



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

Laytown-Bettystown Municipal District

Ordinary Meeting

09:30 a.m., 15th December 2016, Duleek Civic Offices

An Cathaoirleach, **Councillor Tom Kelly**, presided.

Councillors Present: Eimear Ferguson, Wayne Harding, Sharon Keogan, Paddy Meade, Stephen McKee, Sharon Tolan.

Officials in Attendance:

Head of Finance: Fiona Lawless

Meetings Administrator: Claire King

Executive Engineer: Christy Clarke

Staff Officer: Triona Keating

1 Confirmation of Minutes

1.1 Confirmation of minutes of Ordinary Meeting held on 17th November, 2016.

The Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 17th November 2016 were adopted on the proposal of **Councillor Sharon Keogan** and seconded by **Councillor Sharon Tolan**.

1.2 Confirmation of minutes of Special Meeting held on 17th November, 2016.

The Minutes of the Special Meeting held on 17th November 2016 were adopted on the proposal of **Councillor Sharon Tolan** and seconded by **Councillor Sharon Keogan**.

2 Matters arising from the Minutes

Councillor Paddy Meade asked that the minutes of the November Ordinary Meeting reflect his point that the tomb in Leck Cemetery, Donore will collapse if works are not undertaken.

3 Expressions of Sympathy and Congratulations



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

Sympathy was extended to:

- The family of the late Claire Cullinane, Cork County Councillor.

Congratulations were extended to:

- St. Colmcille's Boys Adult Team who have reached the All Ireland Intermediate Championships;
- St. Colmcille's Under 13s who won the County Final and who progress to Féile in 2017;
- James Conlon, who won Young Player of the Year;
- Gráinne Rice, who won Ladies Player of the Year;
- Councillor Sharon Keogan on her appointment as Chair of the East Border Region;
- Duleek Girls School on their Road Safety Authority award.

At this point, the Cathaoirleach requested that the meeting be adjourned for ten minutes for Councillors to meet 'in committee', following which the meeting resumed.

4 Statutory Business

4.1 Library Services

- 4.1.1 To receive an update on the Francis Ledwidge Centenary.

Loreto Guinan, Heritage Officer, attended the meeting in place of Ciarán Mangan, County Librarian, who had sent his apologies. The planned programme of events and initiatives being organised by Meath County Council (Library, Heritage, Arts & Solstice) to mark the centenary year of Francis Ledwidge in 2017 was outlined and circulated. Information was also provided on the funding being made available and the next steps in developing the programme in conjunction with the Francis Ledwidge Museum Committee.



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

Matters raised by Councillors included the additional events and initiatives being planned by the Museum Committee, the national and international significance of the centenary year and the promotion and publicity planned.

It was agreed that a further update would be provided at the February meeting.

The Cathaoirleach and Councillors thanked Loreto for the information, welcomed the exciting programme of events planned for 2017 and complimented all involved.

In response to a request for an update on Bettystown library, it was confirmed that a planning application had been lodged by the developer for Bettystown Town Centre and that, whilst negotiations are ongoing and Bettystown library remains the number one priority under the capital library programme, this is the only location being considered by the Department and no further progress can be made until such time as the Town Centre location is finalised.

4.2 Transportation

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

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

- The completion of footpath works in Alverno – the programme of agreed footpath works for 2016 was outlined and it was confirmed that remaining footpath works in Alverno would be included in Phase 2, to be undertaken in Q1 2017.
- The issuing of hedge cutting notices at Painestown – it was agreed to check this.
- Welcomed the Big Belly Bins, the gully cleaning programme and works at Gormanston interchange.

Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

- The need for road markings at Mountainhouse – it was confirmed that the Mountainhouse and Sally Gardens would be included in the outstanding works to be undertaken by the contractor but that the road in between was not wide enough for road markings.
- The timeframe for the completion of drainage works at Donore – it was confirmed that these would be completed before Christmas.
- The need to replace damaged place name signage – it was confirmed these would be reviewed early in 2017.
- The need to provide road markings at Gormanston interchange – it was confirmed that a proposal was being developed between the two municipal districts affected.
- The parking problems in Alverno arising from the health clinic – it was confirmed that the location had been reviewed and that temporary measures to direct towards alternative parking would be implemented and monitored and, if required, options to prevent parking would be considered.

