



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

Navan Municipal District

Ordinary Meeting

10:00am, 17th December 2014, Navan Civic Offices

An Meára, **Councillor Sinéad Burke**, presided.

Councillors Present: Shane Cassells, Francis Deane, Wayne Forde, Jim Holloway, Joe Reilly, Tommy Reilly.

Officials in Attendance:

Director of Service: Tadhg McDonnell

Meetings Administrator: Claire King

Senior Executive Engineer: Maurice Kelly

Assistant Staff Officer: Rose McManus

Clerical Officer: Fiona Casserly

Apologies: Alan Rogers, Administrative Officer

1 Confirmation of Minutes

1.1 Confirmation of minutes of Ordinary Meeting held on 19th November 2014.

The Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 19th November 2014 were adopted on the proposal of **Councillor Francis Deane** and seconded by **Councillor Wayne Forde**.

1.2 Confirmation of minutes of Special Meeting held on 24th November 2014.

The Minutes of the Special Meeting held on 24th November 2014 were adopted on the proposal of **Councillor Francis Deane** and seconded by **Councillor Wayne Forde**.

2 Matters arising from the Minutes

Councillor Wayne Forde asked that his opposition to the proposed location of the bus hub at Kennedy Road be recorded.



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Clarification was provided regarding the number of pay parking machines in Navan – the number was confirmed as being 49 machines.

3 Expressions of Sympathy and Congratulations

Congratulations were extended to:

- Councillor Francis Deane, Councillor Sinéad Burke, the committee and all Meath County Council staff involved in the Christmas activities and events in Navan and on winning RTÉ Today Show's Most Christmassy Town in Ireland.
- All Councillors expressed their thanks and appreciation to Alan Rogers and Maurice Kelly who were moving to the Transportation Section in January and wished them well in their new roles. Their contribution to Navan and professional approach was acknowledged.
- Fiona Casserly's role in setting up the Municipal District meeting administration structure was also acknowledged as this was her last meeting also.

4 Statutory Business

4.1 Transportation

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

Maurice Kelly provided a verbal report to the meeting and informed that the only addition to Novembers report was:

- Phase 2 of the Ratholdren road resurfacing is complete;
- Resurfacing of two roads in Springfield Glen is complete.

Councillor Francis Deane complimented the work undertaken on the Ratholdren Road.

5 Notice of Question

5.1 Submitted by Councillor Sinéad Burke



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“Can the executive please provide an update on the future plans for council buildings which will be left empty after staff move to Buvinda House, the update to include information on whether the properties will be retained in council ownership, whether the properties can be utilised as community facilities and, in the case of Navan Town Hall, whether plans have progressed in retaining this building for public use?”

A response was provided by Corporate Services Section, as follows:

The Council’s move to it’s new Civic HQ at Buvinda House is scheduled to take place in Q3 2015. However, the Chamber building at County Hall will continue to be used for Council meetings pending the construction of a new Council Chamber at Buvinda House. Having regard to this scenario, the Council is at the preliminary stages in considering possible future uses of it’s property portfolio at Railway Street.

The offices at the former Navan Town Hall will continue to be occupied and used by Council staff pending the move to Buvinda House and a commitment has been given by the Chief Executive that the building will be retained in Council ownership for public use thereafter.

The response was noted.

5.2 Submitted by Councillor Jim Holloway

"What is the current situation in relation to the taking in charge of estates within Navan Municipal District, specifically:

- The names of the estates that have been taken in charge
- The names of those estates yet to be taken in charge
- The payment of development levies in respect of the estates yet to be taken in charge specifically, the amount levied; the amount paid; amount due
- The current status in respect Ferndale, Blackwater Abbey and The Orchard for which a valid request has been made to have estate taken in charge.“

A response was provided by the Planning Department, as follows:

Following a request at the November meeting of Navan Municipal District, an updated list of estates in the process of being taken in charge in Navan Municipal District was circulated by email to Councillors on 4th December.

