



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

### ***Kells Municipal District***

### ***Ordinary Meeting***

***4.00pm, 20<sup>th</sup> November, 2017, Kells Civic Offices***

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

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

**Apologies:** Councillor Bryan 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 16<sup>th</sup> October, 2017.**

The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on the 16<sup>th</sup> October, 2017 were adopted on the proposal of **Councillor Sarah Reilly** and seconded by **Councillor Johnny Guirke**.

##### **1.2 Confirmation of minutes of Special Finance Meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> November, 2017.**

The minutes of the Special Finance Meeting held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> November, 2017 were adopted on the proposal of **Councillor Sarah Reilly** and seconded by **Councillor Michael Gallagher**.

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

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

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



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Sympathy was extended to:

- The family of the late Neil O'Neill, Westport who had been involved in the conference in Westport organised by Kells Local Heroes.

### **4 To meet with representatives from Bus Éireann to discuss issues relating to local bus services.**

Bus Éireann sent their apologies due to another commitment having arisen and had offered to attend an alternative meeting. It was agreed that a meeting with Bus Éireann would be requested in their offices in Dublin and that the issue of schools transport access would also be raised.

### **5 Statutory Business**

#### **5.1 Transportation**

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

The report had been circulated in advance and matters raised by Councillors included:

- The completion of the hedge cutting at Eureka – it was agreed to check this but it was pointed out that the hedge cutting budget had been expended and that any additional works would have to be carried out by local crews.
- The need to prune the tree at the bus stop at Headfort Place as it was blocking the public light source – it was agreed to check this.

#### **5.2 Water Services**

- 5.2.1 To receive an update on water and wastewater infrastructure in the Municipal District.

Gerry Boyle, Senior Engineer, Water Services attended the meeting and outlined an overview of water and wastewater infrastructure in Kells Municipal District, including Kells and Lloyd Business Park, Oldcastle, Carlanstown,



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Moynalty, Athboy, Nobber, Kilmainhamwood, Drumconrath and Ballinaclose. The capacity in the system and water quality compliance were outlined, as were measures being undertaken in relation to water conservation, watermains rehabilitation, planned upgrade works and development pre-planning.

Matters raised by Councillors included:

- The extent of private side leakages based on percentage of meters installed – it was confirmed that approximately 65% of houses were now metered, with approximately 33% of these having had leaks detected, some more significant than others. Reference was made to Irish Water's 'first fix free' programme.
- The iron content from boreholes – it was pointed out that high iron manganese or calcium content can be treated and that a balance was sought between lake and borehole sources.
- The capacity of the wastewater treatment plant in Nobber for planned housing development – it was confirmed that the plant was due to be modernised and that there was sufficient capacity for this development.
- Concern of angling groups in Kells regarding river pollution – it was pointed out that there had been no pollution incidents since 2010, following a €1 million investment, which included a new outflow pipe, storm tanks and a new treatment process.
- THMs in lake water – THMs were explained as a chemical reaction arising as part of the treatment process with the safety limits outlined.
- Concerns regarding beech trees on Coillte owned lands beside rivers – it was pointed out that Coillte were open to the Council using their lands for a borehill if required.
- Illegal dumping in the stream to Lough Bracken – it was agreed to check this.



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- Concerns regarding pollution in Lough Ramor and water quality from Clavinsbridge – it was pointed out that an issue had arisen due to a pumping station malfunction but this had been monitored and had diluted over a distance to being undetectable and that risk assessments were in place.
- The actual wastewater capacity available in Kells town prior to the new treatment plant being opened in approximately 4 years and in light of planned developments – it was pointed out that the Council was satisfied that sufficient capacity was there and that they would work with the Fisheries Board regarding any issues arising.
- Requested that the watermain rehabilitation works in Kells town be undertaken when the schools are closed and that works be coordinated with the roadworks schedule as some planned roadworks had been delayed due to these planned works.
- The number of gallons abstracted daily from Lough Bawn – it was confirmed that less than 60% of the one million gallons licence limit was used.
- Concerns regarding a pollution incident from Kells Business Park – it was pointed out that this had been a once off incident early in 2017 and actions had been taken to mitigate against any issues arising.
- Welcomed the watermain rehabilitation schedule of works for Oldcastle due to the poor condition of the main road.

