



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

Laytown-Bettystown Municipal District

Ordinary Meeting

10:00 a.m., 14th July 2016, Duleek Civic Offices

An Cathaoirleach, **Councillor Tom Kelly**, presided.

Councillors Present: Eimear Ferguson, Wayne Harding, Sharon Keogan, Stephen McKee, Paddy Meade.

Apologies: Councillor Sharon Tolan.

Officials in Attendance:

Head of Finance: Fiona Lawless

Meetings Administrator: Claire King

Executive Engineer: Christy Clarke

Staff Officer: Triona Keating

1 Confirmation of Minutes

1.1 Confirmation of minutes of Annual Meeting held on 16th June, 2016.

The Minutes of the Annual Meeting held on 16th June 2016 were adopted on the proposal of **Councillor Sharon Keogan** and seconded by **Councillor Eimear Ferguson**.

1.2 Confirmation of minutes of Ordinary Meeting held on 16th June, 2016.

The Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 16th June 2016 were adopted on the proposal of **Councillor Sharon Keogan** and seconded by **Councillor Eimear Ferguson**.

2 Matters arising from the Minutes



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

Councillor Tom Kelly requested that a report be requested for the September meeting on the Part VIII relating to the Boyneside Trail, as was discussed under Item 7.1 – Notice of Motion – it was agreed to refer this to the Transportation Section.

3 Expressions of Sympathy and Congratulations

Sympathy was extended to:

- Kevin Stewart, Director of Service, Meath County Council on the death of his father-in-law and his wife's sister-in-law.

Congratulations were extended to:

- Duleek Foróige on coming second in the National Youth Awards;
- Dee Rangers Ladies Football Club on moving from junior to senior competition;
- The Meeting Administration staff for liaising with Irish Rail to ensure the completion of the security fencing at the train station in Laytown.

4 Statutory Business

4.1 Economic Development

- 4.1.1 To receive an update on the Local Enterprise Office – Services and Supports.

Joe English, Head of Enterprise, Meath County Council delivered a presentation to the meeting, which included an overview of the Local Enterprise Officer, the services provided and key contacts.

Matters raised by Councillors included:

- The role of the LEO in developing tourism and craft businesses – the supports available were outlined.
- The absence of a Chamber of Commerce/business group in East Meath.

Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

- The level of mentoring services provided and the participation rates in the Start Your Own Business programme – it was confirmed that, in 2015, approximately 100 companies availed of free mentoring services, which is limited to 3 per company in one programme, and over 100 people participated in the Start Your Own Business training programme.
- The supports available to agricultural businesses – it was confirmed that the LEO was excluded from supporting primary food producers.
- The impact of Brexit – it was pointed out that Intertrade Ireland was leading the response for SMEs, whilst both Enterprise Ireland and the LEO Network was developing further actions, including training and materials for small companies.
- The Enterprise Awards Programme in secondary schools – it was agreed to circulate the names of participating schools in the Municipal District and Councillors were asked to encourage further participation.
- The availability of supports to community enterprise – it was confirmed that, whilst the focus was commercial business, supports were available as appropriate.

The Cathaoirleach and Councillors thanked Joe for the presentation and information provided.

4.2 Planning

- 4.2.1 To receive an update on the preparation of Amendment No. 1 of the East Meath Local Area Plan 2014-2020. This variation will align the East Meath Local Area Plan with the key tenets of the Meath Economic Strategy.

David Caffrey, Executive Planner, delivered a presentation that included the context and reasons for and objectives of the amendment, the area's economic advantages, the overview of the amendment and the next steps.

Matters raised by Councillors included:



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

- Clarification around the relevant lands – a map indicating the relevant lands was made available.
- Welcomed the proposed amendments, which would help to address issues such as the need to generate local employment and provide parking facilities.
- The need to ensure that units to accommodate larger industries are made available.
- The need to consider providing other facilities, such as recreational, to complement and enhance the economic development potential.

The Cathaoirleach and Councillors welcomed the process as outlined and thanked the representatives from the Planning Department for attending.

4.3 Housing

- 4.3.1 To receive a Summary of Social Housing Assessments 2016.

The report was noted.

It was pointed out that housing applicants in one county can reside in another county and this can impact on the housing figures for a particular county.

4.4 Transportation

- 4.4.1 To receive a Progress Report on works undertaken/planned for Laytown-Bettystown Municipal District.

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

- The schedule for the completion of drainage works Ardree, Julianstown – it was confirmed that the contractor would complete the works in 2 to 4 weeks.



