



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

Ordinary Meeting

12th June 2017, Council Chamber, at 2.30p.m.

Presiding

Cathaoirleach, Councillor Gerry O' Connor

Councillors Present:

Councillors Joe Bonner, Sinéad Burke, Eugene Cassidy, Francis Deane, Seán Drew, Eimear Ferguson, Brian Fitzgerald, Pdraig Fitzsimons, Enda Flynn, Wayne Forde, Joe Fox, Noel French, Michael Gallagher, David Gilroy, Trevor Golden, Johnny Guirke, Wayne Harding, Jim Holloway, Suzanne Jamal, Tom Kelly, Sharon Keogan, Nick Killian, Caroline Lynch, Stephen McKee, Ronan McKenna, Paddy Meade, Maria Murphy, Claire O'Driscoll, Maria O' Kane, Damien O' Reilly, Darren O'Rourke, Bryan Reilly, Joe Reilly, Sarah Reilly, Tommy Reilly, Seán Smith, Alan Tobin, Sharon Tolan, Gillian Toole.

Apologies:

Officials in attendance:

Chief Executive: Jackie Maguire

Directors of Service: Kevin Stewart, Des Foley, Fiona Lawless, Barry Lynch

Meetings' Administrator: Olive Falsey

Senior Executive Officers: Larry Whelan, Fiona Fallon

1 Confirmation of Minutes

- 1.1 Confirmation of minutes of Ordinary meeting held on 8th May 2017.

The minutes of the Ordinary meeting held on 8th May 2017 were confirmed on the proposal of **Councillor Ronan McKenna** and seconded by **Councillor Noel French**.

- 1.2 Confirmation of minutes of Special Planning meeting held on 29th May 2017.

The minutes of the Special Planning meeting held on 29th May 2017 were confirmed on the proposal of **Councillor Ronan McKenna** and seconded by **Councillor Sharon Tolan**.



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2 Matters arising from the Minutes

No matters arising.

3 Expressions of Sympathy and Congratulations

Sympathy was extended to:

- Adrian Hobbs, Finance-Procurement, on the death of his father Anthony Hobbs.
- Mary Smyth, Housing and Rose Grimes, Kells Library, on the death of their mother Annie (Nancy) Casserly.
- David Hyland, Ashbourne MD on the death of his brother Noel Hyland.
- The family of the late Alan Bonner, Stamullen, who died tragically at the Isle of Man TT races.
- The family of the late Dr Donald Caird, who was Church of Ireland Bishop of Meath 1976-1985
- The victims of the Manchester and London terror attacks.

Congratulations were extended to:

- Slane N.S. on winning a final in the Cumann na mBunscoil competition.
- Tara Mines on reaching 40 years of production in Navan.
- Leah Barniville, Ratoath, on reaching the semi-finals of Britain's Got Talent competition.
- Meath County Council Choir for their, organisation of, and participation in the recent Festival of Choirs Charity Concert held in Solstice Arts Centre.
- Meath Macra on recent Blue Jeans festival in Athboy and Meath County Council on becoming a sponsor of the Macra Rally.
- All involved in the Moylagh 50 mile challenge to raise funds for cancer.
- Foróige on building a fairy village in Navan town park.
- Louth County Council and the committee involved in organising the Irish Maritime Festival.
- Those involved in the erection of the portrait of Francis Ledwidge in Slane.
- All involved in the organisation of the Meath Community Games athletics final in Cushinstown.
- Elise Carey from Duleek on winning a national boxing title.
- Duleek and district text alert on the installation of CCTV cameras.
- Julianstown community on organising a successful family fun day.
- All involved in the organisation of the Meath Fleádh in Trim.
- Pdraig Beggy (jockey) on winning the recent Epsom Derby.
- Navan Cosmos soccer club on winning the NEFL Challenge Cup.



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4 Disposal of Land in accordance with Statutory Notices circulated pursuant to the provisions of Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001

5 Statutory Business

5.1 Finance

- 5.1.1 To receive a report on the Management Accounts of Meath County Council in respect of Q1 2017.