- 4.2.2 To note the receipt of Chief Executive's Report in accordance with Part 8 of the Planning & Development Act 2000-2015 and the Planning & Development Regulations 2001-2015 for road improvement and realignment works on the N51 Slane Navan Road (P8/16004).

Wendy Bagnall, Senior Executive Planner, Clíodhna Scanlon, Assistant Planner, Paul McNulty, Senior Executive Engineer and Paul Phelan, Executive Engineer attended the meeting.

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

4.3 Corporate Services

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

Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

Dara McGowan, Senior Executive Officer, Corporate Services attended the meeting and confirmed that a balance of €3,000 remained in this budget and could be allocated or deferred to 2017. It was unanimously agreed on the proposal of **Councillor Tom Kelly** and seconded by **Councillor Sharon Tolan** to allocate €500 to Slane/Drogheda Óglaigh Náisiúnta na hÉireann in 2016.

Following a short discussion on possible initiatives/events that could be supported by this budget, it was unanimously agreed to defer the balance of €2,500 to 2017 and that the 2017 allocations would be discussed further at the February meeting.

A report on the support provided by Meath County Council for the power supply costs for festive lighting (trees and lights) was requested. It was also suggested that Meath County Council designate areas for Halloween bonfires.

4.3.2 To receive an update on Seafields.

Dara McGowan, Senior Executive Officer, Corporate Services circulated maps outlining the current uses of the site and provided Councillors with an update on the existing leases and requests received. The different approaches that could be taken were outlined, i.e. to deal with each lease individually or encourage a more collaborative approach.

Councillors Paddy Meade, Sharon Tolan and Tom Kelly declared their interests in being or having been involved with some of the clubs affected. A short discussion followed on the potential of the site and the plans of the clubs currently with leases and those that had expressed an interest. It was highlighted that one of the clubs requires a letter of support from Meath County Council in order to lodge an expression of interest for funding and it was agreed to provide this if requested.

It was agreed that a masterplan for the site would be developed, following which a meeting with the relevant stakeholders would be arranged.

4.3.3 To note Municipal District Allocations submitted by Councillors on behalf of Laytown-Bettystown Municipal District.

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

Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

5 Notice of Question

5.1 Submitted by Councillor Sharon Keogan

“In the interest of full transparency, could I ask that a full detailed account of where and how much of our general municipal allocation in 2016 has been used to date and a list of projects involved:

* Housing Estates/Footpaths

*Litter control initiatives

*Environmental Initiatives

*Community Grants

*Community Facilities Pride of Place

*Arts/Festive Decoration & MD Renewal?”

Response:

Description of Service	GMA 2016 – Laytown-Bettystown MD	2016 Expenditure – Laytown-Bettystown MD
<i>Housing Estates/Footpaths/ Other Infrastructure</i>	€50,000	€2,408,861*
<i>Litter Control Initiatives</i>	€6,500	€100,000**
<i>Environmental Initiatives</i>	€4,500	
<i>Community Facilities (Pride of Place)</i>	€5,000	€4,950 (Prizes for winners of MD Pride of Place Awards)
<i>Community Grants</i>	€12,500	€14,667.00 ***
<i>Arts, Festivals, Festive Decoration & MD Renewal Laytown-Bettystown MD budget of €13,000– €5,000 for Festivals (administered by Community Department) & €8,000 for remainder (administered by Corporate Services)</i>		
<i>Festivals</i>	€5,000	€2,350.00
<i>Arts, Festive Decoration &</i>	€8,000	€5,000.00 ****

Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

MD Renewal		
<i>*NP Ordinary Maintenance</i>		37,180
<i>NS Ordinary Maintenance</i>		37,083
<i>Discretionary Grant</i>		452,150
<i>RRSD R151 Marsh Road</i>		42,900
<i>RRSD R163 Castleparks</i>		48,948
<i>R132 Julianstown Restoration Imp</i>		36,052
<i>R150 Eastham Road Restoration Imp</i>		57,380
<i>R152 /L56131 Inctn Platin Low cost Safety</i>		25,789
<i>Cr Road Maintenance</i>		623,289
<i>CRSD L10132 Senchelstown</i>		39,600
<i>CRSD L5610 Duleek</i>		45,872
<i>CRSD L5601 Creevagh</i>		40,000
<i>CRSD L1625 Bryanstown</i>		45,400
<i>CRSD L16111 Beymore</i>		54,000
<i>L5621 Moorechurch Co Rd Improvement</i>		156,531
<i>L56051 Starighna Co Rd Improvement</i>		87,959
<i>L5600 Benjerstown Co Rd Improvement</i>		30,872
<i>L1607 Dowth Co Rd Improvement</i>		100,005
<i>L1608 Newgrange Co Rd Improvement</i>		101,560
<i>L1609 Duleek Co Rd Improvement</i>		100,145
<i>Co Co Housing Estate</i>		32,021
<i>CIS 2016 L16071 Dowth</i>		132,460
<i>Lay Bettystown Severe Weather 2016</i>		81,665

***In the course of 2016 the Environment Department have initiated or supported a wide range of environmental initiatives many of which are listed as objectives in the Litter Management Plan 2015 -2017.*

The following are some of the main initiatives carried out on a countywide basis and involving expenditure in the order of €100,000. The Community Department are providing separate responses in respect of Pride of Place funding.

- Green Schools – Seminar, workshops, school visits (primary and secondary)*
- Really Rubbish Film Festival – Secondary Schools (Colaiste na nInse, Laytown and Gormanston College)*
- Anti Litter League including grants*



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

- *Clean Up Campaign (incl. Big Beach Clean Up)*
- *Gum Litter Task Force Launch (Ashbourne)*
- *2 Minute Beach Clean*
- *Support for Tidy Towns Groups*
- *Dog Awareness Events (available to all tidy towns groups)*
- *Cinema Advertising Campaign (Ashbourne and Navan)*
- *Keep Cups Campaign*

**** Community Grants were awarded to groups including community groups, tidy towns committees, residents associations and festival & event committees in line with the advertised community grant scheme 2016. It should be noted that grants continue to be processed and paid to groups following receipt of the required documentation (countywide, approximately 45 groups are due to submit claims for Community Grants and 14 for Festivals).*

The Community Department has confirmed that the list of approved groups together with the amount they were approved for was circulated to each MD Member in May 2016. It should be noted that not all groups will avail of the grant that they were approved for as the project may not proceed for whatever reason or they may not claim the approved amount. If Councillors have any specific query in relation to a grant, please contact the Community Section directly.

***** To be dealt with under Item 4.2.1.*

The response was noted.

5.2 Submitted by Councillor Sharon Tolan

“To ask the Executive for a breakdown of Development Levies received by Meath County Council by Municipal District over the past 15 years, and outline how these were spent?”



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

Fiona Lawless pointed out that no response could be provided to this notice of question due to the volume of information being requested for a 15 year period, the different financial and planning systems involved and the fact that municipal districts only took effect in 2014. It was however confirmed that all information on levies was being collected and would be presented as part of the capital programme in Q1 2017.

The response was noted.

6 Notice of Motion

6.1 Submitted by Councillor Sharon Keogan

“I request that Meath County Council consider putting in place a vehicle restriction in excess of 4 axel in the village of Duleek. This vehicle restriction will also be put in place at the Bridge of The Deenes. Due regard will be given to existing businesses where already planning requirements are in place for delivery times on the Main Street. I therefore request the introduction of a Heavy Goods Vehicle HGV traffic restriction Bye Law for Duleek & the Bridge of The Deenes.”

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

If a ban was imposed on HGVs through the village of Duleek, the alternative route for HGVs would be considered onerous. Meath County Council proposes to carry out a design of traffic management measures to regulate the movement of traffic through the village.

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

A short discussion followed on the possibility of delivering a bypass of the village, the alternative routes that would be used in the event of a HGV ban, the view of the Gardaí in terms of such a ban and the need to consider deliveries and agricultural traffic. It was requested that further consideration be given to this and a report be presented to a future meeting.

The motion was adopted.



