



## ***Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes***

### ***Laytown-Bettystown Municipal District***

#### ***Ordinary Meeting***

***09:30 a.m., 12<sup>th</sup> October, 2017, Duleek Civic Offices***

An Cathaoirleach, **Councillor Paddy Meade**, presided.

**Councillors Present:** Eimear Ferguson, Wayne Harding, Tom Kelly, Sharon Keogan, Stephen McKee, 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 Ordinary Meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> September, 2017.**

The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> September, 2017 were adopted on the proposal of **Councillor Tom Kelly** and seconded by **Councillor Sharon Tolan**.

#### **2 Matters arising from the Minutes**

Councillor Tom Kelly requested a further update on the agreement between the clubs using the facilities at Seafields and it was agreed that this would be dealt with under Item 4.5.1.

#### **3 Expressions of Sympathy and Congratulations**

Congratulations were extended to:



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- Wayne Rafferty, St. Cianan's Boxing Club on representing Ireland in the Boxing Championships;
- St. Colmcille's GAA on winning the Junior Division Meath Championships;
- Cian Barry on representing Ireland in the Under 16s Darts Team in the European and World Championships;
- Lobinstown Tidy Towns on their recent funding award;
- Oliver Reilly on his recent retirement from Meath County Council.

### **4 Statutory Business**

#### **4.1 Transportation**

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

The report had been circulated in advance and was outlined at the meeting. Matters raised by Councillors included:

- The possibility of increasing the street sweeping schedule in Laytown-Bettystown from once per month – it was pointed out that, whilst the schedule had been increased during the summer, there was a cost to continuing this but that a possible increase to once per fortnight would be considered.
- The possibility of increasing the number of litter bins, particularly along the Golf Links and Eastham roads – it was confirmed that a review of all existing bins was being carried out with a programme of related works to follow including the the removal of those experiencing issues relating to the disposal of domestic waste.
- Overhanging trees on the green in Duleek and the need to protect the surface of the new footpaths from staining – it was confirmed that sealant had been applied and that the maintenance/cleaning



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programme had yet to commence but that the pruning of trees would require a specialist tender.

- Update on the road markings programme- it was confirmed that a list of locations was being prepared and the programme rolled out based on funding available at year end, with locations prioritised on the basis of road safety.

### **4.2 Environment**

#### **4.2.1 To receive an update on the Beach Management Plan.**

Bernadine Carry, Environment Section provided an update on the Beach Management Plan, referring to the submissions received to date and the need for an Appropriate Assessment and Natura Impact Assessment, which requires the Beach Management Plan to be redrafted and put on public display again. This process is currently underway. Submissions will again be invited and it was proposed that, once these are received, they will be outlined in detail to Councillors. Reference was also made to the Architectural Competition, for which expressions of interest are being sought, with plans to have a design team in place by mid-January. It was confirmed also that, whilst quotes for a barrier had been sought, it had been decided to trial a manual barrier for a two month period over the winter (open 8am – 6pm), subject to available resources, to see if a barrier was the appropriate solution.

Matters raised by Councillors included:

- The scope of the assessments required and the reasons for their being required – the scope and necessity was outlined.
- The assessments previously carried out on the Boyne Estuary as part of the Boyneside Trail – it was agreed to check these.
- The structural assessments carried out on the properties purchased – it was agreed to check this.
- The possibility of the state acquiring the dunes at Mornington – it was confirmed that this was being monitored.

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- The need to replace and/or update signage on the beach – it was confirmed that this formed part of the Beach Management Plan.
- The need to update the beach bye-laws – it was confirmed that this may be required subject to the outcome of the assessments.
- The availability of the Chief Executive’s Report with submissions received – it was agreed to provide this to Councillors.

The Cathaoirleach and Councillors thanked Bernadine and the Beach Management Committee for the work undertaken to date and commended the progress made. Councillors were reminded that all matters relating to the implementation of the plan would be brought to the Municipal District for decision.

### **4.3 Housing**

- 4.3.1 To receive a Housing Programme Update for Laytown-Bettystown Municipal District.

David Jones, Senior Executive Officer, Housing Department provided an update on the housing programme within the municipal district, including the capital programme, Approved Housing Bodies, the acquisition programme, Part V, Vacant Homes Strategy, the adaptation works scheme, the adaptation grant schemes for older people and people with a disability, the homeless service and social housing supports.

Key matters raised by Councillors, and responses provided, included:

- The possibility of providing serviced sites for affordable housing on or adjacent to the site in Donore – it was confirmed that social housing provision was the priority but that the comments would be considered and facilitated, if possible, and Councillors were reminded that the Part VIII was a reserved function.
- The need to consider housing provision for those who do not qualify for social housing but who cannot afford housing at market rates.