Noted by the Councillors.

6 Reports

6.1 Chief Executive's Report

6.2 Chief Executive's Report

The Chief Executive provided the following additional updates:

- Buvinda House: It was noted that two thirds of staff had moved to Buvinda and that by the end of June all staff would be relocated re the completion of Phase 1. It was noted that all phone numbers and contact details will remain the same and that Motor Tax, Housing and IT departments will move when Phase 2 is complete.

Councillors sought clarification on a number of other matters in the Chief Executive's report.

The main issues raised and discussed included:

Housing:

- Information requested on the areas where the pipeline projects are planned and the need for innovative projects was noted.
- Information requested on the number of Part 5's re commencement notices.
- A breakdown of homeless figures should be provided.
- Housing adaptation grants welcomed.
- More detailed report needed on Farganstown land.

Transportation:

- R125 road and the increase in volume and speed – safety measures and a footpath needed.
- Single-lane bridge at Milltown needs attention.



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- Issues re Drogheda environs were also raised.

Community:

- Information requested on the selection process for the Town regeneration projects.
- The Council's sponsorship of Macra Rally welcomed.
- Update requested re progress on Ashbourne linear park.

Environment:

- Issues raised in regard to illegal dumping and enforcement.

Planning:

- Update requested on status of variation re Trim Development Plan.

Other:

- Request for a meeting of Whips and Executive to discuss meeting rooms and access to staff following the relocation to Buvinda.

The Chief Executive and the Management Team provided responses on all matters raised.

6.3 Report from the Corporate Policy Group

The Meetings Administrator advised that the Corporate Policy Group reviewed the agenda for the full Council meeting and received information on the particulars of some items. The report in regard to the Planning Economic Development and Enterprise SPC held on the 16th May was noted with no recommendations arising from the meeting.

6.3.1 To consider and approve the following CPG recommendations in regard to the Transportation SPC.

Des Foley, Director of Services, provided details of the two recommendations, noting that the details had been circulated to all Councillors.

- A number of Priority 3 roads are recommended for formal inclusion in the Winter Gritting Schedule this season.

Approved on the proposal of **Councillor Paddy Meade** and seconded by **Councillor Claire O' Driscoll**.

- Recommendation to adopt a Draft policy on unauthorised sale of vehicles on public roadside.

Approved on the proposal of **Councillor Alan Tobin** and seconded by **Councillor Trevor Golden**.



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6.4 Report from the Protocol Committee

The Meetings Administrator advised the meeting of the recommendations in regard to the following items of correspondence:

- A motion from Councillor Noel French calling for the erection of a World War 1 memorial for the county.

It was agreed to recommend that this matter would need further discussion and that it would remain on the protocol agenda.

The Protocol Committee approved a list of conferences relevant to the business of the Council.

The above recommendations were approved by the Councillors.

7 Correspondence

- 7.1 Circular EA 1/2017 – Department of Environment, Community and Local Government re. Local Agenda 21 (LA21) Environmental Partnership Fund 2017.

Noted by the Councillors.

- 7.2 Correspondence from the Department of Health in response to Notice of Motion 9.6 adopted at the April 2017 meeting of the Full Council re. Medicinal Cannabis.

Noted by the Councillors.

- 7.3 Correspondence from John Halligan, Minister of State at the Department of Education in response to Notice of Motion 9.1 adopted at the May 2017 meeting of the Full Council re. School Transport.

Noted by the Councillors.

- 7.4 Correspondence to DHPCLG – re. Drogheda Boundary Review Committee Report & Implementation.

Noted by the Councillors.



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8 Notice of Question

8.1 Submitted by Councillor Noel French

“That Meath County Council advise how many abandoned vehicles have been removed and destroyed by Meath County Council in the last 3 years and give a breakdown of the costs involved?”

Response

The Council’s draft Policy Document in relation to Abandoned Vehicles was the subject of discussion at the Environment SPC and more recently at JPC Level and is now being implemented across the County. The policy was considered necessary in the face of a rapid increase in the number of vehicles being reported as abandoned and which it is suggested was a direct result of the fall in the value of scrap metal.

