



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

### ***Ashbourne Municipal District***

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

***9:30 a.m., 14<sup>th</sup> November 2016, Ashbourne Civic Offices***

An Cathaoirleach, **Councillor Alan Tobin**, presided.

**Councillors Present:** Joe Bonner, Claire O'Driscoll, Suzanne Jamal, Darren O'Rourke, Seán Smith.

**Officials in Attendance:**

**Head of Finance:** Fiona Lawless

**Meetings Administrator:** Claire King

**Executive Engineer:** Janet Murphy

**Staff Officer:** Triona Keating

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

##### **1.1 Confirmation of minutes of Ordinary Meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> October, 2016.**

The Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> October 2016 were adopted on the proposal of **Councillor Seán Smith** and seconded by **Councillor Darren O'Rourke**.

##### **1.2 Confirmation of minutes of Special Finance Meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> November, 2016.**

The Minutes of the Special Finance Meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2016 were adopted on the proposal of **Councillor Claire O'Driscoll** and seconded by **Councillor Alan Tobin**.

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

Councillor Darren O'Rourke enquired as to whether the footpath works in Stamullen would be undertaken before the end of the year – it was confirmed that works were expected to start early in the new year.



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Councillor Seán Smith requested that the update to be provided at each meeting on the Linear Park include an update on each phase of the development.

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

Congratulations were extended to:

- The Council staff involved in running the local Pride of Place awards night, the participants and winners, including Garden City, Crestwood, Church View, Moynalvey and Garlow Cross.

Councillors acknowledged the role of volunteers in the community and referred to the supports available – it was pointed out that a review of the categories under the Community Grants Scheme was planned and would be considered by the SPC in January.

### **4 To meet with a representative from Bus Éireann regarding bus services in Ashbourne Municipal District.**

Adrian O'Loughlin, Services Manager, Bus Éireann provided an update on relevant services including the 103 and 109A routes and the Nightlink services.

Matters raised by Councillors included:

- Confirmed that the number of issues raised in relation to services had reduced significantly.
- The impact on users of buses leaving earlier than scheduled.
- The provision of bus stops in locations such as Harlockstown – it was pointed out that provision of bus stops was a matter for the local authority and that Bus Éireann did liaise with the Council and the NTA in relation to bus stop provision.
- The use of private buses on public service routes and capacity issues on single decker vehicles.



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- The fare structure as it relates to commuters in the Ashbourne area – it was pointed out that the NTA, which decides on the fare structure, has a policy of encouraging the use of Leap cards, and that a revised fare structure is due to take effect on 1<sup>st</sup> December, with commuters and yearly ticket holders likely to benefit.
- The impact of the stop at Tayto Park on other service users – it was pointed out that the NTA was in discussions with Tayto Park in relation to service levels but that it is a major amenity.
- The need for a bus terminus or park & ride facility in Ashbourne – it was confirmed that Bus Éireann Network Department had been in discussion with the NTA in relation to Meath.

The Cathaoirleach and Councillors thanked Adrian for attending the meeting and for the information provided.

### **5 To receive a presentation from Deerpark/Bachelor's Walk Residents Committee.**

Laurence Baxter, representing the Committee, delivered a presentation that related to the proposed Ashbourne Linear Park and highlighted issues and concerns of residents and proposals in relation to the design of the park.

Fiona Lawless thanked the committee for their feedback, referred to the Part VIII process and public consultation, the plan to commence the section at Killegland initially with the other sections to follow, and the need to liaise with the Gardaí in terms of anti-social behaviour and monitoring of any CCTV installed.

Matters raised by Councillors included:

- The need to provide facilities such as this for the people of Ashbourne.
- The need to engage with residents and incorporate their views into the design.
- The availability of landbanks owned by other bodies.

The Cathaoirleach and Councillors thanked the many residents who attended the meeting.



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### 6 Statutory Business

#### 6.1 Community

- 6.1.1 To receive details of the proposed Part VIII Planning process for the town centre section of Ashbourne Linear Park and, if thought fit, to resolve to commence the Part VIII Planning Process for the proposed works.

Fiona Fallon, Senior Executive Officer, Community Department delivered a presentation to the meeting that provided details of the scheme, the Part VIII process and the next steps.

A short discussion followed where Councillors had a number of queries, to which responses were provided.

It was unanimously agreed, on the proposal of **Councillor Darren O'Rourke** and seconded by **Councillor Alan Tobin**, to commence the Part VIII process as outlined.

