



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

Laytown - Bettystown Municipal District

Ordinary Meeting

18th September 2014, Duleek Civic Offices

An Cathaoirleach, **Councillor Sharon Tolan**, presided.

Councillors Present: Eimear Ferguson, Wayne Harding, Tom Kelly, Sharon Keogan, Paddy Meade.

Officials in Attendance:

Head of Finance: Fiona Lawless

Meetings Administrator: Claire King

Senior Staff Officer: Eugene Farrelly

Senior Executive Engineer: Jim Colwell

Senior Executive Planner: Bernard Greene

Executive Planner: Fergal O'Bric

Clerical Officer: Fiona Casserly

Apologies: Councillor Stephen McKee

1 Confirmation of Minutes

1.1 Confirmation of minutes of Ordinary meeting held on 17th July, 2014.

The Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 17th July 2014 were adopted on the proposal of **Councillor Sharon Keogan** and seconded by **Councillor Paddy Meade**.

2 Matters arising from the Minutes

3 Expressions of Sympathy and Congratulations

Sympathy was extended to:

- Councillor Paddy Meade on the death of his grandmother, Sheena Meade.



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

- The family of the late John Ryan, Mornington.
- The family of the late Alison McNabb, Laytown.
- The Traynor family, Laytown on the death of Michael Traynor, a former employee of Meath County Council and brother of the late Paddy Traynor, a former member and Cathaoirleach of Meath County Council.

Congratulations were extended to:

- Julianstown Tidy Towns Committee who won the Tree Council of Ireland Award at the Tidy Towns Awards for its tree planting.
- The Bellewstown Local Heroes on the World War I Exhibition held as part of Heritage Week.
- The Laytown Race Committee and Meath County Council staff who were involved in hosting a successful race meeting.

4 Statutory Business

4.1 Corporate Services

- 4.1.1** To adopt the Standing Orders for the meetings of Laytown-Bettystown Municipal District.

The Standing Orders for the meetings of Laytown-Bettystown Municipal District were adopted on the proposal of **Councillor Sharon Keogan** and seconded by **Councillor Eimear Ferguson**.

4.2 Planning

- 4.2.1** To receive a presentation on the proposed amendment to and revocation of relevant Local Area Plans, following the making of Variation No. 2 of the Meath County Development Plan 2013-2019 in May 2014.

Fergal O'Bric, Executive Planner, delivered a presentation on the following:

(i) Proposed amendment to the following Local Area Plan –

- Southern Environs of Drogheda Local Area Plan 2009-2015

and



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

(ii) Proposed revocation of the following Local Area Plans –

- Donore Local Area Plan 2009-2015
- Duleek Local Area Plan 2009-2015
- Slane Local Area Plan 2009-2015

The proposed amendments and revocations to the respective Local Area Plans are to give effect to the requirements of Core Strategy Objective CS OBJ 2 and 3 of the Meath County Development Plan 2013-2019.

Following the presentation, Councillors raised the following issues:

- The role of Councillors in the process, for example dealing with a large number of objections to the plans being revoked;
- The reasons for and the effects of the revocation process;
- Consultation with key stakeholders
- The availability of the appropriate assessment criteria and physical statement.

Responses were provided by the Executive Planner and Senior Executive Planner on the matters raised.

4.3 Transportation

4.3.1 To receive an update on traffic calming measures in Duleek.

The section 38 notice (required under the Road Traffic Act 1994 as amended) for traffic calming measures comprising a speed table and pedestrian crossing at (and in the vicinity of) the junction of the R150 and the L1610, together with associated signage was placed in the local paper dated 13th September 2014. Drawings are on display until 13th October 2013 and submissions on the proposed traffic calming measures can be made up until that date to the Transportation Department. Note that the decision to provide traffic calming measures of the class prescribed in the Act is a reserved function and a report will be provided to the Elected Members in due course.

It is proposed to commence construction works on the pedestrian crossing before the end of the year (the NTA previously allocated €30,000 at the start of the year towards the cost of this work). The cost estimate for the overall traffic management proposals for Duleek has not yet been finalised and is not available at this time.



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

Matters raised included:

- It was agreed to request the overall cost estimate for the project and the source of funding from the Transportation Department;
- It was confirmed that the bypass of Duleek has been deferred;
- It was confirmed that works are to commence in September 2014.

4.3.2 To receive an update on the Roadworks Programme in the Laytown-Bettystown Municipal District.

Jim Colwell provided an update on the roadworks programme in the Laytown-Bettystown Municipal District which included:

- Confirmation that the programme was complete, the snagging to be commenced and that maintenance was ongoing;
- The 5 Community Involvement Schemes were complete exclusive of the snagging;
- The Transportation Section was implementing the Low Cost Safety Schemes;
- The Safety at Schools programme included a proposal to upgrade road markings at schools;
- General maintenance works were ongoing.

Matters raised by the Councillor included:

- The installation of speed ramps, rumble strips and public lighting at schools;
- The taking in charge of roads and the status of roads with regard to taking in charge;
- The funding available for CIS and the Council contribution (20% -> 10%);
- The process of abandonment of public roads.

Jim Colwell responded to the queries raised and it was agreed that the following would be checked:



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

- Whether the spur road in Bellewstown and the former Ardee to Kells Road in Woodtown was taken in charge – Councillors were asked to submit any other roads to Eugene Farrelly for checking;
- Whether the CIS applies to roads in housing estates.

It was agreed that the Road Safety Officer would be invited to attend a meeting of the Municipal District.

5 Notice of Question

5.1 Submitted by Councillor Stephen McKee

“Does Meath County Council have plans in the immediate future to provide speed ramps in any of the housing estates or built-up areas where road safety is of concern to residents, in particular families with young children and, if not, what is the reason for this; if funding is the principal obstacle, can all avenues of finance be fully explored including making an application to the National Transport Authority for funding.”