Year	Number of Vehicles
2014	8
2015	32
2016	170
2017	105 (to the 24 th May)

In accordance with the procedures set out in the policy, notifications are issued to all last registered owners of the vehicles and while this has elicited a response in many cases it has been necessary to affix stickers to over 50 vehicles affording a 6 week period for removal of the vehicle. Following procurement of contractors in May, a total of 8 vehicles has now been removed and destroyed and certs of destruction submitted.

While the costs vary depending on distances travelled, the average costs is circa €80 plus VAT, a sum that the Council seeks to recoup from the last registered owner.

Noted by the Councillors.

8.2 Submitted by Councillor Sharon Keogan

“How many Gateway staff did Meath County Council take on in 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016? How many of these men or women were offered interviews for full time/part time employment following these placements?”



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Response

In total 131 Gateway Scheme staff were employed by Meath County Council between 2013 and 2016 of which 93 were recruited in 2014 and 37 in 2015. These staff members were employed on a part-time basis i.e. 19.5 hours per week. They were all afforded the opportunity to apply for any post advertised by the Council while employed on the scheme and 97 applied for posts in 2015, 64 in 2016, and 21 in 2017. Posts applied for included Community Warden, Clerical Officer (fixed-term contract), General Operative (permanent & fixed-term contract), Unity Centre Attendant and School Warden. 13 Gateway Scheme staff have been appointed into full-time permanent positions and 23 have been appointed to full-time fixed-term contract positions with Meath County Council.

Noted by the Councillors.

8.3 Submitted by Councillor Alan Tobin

Were the previous bills for commercial customers of Meath County Council for the supply of water into the premises only or did they include waste water? If not have commercial water customers seen a doubling of their bills?"

Response

The composition of each bill issued by Meath County Council in relation to commercial water charges depended on the services availed of by the customer in question. Charges for waste water would only have been charged on a water bill if the customer used this service. The breakdown of the charges applied to each customer was displayed on every bill issued. Since July 2016, Irish Water has taken over the responsibility of issuing commercial water bills, they are applying the same charging structure that Meath County Council used and also display the breakdown on their bills. If there are any specific issue you may have they can be contacted via email at localrepsupport@water.ie."

Noted by the Councillors.

8.4 Submitted by Councillor Sarah Reilly

"Given the commitment to spend €1,154,000 on public lighting in our current Capital Investment Programme, can the Chief Executive outline the process and criteria for determining new lighting application?"

Response

Meath County Council is currently preparing a draft Public Lighting Policy and it is intended to present this draft policy to the Transportation SPC meeting on 20th July for



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consideration. The policy document will seek to put in place a consistent and coordinated approach to the provision and maintenance of public lighting in the county and aim to balance the need to provide for the safety of the public with the Council's intention to reducing its energy consumption. When adopted, the policy will assist in determining the criteria for the provision of new public lighting investment provided for in the Capital Programme.

Noted by the Councillors.

8.5 Submitted by Councillor Caroline Lynch

"To ask the Chief Executive for the following information:

The total amount of financial support given to Meath County Council from Jan 1st 2016 to Dec 31st 2016 for the work of following housing areas:

- *Social Housing Construction*
- *Social houses purchases through acquisitions budget*
- *Maintenance and refurbishment of existing social housing stock*
- *Housing grants for adaptations and renovations*
- *New schemes introduced in this period and budget with them*
- *Total budget for homeless services*
- *Total budget for HAP*
- *Funding made available to Meath for purchase of land*

An an féidir an t-eolas a leanas a chur ar fáil dom:

