



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

Kells Municipal District

Ordinary Meeting

4.00pm, 17th October 2016, Kells Civic Offices

An Cathaoirleach, **Councillor Sarah Reilly**, presided.

Councillors Present: Eugene Cassady, Seán Drew, Michael Gallagher, David Gilroy, Johnny Guirke, Bryan Reilly.

Officials in Attendance:

Director of Service: Kevin Stewart

Meetings Administrator: Claire King

Senior Executive Engineer: Fiona Beers

Executive Engineer: Aaron Smith

Staff Officer: Triona Keating

1 Confirmation of Minutes

1.1 Confirmation of minutes of Ordinary Meeting held on 19th September, 2016.

The Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 19th September were adopted on the proposal of **Councillor Bryan Reilly** and seconded by **Councillor Michael Gallagher**.

2 Matters arising from the Minutes

There were no matters arising.

3 Expressions of Sympathy and Congratulations

Congratulations were extended to:

- St. Oliver's Minor Team for winning Division 2;



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

- Drumconrath/Lobinstown Heritage Society on their 1916 Commemorative Garden;
- Tom Sheridan and Brian Carroll on winning the Senior Doubles All-Ireland Handball Championships and Carl 'Boo' Brown, formerly Kells, who reached the final.

4 To receive a presentation from Ballinacree Community Association.

Brigid Heery and Tom Hennessy delivered a presentation on behalf of Ballinacree Community Association, which provided an overview of the village, the background to the Association and its activities, and underlined the urgent need for a footpath linking the school, church and community centre.

The Cathaoirleach and Councillors commended the group on the quality of their presentation and there was unanimous support for the provision of a footpath as outlined.

Matters discussed by Councillors included:

- The ongoing nature of this issue and, in particular, the previous land issues that now seem to be nearing resolution – it was agreed that the lands involved should be transferred directly to Meath County Council.
- Acknowledged the independent reports that supported the group's position.
- The costs involved and the possibility of accessing funding from other sources – the group confirmed that they were having the drawings prepared for submission to the Council and it was pointed out that these would indicate the costs involved, thereby informing a funding application to be made by the Council under the new Clár programme and also for consideration by Councillors during the forthcoming budget process.
- The possible need for public lighting and the replacement of wall – it was agreed that the Public Lighting Unit would be consulted as to whether lighting was suitable in a rural area and that ducting would be installed if appropriate.
- The possibility of a phased approach, with the accommodation works being undertaken in the first phase.



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

The Cathaoirleach and Councillors thanked the group representatives for attending.

5 Statutory Business

5.1 Water Services

5.1.1 To receive an update on the proposed Meath Watermains Rehabilitation Scheme, Phase 2.

Gerry Boyle, Senior Engineer and Pat Wickham, Senior Resident Engineer, Water Services delivered a presentation to the meeting on the scheme, which included the background to the scheme, the proposed works and locations, the timeframe and scheduling.

Matters raised by Councillors, and responses provided, included:

- The cost to owners of private properties where work was to be carried out – it was confirmed that there was no cost to householders as it is in the interest of Irish Water and the Council to remove ‘back water’ services and deal with leakages and pressure problems.
- The possibility of starting works in Kells town centre earlier to avoid impacting on school traffic as much as possible – it was pointed out that no definitive schedule had yet been agreed and that, whilst works were due to commence in the second half of 2018, they could start earlier in the town centre.
- The level of leaks and asbestos pipes in Kells – it was pointed out that there were not many asbestos pipes but there were a lot of cast iron pipes in the town and that the records of bursts and pressure problems had informed the programme of works being rolled out.
- The planned increase in the size of pipes – generally, the pipes were being replaced on a like for like basis with the exception of Piercetown, where the existing pipe would be increased to the standard 4”.



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

- The impact of failure to pay water bills on planned works – it was confirmed that this would not affect the planned works.
- Issues regarding accessing private property – it was confirmed that access would have to be granted by property owners but that the fact that there was no cost and the work would be beneficial and done to a high standard should encourage people to allow access.
- The need to ensure that reinstatement works were undertaken to a proper standard – it was confirmed that these would be undertaken to an agreed standard, following the relevant guidelines, with temporary reinstatement followed by permanent reinstatement within 12 months.
- The possible need for wastewater pipe replacement – it was confirmed that this scheme related to watermains only.
- The possible contamination at Lough Ramor – it was pointed out that this issue had been examined and arose from a problem at the pumping station at Virginia during a period of flooding and that, despite extensive monitoring and testing, no evidence of adverse effects had been found on the drinking water extracted from the River Blackwater. It was also pointed out a capital project for the wastewater system in Virginia was planned.

