



## ***Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes***

### ***Kells Municipal District***

### ***Ordinary Meeting***

***4.15pm, 19<sup>th</sup> June, 2017, Kells Civic Offices***

An Cathaoirleach, **Councillor David Gilroy**, presided.

**Councillors Present:** Eugene Cassidy, Seán Drew, Michael Gallagher, Johnny Guirke, Bryan Reilly, Sarah 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 15<sup>th</sup> May, 2017.**

The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on the 15<sup>th</sup> May, 2017 were adopted on the proposal of **Councillor Bryan Reilly** and seconded by **Councillor Michael Gallagher**.

#### **2 Matters arising from the Minutes**

There were no matters arising.

#### **3 Expressions of Sympathy and Congratulations**

Sympathy was extended to:

- The family of the late Paddy Pryle, whose contribution to the community was acknowledged.



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Congratulations were extended to:

- Kells Handball Club on winning their sixth successive Senior All Ireland Championship;
- The community in Dromone on the 50 mile charity walk;
- Baile Ghib on celebrating 80 years since families from Donegal, Kerry, Mayo and Cork arrived to the area.

#### **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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 local public meetings.

Matters raised by Councillors included:

- Poor water quality and the reasons for this – the varying factors were outlined.
- Access to rivers, the challenges arising from private ownership and insurance issues – the need for cooperation was underlined.
- The possible pollution affecting local rivers but arising from pollution in other counties – it was confirmed that a team was in place to deal with catchment/regional issues.
- Concerns of anglers with regard to sewerage discharge and contact made with Irish Water regarding treatment plants – all submissions made at local meetings had been forwarded to the Department, Irish Water and local authorities.
- The levels of pollution throughout the year – it was pointed out that this would depend on the activities, e.g. agricultural spreading, heavy rainfall, etc.



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- The role of LAWCO in influencing Irish Water with regard to infrastructural upgrades – it was suggested that local submissions should also be made with regard to Irish Water’s Capital Investment Programme to 2020.
- The role of LAWCO in schools – it was pointed out that, whilst there were no resources available for classroom based work, schools were encouraged to become involved in suitable community projects.

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

### **5 Statutory Business**

#### **5.1 Transportation**

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

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

- The possibility of upgrading the public lighting in the areas in Kells to benefit from the funding under the Town Kickstart Pilot Initiative – it was agreed to refer this to the Heritage Officer.
- The possibility of straightening the bollards at the entrance to the Church of Ireland.
- Update on the works at Ardamagh Bridge – it was agreed to refer this to Transportation Planning & Design.
- Complaints received regarding advance signage on Maudlin Street for the traffic lights.
- The need for hedge cutting at Lloyd at the turn off for Sheeney.



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- The need to review the depth and visibility of water cuts at Drumbaragh out to McGee's Cross.
- Query with regard to responsibility for insurance liability following the installation of a kissing gate to lands at Lloyd enabling public access to lands leased to a farmer who has livestock on these lands – it was confirmed that these gates had been installed without authorisation, that signage could be erected to warn people of cattle in the field and that the issue of liability would be referred to Corporate Services.
- The impact of reduced funding for footpath repair and maintenance in Kells town following the abolition of Kells Town Council and the need to account for this in the 2018 budget.
- Update on the watermain rehabilitation works in Kells Municipal District which had led to the deferral of other planned roadworks – it was agreed to refer this to Water Services.
- The responsibility for the lighting from Rath Cairn to the football pitch as all are out of order – it was agreed to refer this to Public Lighting.
- The possibility of introducing more attractive signs on approaches to the towns and villages, with Kiltale being given as an example – it was confirmed that there were no plans to replace all signs globally.
- Update on the provision of the footpath from the schools to Gardenrath Road – it was agreed to refer this to Transportation Planning & Design.
- Complaints received regarding dog fouling.

### **5.2 Corporate Services**

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

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



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Councillor Seán Drew referred to the proposed memorial bench for former Kells UDC and Town Councillor, the late Tommy Grimes, and the representations made to him that all other former deceased Councillors should also be acknowledged. A short discussion followed on how this might be achieved and it was agreed on the proposal of **Councillor Sarah Reilly** and seconded by **Councillor Seán Drew** that a final decision on the wording for the bench would be deferred to the July meeting to allow further consideration to take place.

### **6 Notice of Question**

There were no Notices of Question.

### **7 Notice of Motion**

There were no Notices of Motion.

### **8 Correspondence**

- 8.1 Correspondence received from the Department of Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural & Gaeltacht Affairs in response to the Notice of Item 10.3.1 – AOB from May meeting re funding for two Gaeltacht areas in County Meath.

The correspondence was noted.

- 8.2 Correspondence received from Garda Síochána in response to the Notice of Item 12.1.1 – AOB from April meeting re transfer the Garda Traffic Corps Unit from Kells to Dunshaughlin.

The correspondence was noted.

- 8.3 Correspondence received from the Joint Committee on Regional Development in response to the Notice of Item 7.1.1 from April meeting re feedback on the meeting with the Joint Committee on Regional Development, Rural Affairs, Arts & the Gaeltacht last September.

The correspondence was noted.



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### **9 Any Other Business**

9.1 Councillor Johnny Guirke raised the following issue:

9.1.1 Requested an update on the applications selected for submission under the Town & Village Renewal Scheme – all the applications are being considered at present and 15 will be selected to go forward. Only those that are eligible for funding and that can meet the conditions of the scheme, including the timeframes, will be considered so therefore there is no point submitting applications where the conditions cannot be met as this could potentially deprive an eligible scheme. Whilst 15 projects can be submitted, there is no guarantee that they will all be funded.

9.2 Councillor Sarah Reilly raised the following issue:

9.2.1 Queried as to whether there were plans to widen the entrance to Headfort School – it was agreed to check this.

9.3 Councillor Michael Gallagher raised the following issue:

9.3.1 The possibility of extending the footpath from Gibbstown hall to the school – it was agreed to refer this to Transportation.

9.4 Councillor Seán Drew raised the following issues:

9.4.1 The legislation/guidelines regarding the parking of lorries in housing estates – it was confirmed that this would be covered by bye-laws and that any specific locations/incidents should be submitted.

9.4.2 The reported high level of incidents of cancer in the area around Fr. McCullen Park and the northern end of the town, where a schedule highlighting the age and numbers was being prepared – it was agreed on the proposal of **Councillor Bryan Reilly** and seconded by **Councillor Seán Drew** that a letter would issue to the HSE asking that this cluster, and a cluster in Dromone, be investigated.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

**Signed:**



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**Cathaoirleach**