- *An méid iomlán de thacaíocht airgeadais a thugadh do Chomhairle Chontae na Mí ó 1 Eanáir 2016 – 31 Nollaig 2016 ar oibriúcháin sna reimsí tithíochta seo:*
- *Tógáil Thithíocht Shóisialta*
- *Ceannacháin Thithíocht Shóisialta tríd an gciste éadála*
- *Cothabháil agus Athchóiriú tithíochta atá ann cheana*
- *Deontais tithíochta d'oiriúnaithe agus athnuachaint*
- *Scéimeanna nua a chuireadh i bhfeidhm sa tréimhse agus buiséad seo agus cathain*
- *Buiséad iomlán do seirbhísí dhaoine gan didéan*
- *Buiséad iomlán do HAP*
- *Cistiúcháin a chuireadh ar fáil do Chomhairle Chontae na Mí ar mhaithe le talamh a cheannach."*

Response

FUNDING RECEIVED FROM DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING, PLANNING,



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COMMUNITY & LOCAL GOVERNMENT FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY – DECEMBER 2016	
Social Housing Construction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As at 31st December 2016, €27,387,748 approved for housing construction projects.
Acquisition Programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> €10,249,540
Return of Vacant Units 2016 (including derelict units)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> €1,435,500
Local Authority Adaptation Grants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> €445,420
Housing Grants Scheme for Older People and People with a Disability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> €1,414,384
New Direct Construction Schemes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Submission made regarding Bettystown Phase 2, Ratoath and Proudstown Road in 2016 – Approvals received 2017 - €7,083,610
Homeless Budget	Meath County Council's portion of Mid East Regional Homeless funding 2016 - €792,606
Housing Assistance Payment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scheme is demand led, and payments to landlords processed by Limerick City & County Council (Shared Service Centre for HAP)
Land Purchase	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No submissions made in 2016 regarding land purchase

Noted by the Councillors. Councillor Lynch sought clarification on the total amount paid in relation to HAP payments.

8.6 Submitted by Councillor Darren O'Rourke

"To ask the Chief Executive to confirm what actions she is taking to ensure that no homeless family currently facilitated by the Council in hotel or B&B accommodation is still in that accommodation after the 1st July target date set by the current Minister for Housing; will she also state what contacts she has had from the Department with



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assistance in that regard / Ceist a chur ar an bPríomhfheidhmeannach na gníomhaíochtaí atá á thógáil aici lena chinntiú nach mbeidh teaghlach gan didéan atá ag fanacht i B&B nó óstán (faoi chúram na Comhairle) fós sa lóistín sin tar éis an 1 Iúil – an spriocdháta a chuireadh i bhfeidhm ag an Aire Tithíochta Reatha, an féidir léi a léiriú chomh maith aon teagmháil a bhí aici leis an Roinn maidir le seo.”

Response

The priority of Meath County Council’s Homeless Service is to prevent a household from requiring emergency accommodation in the first instance. Significant preventative work is undertaken to achieve this outcome on an ongoing basis, thus minimising, as far as possible in the current housing environment, the numbers of households that are placed in emergency accommodation.

It is important to note that once a household is placed in emergency accommodation, every effort is made to identify and accomplish an exit strategy to suitable accommodation. In 2016, 158 households that had required an emergency accommodation placement, had successfully exited homelessness and secured suitable accommodation with the assistance of the Homeless Service by year end. The challenge of homelessness in recent times has been fully recognised by Meath County Council, with the allocation of additional staff and budgetary provision in order to ensure that required resources are in place to effectively deal with the volume of homeless presentations. It is confirmed that, at present, there are no homeless households facilitated by Meath County Council in hotel accommodation, while there are four households placed currently in B&B accommodation. As noted above, interventions with those households will continue to secure successful exit strategies as soon as possible.

Rebuilding Ireland: Action Plan on Homelessness and Housing provides the policy framework in which the Department of Housing, Planning, Community & Local Government is operating within, in order to increase the supply of housing units across all tenures and address homelessness. There is ongoing contact with Meath County Council and Departmental officials in advancing the various delivery mechanisms in Co. Meath, that will assist, in both the short and medium term, in increasing housing supply at local level, and in turn reducing the need for emergency accommodation placements.

Noted by the Councillors.

