



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

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

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

***9:30 a.m., 12<sup>th</sup> November 2015, 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

**Senior Executive Engineer:** Jim Colwell

**Executive Engineer:** Christy Clarke

**Staff Officer:** Triona Keating

#### **1 Confirmation of Minutes**

##### **1.1 Confirmation of minutes of Ordinary Meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> October 2015.**

The Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> October 2015 were adopted on the proposal of **Councillor Tom Kelly** and seconded by **Councillor Sharon Keogan**.

##### **1.2 Confirmation of minutes of Special Finance meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> November 2015.**

The Minutes of the Special Finance Meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> November 2015 were adopted on the proposal of **Councillor Tom Kelly** and seconded by **Councillor Sharon Tolan**.

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

Councillor Tom Kelly referred to the update sought at the July meeting on planning issues relating to the Minnistown Road – it was agreed to check this.



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

Congratulations were extended to:

- All Meath County Council staff involved in organising tonight's civic reception for the Meath Rose of Tralee, Elysha Brennan and Coláiste na hInse for organising the welcome and tree planting ceremony taking place on 26<sup>th</sup> November.

### **4 To receive a presentation on Solstice Arts Centre activities.**

Belinda Quirke, Artistic Director/CEO, and Erin Kenny, Programme Manager, Solstice Arts Centre attended the meeting and delivered a presentation which covered the background to Solstice Arts Centre, objectives, culture and the arts, activities, artists, productions, collaboration and linkages to Laytown-Bettystown Municipal District.

Matters raised by Councillors included:

- The community interest derived from participation by groups such as Rathkenny Revels.
- The possibility of providing foreign language films for secondary school students and films that link to the English secondary school curriculum to avoid having to travel to Dublin – it was agreed that this would be considered and contact would be made with schools to discuss such a programme.

The Cathaoirleach and Councillors thanked Belinda and Erin for the presentation, commended them on the achievements made to date and particularly welcomed the focus on the linkages between Solstice and the Laytown-Bettystown Municipal District.

### **5 Statutory Business**

#### **5.1 Economic Development**

- 5.1.1 To receive an overview on EU Funding Opportunities.



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Ciara O hAodha, Meath Economic & Enterprise Team attended the meeting and delivered a presentation which provided an overview of EU funding opportunities, including the policy and budgetary context, an overview of EU programmes and those that are the best fit for Meath and the next steps.

Matters raised by Councillors included:

- Disappointment that Meath could not have led an Irish application for the Ireland/Wales funding for coastal protection works and the need to pursue all avenues of funding for these works.
- The need for additional staff resources to secure EU funding.
- The bureaucracy involved in accessing EU funding – it was pointed out that the process had been simplified and that the first applications would test the new system.
- The availability of match funding – it was pointed out that the 2016 budget would retain the allocation for economic development, part of which could be used as match funding along with other funding sources.

The Cathaoirleach and Councillors thanked Ciara for attending and for her presentation. They welcomed the appointment and the work being undertaken and offered to share all relevant contact information.

### **5.2 Transportation**

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

The report was circulated in advance. Christy Clarke pointed out that due to issues encountered around land ownership, the footpath from the school in Laytown to Bettystown could not proceed at this time and Councillors were asked to identify alternative projects for the funding allocated. A discussion followed and it was agreed on the proposal of **Councillor Tom Kelly** and seconded by **Councillor Paddy Meade** to defer a decision on this matter to the



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December meeting to allow for a possible resolution to the land ownership issues.

It was pointed out that a number of traffic lights at various locations had been out of order for a number of weeks – it was confirmed that faults had been identified and these should be rectified by today.

### **6 Notice of Question**

#### **6.1 Submitted by Councillor Sharon Tolan**

“What progress has been made in relation to the two motions adopted at September's Laytown-Bettystown MD meeting for two pedestrian crossings to be constructed, one in Laytown in the vicinity of O'Reilly's Supermarket, and the other in the vicinity of Ozanam House and Harry's Garage in Mornington, where pedestrians are in very serious danger attempting to cross two very busy roads?”

#### **Response:**

*At this stage we can only give the commitment that it will be considered, to be put forward for NTA funding. It will be added to an existing list of schemes for potential NTA funding. At this stage there are over 200 schemes on the list for possible funding, and there is a major body of work involved in evaluating and prioritising these schemes. When these works are complete a decision will be made in relation to what schemes are put forward in 2016.*

The response was noted.

Councillor Sharon Tolan sought clarification as to why the Council's own funding could not be used for these works.

### **7 Notice of Motion**

#### **7.1 Submitted by Councillor Stephen McKee**

“That this Municipal District reaffirms its intention to carry out the planned full streetscape of Duleek as approved and that updates on progress and the next steps



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towards completion of same are provided to Laytown-Bettystown Municipal District Councillors.”

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

*Some preliminary design work has already been carried out on a scheme in Duleek in relation to traffic calming and footpath improvements. The Transportation Department is currently considering the work programme for 2016 and will seek to progress the development of this scheme subject to available resources.*

The motion was deferred.

### **7.2 Submitted by Councillor Stephen McKee**

“As part of its annual submission to the NTA for assistance with projects in Laytown-Bettystown Municipal District, that the Transportation Department applies for funding for a new footpath connecting Grange Rath with Gaelscoil An Bhradain Feasa on the Mill Road, Mornington.”

