



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

Navan Municipal District

Ordinary Meeting

10:00 a.m., 24th May 2017, Navan Civic Offices

An Meára, **Councillor Francis Deane**, presided.

Councillors Present: Sinéad Burke, Pádraig Fitzsimons, Wayne Forde, Jim Holloway, Joe Reilly, Tommy Reilly.

Officials in Attendance:

Director of Service: Kevin Stewart

Meetings Administrator: Claire King

Executive Engineer: Paul O'Brien

Staff Officer: Triona Keating

1 Confirmation of Minutes

1.1 Confirmation of minutes of Ordinary Meeting held on 19th April, 2017.

The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 19th April, 2017 were adopted on the proposal of **Councillor Tommy Reilly** and seconded by **Councillor Sinéad Burke**.

2 Matters arising from the Minutes

There were no matters arising.

3 Expressions of Sympathy and Congratulations

Sympathy was extended to:

- The victims, and their families, of the terrorist attack in Manchester;



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- The family of the late Rita Brady, formerly of Navan Athletic Club and Claremont Stadium;
- The family of the late Mickey Marmion of Berminghams Pub.

4 To receive a presentation in respect of the operations of the Local Authorities Waters and Communities Office (LAWCO) and an update on the preparation of the 2nd Cycle Draft River Basin Management Plan.

Aoife McGrath, Community Water Officer, Local Authorities Waters & Communities Office (LAWCO) delivered a presentation on the Water Framework Directive, water quality and significant water pressures, an introduction to the LAWCO, progress to date and future plans. Reference was also made to the issues affecting the local rivers and forthcoming public meetings.

Matters raised by Councillors included:

- Welcomed this initiative and any improvement in water quality.
- The interest by angling groups in cleaning up the Ramparts.
- River protection and enforcement of operations within the river catchment – it was pointed out that stringent regulatory and licensing requirements were in place and enforced by local authorities and the EPA and, whilst these were effective, additional resources were required. The role of the community in identifying any issues of concern was highlighted.
- The water quality status over the last number of years – it was pointed out that data and science had advanced in recent years, providing a more detailed analysis of water quality and awareness had increased on the pressures on water quality but that water quality had not experienced significant improvements.
- The role of stakeholders in this initiative – it was confirmed that this initiative provided an opportunity for all stakeholders to come together, agree an approach and overcome the barriers.



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- The anti-litter funding secured by the Environment Section for the Bridge of the Boyne, Girley Bog and the Broadmeadow River.

The Mayor and Councillors thanked Aoife for her presentation and wished her well in her role.

5 Disposal of Land pursuant to the provisions of Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001

- 5.1 This was agreed on the proposal of **Councillor Francis Deane** and seconded by **Councillor Sinéad Burke**.
- 5.2 This was agreed on the proposal of **Councillor Tommy Reilly** and seconded by **Councillor Wayne Forde**.

6 Statutory Business

6.1 Corporate Services

- 6.1.1 To receive an update on the progress of Buvinda House and the movement of staff and services.

Dara McGowan, Senior Executive Officer, Corporate Services provided an update to the meeting, which included the phased staff moves to Buvinda House commencing on 12th June, the additional works required in the building, the plans for Navan Town Hall, including the closure of the public counter on 23rd June, the alternative arrangements for members of the public, the transfer of MLSP staff to the offices and the retention of the Chamber for meetings, civic events, etc.

A discussion followed where Councillors welcomed the retention of the Chamber as a meeting and events venue and the move of MLSP to the building. However they also expressed their dissatisfaction at the closure of the public counter and suggested a number of options, including the use of the front reception area as a tourist office. It was pointed out that resources were not available at this time for a dedicated tourist office in the Town Hall but that this would be reviewed if funding became available. The discussions regarding the provision of public transport to Buvinda House were outlined and reference was made to the new Bus Éireann route that would serve this location every 20



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minutes. The public service improvements that would result from the new Council headquarters were highlighted.

- 6.1.1 To note Municipal District Allocations submitted by Councillors on behalf of Navan Municipal District.

The list of allocations, circulated in advance, was noted.

