



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

Navan Municipal District

Ordinary Meeting

10.30a.m., 17th June 2015, Navan Civic Offices

An Meára, **Councillor Joe Reilly**, presided.

Councillors Present: Sinéad Burke, Shane Cassells, Francis Deane, Wayne Forde, Jim Holloway, 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 20th May, 2015.

The Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 20th May 2015 were adopted on the proposal of **Councillor Tommy Reilly** and seconded by **Councillor Francis Deane**.

2 Matters arising from the Minutes

There were no matters arising.

3 Expressions of Sympathy and Congratulations

Sympathy was extended to:

- The families of those killed and injured in Berkeley, California.



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

- Frank O'Brien, former County Manager, on the death of his wife, Dr. Eilish O'Brien.

4 To receive a presentation from the FAI Development Officer.

Mark Scanlon attended the meeting and delivered a presentation to Councillors on participation rates, programmes and partnership initiatives.

Matters raised by the Councillors included:

- Welcomed the focus on social inclusion, the increased participation rates and the partnership approach with other agencies;
- The provision of the goalposts in Blackwater Park from the FAI;
- The lack of facilities in Johnstown;
- The importance of the work of the FAI in teaching life skills to young people.

The Mayor and Councillors thanked Mark for attending and for his presentation and wished him well in his new role.

5 Statutory Business

5.1 Corporate Services

- 5.1.1 To receive a presentation on the preparation of a Draft Polling Scheme for County Meath.

Olive Falsey and Sheila Sheridan attended the meeting and delivered a presentation to the meeting that covered the current polling scheme, the purpose of the review, the format and the process, and issues specific to Navan Municipal District. It was pointed out that a revised draft would be presented to municipal district meetings in September for approval, following which it would go before the full Council for adoption. If adopted, the new Polling Scheme will take effect from 15th February 2016.



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

Councillors were asked to submit any suggestions to Corporate Services by 4.00pm on Friday 31st July 2015.

During the discussion that followed, issues raised included the impact on parents due to schools being closed for polling day and the need for Councillors and parties to make relevant submissions.

The Mayor and Councillors thanked Olive and Sheila for attending and for their presentation.

5.2 Transportation

5.2.1 To receive an update on the establishment of the Transportation Operations Section.

John McGrath, Transportation Operations attended the meeting and provided Councillors with an update on the establishment of the Transportation Operations Section, including the context for the reform programme and the municipal district structures with a focus on operations and customer service.

Matters raised by the Councillors included:

- The number of staff in the Transportation Department – it was agreed to circulate this information.
- The reasons for the variation in the numbers of outdoor staff in the municipal districts;
- That Meath County Council staff working for Irish Water are prevented from entering the rear of private properties to deal with issues relating to the sewerage systems.
- Complimented the Gateway staff for their work in various locations in the town.
- The benefits of using the customer service contacts to ensure responses to queries, etc.



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

It was agreed to circulate the presentation to Councillors. The Mayor and Councillors thanked John for attending and for the update.

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

The report had been circulated in advance of the meeting. It was confirmed that the roadworks programme had commenced, that the playground in the park would officially open this coming Friday with works being completed, and the health and safety requirements for the contractor for the big belly bins was to be completed.

Matters raised by the Councillors included:

- Resurfacing works needed in Beechmount Gardens and Beechmount Court – it was agreed that this would be included in the 2016 roadworks programme, subject to available funding.
- The health and safety requirements on contractors.

6 Notice of Question

6.1 Submitted by Councillor Sinéad Burke

“To ask the Executive how many crisis housing places are available for those experiencing homelessness in Navan, where are they and if there are any plans in place to increase the number of these temporary accommodation places?”

Response:

Meath County Council Homeless Service primarily utilises private service providers in respect to emergency accommodation. There are approximately 12 such service providers, who are engaged at various frequencies, subject to demand and client needs. In addition, the Service has access to 2 units in Drogheda Homeless Aid, Drogheda. On average, 15-30 emergency accommodation places are utilised on any given night. It is planned to renew the tendering process for emergency accommodation providers in



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

2015, while the provision of supported accommodation for chaotic clients is currently being explored in conjunction with the HSE.

The response was noted.

6.2 Submitted by Councillor Francis Deane

“Considering the serious problem with a lack of car parking spaces for shoppers in the centre of the town of Navan and bearing in mind the close proximity of the Brews Hill car park to Cannon Row, Railway Street and Trimgate Street, for which it serves as a feeder car park, may I ask

a) what revenue has been generated from the Brews Hill car park for the past three years? and

b) is the local authority willing to extend the lease for a longer term?”

