmed that a request for an update had been submitted on several occasions and that a further request would be made.
- 7.1.6 The need to ensure that the Laytown-Bettystown Municipal District is receiving an equal allocation under the CIS.
- 7.2 Councillor Tom Kelly raised the following matters:
 - 7.2.1 The plan to resurface the streets in Duleek 12 months after the sewerage works were completed over five years ago – it was confirmed that Irish Water had a small fund for historical remedial works and it was hoped to access this funding as part of the overall scheme for Duleek.
 - 7.2.2 The need to refresh the road markings at schools in Laytown.
 - 7.2.3 The plans to apply for the Blue Flag status for the beach and the EPA water quality results – it was confirmed that the result had been above average.
 - 7.2.4 Update on the Louth Meath Boundary Review – it was confirmed that an update would be provided at the next full Council meeting.
- 7.3 Councillor Wayne Harding raised the following matters:
 - 7.3.1 The curve and high kerbing on the Greenway at the junction coming from Oldbridge to Drogheda – it was agreed to check this.
 - 7.3.2 The possible upgrade of the staggered junction at the graveyard in Duleek coming from Bellewstown to address safety concerns.
 - 7.3.3 The need to review the markings at the traffic lights in Slane to allow adequate



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space for traffic to turn off the N2 – it was agreed to check this.

7.3.4 The provision of bus shelters in Slane by the community and/or private bus operators – the process was outlined.

7.3.5 Potholes in Brookside and Eastham estates.

7.3.6 The provision of a yellow box at the entrance to Ledwidge Hall – it was pointed out that Irish Water were planning works, as were the NTA and this would be forwarded to Transportation Planning & Design.

7.4 Councillor Eimear Ferguson raised the following matters:

7.4.1 The provision of bus shelters in Laytown – it was agreed to check this location with Clear Channel.

7.4.2 Update on signage and traffic calming measures at Beamore Cross – it was confirmed that, following discussions with the Gardaí, it was agreed to improve the road markings and erect signage, which will be done in the next few weeks.

7.4.3 The need to clear the grass from the footpaths on the Donore Road – it was confirmed that this was on the list of proposed works.

7.5 Councillor Sharon Tolan raised the following matters:

7.5.1 The dumping of rubble on the beach at the rear of the Neptune Hotel – it was agreed to refer this to the Environment Section to enable an investigation to take place.

7.5.2 Welcomed the double yellow lines at Donacarnev school and requested that a yellow box also be added to facilitate access – it was pointed out that both the Road Safety Officer and the Gardaí had advised a minimalist approach to keep the entrance clear.

7.5.3 The need for additional signage coming from the Pilltown Road to the Eastham Road at Bettystown Cross – it was agreed to check the road markings at this location.



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7.5.4 The possibility of providing two litter bins in Mornington – it was pointed out that resources were not available to maintain these.

7.5.5 The problem with the sewerage mains in Bettystown which overflow during heavy rainfall – it was agreed to submit this to Irish Water.

7.6 Councillor Paddy Meade raised the following matter:

7.6.1 The need for road repairs outside O'Reilly's Butchers.

8 Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

9 Any Other Business

There was no other business.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed:

Cathaoirleach