6.2 Transportation

- 6.2.1 Notification of Navan Cantilever Bridge Project – Pre-Part 8 Application Update/Notification.

Cormac Ross, Resident Engineer, Transportation provided an update to the meeting and confirmed that the Part 8 in respect of the Cantilever Bridge could now proceed. Councillors welcomed the progress made with regard to this project.

- 6.2.2 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 Tommy Reilly** and seconded by **Councillor Pdraig Fitzsimons**.

- 6.2.3 To discuss The Ramparts.

This item was deferred to the June meeting.

- 6.2.4 To receive a Progress Report on works undertaken/planned for Navan Municipal District.

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

- Welcomed the footpath assessment in estates.



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- Requested that efforts be made to encourage all householders in Windtown to maintain their homes.
- Congratulated Councillor Sinéad Burke on her efforts with regard to disability access.
- Requested that shores in Aylesbury Lodge and Canon Row be checked.
- The need to clean the footpaths on Brews Hill and Watergate Street – it was pointed out that power washing had been undertaken two weeks ago.
- The possibility of erecting a bollard adjacent to the disabled car parking space outside the Oriental Palace on Kennedy Plaza to prevent trucks parking.
- Potholes at Cloncullen on the L402320.
- The need for resurfacing at the entrance to Liscarton Industrial Estate - it was pointed out that checks were needed to see who owned this section of the road.
- The possibility of requesting Tara Mines to demolish the derelict house on the Windtown Road.

7 Notice of Question

7.1 Submitted by Councillor Francis Deane

“With regard to proposed recommendations and traffic calming measures at Flowerhill, Navan, would Meath County Council and relevant consultants be willing to liaise with Flowerhill residents and business owners prior to any plans being put in place?”

Response:



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Representatives from the Transportation Department would be willing to meet with the representatives of Flowerhill Residents and business owners.

A notice has been published in last week's Meath Chronicle indicating that plans and particulars of the proposed scheme are available for inspection and inviting representations in relation to the proposed works.

The response was noted.

7.2 Submitted by Councillor Wayne Forde

“Are there plans by the Executive going forward of ensuring that, when possible, local people and local businesses are given local contracts as the Executive always insist at Christmas that we are encouraged to shop locally?”

Response:

Meath County Council has included in its Procurement Policy which came into effect in February 2016 a stated objective of Business Engagement. Meath County Council is committed to helping prospective suppliers to understand the Council's procurement and purchasing process. In this respect, guidance by the Department of Public Expenditure and reform (Circular 10/14) is consulted with prior to undertaking procurement activities. This circular is aimed at structuring competitive processes for public contracts in a manner that facilitates increased participation by SME's (Small and Medium Enterprises) while continuing to ensure that public sector purchasing is carried out in a manner that is legal, transparent, and secures optimal value for money.

The response was noted.

7.3 Submitted by Councillor Jim Holloway

“Considering ongoing traffic volumes entering Navan via the Kentstown Road at Athlumney (R153), the proposals to provide for sustainable transport in the Johnstown and Athlumney areas and the history of damage to the Railway Bridge on this route, has consideration been given to resolving these issues by way of any or a combination of the following:

- Providing for a dedicated footpath and cycleway at the location of this bridge

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- Discussions between Meath County Council and Iarnród Éireann in respect of resolving the issue of the negative impact of heavy vehicular traffic (HGV,s in particular) on the structure of the bridge itself,
- Provision of new infrastructure to resolve both problems in a way that maximises the potential to provide for sustainable transport in terms of the management of the current volumes of and modes of transport in this area?"

Response:

In January 2016 Iarnród Éireann proposed developing the design of a shuttle system through the bridge. If acceptable, the shuttle system was to be implemented on a trial basis for approximately one week and the traffic impacts monitored. If successful, consideration was then to be given to installing it permanently. The proposal would have allowed for an additional footpath to be constructed on the south side of the Kentstown Road. However, no design was forthcoming from Iarnród Éireann and the proposal has not been advanced.

The response was noted.

7.4 Submitted by Councillor Tommy Reilly

"Can this council provide the necessary information on how communities can apply for the recent funding announced by the department for CCTV in their area."