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

- The possibility of repairing the potholes on the route of the An Post Heritage Cycle Tour – it was confirmed that the route would be reviewed in advance of the race.
- The need to ensure that verges are cut on routes where road safety is affected and the responsibility of landowners to cut verges – it was pointed out that, whilst priority is given to junctions and locations with visibility issues, Councillors should submit locations for review. The programme for verge cutting was also outlined.

4.5 Corporate Services

- 4.5.1 To note Municipal District Allocations submitted by Councillors on behalf of Laytown-Bettystown Municipal District.

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

5 Notice of Question

There were no Notices of Question.

6 Notice of Motion

6.1 Submitted by Councillor Eimear Ferguson

“I am calling on Meath County Council to carry out an audit of the infrastructural needs of the village of Duleek and to ask the Planning and Economic Department to provide a report on how economic activity can be restored with the support of the council and local business groups and interests.”

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

The County Development Plan and the written statement for Duleek broadly set out the infrastructural needs of the village.



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

Meath County Council's Economic Development Strategy 2014-2022 outlines a series of 8 actions, and through its implementation the following initiatives have been introduced:

- *Reduced contributions within the Development Contribution Scheme 2016-2021.*
- *Small Business Support Scheme.*
- *Infrastructure upgrading works of business parks.*
- *Working in collaboration with the County Meath Association of Chambers and Business Councils.*
- *Working in partnership with the Higher Education Institutes.*

The review of the Meath County Development Plan will begin in late autumn and the Council will further explore additional measures.

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

A short discussion followed on the impact of the recent closure of businesses and facilities in the village, the traffic volumes through the village, particularly HGVs, and the positive developments that are ongoing or planned.

The motion was adopted.

7 Other Matters Arising

7.1 Fiona Lawless raised the following issue:

7.1.1 The recent meeting held with the Local Government Boundary Review Committee to discuss the financial issues relating to the proposed Drogheda boundary change. It was confirmed that no indication had been given for the Committee to report to the Minister.



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

7.2 Councillor Tom Kelly raised the following issue:

7.2.1 Requested a report on the reasons for the recent closure of Bettystown beach due to water contamination, the responsibility for managing rivers to ensure compliance, the plan for ensuring this does not reoccur and also requested that the Environment Department carry out spot checks in farms in the area – it was agreed to refer this to the Environment Department.

7.2.2 The need to upgrade the Laytown Road, Julianstown, the previous plans for an upgrade and a recent bus crash at the location – it was agreed to review the previous proposal and to consult with the Heritage and Conservation Officers, if necessary.

7.3 Councillor Eimear Ferguson raised the following issues:

7.3.1 Update on the compound at Seafield – it was confirmed that this would be progressed following a decision relating to the possible need to expand the depot.

7.3.2 The replacement of the basket swing in the playground in Slane – it was confirmed that the swing had been deemed unsafe and would, once reviewed, be either repaired or replaced, subject to funding being available.

7.3.3 The need for works on the approach road from the motorway – the programme of works undertaken and planned were outlined.

7.4 Councillor Wayne Harding raised the following issues:

7.4.1 The possibility of replacing the bins in Slane village.

7.4.2 Verge cutting needed at the junction on Glasallen Hill.

7.4.3 The possibility of continuing the kerbing on the road opposite the entrance to Slane Castle & Distillery.

7.4.4 The roadworks needed in Barnswell, Lobinstown.



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

7.5 Councillor Sharon Keogan raised the following issues:

7.5.1 Update on the implementation of the planning condition in the original planning permission granted to Indaver for the provision of a civic amenity site in Duleek - it was agreed to refer this to Planning.

7.5.2 The possibility of providing litter bags to community groups for the collection of litter – this was agreed.

7.6 Councillor Stephen McKee raised the following issue:

7.6.1 Update on the wall at Balsaran – it was confirmed that a report was due from the consultant, following which a decision would be taken but that no timescale was available.

8 Correspondence

8.1 Correspondence received from Minister Simon Coveney, Minister for the Environment, Community and Local Government in response to agenda item 7.1.2 from the May meeting re Local Government Boundary Review.

The correspondence was noted.

8.2 Correspondence received from Garda Commissioners Office in response to agenda item 9.3.2 from the March meeting re reduced Garda resources in the Ashbourne Garda District.

The correspondence was noted.

9 Any Other Business

There was no other business.



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed:

Cathaoirleach