



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

Kells Municipal District

Ordinary Meeting

4.00pm, 18th September, 2017, Kells Civic Offices

An Cathaoirleach, **Councillor David Gilroy**, presided.

Councillors Present: Eugene Cassidy, Seán Drew, Michael Gallagher, Johnny Guirke, Bryan Reilly, Sarah Reilly.

Officials in Attendance:

Director of Service: Kevin Stewart

Meetings Administrator: Claire King

Executive Engineer: Aaron Smith

Staff Officer: Triona Keating

1 Confirmation of Minutes

1.1 Confirmation of minutes of Ordinary Meeting held on 17th July, 2017.

The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on the 17th July, 2017 were adopted on the proposal of **Councillor Sarah Reilly** and seconded by **Councillor Johnny Guirke**.

2 Matters arising from the Minutes

There were no matters arising.

3 Expressions of Sympathy and Congratulations

Congratulations were extended to:

- Vincent Gilsean, Dromone on organising a charity cycle in aid of the Ciarán Maree Foundation.



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4 Statutory Business

4.1 Transportation

- 4.1.1 To receive a Progress Report on works undertaken/planned for Kells Municipal District.

The report, circulated in advance, was noted.

- 4.1.2 To receive an update on the proposed Housing Estate Special Speed Limit Bye-Law statutory process.

This was approved on the proposal of **Councillor Sarah Reilly** and seconded by **Councillor Eugene Cassidy**.

- 4.1.3 To finalise the locations in respect of the Draft Taxi Rank Bye Laws.

Following a short discussion, it was agreed on the proposal of **Councillor Johnny Guirke** and seconded by **Councillor Seán Drew** that the original locations proposed, i.e. Headfort Place (day) and the loading bay on Castle Street (night), would be included in the draft Taxi Rank Bye Laws and, if successful, a second location on Farrell Street would be considered. It was also confirmed that submissions can be made as part of the statutory process, following which a report would be presented to the Municipal District for decision.

4.2 Planning

- 4.2.1 To receive the Chief Executive's Report in accordance with Part 8 of the Planning & Development Acts 2000-2017 and the Planning & Development Regulations 2001-2017 in respect of proposed development of Kells Swimming Pool, Kells, Co. Meath. (P817001).

This was approved on the proposal of **Councillor Sarah Reilly** and seconded by **Councillor Michael Gallagher**.

- 4.2.2 To consider taking in charge of the following and the making of a declaration that the roads within these developments shall be public roads in accordance



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with Section 11 Roads Act 1993 and the Planning & Development Acts 2000-2017.

- The Courtyard, Athboy.

This was approved on the proposal of **Councillor David Gilroy** and seconded by **Councillor Johnny Guirke**.

4.3 Corporate Services

- 4.3.1 To note Municipal District Allocations submitted by Councillors on behalf of Kells Municipal District.

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

4.4 Tourism

- 4.4.1 To receive an update on Kells Heritage Centre.

Michele Whelan, Tourism Development Officer, delivered a presentation that outlined the plans for the reopening of the centre, the role it would play in Boyne Valley, the exhibition and other offerings that would be available and the funding support provided by Fáilte Ireland and Meath County Council. It was also highlighted how Boyne Valley Food Destination secured second place after West Cork in the Restaurant Association of Ireland's 2017 Top 10 Foodie Destinations, after winning it in 2016.

The Cathaoirleach and Councillors welcomed the reopening of the Heritage Centre as a positive development and acknowledged the role the centre would play in promoting the Kells and north Meath area for tourism, culture, heritage and the arts.

5 Notice of Question

There were no Notices of Question.

6 Notice of Motion



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6.1 Submitted by Councillor Michael Gallagher

“Following the recent withdrawal of the Part VIII planning application for the 40 local authority units in Kells, and recognising the urgent need for housing in Kells, Meath County Council will engage with all the relevant Government bodies to fast-track this planning application to make this development happen as soon as possible.”

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

A revised Part VIII planning application is necessary to ensure that the Planning process takes account of all relevant environmental information now available as a result of the variation to the Kells Development Plan which was adopted on 19th July 2017. The Ecologist’s report must now be updated to take account of this information. The Housing Section is liaising closely with the Consultants to ensure that the required report is submitted as soon as possible so to allow the planning process to proceed. The recently introduced legislative changes which shortened the timeframe for Part VIII will apply to all new Part VIII planning processes.

