



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

Navan Municipal District

Ordinary Meeting

17th September 2014, Navan Civic Offices

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

Councillors Present: Shane Cassells, Francis Deane, Wayne Forde, Jim Holloway, Joe Reilly, Tommy Reilly.

Officials in Attendance:

Director of Service: Tadhg McDonnell

Meetings Administrator: Claire King

Administrative Officer: Alan Rogers

Senior Executive Engineer: Maurice Kelly

Senior Executive Planner: Bernard Greene

Clerical Officer: Fiona Casserly

1 Confirmation of Minutes

1.1 Confirmation of minutes of Ordinary meeting held on 23rd July, 2014.

The Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 23rd July 2014 were adopted on the proposal of **Councillor Francis Deane** and seconded by **Councillor Wayne Forde**.

2 Matters arising from the Minutes

Councillor Sinead Burke referred to Item 6.4 - Notice of Motion and queried as to whether costings had been obtained from Transportation for the provision of a gateway. It was agreed that Agenda Item 5.4 - Notice of Motion refers.

3 Expressions of Sympathy and Congratulations

Sympathy was extended to:



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- Councillor Suzanne Jamal, Ashbourne Municipal District, on the death of her father, Jim Leonard.
- Albert Sharkey, Navan Municipal District, on the death of his father, Conrad Sharkey.

Congratulations were extended to:

- Dr. Kay McGarry on her retirement following a long career in Our Lady's Hospital, Navan.

4 Statutory Business

4.1 Corporate Services

- 4.1.1 To adopt the Standing Orders for the meetings of Navan Municipal District.

The Standing Orders for the meetings of Navan Municipal District were adopted on the proposal of **Councillor Joe Reilly** and seconded by **Councillor Francis Deane**.

4.2 Planning

- 4.2.1 To receive a presentation on the proposed revocation of relevant Local Area Plans, following the making of Variation No. 1 of the Navan Development Plan 2013-2019 in May 2014.

Bernard Greene, Senior Executive Planner, delivered a presentation on the following:

Proposed revocation of the following Local Area Plans –

- Local Area Plan Number 1 for lands at Johnstown / Athlumney
- Local Area Plan Number 3 for lands between the Trim Road and Commons Road
- Local Area Plan Number 4 for lands at Athlumney, Bailis, Alexander Reid, Ferganstown and Ballymacon.

Following the presentation, Councillors raised the following issues:

- The impact of flood risk assessments on certain residential areas and related reports prepared including one prepared by the Environment Section. Councillor Tommy Reilly had requested a report on flood relief



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works carried out on the Swan River adjoining Balreask Manor and Canterbrook housing developments.

- The impact of the revocation process on the release of lands for residential development;
- The provision of infrastructure to facilitate alternative transport access to schools with specific reference to the failure of the local authority to provide a footpath from Johnstown village to the new school campus;
- The potential impact of the housing shortage in Dublin on housing provision in Meath;
- The need for direct social housing provision in the county;
- The current development activity taking place in Navan;
- The infrastructure available to support residential and commercial development;
- The status of the provision of a transport interchange in Navan;
- Whether there is adequate capacity in the water supply / treatment network to cater for the expected growth of the town.

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

It was agreed that a separate meeting should be arranged with the NTA to discuss the options relating to the provision of the transport interchange in Navan on the proposal of **Councillor Shane Cassells** and seconded by **Councillor Sinéad Burke**.

4.3 Transportation

- 4.3.1 To receive and consider a report under Section 38 of the Road Traffic Act 1994 & Section 46 of the Public Transport Regulation Act, 2009 on the preparation of a scheme to provide traffic calming measures along the L-4023-35 and L-4024-0 in the village of Dunderry, Co. Meath.

This was approved on the proposal of **Councillor Francis Deane** and seconded by **Councillor Joe Reilly**.

- 4.3.2 To receive a Progress Report on works undertaken/planned for Navan



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Municipal District.

Maurice Kelly outlined the works undertaken and planned for Navan Municipal District. Following the presentation, Councillors raised the following issues:

- The damage caused to bollards in Metges Lane and the need for signage at this location;
- The footpath at Clonmagadden.