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

6.2 Submitted by Councillor Eimear Ferguson

“I am calling on this council, given the serious concerns around the lack of communication with various community groups and community representatives, to formally commit to meeting a delegation of representatives as early as possible in 2017 to address these matters and set up a proper communities channel and formulate a plan to address same for East Meath Area.”

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

The Public Participation Network (PPN) was set up to provide a structure and a means of communication for all community groups in the county. There are currently 64 groups from the Laytown-Bettystown MD registered with the PPN and there is also a representative from the Laytown-Bettystown MD on the Secretariat. The Secretariat consists of representatives from each municipal district and from each of the PPN colleges.

Secretariat meetings are held monthly and facilitated by a PPN Resource Worker. There is at least one Plenary Meeting held during the year giving all community groups in the county the opportunity to inform those attending and advise of any issues affecting them. The issues raised at the Plenary Meeting informs the work programme of the Secretariat for the year. These forums (meetings and Plenary) provide a means of communication between all groups whereby issues can be addressed on a collective basis.

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

A discussion followed on the issues raised by the groups concerned, the validity of these concerns and the previous engagement with the groups.

Following a show of hands vote, indicating two in favour and four against, with one absent, the motion was defeated.

6.3 Submitted by Councillor Sharon Tolan



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

"In order to improve accessibility and to attract investment and jobs, I call on the Transportation Department to progress an improvement scheme for the R150 from Julianstown to Laytown."

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

It is an objective of the Meath County Development Plan 2013-2019 (Julianstown Written Statement - MA OBJ 2) to improve linkages along the R150 between Julianstown and Laytown including investigating the improvement of cyclist and pedestrian connectivity and facilities between both centres. This is also an objective in the East Meath Local Area Plan 2014-2020 (TMOBJ 17).

A source of funding has yet to be established to progress this improvement scheme.

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

The motion was adopted.

6.4 Submitted by Councillor Wayne Harding

"That we look to replicate the scheme at An Riasc Staleen Donore on council lands adjacent to the site to allow young people with local need to apply for planning permission."

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

Donore is a designated settlement in the county development plan and the release of residentially zoned lands is subject to the core strategy provisions of the plan. The majority of residentially zoned lands are indentified for phase 2 release post 2018. The members motion is timely given that MCC is about to publish the strategic issues papers for the forthcoming development plan review.

Notwithstanding the advices set out here, members are invited to participate fully in the preparation of a new plan and it is respectfully suggested that initiative such as those proposed by Cllr Harding are best dealt with during the CDP review process.



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

The residential land use zonings attached to residential lands in Donore do not require compliance with the planning authorities local needs policies. It should also be noted that the Meath County Development Plan also supports the concept of development of sites in graigs and smaller settlements and includes specific policies at RD POL8 and Objectives such as RD OBJ 1 , RD OBJ 2. which seek to encourage small schemes in settlements where applicants cannot obtain suitable sites in the surrounding rural areas

Development in the Donore area shall always be cognisant of its proximity to Bru Na Boinne World Heritage site.

In addition, the Housing Department has completed a further review of its land bank for the purposes of identifying future direct social housing construction proposals, for submission to the Department of Housing, Planning, Community & Local Government, including our current land bank in the Laytown Bettystown Municipal District area.

The potential of the site adjacent to St Mary's Villas, Donore, is being examined in this context, while the provision of private sites provide further options that will be considered.

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Wayne Harding** and seconded by **Councillor Paddy Meade**.

The motion was adopted.

7 Other Matters Arising

There were no other matters arising.

8 Correspondence

8.1 Correspondence received from Irish Rail in response to Notice of Item 8.5.4 from September monthly meeting re the train station at Bettystown.

The correspondence was noted. It was agreed that a response should issue to Irish Rail pressing that the train station in Bettystown be added to the strategy, highlighting the traffic issues accessing Laytown Station.



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

- 8.2 Correspondence received from TII in response to Notice of Item 10.1 – AOB from September monthly meeting re M1 Artwork.

The correspondence was noted. It was agreed that a further update be sought from the Council's Arts Officer.

9 Any Other Business

There was no other business.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed:

Cathaoirleach