



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

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

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

***4.00pm, 19<sup>th</sup> December 2016, Kells Civic Offices***

An Cathaoirleach, **Councillor Sarah Reilly**, presided.

**Councillors Present:** Seán Drew, Michael Gallagher, David Gilroy, Johnny Guirke, Bryan Reilly.

**Apologies:** Councillor Eugene Cassidy.

**Officials in Attendance:**

**Director of Service:** Kevin Stewart

**Meetings Administrator:** Claire King

**Senior Executive Engineer:** Fiona Beers

**Staff Officer:** Triona Keating

**Apologies:** Aaron Smith, Executive Engineer

### **1 Confirmation of Minutes**

#### **1.1 Confirmation of minutes of Ordinary Meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> November, 2016.**

The Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> November were adopted on the proposal of **Councillor Bryan Reilly** and seconded by **Councillor Johnny Guirke**.

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

Councillor Michael Gallagher expressed his disappointment at the response received from the Environment Department with regard to the recycling plant in Gibbstown – it was pointed out that staff in the Environment Department had undertaken a lot of work in trying to resolve this issue and it had been a very difficult matter.

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

Congratulations were extended to:



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- Drumconrath/Lobinstown Heritage Society on their recent book launch.

### **4 Disposal of Land pursuant to the provisions of Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001**

- 4.1 This was agreed on the proposal of **Councillor Michael Gallagher** and seconded by **Councillor Johnny Guirke**.

### **5 Statutory Business**

#### **5.1 Corporate Services**

- 5.1.1 To receive details of the proposed Part VIII Planning process for the extension of the Kells swimming pool and, if thought fit, to resolve to commence the Part VIII Planning Process for the proposed works.

The Cathaoirleach welcomed the members of the Kells Special Hands Activity Group who were in attendance. She also complimented Dara McGowan, Senior Executive Officer, Corporate Services, on the plans and consultation that had taken place. Dara outlined the plans, which involved improving the existing facilities. He acknowledged the role of the Special Hands Group, who had initiated the project and had secured HSE funding towards it. The plans are due to go on public display and submissions can then be made.

Councillors unanimously welcomed the project and congratulated Kells Special Hands Activity Group and Dara on their role and contribution.

- 5.1.2 To discuss the Arts, Festivals, Festive Decoration & MD Renewal Budgets.

Dara McGowan, Senior Executive Officer, Corporate Services attended the meeting and confirmed that a balance of €7,000 remained in this budget and could be allocated or deferred to 2017. It was unanimously agreed to allocate €1,000 each to Athboy and Oldcastle for festive lighting in 2016.

Following a short discussion, it was agreed to defer the balance of €5,000 to 2017 and to discuss the matter again in March.



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It was also agreed to invite Loreto Guinan, Heritage Officer to the January meeting to discuss issues relating to older burial grounds, for example Dulane where damage caused by vandalism has not yet been rectified.

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

The list of allocations, circulated in advance, was noted. Councillor David Gilroy acknowledged the work of Triona Keating in administrating the scheme throughout the year.

### **5.2 Transportation**

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

The report, which had been circulated in advance, was noted. Councillor Johnny Guirke thanked all involved in securing Clár funding for the footpath in Ballinacree.

### **6 Notice of Question**

There were no Notices of Question.

### **7 Notice of Motion**

There were no Notices of Motion.

### **8 Correspondence**

There was no correspondence.

### **9 Any Other Business**

- 9.1 Councillor Michael Gallagher raised the following issues:



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- 9.1.1 The recent fire at a disused garage in Drumconrath where a considerable number of cars are parked and the need for the owner to remove them and either restore or demolish the building – it was pointed out that this matter had been discussed at the Environment SPC.
- 9.1.2 The possibility of commemorating Brian O’Higgins, who was originally from Kells with connections in Kilsyre, who had been involved in the events surrounding 1916, was a poet and had published the Wolfe Tone annual. It was proposed by **Councillor Johnny Guirke** and seconded by **Councillor Bryan Reilly** that the roundabout at Drumbaragh, which was near his homeplace, be named after Brian O’Higgins – it was agreed to refer this to Corporate Services.
- 9.1.3 The position on driver feedback signs on regional roads through villages – it was pointed out that a policy was being developed.
- 9.2 Councillor Johnny Guirke raised the following issues:
  - 9.2.1 Access to Cairn L, Loughcrew, which is on private land, and concern of local residents that vandalism will occur as the lock on the gate is broken – it was agreed to refer this to the Heritage Officer.
  - 9.2.2 Update on the provision of a key to Loughcrew by the OPW to the Megalithic Centre – it was agreed to write to the OPW requesting an update.
- 9.3 Councillor Seán Drew raised the following issue:
  - 9.3.1 Thanked the officials for their assistance throughout the year.
  - 9.3.2 The recent attempted cyber fraud on Meath County Council and the communication strategy employed by the Council – the sensitivities involved were outlined, as were the confidentiality requirements, due to the efforts to secure the return of the funds involved and the ongoing investigation.
- 9.4 Councillor David Gilroy raised the following issue:
  - 9.4.1 Update on the provision of appropriate speed signage on narrow roads where a 80km speed limit currently applies – it was agreed to refer this to Transportation.



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The Cathaoirleach thanked all staff and Councillors for their work throughout the year, acknowledging the progress made, and wished everyone a happy Christmas.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

**Signed:**

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**Cathaoirleach**