



## **Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes**

### **Municipal District of Navan**

#### **Ordinary Meeting**

**23<sup>rd</sup> July 2014, Navan Civic Offices**

An Meára, **Councillor Sinéad Burke**, presided.

**Councillors Present:** Councillors Shane Cassells, Francis Deane, Wayne Ford, Jim Holloway, Councillor Joe Reilly, Tommy Reilly

#### **Officials in Attendance:**

**Director of Service:** Tadhg McDonnell

**Meetings Administrator:** Claire King

**Staff Officer:** Seán Clarke

**Senior Executive Engineer:** Maurice Kelly

**Clerical Officer:** Fiona Casserly

**Apologies:** Alan Rogers, Administrative Officer

### **1.0 Confirmation of Minutes**

#### **1.1 Confirmation of minutes of Annual Meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> June 2014.**

The minutes of the Annual Meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> June 2014 were confirmed on the proposal of **Councillor Francis Deane** and seconded by **Councillor Shane Cassells**.

Councillor Shane Cassells commended the Meetings Administration staff on the presentation of the meeting minutes and the manner in which documentation for meetings had been circulated.

### **2.0 Matters Arising from the Minutes**

Councillor Joe Reilly pointed out that his request for the Council's law agent to review the legal situation with regard to Item 6.3 of the minutes of the Annual Meeting was not reflected.

### **3.0 Expressions of Sympathy and Congratulations**

There were no expressions of sympathy or congratulations.

### **4.0 Statutory Business**

#### **4.1 Corporate Services**



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**4.1.1** To consider the Standing Orders for the meetings of Navan Municipal District.

The suggestions made to date were highlighted and clarification on certain issues was provided. It was agreed that the hours of the meetings of Navan Municipal District would be amended to commence at 9.30am and conclude at 12.00pm.

It was agreed that the Standing Orders would be adopted at the September Municipal District meetings, incorporating feedback received.

### **5.0 Notice of Question**

#### **5.1 Submitted by Councillor Joe Reilly**

*“What is the present state of both St Patrick’s Park and St Francis Park regarding future investment and occupancy?”*

A written response had been provided by Brendan Fulham, Administrative Officer, Housing.

Councillor Joe Reilly stated that he felt that the response did not detail the difficulties that were being experienced, particularly in one of the parks referred to. He stated that there had been problems in the Park for 18 months, including threats being made, and that further investment was not feasible until the issues there had been resolved.

#### **5.2 Submitted by Councillor Jim Holloway**

*“What is the current situation in relation to the request to have a pedestrian crossing provided on Brews Hill Navan, at the exit from St. Joseph Mercy Secondary School?”*

A written response had been provided by Nick Whyatt, Senior Engineer, Transportation.

#### **5.3 Submitted by Councillor Sinéad Burke**

*“That Meath County Council clarifies the current arrangement for the provision of out-of-hours response regarding water and sewage emergencies in Navan, i.e. does the responsibility for the service lie with Irish Water or Meath County Council. It is the experience of this Councillor that very serious sewage problems occurring in Council houses out of hours*



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*receives no satisfactory response over the weekend from either the Meath County Council or Irish Water.*

A written response had been provided by Larry Whelan, Senior Executive Officer, Environment and Water Services.

Councillor Sinéad Burke felt that the response did not reflect the experiences of those trying to report issues out-of-hours. She had been informed by the Irish Water Customer Contact Centre last weekend that Irish Water were only permitted to contact a local authority twice over the same incident out of hours. Tadhg McDonnell agreed to follow this up for clarification.

### **5.4 Submitted by Councillor Francis Deane**

*“What is the up-to-date situation with regard to new school signage on the Ratholdron Road, together with traffic lights sequencing and proposed road markings at St Paul’s school, Abbeylands?”*

A written response had been provided by Maurice Kelly, Senior Executive Engineer, Navan Municipal District.

Councillor Francis Deane highlighted the two issues requiring attention, i.e. the traffic light sequencing and the resurfacing works required, including road markings and signage. Maurice Kelly confirmed that these issues were addressed as recommendations in the draft report and that costings were being prepared.

### **5.5 Submitted by Councillor Shane Cassells**

*“Can the Chief Executive please inform the members what actions have been taken since the deputation from the Beechmount Estate Residents Association gave a presentation to the Navan JPC meeting whereby residents sought assistance and requested action from both the Council and HSE in terms of the placement of tenants by these bodies in houses owned by specific landlords to tackle the regular re-occurrence of anti-social behaviour in these specific properties, which continues to persist.”*

A written response had been provided by Aine Keane, Administrative Officer, Housing.

