



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

Kells Municipal District

Ordinary Meeting

4.00pm, 15th May, 2017, Kells Civic Offices

An Cathaoirleach, **Councillor Sarah Reilly**, presided.

Councillors Present: Eugene Cassidy, Seán Drew, Michael Gallagher, David Gilroy, Johnny Guirke, Bryan Reilly.

Officials in Attendance:

Director of Service: Kevin Stewart

Meetings Administrator: Claire King

Executive Engineer: Aaron Smith

Staff Officer: Triona Keating

1 Confirmation of Minutes

1.1 Confirmation of minutes of Ordinary Meeting held on 24th April, 2017.

The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on the 24th April, 2017 were adopted on the proposal of **Councillor Johnny Guirke** and seconded by **Councillor David Gilroy**.

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.

4 To receive a presentation from the FAI Football Development Officer Meath.



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Barry Ferguson, FAI Development Officer for Meath, attended the meeting and delivered a presentation on the FAI Development Office mission, the various FAI programmes operating in Meath and notable mentions relative to Meath.

The Cathaoirleach and Councillors commended Barry on his work and the contribution it made to the community and particularly young people.

5 To receive a presentation from Kells Road Races.

Aileen Ferguson and Ray Duignan, representing Kells Road Races, outlined the background to Kells Road Races, the benefits to the local and wider economy, the numbers of visitors attracted to the area, the role of Councillors and the Council, the impacts of having to cancel the 2016 event due to adverse weather and their plans to hold the event in 2018.

The Cathaoirleach and Councillors acknowledged the contribution of the event to the local economy and community and the support previously provided by the Council. It was agreed to consider what further support could be provided in 2018.

6 Statutory Business

6.1 Transportation

- 6.1.1 To receive a Progress Report on works undertaken/planned for Kells Municipal District.

The report, which had been circulated in advance, was noted.

- 6.1.2 To further consider issues relating to the provision of a taxi rank in Kells.

Nicholas Whyatt, Senior Engineer, Transportation outlined the process involved in providing a taxi rank, which is a reserved function, and the issues that required consideration. It was pointed out that the process would take approximately 3 to 4 months. The next step would be to agree the locations based on the recommendations previously made.

Following a short discussion, it was unanimously agreed on the proposal of **Councillor Eugene Cassidy** and seconded by **Councillor Sarah Reilly** to proceed



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with the process as outlined, based on the recommended locations at Headfort Place, outside 'Foodies' (daytime location) and at Castle Street, at the loading bay outside Paddy Powers (night-time location).

6.1.3 Review of the HGV Ban Bye-Law for Kells.

Nicholas Whyatt, Senior Engineer, Transportation outlined the revised draft bye-laws, which took into account a request made by TII in relation to facilitating the emergency closure of or maintenance works on the M3 and also access by agricultural vehicles with trailers. The process to revoke the existing bye-laws and introduce the new bye-laws was outlined.

It was unanimously agreed to commence the process as outlined with a further report to be presented at a future meeting.

6.1.4 To consider and, if thought fit, to approve for public display the "Draft Road Traffic (Special Speed Limits) (Housing Estates) County of Meath Bye-Laws (No.1) 2017.

This was approved on the proposal of **Councillor Seán Drew** and seconded by **Councillor David Gilroy**.

A short discussion followed on locations where signage and speed limits require further review.

6.2 Heritage

6.2.1 To discuss proposed works and costing for Dulane Cemetery.

Loreto Guinan, Heritage Officer attended the meeting and confirmed that a procurement process was underway to undertake initial assessments of 3 sites, including Dulane, Nobber and a site in Trim, with a specialist structural engineer to be appointed. The brief included the assessment of the structural integrity, to advise on appropriate conservation works and a cost estimate. An allocation had been made under the capital programme and the reports would be circulated when available.



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With regard to Rathmore, the issues relate to the surrounding wall and cross and one quote had been received with further to be obtained.

A short discussion followed, where it was agreed that costings would first be obtained in respect of Dulane before the €4,000 allocation already made would be reviewed. In a response to a query on Crossakiel Church, it was pointed out that, whilst this was on a list of structure, there was no indication of the specific issues and that, now a fund had been established, efforts would be made to undertake works each year.

6.2.2 To receive details of the Town Kick Start Pilot Initiative.

Loreto Guinan, Heritage Officer confirmed that Kells had been selected under the Town Kick Start Pilot Initiative of the Irish Walled Town Network with a funding allocation of €50,000 being made by the Heritage Council with match funding of €50,000 from Meath County Council. The project details were outlined, including the five key areas, eligible works and the area of focus. The role of local community and business groups in securing this pilot initiative was acknowledged.

Matters raised by Councillors included:

- Derelict sites – it was confirmed that, whilst these were not included in this scheme, it had the potential to create indirect pressure on owners by highlighting the potential of the town.
- The areas selected – it was confirmed that the areas had been selected by the Heritage Council but that Kells would be eligible to apply for further funding in 2018 and that it was important that it works this year to illicit more funding next year.
- Shop frontages and signage – It was pointed out that shopfront guidelines had been launched and that there was a provision in the legislation with regard to Architectural Conservation Areas. It was also pointed out that, over time, inappropriate signage could be dealt with under the planning legislation.



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- Concerns regarding the maintenance of the old town walls/wall gates – it was agreed to check this.

The Cathaoirleach and Councillors welcomed this initiative and congratulated Loreto for her role in having secured it.

6.3 Corporate Services

- 6.3.1 To note Municipal District Allocations submitted by Councillors on behalf of Kells Municipal District.

The list of allocations, which had been circulated in advance, was noted.

7 Notice of Question

There were no Notices of Question.

8 Notice of Motion

There were no Notices of Motion.

9 Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

10 Any Other Business

- 10.1 Councillor David Gilroy raised the following issue:

10.1.1 Recognised the positive contribution made by the Community Grants Scheme.

- 10.2 Councillor Johnny Guirke raised the following issues:

10.2.1 The phone box in Oldcastle – it was pointed out that the road opening licence had expired and that Eir would be contacted in relation to this.



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- 10.2.2 The number of presentations at meetings and their listing on the agenda – it was pointed out that Standing Orders outlines the procedures for meetings and that presentations should be relevant to the business of the Council with any other information from groups, etc. circulated as correspondence.
- 10.2.3 The land ownership issues affecting the provision of the footpath from Gardenrath/Rockfield to the school – it was agreed to refer this to Transportation for an update.
- 10.2.4 Requested that the small lights in Ballinlough be connected – it was agreed to refer this to Transportation.
- 10.3 Councillor Eugene Cassidy raised the following issue:
- 10.3.1 The need to secure funding for works in the two Gaeltacht areas in Meath – it was agreed on the proposal of **Councillor Eugene Cassidy** and seconded by **Councillor David Gilroy** to submit a list of required works to the Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht and request funding for same.
- 10.4 Councillor Sarah Reilly raised the following issues:
- 10.4.1 Acknowledged the number of expressions of interest submitted from Kells Municipal District under the Town & Village Renewal Scheme.
- 10.4.2 Requested that the provision of public lighting on the Oldcastle Road, Kells to serve the three estates and nursing home be considered under the capital programme allocation.
- 10.5 Councillor Bryan Reilly raised the following issue:
- 10.5.1 Referred to the agreement to organise a commemoration for the former Town Councillor, the late Tommy Grimes – it was agreed on the proposal of **Councillor Bryan Reilly** and seconded by **Councillor Sarah Reilly** to refer this to the Protocol Committee for approval. It was confirmed that a stone bench would be installed at the Fairgreen and that a suitable event would be arranged.



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This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed:

Cathaoirleach