The Cathaoirleach and Councillors thanked Gerry and Pat for their presentation.

5.2 Economic Development

5.2.1 To receive a report on EU Funding Opportunities.

Ciara OhAodha, Economic Development & Enterprise, delivered a presentation on a number of relevant EU funding programmes and the current status of applications made. The approach to be followed was outlined, as were the challenges and requirements.

Matters raised by Councillors included:



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

- The offer from Ronan Gingles, Irish Regions Office, to present at a meeting of Meath County Council, if required.
- The impact of Brexit on applications in which the UK, including Northern Ireland, were partners.
- The suitability of EU Programme No. 2, Ireland Wales InterReg, to Kells as it relates to natural and cultural heritage and resources – it was agreed that this would be considered but that a suitable Welsh partner would be required.
- The eligibility to apply for the various programmes – these were outlined.
- The impact of the EU Regional Aid package following the redesignation of North Meath – it was pointed out that the impact of this was not yet evident and that companies had many considerations when choosing a location.

The Cathaoirleach and Councillors thanked Ciara for her presentation.

5.3 Corporate Services

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

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

5.4 Transportation

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

The report, which had been circulated in advance, was noted.

6 Notice of Question



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

There were no Notices of Question.

7 Notice of Motion

There were no Notices of Motion.

8 Correspondence

- 8.1 Correspondence received from National Transport Authority in response Item 8.2.2 – June Monthly Meeting – Bus stop provision in Athboy.

The correspondence was noted.

- 8.2 Correspondence from The Save Our Cross Committee re The Kells U.D.C decision of February 2000 to reinstate the Market Cross in Cross Street as soon as possible.

The correspondence was noted. A short discussion followed on the benefits of relocating the cross to the town centre, thereby creating a focal point, and the need for Ministerial consent for such a move, as the cross is a national monument. It was pointed out that previous engagement with the Department had underlined their requirements that the cross be positioned in an indoor location only.

9 Any Other Business

- 9.1 Councillor Johnny Guirke raised the following issues:

9.1.1 Requested that a letter be written to Eir requesting that they remove the old phone box from Oldcastle.

9.1.2 The presentation of a Greenscape Plan by Oldcastle Tidy Towns on 27th October.

9.1.3 The absence of lighting in Ardfrail estate in Oldcastle – it was pointed out that this estate was not taken in charge and the residents had yet to submit a plebiscite.

- 9.2 Councillor Michael Gallagher raised the following issue:



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

- 9.2.1 The amount of rubbish left by Travellers following their move from Oristown to Fletcherstown Church and the possibility of installing a ditch to prevent their return – it was pointed out that the group would only move to a nearby location if prevented access to the original location.
- 9.3 Councillor David Gilroy raised the following issue:
- 9.3.1 An update on the motion previously adopted regarding the cooperation of fast food outlets in relation to litter management and whether this was included in the Council's Litter Management Plan – it was agreed to refer this to Environment.
- 9.4 Councillor Seán Drew raised the following issues:
- 9.4.1 The possibility of applying for funding under the Local Infrastructure Housing Activation Fund for the provision of the road linking the Maudlin and Headfort roads, thereby opening up residential lands owned by the Council and private developers and reclaiming part of the cost from developers as the lands are developed – it was pointed out that the closing date for applications had been last week with a number of proposals having been submitted but that the focus was to have been on existing active developments where the lack of infrastructure was preventing the developments from proceeding. It was also confirmed that the provision of the road would not impact on the Council's plans to provide housing.
- 9.4.2 The need for public lighting on the Oldcastle Road to serve three housing estates and the nursing home – it was pointed out that consideration could be given to a funding allocation when deciding on the 2017 works programme.
- 9.4.3 The review of the capital programme – it was pointed out that this is presented with the budget for review.
- 9.5 Councillor Sarah Reilly raised the following issue:
- 9.5.1 The need to issue a statement outlining the next steps and timeframe in relation to the one-way system trial to provide clarity to people and avoid misinformation. It was also suggested that this should be made available widely, including in the parish bulletin.



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

- 9.5.2 An update in relation to the provision of a car park at Rathmore N.S. – following a short discussion, in which it was underlined that the provision of a car park was a matter for the school, parish and Department of Education & Skills, it was suggested that a design be presented to the Council via a planning application.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed:

Cathaoirleach