8.7 Submitted by Councillor Michael Gallagher

“To ask the Chief Executive to provide a report on the operation of the Gateway scheme by Meath County Council including the number of persons involved, the number who went on to secure permanent employment with Meath County Council, the work carried-



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out; and the implications for Meath County Council now that the scheme has ceased / Ceist a chur ar an bPríomhfheidhmeannach tuairisc a chur ar fáil maidir le feidhmiú an scéim Gateway ag Comhairle Chontae na Mí mar aon leis an méid daoine atá bhainteach léi, an méid a bhfuair fostaíocht bhuan le Comhairle Chontae na Mí, an obair a rinneadh agus na himpleachtaí do Chomhairle Chontae na Mí anois agus an scéim thart.”

Response

In total 131 Gateway Scheme staff were employed by Meath County Council between 2013 – 2016. 13 Gateway Scheme staff have been appointed into permanent positions and 23 have been appointed to fixed-term contract positions (most of which in either Clerical Officer and General Operative positions) with Meath County Council. 97 of these staff members were assigned to outdoor positions in each of the Municipal Districts throughout the county, working on a range of non-core Council work activities including but not limited to (a) maintenance works at burial grounds, private housing estates and industrial estates, (b) clean-up requirements at litter black-spots, and (c) upkeep works at walkways and riverbanks areas. 34 were assigned to indoor positions in the various Council offices throughout the county carrying out a range of non-core clerical duties. It is noted and appreciated that Gateway Scheme staff carried out a valuable service for the Council and the community. The work was additional to the Council’s normal work programme. The review of this work is ongoing and the Council will subsume responsibility for the completion of various aspects of this work where it is appropriate and possible and with the assistance of the additional core staff recruited in 2015, 2016 and 2017.

Noted by the Councillors.

8.8 Submitted by Councillor Johnny Guirke

“To ask the Chief Executive to provide the following information: The total amount of financial support given to Meath County Council from Jan 1st 2016 to Dec 31st 2016 for the upkeep of following road sections: National primary road routes, Regional roads, county roads / Ar mhaithe le cinntiú, cur i gcoinne agus ar dheireadh, fadhb an chistiúcháin ísil a bhronntar ar Chomhairle Chontae na Mí ag na ranna rialtais áirithe, a réitiú, an féidir an t-eolas a leanas a chur ar fáil dom: An méid iomlán de thacaíocht airgeadais a thugadh do Chomhairle Chontae na Mí ó 1 Eanáir 2016 – 31 Nollaig 2016 ar cothabháil na míreanna bóithre a leanas: príomhbhóithre náisiúnta, bóithre réigiúnacha, bóithre chontae.”

Response

The total amounts received in 2016



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TII for National roads	€2,447,660
DTTAS for Regional and County Roads	€13,007,402
N.T.A for Sustainable Transport Measures Programme.	€ 790,265

A more detailed breakdown of the funding received can be provided on request.

Noted by the Councillors.

8.9 Submitted by Councillor Sinéad Burke

To ask the Chief Executive what negotiations have taken place between the CE and the Dept of Local Government to bring the staffing of Meath Co. Co. in line with Councils of similar size and population? / Na hidirbheartaíochtaí atá ar siúl idir an PF agus an Roinn Rialtas Áitiúil ar mhaithe le foireann Chomhairle Chontae na Mí a chur ar chomhleibhéal le comhairlí den toghas agus daonra céan?."

Response

The human resource requirement for Meath County Council is driven by the workforce planning process. The purpose of this process is to ensure that the Council is appropriately staffed so as to deliver required services. This process also ensures that the Council appropriately utilises its staffing complement and associated skill-sets. The Council reviews staffing requirements at all levels and grades on an ongoing basis. Where it is required and appropriate, the Council engages with the relevant stakeholders, including the Department of Housing, Planning, Community & Local Government, in order to seek to address staffing requirements where they arise. This is done with reference to overall budgetary implications and requirements.

Councillor Burke sought further clarification, which was provided by the Chief Executive.

9 Notice of Motion

9.1 Submitted by Councillor Gillian Toole (deferred from May meeting)

"That Meath County Council, Transport Infrastructure Ireland & the National Transport Authority collaborate and expedite the implementation of an efficient and sustainable transport management plan for South Meath."