Response:

The Department of Justice & Equality recently announced the opening of a grants scheme for Community CCTV schemes. It is intended that the Scheme will run for 3 years with funding of €1 million being made available each year from 2017.

The Scheme is designed to provide financial assistance to qualifying local organisations towards meeting the capital costs associated with the establishment of local community CCTV systems. The maximum grant available is €40,000. Within this limit, grants of up to 60% of the total capital costs of the system may be awarded.

Successful applicants will receive confirmation that they have been approved for a grant under the Scheme and the amount of the grant. In this manner, applicants will be in a



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position to proceed with the installation of the system secure in the knowledge that the grant has been approved.

A payment of up to 50% of the approved amount will be made on foot of this approval and when the applicant has confirmed that he or she will comply with the conditions attaching to the grant. The balance will be paid when it has been established that the system is fully operational in line with the requirements of the Scheme.

The number of grants to be awarded is dependent on the number and quality of the applications in the context of the available budget for the scheme.

Projects will be funded, within overall maximum grant limits, to the level that is considered necessary to establish successful and viable CCTV projects. Funding will not be spread thinly over all proposals that have potential merit.

Scheme guidelines can be found in the attached document and further information on the Community CCTV scheme can be found on:

<http://www.justice.ie/en/JELR/Pages/Community-Based-CCTV>.

The response was noted.

8 Notice of Motion

8.1 Submitted by Councillor Jim Holloway

“In the context of funding having been made available to open up lands for development at Farganstown, the review of Meath County Development Plan, the process currently underway to vary the Navan Development Plan and the decision to augment funds for community and recreational development in Johnstown/Athlumney, that Meath County Council will include a zoning for community and recreation facilities on Council owned land at Farganstown/Athlumney within proposed Master Plan 12.”

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



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This motion will be considered as part of the Meath County Development Plan 2019-2025.

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Jim Holloway** and seconded by **Councillor Tommy Reilly**.

A short discussion followed where it was emphasised that this needed to be implemented and not just considered an objective or policy statement. Reference was made to the process currently ongoing to examine facilities in the area and which would focus on deliverability.

The motion was adopted.

8.2 Submitted by Councillor Francis Deane

“I request that Navan Municipal District write to the NTA to request that a footpath be erected on the R147 N3, along the river Boyne, an area where for six years there has been public lighting, with a view to pedestrian linkage with the roundabout on the M3 at Kilcarne Bridge.”

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

The feasibility study for the Trim – Navan – Drogheda Greenway proposed a cycleway along the River Boyne. The NTA incorporated the Boyne Greenway in their cycle network plan for the Greater Dublin Area. The Transport strategy for the Greater Dublin Area sets out that the cycle network in the above plan would be delivered within the life of the strategy. However, the Boyne Greenway is a long term aim and the final route would be subject to detailed design.

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Francis Deane** and seconded by **Councillor Tommy Reilly**.

The motion was adopted.

8.3 Submitted by Councillor Francis Deane



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“I propose that Navan Municipal District will contemplate the feasibility of engaging a (part-time) park ranger for Blackwater Park, perhaps under a CES scheme or through Meath Partnership, in an effort to promote and compliment the pitches and other existing facilities at our community park.”

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

The management of Blackwater Park is currently being reviewed particularly in relation to monitoring of the usage of the pitches and ensuring compliance with the Parks Byelaws 2014. The notice of motion can be considered in the context of the review being undertaken.

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Francis Deane** and seconded by **Councillor Tommy Reilly**.

A discussion followed on the facilities required in the park, including toilet facilities, the need to maintain facilities provided the success of the park and the opportunities to fund the items required.

The motion was adopted.

8.4 Submitted by Councillor Pdraig Fitzsimons

“I propose a motion to discuss the Meath County Council property at Windtown, which comprises of a single storey cottage on an acre, but which has been vacant for almost 10 years.”

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

The Housing Department can confirm that any single storey cottages at Windtown, in the ownership of Meath County Council are occupied. Accordingly, the site referenced is not part of Meath County Council’s housing stock.

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Pdraig Fitzsimons** and seconded by **Councillor Tommy Reilly**.