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

The motion was adopted.

It was agreed to request an update on water and wastewater infrastructure capacity and plans for upgrades for the October meeting.

6.2 Submitted by Councillor David Gilroy

"Given the importance of the Irish language, particularly within our County where Irish is used on a daily basis within our Gaelteacht areas, we wish to reflect this by calling on Bank of Ireland to reconsider its decision to remove the Irish language facility from its ATM network."

The motion was proposed by **Councillor David Gilroy** and seconded by **Councillor Eugene Cassidy**.

The motion was adopted.



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It was agreed to refer this motion to the full Council.

7 Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

8 Any Other Business

8.1 Councillor Sarah Reilly raised the following issues:

8.1.1 The possibility of installing a pedestrian crossing at Climber Hall to facilitate service users in Climber Hall and estate residents.

8.1.2 Requested that a letter issue to the OPW asking that they publish the report, including the structural assessment, on the Kells Round Tower and provide this to Councillors – it was agreed to check this with the Heritage Officer and issue letter, if required.

8.1.3 Requested that a letter issue to the OPW asking that they arrange for St. Colmcille's House to be opened at fixed times on a weekly basis and that the stairwell also be opened.

8.2 Councillor Seán Drew raised the following issues:

8.2.1 Requested an update on the derelict house at St. Colmcille's Villas – it was agreed to refer this to Environment.

8.2.2 Underlined the need for action to deal with the illegal dumping at the rear of a property on Carrick Street.

8.2.3 Dangerous parking by sub-contractors working on Eureka School on the Cavan Road – it was confirmed that talks had taken place with the contractor and the traffic warden had issued fines, following which the situation had improved, and it was suggested that the impact of road markings, to be provided when the school opens, be first assessed before any other action taken.

8.2.4 The timeframe for the painting of properties in Kells under the Town Kickstart



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Pilot Initiative and the possibility of delaying this to the Spring when the weather improves – it was agreed to refer this to the Heritage Officer in terms of any conditions attached to the funding.

8.3 Councillor Bryan Reilly raised the following issues:

- 8.3.1 The number of incidents on a stretch of road at Dulane – it was confirmed that the results of a skid resistance test are due and, if necessary, this stretch would be included in the resurfacing programme for 2018.
- 8.3.2 Queried as to what restrictions apply and who is responsible for the parking of HGVs/trucks in housing estates, e.g. Carlanstown, causing noise disruption and dangerous parking – it was agreed to check this.

8.4 Councillor Johnny Guirke raised the following issues:

- 8.4.1 The spreading of Japanese Knotweed on Barrack Street, Oldcastle, which was growing on private property – it was agreed to write a letter to the Department of Agriculture requesting information on how this is being dealt with.
- 8.4.2 A dangerous structure on Barrack Street, Oldcastle, a former garage that is privately owned, was recently burned out and is fully accessible – it was agreed to refer this to Environment.
- 8.4.3 Requested an update on the provision of a footpath from Gardenrath to the schools campus.
- 8.4.4 Requested a weekly update on the restoration works programme in Kells Municipal District – it was agreed to refer this to Transportation.

8.5 Councillor Michael Gallagher raised the following issues:

- 8.5.1 Queried as to whether the planning conditions in respect of the entrance to the Backlands, and the associated demolition of two houses, was in compliance with the planning permission conditions.
- 8.5.2 The possibility of installing CCTV at Maudlin to deter anti-social behaviour – reference was made to the Community CCTV grants recently publicised.



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8.6 Councillor Eugene Cassidy raised the following issue:

8.6.1 Road markings and signage required at the end of the Newcastle Road before the turn to Bailieborough at the dangerous bend – it was agreed to check this.

8.7 Councillor David Gilroy raised the following issues:

8.7.1 Illegal halting site at Kilkeela, Athboy on privately owned land and the implications in terms of environmental and planning issues – it was agreed to refer this to the Environment and Planning Departments.

8.7.2 The progress on the commemoration bench for the late Councillor, Tommy Grimes - it was confirmed that this was being installed tomorrow. It was also agreed that the bench would be officially launched before the October meeting of Kells Municipal District.

8.7.3 Formalising town twinning arrangements with Iona – it was pointed out that proposals would be discussed at the January meeting and considered in the context of the available budget.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed:

Cathaoirleach