The Cathaoirleach and Councillors thanked Gerry for his comprehensive update.

### **5.3 Planning**

5.3.1 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 2000-2017

- Castletown Court, Castletown.



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

- 5.3.2 To receive the Chief Executive's Report in accordance with Part 8 of the Planning & Development Act 2000–2017 and the Planning & Development Regulations 2001–2017 on proposed housing development of 40 housing units at Townparks Kells,(P817008).

Kathryn Hosey, Executive Planner provided an overview of the report circulated and Kevin Stewart outlined the procedure, i.e. that, whilst there was no requirement to formally adopt the Part VIII, Councillors had six weeks to consider the report, during which the Part VIII could be amended or rejected or otherwise the development will be carried out.

The proposed development was welcomed.

Matters raised by Councillors included:-

- Concern of residents with regard to boundary walls and hedging – It was confirmed that only a section of wall was being built at Grand Priory and Blackthorn Close. Paladin type fencing is proposed for the remainder of the boundary where hedging will be put along it.
- Queried the need for a second exit through Blackthorn Grove – it was confirmed that the Department requested a second entrance as there is a 1:1000 year risk of flooding at the Entrance via Headfort Grove/Headfort Park. There are four sets of traffic calming tables proposed for this development as traffic calming measures.

### **5.4 Corporate Services**

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

The list of allocations, circulated in advance, was noted. Councillors were reminded of the 30<sup>th</sup> November deadline to submit allocations and deferral forms.



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### **6 Notice of Question**

There were no Notices of Question.

### **7 Notice of Motion**

There were no Notices of Motion.

### **8 Strategic Policy Committee Reports – For Information Purposes**

8.1 To note the report from the Housing, Community and Cultural Development SPC meeting of 5<sup>th</sup> October, 2017.

The report was noted.

8.2 To note the report from the Transportation SPC meeting of 18<sup>th</sup> October, 2017.

The report was noted.

8.3 To note the report from the Planning, Economic Development and Enterprise SPC meeting of 25<sup>th</sup> October, 2017.

The report was noted.

### **9 Correspondence**

There was no correspondence.

### **10 Any Other Business**

10.1 Councillor Sarah Reilly raised the following issues:

10.1.1 Requested that the light poles be painted as part of the Kells Kick Start Initiative.



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10.1.2 Requested a written update on the works proposed for the three cemeteries in Kells Municipal District as part of the capital investment programme.

10.2 Councillor Seán Drew raised the following issues:

10.2.1 Requested that a proposal for 2018 funding be submitted for the provision of a pedestrian/cycleway on the N52 bypass between Carlanstown and Cavan Road sections.

10.2.2 Referred to the Pobal report highlighted in local media, which referred to Kells town and north Meath as the most disadvantaged areas in the county. He referred to the failure nationally to make use of the EU regional aid designation received three years ago, with no incentives having been introduced. A discussion followed on how the local authority, and Councillors, could influence the areas on which the report was based. It was agreed that Meath Partnership, through the Community Department, would be invited to attend the January meeting to discuss the SICAP Programme, which focuses on lone parents and early school leavers.

10.3 Councillor Michael Gallagher raised the following issues:

10.3.1 The need to ensure that local authority tenants who abuse the system are penalised.

10.3.2 The possibility of TCD providing the Book of Kells on loan if a suitable building were available.

10.4 Councillor Johnny Guirke raised the following issue:

10.4.1 The long waiting list for children accessing private lessons in Kells Swimming Pool – it was pointed out that private lessons, and the Swimming Club, do not fall within the remit of the local authority.

10.5 Councillor David Gilroy raised the following issue:

10.5.1 Requested an update on the illegal halting site at Kilkeelin, Athboy.



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This concluded the business of the meeting.

**Signed:**

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**Cathaoirleach**