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It was pointed out that this site had previously been earmarked for Traveller accommodation but this had not been progressed. It was pointed out that this was owned by the Council and would be an ideal site for some social housing. Reference was made to the limitations being imposed by the Department in areas with significant social housing provision. It was agreed to refer this back to the Housing Department.

The motion was adopted.

8.5 Submitted by Councillors Padraig Fitzsimons & Tommy Reilly

“We call on Meath County Council to introduce Traffic Calming Measures at the junction of the Trim/Navan Road (R161) and the Balreask New/Hanlonstown Road at Teach na Teamrach. The traffic calming measures to consist of a reduced speed “Red Zone” on all approach roads to the junction. The Red Zone to consist of a painted rumble stripped surface for a specified distance on all approach roads.”

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

This matter has been referred to the Transportation Planning & Development Section of Meath County Council for assessment and analysis. The results of that analysis shall determine what if any technical measures shall be required to be applied to the subject area and the application of any works identified shall be precedent on funding becoming available.

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Padraig Fitzsimons** and seconded by **Councillor Tommy Reilly**.

The motion was adopted.

8.6 Submitted by Councillor Wayne Forde

“Can I call on the Executive to construct a pedestrian crossing from the public footpath at the post office to the public footpath at the credit union for public safety.”

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



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The proposed Part VIII application being prepared for the Navan Town Scheme (Navan 2030) includes a signalised pedestrian crossing at this location, which will address the pedestrian movements across Kennedy Road from the Post Office to the Credit Union and vice versa.

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Wayne Forde** and seconded by **Councillor Francis Deane**.

The motion was adopted.

8.7 Submitted by Councillor Wayne Forde

“Can I call on the Executive to immediately initialise the process of eliminating the alleyway in Ferndale estate between house numbers 142 to 143 for public safety.”

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

We have attached herewith Section 73 of the Roads Act 1993, which outlines the process to be followed when considering the extinguishment of a Public Right Of Way. This can be summarised as follows:

- *Publish notice in local newspaper inviting objections or representations*
- *Place location of right of way on display*
- *Affix a copy of the public notice at each end of right of way*
- *Objectors can request an oral hearing*
- *Consider report and recommendation of the person appointed to conduct the oral hearing*
- *Local Authority can make an order extinguishing the right of way and specify a date that it will come into effect and also specify conditions.*



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- *As soon after the date the right of way is extinguished a notice of the extinguishment is published and anyone who made written objections or representations shall be notified.*
- *The consideration of objections or representations and the report and any recommendation of a person appointed to conduct an oral hearing and the making of an order extinguishing a right of way shall be reserved functions.*

The application of this process to the walkway at 142/143 Ferndale Estate, Navan should be discussed before any course of action is agreed.

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

A short discussion followed on the issues impacting on residents and also acknowledgement of the issues that would result from the extinguishment of this public right of way. The process, as outlined, was acknowledged and it was agreed that the process should commence.

The motion was adopted.

8.8 Submitted by Councillor Jim Holloway

"Considering the deterioration of the footpaths within "The Grove" at Athlumney, that Meath County Council will provide for the restoration of this infrastructure in the forthcoming Roadworks Programme"

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

Navan Municipal District, Transportation Operations Section is currently analysing and recording the condition of the footpath infrastructure in every estate in the town of Navan including The Grove, Athlumney, with a view to providing a definitive register and condition grading.

When this large body of work is complete, this information shall enable us to plan for future upgrades and replacement works and in partnership with the Elected Members,



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put in place a programme of Municipal District Works for the addressing of deficits in the footpath infrastructure in the town.

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Jim Holloway** and seconded by **Councillor Francis Deane**.

The motion was adopted.

8.9 Submitted by Councillor Tommy Reilly

“I call on Navan Municipal District & the Board of the Solstice Centre to erect a bust/plaque to the memory of the late Billy Goonan who was the instigator of the Solstice Arts Centre in Navan. “

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

The request to erect a plaque/bust to the memory of Billy Goonan, in Solstice Arts Centre will be referred to the June meeting of the board of Solstice for their consideration.

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Tommy Reilly** and seconded by **Councillor Pdraig Fitzsimons**.