Supporting Information subject to the motion being proposed, seconded and considered.



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In 2016, Meath County Council commissioned Aecom to prepare a report in relation to the transport impact of the proposed development contained in Variation 3 of the County Development Plan 2013-2019 in the vicinity of the Dunboyne / Clonee / Pace area of South Meath. The aim of this exercise is to develop a multi-modal transport strategy to cater for the increased transport demand to/from the existing and proposed land-use footprint. This work is now well advanced and is due to be finalised in June 2017. Thereafter, it is proposed that the output of the study, including the funding and delivery of any proposed infrastructure, will be discussed with the TII and the NTA. A report on the matter will be brought before the Councillors in due course.

The motion proposed by **Councillor Gillian Toole** and seconded by **Councillor Maria Murphy** was unanimously adopted.

9.2 Submitted by Councillor Sinead Burke (deferred from May meeting)

“That Meath County Council writes to Minister for Housing, Planning Community and Local Government, Simon Coveney, asking him to immediately suspend the Help-to-Buy scheme in light of increasing evidence provided by the newly released CSO figures that indicates the scheme is adding to increases in the price of houses. Go scríobhfadh Comhairle Chontae na Mí chuig an Aire Tithíochta Simon Coveney ag iarraidh air an scéim Help-to-Buy a chur ar fionraí láithreach i bhfianaise atá ag méadú as na figiúirí nua-eisithe ón POS a chuireann in iúl go bhfuil an scéim ag cur le costas tithhe.”

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Sinead Burke** and seconded by **Councillor Darren O’ Rourke**.

Following a debate on the matter, it was noted that a review of the Help-to-Buy Scheme was currently being undertaken by the Department of Finance. **Councillor Brian Fitzgerald** proposed an amendment to the motion i.e. to remove the wording ‘asking him to immediately suspend’

Councillor Burke agreed and the amended motion was duly adopted.

“That Meath County Council writes to Minister for Housing, Planning Community and Local Government, Simon Coveney, asking him to note that the Help-to-Buy scheme, in light of increasing evidence provided by the newly released CSO figures, indicates that the scheme is adding to increases in the price of houses.”

9.3 Submitted by Councillor Francis Deane

“To call on Meath County Council to liaise with community groups involved with old graveyards in relation to the erection of columbarium walls.”



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Supporting Information subject to the motion being proposed, seconded and considered.

Meath County Council recognises the enormous effort of community groups around the county in maintaining burial grounds. Any proposals from groups can be considered under the Burial Ground Grants Application Scheme subject to funding and other constraints associated with older graveyards. It is also noted that the Council is currently investigating the possibility of having a special area in the Derrockstown Burial garden for the ashes of people who are cremated.

The motion, proposed by **Councillor Francis Deane** and seconded by Councillor **Padraig Fitzsimons**, was unanimously adopted, subjected to the supporting information.

9.4 Submitted by Councillor Claire O'Driscoll

"That Meath County Council will guarantee a specific amount of funding under the 'Housing Adaptation Grant' for those with Autism Spectrum Disorder where a purpose built sensory room would greatly enhance their quality of life."

Supporting Information subject to the motion being proposed, seconded and considered.

Meath County Council has witnessed a significant increase in the capital allocation received under the suite of private adaptation grants from the Department of Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government in recent years. Accordingly, applications being processed are current, with all historic applications dealt with at this stage.

The prioritisation of applications under the Housing Adaptation Grants Schemes is based on medical priority, as determined by the applicant's medical practitioner. There is no provision to allow for a Local Authority to ring fence allocated funds for specific medical categories.

However, it should be noted that all applications received in respect to sensory rooms in 2016 and 2017 to date, have been approved, thereby confirming that the existing framework in which the grant schemes operate, facilitates the needs as outlined for those with Autism Spectrum Disorder.

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Claire O' Driscoll** and seconded by Councillor **Wayne Harding**.