5 Notice of Question

5.1 Submitted by Councillor Joe Reilly

“For more than 15 years, the developer of the Ros na Ri housing estate has refused to complete the estate and the issues have been raised on numerous occasions at both Meath County Council and Navan Town Council levels concerning the action to be taken by Meath County Council’s Planning Enforcement Section in ensuring the developer would complete all the planning conditions attached to the planning permission. The construction company is now being wound up by the Companies Registration Office. What action is being proposed by the Planning Enforcement Section to bring the Ros na Ri housing estate up to a proper standard, to take the estate in charge and what is the associated timeframe?”

A response was provided by Michael Griffin, Senior Executive Officer, Planning Department:

Meath County Council has endeavoured to contact the principals involved in the construction of this estate. A schedule of works has been prepared and copied to the relevant parties. The original company Coal Port Ltd has been wound up and the principals involved in that company have been declared bankrupt. Meath County Council holds a cash deposit which is available to fund remedial works in the estate. It is the Councils view that the cash deposit held may not be sufficient to address all infrastructure deficiencies in this estate. The Council has exhausted any possibility that the developer or his representatives would fund improvement works over and above the value of the cash security held. It was also in the Councils interest to accretion if the developer or his representatives would grant the planning authority permission to enter the estate and undertake improvement works.

It is now the intention of the Council, to seek a plebiscite of the owners of dwellings within the estate. Where such a plebiscite indicates that the residents wish to have the



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estate taken in charge, the Council will then enter the land and undertake works to the value of the security held

The Council will shortly write to the residents association with a view to initiating this process.

Councillor Joe Reilly enquired as to when the plebiscite referred to in the response above would be held and pointed out that the issues being experienced in this estate would be experienced elsewhere. This query will be referred to Planning.

5.2 Submitted by Councillor Wayne Forde

“Can the Executive outline any proposals being taken or planned for the provision of traffic calming measures at Academy Street and Mellows Terrace, in the interest of public safety?”

A response was provided by Maurice Kelly, Senior Executive Engineer, Navan Municipal District, as follows:

Currently there are no proposals for the provision of traffic calming measures at this location and Navan Municipal District will consider in next year’s works program.

Councillor Wayne Forde stressed the concerns of residents in the area as a result of speeding traffic and queried as to why there was no 50km signage on the streets concerned. Maurice Kelly reiterated that this would be looked at in the 2015 roadworks programme although repeater signage may be erected.

5.3 Submitted by Councillor Francis Deane

“When will the playing pitches at Blackwater Park become available to local sports clubs?”

A response was provided by Alan Rogers, Administrative Officer, Navan Municipal District, as follows:

The maintenance programme is due to be completed at the end of October and it is envisaged that the pitches will be available for use in Spring 2015.

Councillor Francis Deane complimented Navan Municipal District for the programme undertaken during July and August and asked if a committee would be established to manage the use of the pitches. Alan Rogers responded by saying that expressions of interest would be sought from clubs by media advertisement and that, from January 2015, the Community Department of Meath County Council would be taking over the role.



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5.4 Submitted by Councillor Jim Holloway

“What is the current position on the proposal for public consultation in relation to opening the pedestrian walkway at the wall between Milbrook and Johnstown Wood?”

A response was provided by Nick Whyatt, Senior Engineer, Transportation, as follows:

It is envisaged that the main public consultation would take place as part of the part 8 process once the planning and landowner matters have been investigated and a design has been produced. If there are any specific land issues directly impacting third parties in relation to a future design proposal, then the Council would discuss those affected on a case by case basis.

Councillor Jim Holloway stated that the officials had confirmed that they are preparing the public consultation process and therefore that the response should read the “the main public consultation will take place”.

6 Notice of Motion

6.1 Submitted by Councillor Francis Deane

“That a survey be carried out amongst the community of retailers on Trimgate Street, Navan, seeking their opinions in relation to full/part-time or no pedestrianisation.”

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Francis Deane** and seconded by **Councillor Shane Cassells**.

A lengthy discussion took place around who should be consulted and who should undertake the survey, the benefits of operating a trial period, the need for buy-in from all stakeholders, and the need for a wider strategy to include all issues such as public transport provision including the location of the transport interchange. It was agreed that the survey should proceed on the proposal of **Councillor Francis Deane** and seconded by **Councillor Joe Reilly**; Tadhg McDonnell agreed to draft possible questions and revert.