Councillor Shane Cassells informed the meeting that Superintendent Michael Devine, An Garda Síochána, at a meeting of Navan JPC and in response to issues raised by the residents in Beechmount Estate, had requested the assistance of both Meath County Council and the HSE in dealing with the problems in the area as part of their tenant placement policies. He went on to outline some of the issues being experienced by residents in the estate. Councillor Cassells raised further queries based on the response provided, including clarification on the number of short-



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term placements per property at any one time, the enforcement of planning and fire regulations on properties that are being used for placements and the compliance of participating landlords with these regulations.

Tadhg McDonnell agreed to consult with Alan Rogers around these issues and revert back at the next meeting if not earlier.

### **6.0 Notice of Motion**

#### **6.1 Submitted by Councillor Joe Reilly**

*“That Meath County Council provides public lighting in the vicinity of Bohermeen Community Centre.”*

The Motion was proposed by **Councillor Joe Reilly** and seconded by **Councillor Tommy Reilly**.

A written report had been provided by Nick Whyatt, Senior Engineer, Transportation.

#### **6.2 Submitted by Councillor Joe Reilly**

*“That Meath County Council constructs a footpath between Dunderry Village and the local cemetery.”*

The Motion was proposed by **Councillor Joe Reilly** and seconded by **Councillor Tommy Reilly**.

A written report had been provided by Nick Whyatt, Senior Engineer, Transportation.

Councillor Joe Reilly noted the response and acknowledged the distance involved but emphasised the safety issues and confirmed that he would continue to campaign for the provision of the footpath.

#### **6.3 Submitted by Councillor Sinéad Burke**

*“That Meath County Council addresses the current problem that Meath River Rescue has in relation to slipways on the Boyne. On the Ramparts, the situation is very serious and is reaching the point that it is dangerous to launch a boat there. The heavy volume of water during the winter battered the launch site and now with the low level of the water it is extremely dangerous to launch a boat. The slipway is disappearing. Currently it is necessary to reverse the boat down the slipway that is deteriorating. I request that Meath County Council look to building a proper slipway, that is secure and not a health and safety issue, which is now the case.”*



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The Motion was proposed by **Councillor Sinéad Burke** and seconded by **Councillor Tommy Reilly**.

A written report had been provided by Tadhg McDonnell, Director of Services, Environment, Water Services and Emergency Services.

Councillor Sinéad Burke noted the response and confirmed that she would work with Meath River Rescue to make a funding application for 2015.

### **6.4 Submitted by Councillor Jim Holloway**

*“That Meath County Council will effect the opening of the pedestrian route between Millbrook and Johnstown Wood in accordance with the objectives in Navan Transport Plan 2014-2019, Navan Development Plan 2009 2015, with particular reference to Manager’s Response to Submission by Residents to Variation Process to the said Navan Development Plan and will implement INF OBJ I in LAP 1 with the objective of developing fully the Smarter Travel Network in Johnstown and thereby ensure it’s overall effectiveness.”*

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

A lengthy discussion followed around the need for public consultation to ascertain the support for such a proposal and to address any concerns of those that would be directly affected by the provision of a pedestrian route.

With Councillor Holloway’s agreement, an amended Motion was agreed on the proposal of **Councillor Jim Holloway** and seconded by **Councillor Wayne Forde**, i.e.

*“That Meath County Council will start a process of public consultation on the opening of the pedestrian route between between Millbrook and Johnstown Wood in accordance with the objectives in Navan Transport Plan 2014-2019, Navan Development Plan 2009 2015, with particular reference to Manager’s Response to Submission by Residents to Variation Process to the said Navan Development Plan and with the objective of developing fully the Smarter Travel Network in Johnstown and thereby ensure it’s overall effectiveness.”*

A written report had been provided by Nick Whyatt, Senior Engineer, Transportation.

### **6.5 Submitted by Councillor Francis Deane**



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*“That Meath County Council write to Irish Water in relation to the sewage flooding in late May affecting the bottom of Kennedy Road and Cannon Row which caused serious damage at St Mary’s Credit Union.”*

The Motion was proposed by **Councillor Francis Dean** and seconded by **Councillor Tommy Reilly**.

A written response had been provided by Larry Whelan, Senior Executive Officer, Environment and Water Services.

Councillor Francis Deane noted the response and commended Meath County Council staff for their efficient response.

### **6.6 Submitted by Councillor Francis Deane**

*“Following several complaints of dangerous speeding by boy racers through Johnstown Village, I call on Meath County Council to install speed ramps at the three approach roads to the old village of Johnstown.”*

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

A verbal response was provided by Maurice Kelly, Senior Executive Engineer, Navan Municipal District. He confirmed that a speed test would be carried out by the Transportation Department at the location and that guidelines for taking action would then be followed. He emphasised the role of enforcement in dealing with this issue.