- *HE 26 Ferndale – A snag list has issued to developer in August 2014. No response received from the developer to date.*



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- *HE 103 The Orchard, Athlumney – A Valid Residents TIC request received in late 2013, the estate is due for inspection in the coming weeks.*
- *HE 151 Blackwater Abbey - The developer/owner of this site is no longer in operation and is therefore not in a position to execute the remedial works required to bring the development up to standard required by Meath County Council. The fact that Meath County Council currently do not have a legal entitlement to execute the works as the lands are privately held, this development HE 151 Blackwater Abbey Navan Co. Meath is to go forward for consideration for taking in charge and following this statutory process MCC will carry out the remedial works.*

The Planning Authority will follow up in respect of each these developments.

The Planning Department is not in a position to provide the level of information requested in respect of development levies on all estates not yet taken in charge.

If there are specific estates of interest, we will endeavour to provide this information. Furthermore, it should be noted that the payment of development levies is not a material consideration in whether or not estate infrastructure has been completed in accordance with the required standards. The Planning Authority will be happy to advise of the amount of levies on each permission however it should be noted that the payment of those levies and the terms of any agreement in respect of same may be commercially sensitive information and is not available in the public domain.

The response was noted.

Councillor Holloway sought clarification on the estates that are taken in charge and those not taken in charge. It was agreed that a list of all estates taken in charge would be circulated.

5.3 Submitted by Councillor Wayne Forde

“In the interests of public safety for people, can the executive of Navan Municipal District look into the need for extra traffic calming measures at the pedestrian crossing on Railway Street, at the crossing from Leighsbrook Lane to Smyths public house at the roundabout, as this is a very busy and dangerous pedestrian crossing?”

A response was provided by the Transportation Department, as follows:

Navan Municipal District will carry out an assessment of the existing traffic calming and pedestrian crossing at this location and revert back with a report/study of same.

The response was noted.



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5.4 Submitted by Councillor Francis Deane

“With regard to the proposed greenway cycle route from Navan to Kingscourt, when will the approved funding be allocated to this shovel ready project? I suggest writing to Minister Paschal Donohoe for clarification regarding this issue as the National Cycle Network fund in place for advancing routes is €23.5m?”

A response was provided by the Transportation Department, as follows:

Meath County Council’s application for €2.5M funding to DTTAS from the National Cycle Network Funding Scheme 2014-2016 was unsuccessful. Without this there is uncertainty how this scheme can progress. The scheme is very deliverable as planning approval is in place, the design and contract documentation is well advanced and we have agreement in principle from CIE about licensing the land to the Council for use as a Greenway. The Council met with the Minister in September 2014 to discuss the scheme and possible sources of funding including any that might be available from E.U. sources. The Council hope to meet him again in the New Year to raise the matter again.

The response was noted.

Councillor Deane suggested writing to the Minister to progress the project.

5.5 Submitted by Councillor Shane Cassells

“Can the executive please provide the figures for parking income in Navan during the 2014 period under the following categories:

- (a) How much has been taken in through the parking machines in Navan during 2014 (gross figure)?
- (b) How much was paid in VAT on parking income?
- (c) What was the total financial amount of fines issued?
- (d) What has been the total amount of money collected from fines issued?
- (e) What precise fund has been used to meet the shortfall on anticipated parking income for 2014 and how much is this shortfall?”

A response was provided by the Finance Department /Administrative Officer, Navan Municipal District, as follows:

- a. Gross income to end Nov 2014 €900,831 (including VAT)
- b. €110,352 is the VAT included in a.



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- c. *€131,970 is amount of fines issued (before any cancellations)*
- d. *€86,860 is fine receipts in 2014 to end November.*
- e. *The exact funds will likely be drawn across most programme groups and will be identified as part of the AFS process. A report on over and unders will be brought to the members normally at the March meeting.*

The response was noted.

Councillor Cassells expressed his dissatisfaction at budgetary decisions being taken without all figures being made available, the shortfall in the parking income estimate of €661,776 and the impact of budgetary restrictions on other activities.