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- The need to provide quicker housing solutions.
- The need for HAP to take account of increasing rental costs – reference was made to the Rent Pressure Zone and the monitoring of its effectiveness over time.
- Underlined the need for works to commence in Alverno Court and Alverno Heights – the efforts to secure the maximum amount of funding were outlined.
- The potential for increased housing stock due to the application of Part V in new residential developments commencing – it was pointed out that the onus was on developers to contact the Housing Authority in advance to agree indicative Part V provision before commencement.
- The criteria that applies to determining what is a vacant home.
- The need to determine the reasons for homelessness and put in place the necessary supports in collaboration with other state agencies and government departments – it was confirmed that a template to capture key data and background information had been agreed, an overview of the analysis of the 2016 emergency placements was provided and it was confirmed that health and welfare supports were key in dealing with the related issues.
- The role of NAMA in delivering social housing.
- The possibility of having a Residential Housing Unit in every municipal district – it was pointed out that there are two supported accommodation facilities in Navan and Drogheda.
- The assistance available to those living in mobile homes – it was pointed out that these were considered private properties as per the regulations.
- Update on the energy upgrade scheme – it was confirmed that Phase I works on all housing stock were due to be completed by the end of the year.

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- The availability of suitable housing in Donore and Bettystown Phase II schemes for those with a disability – it was pointed out that the design did take into account the needs of those on the housing list and reference was made to the Disability Strategy and the Capital Assistance Scheme available to Approved Housing Bodies.

The Cathaoirleach and Councillors thanked David for his comprehensive update and commended the staff in the Housing Department for the work they do in what can be a difficult area.

### **4.4 Planning**

4.4.1 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 with Section 11 Roads Act 1993 and the Planning & Development Acts 2000-2015

- Glenpatrick, Slane.

This was approved on the proposal of **Councillor Sharon Tolan** and seconded by **Councillor Eimear Ferguson**.

- Mornington Court, Mornington.

This was approved on the proposal of **Councillor Sharon Tolan** and seconded by **Councillor Eimear Ferguson**.

- Abbeylands, Duleek.

This was approved on the proposal of **Councillor Wayne Harding** and seconded by **Councillor Sharon Keogan**.

- Rosevale, Drogheda.

This was approved on the proposal of **Councillor Sharon Tolan** and seconded by **Councillor Eimear Ferguson**.

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### **4.5 Corporate Services**

#### 4.5.1 To receive an update on the proposed development of Seafields.

Dara McGowan, Senior Executive Officer, Corporate Services outlined the background to the plans for Seafields and the consultation that had taken place with local groups, etc. in terms of what they wished to have included as part of the plans to develop a Masterplan for the site. The proposals received were outlined. Once developed, the Masterplan would be presented to the Municipal District for discussion and agreement, to include how its implementation would be managed and funded. It was pointed out that an allocation for the Seafields project had been made as part of the current capital programme under Community Facilities in addition to allocations for the Beach Management Plan and library facility.

Councillors suggested a number of other items to be considered, including a fencing, lighting, walkways with lighting, litter bins and signage, viewing stand, storage, toilet and shower facilities, etc. It was pointed out that a viewing stand would impact on the land available, the extent of the planned walkways was to be determined

Other matters raised by Councillors included:

- The possibility of providing a facility that could be used by the scouts and the boxing club – the limitations of the proposed facility were underlined.
- The need for lighting on the approach road and footbridge to improve security and safety – it was confirmed that the road/bridge was being reviewed.
- The possibility of applying for Blue Flag status for the beach – the criteria for Blue Flag status were outlined.
- The extent of the plans to include the beach and the possibility of other organisations such as Beach Volleyball Ireland and IPKSA (Sandyachting) being included in the development of the plans – it was agreed to contact these organisations but it was pointed out that the initial plans



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did not extend to the beach and that the Beach Management Plan would be more relevant.

- The need to improve vehicular access, including emergency services – reference was made to the cost implications.
- The responsibility for managing and maintaining the facility – it was confirmed that, once the masterplan has been developed, the groups would be convened with a view to agreed a cooperative approach to oversee the facility and resolve any outstanding lease issues.

4.5.2 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 Strategic Policy Committee Reports – For Information Purposes**

5.1 To note the report from the Environment and Emergency SPC meeting of 27th September 2017.

The report was noted.

5.2 To note the report from the Planning, Economic Development and Enterprise SPC meeting of 27<sup>th</sup> September 2017.

The report was noted.

### **6 Notice of Question**

There were no Notices of Question.

### **7 Notice of Motion**

**7.1 Submitted by Councillor Sharon Keogan**





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“Calling on Meath County Council to engage/consult with Minister Denis Naughten in the Department of Communications, Climate Action & Environment to provide funding for 4 Ambient Air Monitoring Units in the East Meath region as a matter of urgency and the running and maintenance costs associated with these.”