### **6.7 Submitted by Councillor Shane Cassells**

*“That Meath County Council applies to the National Transport Authority for funding to establish an official bus stop at the Newgate stop on the R147 to serve the local communities of Newgate, Whistlemount, Liscarton, Knockumber and Ardraccon and that funding towards the construction of associated footpath works at this point also be sought.”*

The Motion was proposed by **Councillor Shane Cassells** and seconded by **Councillor Tommy Reilly**.

A written report had been provided by Nick Whyatt, Senior Engineer, Transportation.

A discussion followed which, whilst acknowledging the difficulties at the location and the potential costs involved, emphasised the need to facilitate access to public transport, particularly in rural areas. It was highlighted that bus stops had been



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provided at other points along the N3, with similar issues arising. It was pointed out that the bus stop at the railway gates was obsolete and could be replaced.

### **6.8 Submitted by Councillor Shane Cassells**

*“That Meath County Council erects safety barriers, similar to those erected on the Slane Road at Fitzherbert Court, as a matter of urgency on both sides of the road at the St Oliver’s NS/ Beaufort Estate pedestrian crossing on the Proudstown Road in order to support the road safety awareness campaign initiated by the management of St Oliver’s National School.”*

The Motion was proposed by **Councillor Shane Cassells** and seconded by **Councillor Sinéad Burke**.

A verbal response was provided by Maurice Kelly, Senior Executive Engineer, Navan Municipal District, which confirmed that the location would be assessed and an update provided at the next meeting. The Motion was noted.

### **7.0 Correspondence**

**7.1** Response from the Health Services Executive regarding the proposed meeting to discuss the reconfiguration of the hospital structure and response received to date.

It was agreed that Alan Rogers would be requested to make the necessary arrangements for this meeting in September.

In respect of **Items 7.2, 7.3** and **7.4**, Councillor Sinéad Burke informed Councillors that money was available for community grants until the end of 2014 and it was agreed to set a maximum allocation of €250.00 per request.

**7.2** Meath Women’s Refuge and Support Services – Amenity Grant Application.

A grant of €250.00 was approved on the proposal of **Councillor Sinéad Burke** and seconded by **Councillor Francis Deane**.

**7.3** Lámha Beaga Parent and Toddler Group – Application for Funding

A grant of €250.00 was approved on the proposal of **Councillor Sinéad Burke** and seconded by **Councillor Francis Deane**.

**7.4** Navan Macra – Application for Funding

Councillor Francis Deane informed the meeting that this funding was no longer required.



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### **8.0 To receive an update on ongoing projects and matters previously raised by Councillors**

A written report was provided by Maurice Kelly, Senior Executive Engineer, Navan Municipal District.

- The recent works undertaken by Meath County Council at Metges Lane and Kennedy Civic Plaza was commended by the Councillors. The work in Blackwater Park was also acknowledged including the playground, looped walk and planting. The damage caused to trees in the park was discussed and how this could be prevented. A suggestion was made that a 'Friends of the Blackwater Park' group could be formed to work with Meath County Council and the Gardaí to report incidents of vandalism, etc. and the potential role of the Joint Policing Committee. The role of the Parks Department in looking after the Park and repairing the damage was highlighted.
- The 2014 Roadworks Programme would be complete by mid-August and the only outstanding works was the surface dressing of the roads. It was noted by MK that there was a minor change to the adopted roads programme in that the surface dressing on the R162 at Knightstown would require additional work to restoration and these works could be considered in next year's programme. The element of surface dressing on the R162 be transferred to extend the surface dressing on the R147 at Kilcarn, so as to extend this area approximately to Dalgan Park.
- It was agreed that an update on works for the Municipal District would be provided at subsequent meetings.

Councillor Joe Reilly requested that an update be provided at the next meeting with regard to the legal issues associated with the park at the Priory, Johnstown.

### **9.0 Any Other Business**

**9.1** iPad Training: Staff from the IT Section of Meath County Council were in attendance to provide training on the use of the iPads provided. It was agreed to deal with any other business arising before the training commenced.

**9.2** Other items raised included:

- The gullies at Nos. 37-39, Dean Cogan Place need to be cleared;
- The consultation taking place with residents with regard to the future of the playground at Claremont Stadium and its future role as a green area or refurbished playground;
- The erection of a plaque to the Navan Harps Team from 1915 and 1921, which was already subject of a Notice of Motion earlier this year;





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- The blocked shores in St. Brigids' Villas, especially No. 42;
- The refusal of a private company to cut the grass in a field opposite the play area in The Paddocks – Maurice Kelly agreed to look into this;
- The ivy growing on the boundary wall of Andy Brennan Park;
- The issuing of letters relating to the non payment of the NPPR including the number of letters issued, including those issued in error, the number of responses received and any breaches of data protection.

This concluded the business of the meeting. The iPad training followed the ordinary business of the meeting.

**Signed:**

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**Cllr. Sinéad Burke**  
**Meára**