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

*Meath County Council will add this to the list of schemes for potential NTA funding. At this stage there are over 200 schemes on the list for possible funding, and there is a major body of work involved in evaluating and prioritising these schemes. When this is complete a decision will be made as to what schemes are put forward for funding to the NTA for 2016.*

The motion was deferred.

### **7.3 Submitted by Councillor Eimear Ferguson**

“I am asking Meath County Council to prepare an Options Paper to propose possible solutions to the issue of long stay/commuter parking at the business premises in Laytown and Bettystown.”



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

*The proposal as outlined would require substantial resources (financial & human) to implement. There are capital costs (in terms of lines, signs, handhelds, back end systems, etc.) and considerable operational costs (Traffic Wardens, software licences, administrative overheads to deal with complaints, appeals, court & legal issues, etc.) associated with implementation of this proposal. The proposal could be examined in further detail once funding has been allocated.*

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

A short discussion followed on the need for Meath County Council to support businesses and ratepayers in any way possible. It was agreed to refer this matter back to Transportation again seeking that an Options Paper be developed.

The motion was adopted.

#### **7.4 Submitted by Councillor Sharon Tolan**

“That Bus Éireann be invited to meet with Laytown-Bettystown Municipal District Councillors to discuss the location of bus stops in East Meath and also the provision of bus shelters.”

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

A short discussion followed on the need to review the location of bus stops in the district and recent developments with regard to submissions to the NTA.

The motion was adopted.

## **8 Other Matters Arising**

### **8.1 Councillor Wayne Harding raised the following issues:**



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- 8.1.1 The traffic issues caused by the lights being out of order at Primatestown – it was agreed to refer this to Transportation.
- 8.1.2 The need to cut back the hedges and repair the footpath at the roundabout on the M1 at the IDA centre coming from Donore.
- 8.2 Councillor Eimear Ferguson raised the following issues:
  - 8.2.1 The need to erect lighting at the junction of Painestown Road and Pilltown Road as the junction is considered dangerous.
  - 8.2.2 The possibility of installing additional dog fouling bins in Laytown.
- 8.3 Councillor Tom Kelly raised the following issues:
  - 8.3.1 The faulty lights at the schools in Mornington – it was agreed that a letter would issue on behalf of Laytown-Bettystown Municipal District Councillors to the Boards of Management requesting that they contact the Department of Education and Skills to ensure that the lights are repaired.
  - 8.3.2 The timeframe for the availability of the speed limit review – it was agreed to refer this query to Transportation.
  - 8.3.3 Update on the refurbishment works by Iarnróid Éireann on the footbridge at Laytown and the reinstatement of the barrier – it was agreed that contact would be made with Iarnróid Éireann.
  - 8.3.4 The need to reinstate the manhole to road level on Eastham Road.
  - 8.3.5 Commended the progress made in Marian Villas.
  - 8.3.6 The need to renew the road markings and erect green bollards on the Pilltown junction.
- 8.4 Councillor Sharon Tolan raised the following issues:
  - 8.4.1 Commended the works at the park in Laytown.



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- 8.4.2 The need for a warning sign to be erected at Harry's Garage to Donacarney indicating the bad bend.
- 8.4.3 The issue regarding the storm drain at the entrance to Bettystown beach – it was confirmed that this would be considered as part of the Beach Management Plan.
- 8.5 Councillor Sharon Keogan raised the following issues:
  - 8.5.1 Queried how much land Meath County Council owned in Donore and what plans were in place for this land – it was agreed to refer this to the Housing Department.
  - 8.5.2 The need for a footpath from Donore to Newgrange.
  - 8.5.3 The need for a decision in respect of the one way system in Abbeylands – it was agreed to refer this to Transportation.
  - 8.5.4 The inclusion of a condition on any future planning application granted to Irish Cement that lights be provided at that junction – it was agreed to refer this to Planning.
  - 8.5.5 The need for a review of all stone walls on the bridges entering Duleek and access all sources of funding to enhance and maintain these – it was agreed to refer this to Transportation.
- 8.6 Councillor Paddy Meade raised the following issues:
  - 8.6.1 The need to remove the grass growing in the middle of roads.
  - 8.6.2 The need to repair the signs at Crooks Cross.
  - 8.6.3 The need for repairs at Woodtown bridge – it was confirmed that an estimate had been received and funding was being identified.

## **9 Correspondence**





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### 9.1 Correspondence received from Laytown Village Enhancement.

The correspondence was noted. A short discussion followed on the proposal received and the benefits of improving the area. It was agreed that the correspondence would be referred to the Community Department and a report sought on the process undertaken to date in terms of seeking expressions of interests from groups.

### 9.2 Correspondence received from Drogheda Port Company in regard to Item 7.2.1 – Other Matters Arising, October Laytown-Bettystown Ordinary Meeting.

The correspondence was noted. It was agreed on the proposal of **Councillor Tom Kelly** and seconded by **Councillor Sharon Keogan** that a response be issued to Drogheda Port Company, copied to the Minister of Transport, expressing councillors' dissatisfaction at the process as outlined and the possible linkages to the local government boundary review.

## **10 Any Other Business**

### 10.1 Festive Lighting Allocations 2015

10.1.1 It was agreed on the proposal of **Councillor Tom Kelly** and seconded by **Councillor Eimear Ferguson** to make five allocations of €200 to each of the following towns: Laytown, Bettystown, Duleek, Slane and Julianstown.

### 10.2 Councillor Eimear Ferguson raised the following issue:

10.2.1 The management and oversight of the land nutrition programme – it was agreed to refer this to Environment.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

**Signed:**

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**Cathaoirleach**