Councillors requested that a meeting be arranged with Fiona Lawless and Michael Griffin, Planning Department, followed by a meeting with Deputies Helen McEntee, Regina Doherty and Thomas Byrne, to discuss the issues relating to the provision of the park including funding.

#### 6.2 Transportation

- 6.2.1 To receive an update on the following schemes:

- Milltown Road;
- Castle Street;
- Milbourne Avenue.

Robert Kelly, DBFL Consultants, Nicholas Whyatt, Senior Engineer, Duncan Byrne, Executive Engineer, and Pat Shore, Assistant Engineer, Transportation Department attended the meeting. A presentation on Ashbourne Traffic



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Management/Cycling Facilities Scheme was provided, covering the objectives of the scheme, the scope of the project, details of the scheme and next steps.

A short discussion followed on issues including funding of works planned, the need for public consultation, school traffic, potential and planned housing developments, timeframe and the need for land acquisition.

It was agreed on the proposal of **Councillor Alan Tobin** and seconded by **Councillor Claire O'Driscoll** to extend the meeting by fifteen minutes.

6.2.2 To discuss traffic management & road safety issues.

It was agreed that the issues raised by Councillors would be submitted to Transportation for response, as appropriate.

6.2.3 To receive a Progress Report on works undertaken/planned for Ashbourne Municipal District.

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

### **6.3 Corporate Services**

6.3.1 Festive Lighting Allocation 2016.

Councillors were reminded that, in 2015, it was agreed that an annual allocation of €1,000 would be made over the next 5 years to Ashbourne Chamber of Commerce for festive lighting in Ashbourne. This was noted.

6.3.2 To note Municipal District Allocations submitted by Councillors on behalf of Ashbourne Municipal District.

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

### **6.4 Planning**

6.4.1 Matters Arising



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There were no matters arising.

### **7 Notice of Question**

#### **7.1 Submitted by Councillor Seán Smith**

“Can Meath County Council provide an update on steps taken and outcomes in engaging with the Department of Education on lands on approach to the GAA club, which was discussed as a Notice of Motion at the May meeting of Ashbourne Municipal District?”

**Response:**

*After significant engagement, it is confirmed that the Head of Finance will be meeting with representatives from the Department of Education & Skills in Navan on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> November.*

The response was noted.

### **8 Notice of Motion**

#### **8.1 Submitted by Councillor Alan Tobin**

“To ask the Transportation/Planning Departments to engage with local taxi firms and businesses to establish a taxi rank on Broadmeadow Street.”

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

*Meath County Council is currently in discussions with the National Transport Authority with a view to a county wide outcome.*

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Alan Tobin** and seconded by **Councillor Seán Smith**.

The motion was adopted.



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### **8.2 Submitted by Councillor Alan Tobin**

“Following a RTA in Kilbride Village, can Meath County Council look at the feasibility of putting a roundabout at junction to Wotton Road, Ratoath Road, outside the church (L 1007-13 and L 1009).”

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

*Transportation Planning & Design section have to discuss the situation with Transportation Operations section before considering the matter.*

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Alan Tobin** and seconded by **Councillor Seán Smith**.

The motion was adopted.

### **8.3 Submitted by Councillor Seán Smith**

“That a letter is written from Ashbourne Municipal District Councillors to the National Roads Authority stating that the grass at Nine Mile Stone roundabout is not being maintained to the specification of the contract with the maintenance company. The grass is very often more than 40cm long, with weeds growing on the verges.”

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Seán Smith** and seconded by **Councillor Alan Tobin**.

The motion was adopted.

### **8.4 Submitted by Councillor Seán Smith**

“That Meath County Council arranges and participates in a Public Meeting in Ashbourne to present information on the Linear Park project.”

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



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*Meath County Council has already engaged in a very extensive public consultation process in relation to the design of the Linear Park and, once on public display, there will be ample opportunity for the public to make their views known.*

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Seán Smith** and seconded by **Councillor Darren O'Rourke**.

The motion was adopted.

### **9 Correspondence**

- 9.1 Correspondence received from the Department of Health in response to the Notice of Item 9.2.2 from September monthly meeting.

The correspondence was noted.

- 9.2 Correspondence received from Carrickmacross – Castleblayney Municipal District re Appointment of Minister for Brexit.

The correspondence was noted.

### **10 Any Other Business**

There was no other business.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

**Signed:**

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**Cathaoirleach**