6.2 Submitted by Councillor Francis Deane



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“That traffic calming measures be put in place on the Ratholdron Road, from Blackwater Park to Abbeylands junction in an effort to address the issue of speeding on this busy road where there are eight entrances to various housing developments.”

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Francis Deane** and seconded by **Councillor Wayne Forde**.

Supporting information was provided by Maurice Kelly, Senior Executive Engineer, Navan Municipal District, as follows:

Navan Municipal District will consider in next year’s works program if necessary.

6.3 Submitted by Councillor Wayne Forde

“That the Members of Navan Municipal District fully support me in requesting the Minister for Jobs and Enterprise, Mr. Richard Bruton, T.D., to attend a meeting of Navan Municipal District as soon as possible to explain why Navan is not getting it's fair share of jobs, compared to other parts of the country.”

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Wayne Forde** and seconded by **Councillor Shane Cassells**.

6.4 Submitted by Councillor Wayne Forde

“That the Executive examine the possibility of introducing free parking in Navan, between the hours of 8am to 12 midday, Monday to Saturday, to encourage people to come to Navan and do their shopping, thereby benefiting Navan’s local economy, its shops and businesses.”

Supporting information was provided by Alan Rogers, Administrative Officer, Navan Municipal District, as follows:

The proposed motion calls for free parking for 40% of our Parking Hours (which is from 8am to 6pm Mon – Sat). This would have the effect of a significant reduction in income from parking (estimated to be greater than 40 % reduction) and consequently would significantly reduce our capacity to deliver essential services.

Following a discussion, which included the impact on services and the possibility of considering this issue in the context of the 2015 budget, it was agreed to withdraw this Notice of Motion.

6.5 Submitted by Councillor Jim Holloway



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“That Meath County Council provide a footpath and cycleway on Local Road (L-5050-0) from Johnstown Village to the rear access of the Johnstown School Campus and that priority be given to the planning and funding of this project.”

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

Supporting information was provided by Maurice Kelly, Senior Executive Engineer, Navan Municipal District, as follows:

The estimated cost of this footpath would be in the region of €150-200K. Meath County Council could seek funding from the NTA through an application for 2015 but it is unlikely that funding will be available to undertake this work in the short to medium term.

7 Correspondence

7.1 E-Mail from Beechmount Residents Association

Councillor Shane Cassells pointed out that this correspondence related to a Notice of Question submitted for the July Municipal District meeting and that the situation had since deteriorated. Tadhg McDonnell provided a verbal update to the meeting. It was acknowledged that a number of agencies were involved. He pointed out a tender process was to commence for the provision of homeless accommodation and that compliance checks and inspections will form part of the contract; the timeframe for the tender process is to be checked.

7.2 Millbury Nursing Home

It was agreed on the proposal of **Councillor Sinéad Burke** and seconded by **Councillor Wayne Forde** that Navan Municipal District would purchase the painting ‘Millstone’ by Thomas Mulvaney for €120.

7.3 CRY (Cardiac risk in the young)

It was agreed on the proposal of **Councillor Sinéad Burke** and seconded by **Councillor Joe Reilly** that Navan Municipal District would make a contribution of €200.



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7.4 Unity Group Windtown – Community Fun Day

It was agreed on the proposal of **Councillor Sinéad Burke** and seconded by **Councillor Shane Cassells** that Navan Municipal District would make a contribution of €250.

8 Any Other Business

8.1 Matters raised included:

- OMP lease of site – it was confirmed that recent communication with the club and the law agent had resolved the outstanding issues and that a meeting was to be arranged in the coming weeks;
- The need for winter planting at the entrance to St. Finian's Cemetery;
- The status of funding committed to business development in the 2011 Retail Strategy;
- The budgetary decisions to be taken that will impact on services such as street cleaning;
- The HSE plans for the site beside Our Lady's Hospital – Alan Rogers agreed to contact the HSE before any enforcement notices would be served;
- The rescheduling of the meeting with the HSE Regional General Manager for 22nd September in Kells.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed:

An Meára