A response was provided by Jim Colwell, Senior Executive Engineer, Laytown-Bettystown Municipal District, as follows:

At present there is no funding in the Area to provide speed ramps in residential areas. We can submit an application to the Transportation section of Meath County Council to seek funding from the National Transport Authority for speed ramps for 2015.

6 Notice of Motion

6.1 Submitted by Councillor Stephen McKee

“That Meath County Council ensures that all 5 playgrounds in the Municipal District are maintained to the highest standards; that all remedial works, including the replacement of swings in the two Duleek playgrounds and new safety latch on the gate of the Station Road playground, is carried out as soon as possible and that road safety signs are put up as appropriate in the vicinity of our playgrounds urging drivers to slow down.”

Supporting Information was provided by Jim Colwell, Senior Executive Engineer, Laytown-Bettystown Municipal District:

The Laytown – Bettystown Municipal District have been carrying out maintenance works on the five playgrounds and will continue to do so, we have included the swings and safety catches in our procurement documentation that has been sent to appropriate



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

contractors to carry out the works. In relation to the signage issue a technical site inspection will be carried out at the five playground locations and based on this investigation signage will be placed if required.

The Notice of Motion was deferred as the Proposer was not in attendance.

7 Correspondence

7.1 E-Mail from Mr. Liam Keane, Clean Coasts Ireland;

The National Clean Coasts Ireland are holding their Clean Coast initiative this weekend, Saturday September 20th, on Bettystown Beach at 11.00 a.m.

7.2 E-Mail from Declan Gaffney, Public Lighting Section, Meath County Council;

Public Lighting Section shall be undertaking works on the walkway between Church Lane and Main Street (Walkway adjacent to Credit Union) in Duleek from today for two weeks. The walkway shall be fenced off for the duration of the works with no public access. Limited access to Business owners only.

8 Any Other Business

8.1 Issues raised by Councillors included:

- i. The condition of the R132 Julianstown to Balbriggan exit including signage – it was confirmed that a specialist contractor was required to undertake works in this area and that negotiations were ongoing with Celtic Roads regarding maintenance;
- ii. The damage to Julianstown Bridge as a result of an accident – it was confirmed that this had been referred to the Transportation Section;
- iii. The request by Meath County Council to remove 59 mature trees as part of the taking in charge process of Inse Bay – the snag list to be requested from Planning;
- iv. The non-compliance with the landscape plan for Inse Bay resulting from the tree removal;
- v. The volume of heavy traffic in the Beamore area – it was confirmed that some restrictions do apply but the restricted areas are to be confirmed;



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

- vi. The enforcement of hedge cutting requirements on NAMA properties – it was confirmed that any enforcement notice would have to be served on the relevant liquidator;
- vii. The number of hedge cutting notices issues and responses received;
- viii. The safety concerns arising from school bus drop offs at the roundabout at Colpe Cross, Donacarney – it was suggested that a submission be made to the NTA;
- ix. The Council was commended for the demolition of the public toilets in Slane;
- x. Complaints received regarding speeding around the school in Laytown and the need for traffic calming measures – it was confirmed that no funding was available within the Municipal District for any structural works so a funding application would have to be made to the NTA;
- xi. A list of all submissions to the NTA for the Municipal District to be made available by the Transportation Section;
- xii. The litter on at the crossroads near Mount Hanover school – to be referred to the Environment Section;
- xiii. The water charges to apply for using the fire service - it was confirmed that a protocol is being established with Irish Water and whilst no water charges are currently applied, it is likely that some charge will be applied in the future but the rates were not yet known;
- xiv. That Councillors be informed of meetings taking place between Municipal District staff and groups within the Municipal District;
- xv. That an audit of the sports field at Seafield, Laytown be carried out to determine the usage levels by those licensed to use it – it was requested that this item be added to the Agenda of the October meeting, that Mary Murphy, Meath Local Sports Partnership be invited to attend and that Eugene Farrelly deliver a report;
- xvi. The treatment and storage of sewerage / sludge and the potential for entering the food chain – it was confirmed that this was a matter for Irish Water;
- xvii. Responsibility for blocked drains – it was confirmed that Irish Water was responsible for sewage drains and Meath County Council for surface water drains;



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

- xviii. That out of date signage on roadsides be removed – to be checked with Transportation;
- xix. Unauthorised development at the Steeples – to be checked with Planning;
- xx. The responsibility for the boundary wall at the Commons, Duleek to be checked with Planning;
- xxi. The implementation of the winter gritting programme in East Meath;
- xxii. It was confirmed that 6 Gateway workers were based in Slane village and that the scheme was being rolled out with training being provided;
- xxiii. The provision of brown bins to residents and whether these had to be requested by householders or should be supplied automatically by waste contractors – to be checked with the Environment Section;
- xxiv. Gerardette Bailey, Arts Officer, Meath County Council attended the meeting and provided an overview of the status of the two public art features for Duleek – ‘The Family’ to be located at the Mound and ‘The Tree’. The pieces are ready for installation and an installation date is expected to be provided. A location is to be agreed for ‘The Tree’, a number of submissions have been received and a discussion took place on the consultation process that should be undertaken to identify the most appropriate location. A number of considerations had to be taken into account when deciding on the location. It was agreed that the President, Michael D. Higgins, be invited to officially launch the sculpture ‘The Family’ on the proposal of **Councillor Sharon Keogan** and seconded by **Councillor Tom Kelly**.
- xxv. Gerardette Bailey agreed to provide an update for the next meeting on the status of the M1 art piece removed due to vandalism. This work is being managed by Louth County Council.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed:

Cathaoirleach