Response:

The Navan Development Plan 2009 – 2015 states that there are 3,600 car parking spaces (Appendix 4 Navan Local Transport Plan) in Navan between public & private provision & considers that there are sufficient spaces within the town to cater for the short to medium term needs of the local population and business.

a) *The Gross Revenue figures (after VAT & Lease payments & before operating costs) are as follows:*

2012	2013	2014
€ 32,449.32	€30,467.03	€25,346.93

b) *Meath County Council intends to continue to lease the car park for as long as it is available.*

The response was noted. Councillor Francis Deane sought clarification as to the terms of the lease in place.



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

6.3 Submitted by Councillor Wayne Forde

“Can I ask the executive how much was collected in the LPT last year for Navan Municipal District?”

Response:

The LPT is collected and pursued by the Revenue Commissioners on behalf of Meath County Council and all Local Authorities. Figures regarding the LPT that have been provided so far are on a county wide basis only with no breakdown by Municipal District. When such data becomes available it will be circulated to all members.

The response was noted.

7 Notice of Motion

7.1 Submitted by Councillor Wayne Forde

“I call on my fellow councillors to support my motion to have an official Bus Éireann stop installed at Athlumney on the Kentstown road, as the bus route 109 to Dublin regularly passes through the townland.”

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

The sustainable transportation unit will discuss this with the NTA and Bus Éireann at our next meeting. Funding was sought before for this but it was unclear whether Bus Éireann were continuing the service on this road as it was an experimental phase at the time. If Bus Éireann are making it a permanent service then we will seek funding from the NTA to provide the stop.

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

The motion was adopted.

Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

7.2 Submitted by Councillor Francis Deane

“That a zebra crossing be installed on the Ratholdron Road, approaching St Paul's School, together with the development of a correct, safe and pedestrian-friendly traffic plan which will consider an additional school exit, suitable for this growing education campus, expecting to have a much increased pupil population in the coming years.”

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

Construction of a pedestrian crossing will be considered as part of the overall traffic management plan for the school when it is being assessed for planning permission. This is expected to be lodged later this year and we have engaged in pre planning meetings with the school and the traffic engineers engaged to design the plan. As the access gate into the school is proposed to be altered significantly it would be premature to construct a crossing at this stage.

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

The motion was adopted.

7.3 Submitted by Councillor Francis Deane

“That Navan Municipal District will write to Iarnród Éireann to request consultation with the local authority in relation to the erection of public lighting to enhance the look of our iconic Railway Viaduct, which has seven arches and spans the river Boyne. Built in 1848 on the approach road to the town from Dublin, this bridge, still in use for freight traffic, could provide the area with an interesting addition in relation to tourism.”

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

The motion was adopted.

Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

7.4 Submitted by Councillor Wayne Forde

“I call on my fellow Councillors to support my motion of erecting a pedestrian crossing on Market Square across from the Bull where there is an existing speed ramp going across to Smyth’s Public House, as people think this is a pedestrian crossing and I am extremely concerned for public safety, as this is a very busy street, and it's only a matter of time before a car collides with a member of the public.”

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

There is a zebra crossing in place at this location. The zebra crossing is marked with a set of Pedestrian Lines, Transverse Lines, Strips, and Pedestrian Crossing Beacons in accordance with Road Marking RPC 001 in the Traffic Signs Manual. This is a regulatory road marking and traffic must give way to pedestrians.

Zebra crossings provide greater pedestrian priority than signalised crossings, so this type of crossing is very suitable for a town centre location where pedestrian activity adds to both the “sense of place” and the self-regulating nature of the street.

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

Councillor Wayne Forde clarified that the motion referred to the speed ramps on Watergate Street and Ludlow Street and it was agreed to review these.

The motion was adopted.

8 Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

9 Any Other Business

9.1 Councillor Jim Holloway raised the following issue:

9.1.1 The issue at the OMP grounds and around the telecommunications mast, with



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

an area at one end towards Blackcastle Shopping Centre being overgrown and the impact on residents in St. Oliver's' Cottages who maintain their area – it was agreed to review this area.

9.2 Councillor Francis Deane raised the following issue:

9.2.1 The need to trim the grass on the Loop Walk in Blackwater Park – it was agreed to see if this could be done.

9.3 Councillor Wayne Forde raised the following issue:

9.3.1 The traffic light sequence at the bottom of Watergate Street/Timmons Hill – it was pointed out that a review of the traffic light sequence indicated that there were no issues at this location.

9.4 Councillor Joe Reilly raised the following issue:

9.4.1 The possibility of providing a dedicated space in the park for dog walking, similar to that provided in Naas – it was agreed to consider this.

9.5 Councillor Shane Cassells raised the following issues:

9.5.1 Update on the completion of works by the developer in Leighsbridge estate.

9.5.2 The need to protect capital investments made through ongoing maintenance, for example Metges Lane.

9.5.3 The need to allocate resources to appoint a ranger in the park to protect the equipment installed and ensure local residents are not adversely affected.

9.5.4 The need to provide residents with information on the sequencing of bollards during the summer.

9.5.5 The need for maintenance works at the playground in Boreen Keel due to damaged equipment.



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed:

An Meára