Based on the supporting information, **Councillor O' Driscoll** withdrew the motion.

9.5 Submitted by Councillor Claire O'Driscoll



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"That the redevelopment of the library at Navan will seek to include measures to deliver more appropriate services to children with autism including the provision of confined spaces with cushions as provided in the library in Dun Laoghaire or a sensory room as provided in Mohill library in Co. Leitrim."

Supporting Information subject to the motion being proposed, seconded and considered.

The plans for the redevelopment of Navan library will include measures to deliver more appropriate services to children with autism. The final plans for the development will be informed by the outcomes of some immediate measures which will be introduced in 2017. These measures include:

- Identifying a confined space away from people to make ASD children feel safe.
- Posters saying that the libraries are autism friendly.
- Training for library staff in providing appropriate assistance to parents of children with autism.
- Providing a wide range of social story books and books on autism for both children and parents.

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Claire O' Driscoll** and seconded by Councillor **Wayne Harding**.

An amendment to the motion was proposed by **Councillor Sharon Tolan** and seconded by **Councillor Sarah Reilly** i.e. to insert the words 'any new library redevelopment'

Councillor Gillian Toole proposed a further amendment i.e. to insert the words 'and other disabilities' after 'autism'

The amended motion, as outlined below was unanimously adopted.

"That the redevelopment of the library at Navan and any new library development will seek to include measures to deliver more appropriate services to children with autism and other disabilities, including the provision of confined spaces with cushions as provided in the library in Dun Laoghaire or a sensory room as provided in Mohill library in Co. Leitrim."

9.6 Submitted by Councillor Wayne Forde

"Can I call on the Executive that for future concerts at Slane, that the Council engage with the promoters of the concerts to ask Meath River Rescue to patrol the waters along with the Meath Civil Defence for public safety "



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Supporting Information subject to the motion being proposed, seconded and considered.

The Planning & Development (Licensing of Outdoor Events) Regulations 2001 set out the requirement to obtain a licence for specified events which would attract an attendance in excess of 5,000 people. The regulations require the promoters/organisers of certain events to obtain a licence for that event and submit an Event Management Plan for consideration by prescribed bodies such as the Gardaí, the H.S.E. and the Local Authority. The organiser must appoint a competent event controller and event safety officer who are responsible for ensuring that the event is managed safely.

In summary, responsibility for the safe running of any licensed event rests with the organisers and it is not open to the planning authority (the Council) to specify to an event organiser that they must engage a specific service provider for any aspect of their event.

It would therefore not be possible to comply with the terms of this motion should it be passed.

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Wayne Forde** and seconded by **Councillor Tom Kelly**.

Following a debate on the matter, the Chief Executive reiterated her advice that if Meath River Rescue members wish to provide services at a concert in Slane, they need to apply directly to the concert promoters.

The motion was unanimously defeated.

9.7 Submitted by Councillor Brian Fitzgerald

“This meeting of Meath County Council calls on the Chief Executive to vigorously pursue the Dept. of Housing Planning Community & Local Government and any other relevant agencies to have Meath County Council refunded the full 75% grant for the following roads: R 150, R 154, R 161, R 158, as a sum in excess of €15m. is still outstanding that currently is being met from the Council’s own resources.”

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Brian Fitzgerald** and seconded by Councillor **Sharon Keogan**.

Following a debate on the matter, the motion was unanimously adopted.



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9.8 Submitted by the Kells Municipal District Councillors

"We the Kells Municipal District Councillors call on the HSE for additional funding for Meath Alzheimer Society Day Centres as current funding is not sufficient to keep the facility open in the long term."

The motion, proposed by **Councillor Johnny Guirke** and seconded by Councillor **Michael Gallagher**, was unanimously adopted.

9.9 Submitted by Councillor Alan Tobin

"The Council calls on the Government, as a matter of urgency, to clearly ask the Chinese Government to lift the ban on Falun Gong and a release of all Falun Gong practitioners from detention in China."

The motion, proposed by **Councillor Alan Tobin** and seconded by Councillor **Claire O' Driscoll**, was unanimously adopted.