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

In October 2016 the Environment Protection Agency published a consultation paper on the National Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Programme 2017-2022 and which following a comprehensive review of the current status of ambient air quality in Ireland signalled a proposal to introduce a new national ambient air quality monitoring programme in order to strengthen the capacity and capability to provide more comprehensive, localised air quality information linked to public health advice.

The programme to be funded by the Department of Communications, Climate Action & Environment and commencing in 2018 will involve a greatly expanded national monitoring network with the number of station networks increasing from 31 to 66 and providing enhanced real-time information to the public- the network will comprise 80 monitoring stations, of which 64 provide real time data to the Air Quality Index for Health (AQIH)

The locations of the monitoring stations are shown on the maps attached to the consultation paper which can be viewed at <https://www.epa.ie/pubs/consultation/files/Consultation%20Paper.pdf>

The EPA have indicated that there is a scientific basis for each of the monitoring point locations and while there is just one in Meath (Navan) they are satisfied that the geographical spread of the monitoring will give full national coverage. Submissions can however be made for the inclusion of other areas if there is a scientific basis for same.

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

Following a short discussion, it was agreed to refer this matter to the Environment Section to see what would be the best approach to achieve this objective. It was also agreed to request the Environment SPC to review air quality monitoring, including in areas of intensive industrial activity.



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The motion was adopted.

### **7.2 Submitted by Councillor Sharon Tolan**

"Can I call on the Minister of Housing, Planning and Local Government to include a library in the Laytown-Bettystown area in the Capital Budget."

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

The motion was adopted.

### **7.3 Submitted by Councillor Sharon Tolan**

"To call on Meath County Council to prepare a Public Realm Plan for the Laytown-Bettystown-Donacarne-Mornington area, to improve linkages and civic facilities for the residents of East Meath."

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

*This will be considered in the context of the Planning Work Programme and in line with the County Development Plan Review.*

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Sharon Tolan** and seconded by **Councillor Wayne Harding**.

The motion was adopted.

## **8 Other Matters Arising**

There were no other matters arising.

## **9 Correspondence**

There was no correspondence.



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### **10 Any Other Business**

10.1 Councillor Wayne Harding raised the following issues:

10.1.1 Requested an update in relation to the agreement with Kildare County Council regarding the N51.

10.1.2 Referred to a request by Slane Tidy Towns that the bins in the village be upgraded.

10.1.3 Road safety issues at The Brink.

10.2 Councillor Sharon Tolan raised the following issues:

10.2.1 The need to identify litter blackspots for additional litter bins.

10.2.2 The need to review long-term and disabled parking bays in Bettystown and Laytown – it was pointed out that the number of disabled parking bays at the location mentioned exceeded the regulatory minimum at the moment.

10.2.3 The need to provide a footpath at Donacarney/Mornington to allow safe access to local shops – it was confirmed that this had been submitted to the NTA for consideration but was not a NTA priority at the moment.

10.2.4 The collapsed wall at Bettystown Cross and the vegetation impacting on the road width – the issue with contacting the receivers was outlined.

10.3 Councillor Tom Kelly raised the following issues:

10.3.1 The need for toilet facilities at the playground at Narrowways, Bettystown – it was pointed out that no funding was available for such facilities.

10.3.2 Requested an update on progress on the Greenway at Mornington.

10.3.3 The condition and structural safety of The Last Straw – the process of determining derelict and dangerous buildings were outlined and it was agreed to check this structure.



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- 10.3.4 The lack of facilities at the church in Laytown.
- 10.3.5 The process by which the planning conditions associated with the planning permission granted for the Aldi development in Laytown are enforced.
- 10.3.6 The implementation of the new regulations with regard to tree felling and the impact on coastal protection.
- 10.4 Councillor Sharon Keogan raised the following issue:
  - 10.4.1 Requested an update on the flashing speed signs at Carronstown.
  - 10.4.2 Requested an update on the wall at The Commons.
  - 10.4.3 The need to improve sightlines at The Brink.
  - 10.4.4 The allocation of the capital programme for Ashbourne Municipal District to be spent in Duleek and environs.
  - 10.4.5 The need to prune trees in public spaces.
  - 10.4.6 The need for footpaths and lighting in Donacarney.
- 10.5 Councillor Paddy Meade raised the following issues:
  - 10.5.1 Traffic lights out of order in Slane.
  - 10.5.2 The issues affecting residents wishing to exit their properties due to the wall in Slane.
  - 10.5.3 The need to improve the road approaching Foxes cattle factory.
  - 10.5.4 The need to amend the policy so that cul de sacs are considered lanes/public roads under the LIS/CIS.

This concluded the business of the meeting.



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Signed:

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Cathaoirleach