Councillors acknowledged the contribution made by Billy Goonan to the establishment of Solstice Arts Centre.

The motion was adopted.

8.10 Submitted by Councillor Sinead Burke

“In order to facilitate easy and safe travel through Blackcastle Estate, that the council install Finger posts signalling (direction to houses 140 to 153) outside house number 140 and house number 30 and also install Stop signs at house no 50 and at no 46.”

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



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The request for additional signage in Blackcastle Estate shall be assessed, following an inspection, by Navan MD Transportation Operations Section on a needs basis with reference to current directional navigation methods and available budget.

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Sinéad Burke** and seconded by **Councillor Pdraig Fitzsimons**.

The motion was adopted.

8.11 Submitted by Councillor Sinead Burke

“In order to ensure efficient running of the Municipal District meetings, for councillors and executive to agree Terms of Reference of what is discussed during the "Navan District Report on Operations" segment of the municipal meeting.”

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

The proceedings for Council meetings are regulated by Standing Orders. Standing Orders set out the order of business as it appears on the agenda (S.O. 12) and also sets out rules in relation to the Order of Debate (No’s 29 – 38) and Conduct at Meetings (No’s 39-44). Specific Standing Orders for MD Meetings are contained in SOs 65-72.

The accepted general principle to be applied is that items under discussion should be relevant to the business of the Council and that in discussing a specific item on the agenda the discussion should be confined to that item.

*In relation to discussions, Standing order No. 29 provides that **“no Councillor shall address the Council for more than 5 minutes on any issue..”** and that a member may **“speak once upon any item on the agenda...”**.*

It is a matter in the first instance for the Chair to apply Standing Orders and if necessary to enforce compliance under the relevant provisions dealing with Conduct. If a Councillor tries to raise an issue that is not relevant to the agenda item under discussion the Chair should immediately rule it “Out of Order” and if the Councillor persists and does not heed the ruling of the Chair then there are remedies available to the Chair and the other Councillors under S.O.s 40 and 41 in particular. This includes, as a last resort, resolving



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that the Councillor concerned leave the meeting if he/she persistently disregards the ruling of the Chair.

Standing Orders also allow Councillors by resolution to move on to the next business on the agenda without any further discussion.

*It was always the intention that Municipal District meetings would be somewhat less formal than full Council meetings, nonetheless Standing orders apply to MD meetings and SO. 71 is clear that every Committee (including MDs) is governed by “... **the Standing Orders of the Council..**”*

In relation to the specific matter referred to in the motion, i.e. the Engineers Report, it can be clearly implied from Standing Orders that only matters directly relevant to that report should be discussed when it is before the Council. So, for example, the Engineer might be asked a question about some specific piece of work or to clarify some matter or to explain something that is included in the report or a Councillor might use the opportunity to make comment on the work that has been done. However any attempt to rise new or unrelated matters that are not contained in the report should not be allowed by the Chair and instead the Councillor should be afforded the opportunity to raise the matter under another relevant item on the agenda (if there is one) or under A.O.B.

In summary it is suggested that Standing Orders are sufficiently robust to deal with this matter and new terms of reference are not needed.

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Sinéad Burke** and seconded by **Councillor Padraig Fitzsimons**.

The response was acknowledged and it was agreed that only matters relating to the Transportation Progress Report would be discussed under that item.

The motion was noted.

9 Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

10 Any Other Business



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10.1 Councillor Padraig Fitzsimons raised the following issue:

10.1.1 The possibility of installing a zebra crossing on the corner of Metges Road where a new development was taking place.

10.2 Councillor Wayne Forde raised the following issue:

10.2.1 The omission of Meath River Rescue from the provision of river safety services at the forthcoming Slane concert – it was clearly pointed out that the event management and provision of all related services for this event was a matter for the promoters and not the Council and the responsibility of Meath County Council in respect of this event was highlighted, in being restricted to Council services only. Councillors were reminded of their responsibility to ensure that information provided on public forums is factual and fair, including on social media, and that all contact with staff should be appropriate and respectful.

10.3 Councillor Sinéad Burke raised the following issue:

10.3.1 Requested that a meeting with Beechmount Residents Association be arranged.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed:

An Meára