6 Notice of Motion

6.1 Submitted by Councillor Sinéad Burke

"That Navan Municipal District requests assistance from the relevant government department to cover the costs of additional security cameras in the north of Navan, in particular around the Blackcastle Shopping Centre. High spec security cameras have already proven very effective around the town centre and an expansion of this facility would curb anti-social behaviour in the northern part of the town, providing relief and security for both residents and business owners."

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Sinéad Burke** and seconded by **Councillor Francis Deane**.

Supporting information was provided by the Transportation Section, as follows:

Meath County Council will consult with the Gardaí about the feasibility and with Pobal regarding possible funding for such a project.

It was agreed that enquiries should also be made as to whether any funding was available from the Department of Justice or the Department of the Environment, Community & Local Government for such programmes.

The motion was unanimously adopted.

6.2 Submitted by Councillor Wayne Forde

"Can I call on the executive to explore the possibility, in conjunction with the IFA and other relevant groups, of having a farmer's market in Navan one day a week."



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The motion was proposed by **Councillor Wayne Forde** and seconded by **Councillor Francis Deane**.

Supporting information was provided by the Administrative Officer, Navan Municipal District, as follow:

Meath County Council will examine the issues involved including potential locations, requirements for licences etc. and advise of the possibilities.

A short discussion followed around the role of the local authority in organising such initiatives, the existing market held on Fridays and the impact on other traders.

The motion was adopted.

6.3 Submitted by Councillor Tommy Reilly

“I am calling on Navan Municipal District Council to resurface the Navan/Trim Road from Beechmount to Balreask Cross.”

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Tommy Reilly** and seconded by **Councillor Wayne Forde**.

Supporting information was provided by the Transportation Section, as follows:

The road in question is the R161, this road does not form part of the multi annual road works programme 2013-2016 adopted by the members. Navan Municipal District would not be in a position to resurface the road from Beechmount to Balreask Cross but will carry out a survey and do remedial works in the most affected areas.

A short discussion followed on the condition of the road, the possible causes and the provision of strategic infrastructure.

The motion was unanimously adopted.

6.4 Submitted by Councillor Tommy Reilly

“I call on Meath County Council to install lights from Balreask Manor to MDL Grounds, Trim Road.”

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Tommy Reilly** and seconded by **Councillor Wayne Forde**.

Supporting information was provided by the Transportation Section, as follows:



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An initial survey and estimate to install lighting on the R161 from the Balreask Manor to MDL was carried out and is subject to a final design and competitive tendering process.

It is recommended however, that a feasibility study should be undertaken to establish the suitability of installing lighting on this section of road. The study would look at traffic and pedestrian volumes, accident records and future planning proposals for this area. Public Lighting section will revert back in early 2015 with a report/study on same.

The motion was unanimously adopted.

6.5 Submitted by Councillor Francis Deane

“That Navan Municipal District carries out a review of the pedestrian crossing (location/position) at junction adjacent to St Paul's School. Here, there are serious safety concerns from parents of school going children in this congested area.”

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Francis Deane** and seconded by **Councillor Sinéad Burke**.

Supporting information was provided by the Transportation Section, as follows:

Navan Municipal District will carry out an assessment of the existing pedestrian crossing at this location especially at school times and revert back with a report/study of same.

A discussion followed on the impact of junction changes on other junctions and traffic flows, the role of the NTA and the impact of school traffic.

The motion was adopted.

6.6 Submitted by Councillor Francis Deane

“That Navan Municipal District contact the National Transport Authority in relation to erecting bus shelters on the N3 route opposite the Ardboyne Hotel and also at Newgate Cross, Navan”.

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Francis Deane** and seconded by **Councillor Joe Reilly**.

Supporting information was provided by the Transportation Section, as follows:

The provision of a shelter opposite the Ardboyne Hotel was looked at previously with Clear Channel (bus shelter providers on behalf of N.T.A.). Following investigation it transpired that there was insufficient clearance between the wall and the kerb to accommodate a shelter.