9.10 Submitted by Councillor Wayne Forde

"Can I call on the Executive to write to the relevant Minister to introduce the new gambling laws / Legislation as soon as possible."

The motion, proposed by **Councillor Wayne Forde** and seconded by Councillor **Tom Kelly**, was unanimously adopted.

9.11 Submitted by Councillor Seán Smith

"That Meath County Council requests the National Centre for Pharmacoeconomics (NCPE) and HSE to approve the administering of Translarna to individuals with Duchenne's Muscular Dystrophy."

The motion, proposed by **Councillor Seán Smith** and seconded by Councillor **Wayne Harding**, was unanimously adopted.

9.12 Submitted by Councillor Alan Tobin

"In light of an alarming increase in both burglary and theft in Meath compared to 2016, I call on this Council to write to the Minister for Justice asking to immediately increase Garda numbers and resources in all 3 divisions in the County (Ashbourne, Navan and Kells) and that if these resources are not forthcoming or available, that the Defence



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Forces Army Rangers wing is brought in as an additional resource for night time patrol and check point duty."

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Alan Tobin** and seconded by **Councillor Suzanne Jamal**.

Councillor Tobin advised that he wished to amend his motion by removing the wording *'and that if these resources are not forthcoming or available, that the Defence Forces Army Rangers wing is brought in as an additional resource for night time patrol and check point duty'* and including the words *'4 divisions in the county'* instead of *'3 divisions'*

The amended motion as outlined below was unanimously adopted.

"In light of an alarming increase in both burglary and theft in Meath compared to 2016, I call on this Council to write to the Minister for Justice asking to immediately increase Garda numbers and resources in all 4 divisions in the County,

9.13 Submitted by Councillor Maria Murphy

"That this Council supports the "Stop Targeting Kids" Campaign organised by Irish Heart Foundation and calls on the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment to protect children's health through strict controls, particularly on digital marketing, by introducing a comprehensive statutory system of regulation for online unhealthy food and drinks marketing directed at children."

The motion, proposed by **Councillor Maria Murphy** and seconded by **Councillor Gillian Toole**, was unanimously adopted.

9.14 Submitted by Councillor Sharon Tolan

"For Meath County Council to call on the Minister for Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs, to recognise Laytown, Bettystown, Mornington and Donacarney as individual villages for the purpose of the Town and Village Renewal Scheme."

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

Councillor Tom Kelly proposed that the motion would be referred to the Laytown Bettystown Municipal District.

Following a long debate on the matter a further amendment was proposed by **Councillor Brian Fitzgerald**, seconded by **Councillor Tom Kelly** i.e. to add the wording *'subject to the approval of the Laytown Bettystown Municipal District'*



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As the debate continued, an extension of time (15 minutes) was required and agreed on the proposal of the **Cathaoirleach** and seconded by **Councillor Wayne Harding**.

Following a long and heated debate on the motion and the validity of the amendment, as proposed, the matter remained unresolved and the Cathaoirleach closed the meeting.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

9.15 Submitted by Sinn Féin Councillors

"That Meath County Council calls on the Irish Government to develop a comprehensive White Paper on Irish Unity."

9.16 Submitted by Councillor Caroline Lynch

"This Council writes to the Minister for Health calling for the Fair Deal scheme criteria to be changed without delay to facilitate care in people's own homes / Aontaíonn an Chomhairle seo le litir a scríobh chuig an Aire Sláinte ag impí air go n-athródh critéir an Fair Deal scheme gan moill ar mhaithe le cúram daoine ina dtithe féin a h-éascú."

10 Schedule of Chief Executive & Approved Orders (For Information Only)

10.1 Schedule of Chief Executive's Orders – Transportation

10.2 Schedule of Chief Executive's Orders – Environment

10.3 Schedule of Chief Executive's Orders – Housing Construction

10.4 Schedule of Chief Executive's Orders – Community & Enterprise

11 Presentations by other Bodies/Statutory Agencies

12 Any Other Business