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A bus stop permit must be first requested by Bus Éireann at Newgate. The Transportation Section will discuss this at our next meeting with Bus Éireann. The Transportation Section has no objection to a bus shelter at this location on the outward journey i.e. northbound direction. However a stop on the southbound side (to Dublin) would create a traffic hazard due to stopped buses on the inside of the bend and more particularly due to commuters crossing the busy R147. There is an existing issue at that location at present with HGVs parking on the roadside for the nearby shop. Should a bus stop permit be applied for and granted, we will apply for funding from the NTA to provide same. This will most likely be just a stop for setting down so a shelter would not be required.

A discussion followed on the need for a bus shelter opposite the Ardboyne Hotel and at Newgate, with a permit to be requested for the latter.

The motion was unanimously adopted.

6.7 Submitted by Councillor Wayne Forde

“Can I call on the executive of Navan Municipal District to look into putting extra traffic calming measures, for the pedestrian crossing, at St Patricks Terrace, Navan to cross over to Emmet terrace, in the interest of public safety, as this is a very busy pedestrian crossing?”

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Wayne Forde** and seconded by **Councillor Francis Deane**.

Supporting information was provided by the Transportation Section, as follows:

Improvement works (including resurfacing & upgrading and additional line marking) were carried out at this location under 2014 Works Programme.

The motion was adopted.

6.8 Submitted by Councillor Shane Cassells

“That Navan Municipal District would host a small civic reception for the 2014 Rose of Tralee who will visit Meath on January 25th and provide for the creation of a small rose garden in our new park to honour this occasion.”

The motion was adopted on the proposal of **Councillor Sinéad Burke** and seconded by **Councillor Wayne Forde**.

6.9 Submitted by Councillor Shane Cassells



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“That Navan Municipal Authority will carry out repair works along the Trim Road from Beechmount Estate onwards to the MDL pitch to remediate where manhole covers have sunken and other small remedial works where necessary.”

The motion was adopted on the proposal of **Councillor Sinéad Burke** and seconded by **Councillor Francis Deane**.

Supporting Information was provided by the Transportation Section, as follows:

Navan Municipal District will carry out a survey and do remedial works in the most affected areas.

The motion was unanimously adopted.

7 Correspondence

7.1.1 Department of Social Protection – Rent Allowance.

The correspondence was noted. The renewed role of the local authority in providing housing was welcomed as was the use of discretion by Community Welfare Officers in relation to rent supplement.

7.1.2 South O’Hanlon AC

It was agreed on the proposal of **Councillor Wayne Forde** and seconded by **Councillor Francis Deane** to make a contribution of €250.00.

7.1.3 HSE –Old Machinery Yard Site on the Commons Road.

The correspondence was noted. The impact of the site on the image of the town was discussed. It was agreed to review the options in relation to the site.

7.1.4 Beechmount Residents Association.

The correspondence was noted. It was agreed to refer this matter to the Public Lighting Unit.



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8 Any Other Business

- 8.1** Councillor Jim Holloway highlighted the flooding issue at the ramps at Spicers.
- 8.2** Councillor Tommy Reilly requested an update on the lands at Liscarton as a local group had expressed an interest.
- 8.3** Councillor Francis Deane referred to Bridge Street, where a section of the road had collapsed, and the fact that no gritting had been carried out over the weekend on the Farganstown Road.
- 8.4** Councillor Wayne Forde requested that all political parties would urge the HSE to ensure that four A&E Registrars are appointed before 5th January to ensure that the 24 hour A&E would be maintained and he complimented Vincent Diamond of the Gateway Scheme on the work undertaken in the town.
- 8.5** Councillor Sinéad Burke invited all to attend the culmination of the Christmas campaign on Monday 22nd December at 5pm in Ryans where the prize draw for the trip to Canada would be held.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed:

An Meára