



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

### ***Laytown-Bettystown Municipal District***

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

***09:30 a.m., 14<sup>th</sup> December, 2017, Duleek Civic Offices***

An Cathaoirleach, **Councillor Paddy Meade**, presided.

**Councillors Present:** Eimear Ferguson, Wayne Harding, Tom Kelly, Sharon Keogan, 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 16<sup>th</sup> November, 2017.**

The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> November, 2017 were adopted on the proposal of **Councillor Wayne Harding** and seconded by **Councillor Sharon Tolan**.

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

Councillor Tom Kelly referred to the meeting that had taken place with Deputy Fergus O'Dowd, TD, the community group in Julianstown and Council officials and requested a report on the outcome of the meeting – it was pointed out that Deputy O'Dowd had called the meeting, that Councillors had been informed in advance. It was also pointed out that Councillors would also be informed in advance of the next meeting, proposed for January/February.

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

Sympathy was extended to:



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- The family of the late Thomas Wiseman, former Council employee and craftsman.
- The family of the late Dessie Mooney, Beauparc, Chair of the Community Alert.

Congratulations were extended to:

- The winners, including Seán and Liz Lynch, and all involved, including Councillor Sharon Keogan, with the Duleek People of the Year Awards.
- Slane Tidy Towns on winning an award at the national Pride of Place awards and all other organisations that contributed, including the Tourist Information Office, The Hub and Slane Youth Café and to the staff in the Community Section for their assistance.
- The Youth Officer in the LMETB for the grants drawn down from the Department of Children & Youth Affairs, from which 96 groups had benefited.
- Louth County Council and the Department of Transport, Tourism & Sport for securing €14 million for the Ardee Bypass.
- The Byrne family, Slane, whose grandson had just completed his international playing career in Australia.
- The U21s from Lobinstown/Castletown on their football win.

## **4 Statutory Business**

### **4.1 Transportation**

- 4.1.1 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:



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- The removal of the bin in Duleek – it was confirmed that bins would be replaced when works were complete.
- Complaints regarding lack of parking in Duleek and the possibility of removing the loading bay to provide additional spaces – it was confirmed that an additional five spaces would be provided following completion of works, that the loading bay could be reviewed following a period of time but that, currently, it could still be used for short-term parking.

### **4.2 Corporate Services**

#### **4.2.1 To receive an update on the Seafield lands.**

Dara McGowan, Senior Executive Officer, Corporate Services provided an update on the process regarding the lands at Seafield, including that a basic design, giving three options, of what could potentially be included on the site, and based on the requirements previously identified, would be available by the end of January. Councillors and community groups could then review and discuss these options with a view to deciding on how to proceed. It was noted that the capital programme allocation would be used for the provision of roads, footpaths, lighting, fencing, etc. in the public areas only and that community groups could secure grant assistance for the provision of other elements of the development, which the local authority could not access. Decisions would also be required with regard to the future management and maintenance of the facility. The initial plan would be brought to the February meeting.

It was decided to take Item 6.1 – Notice of Motion at this stage. The motion was proposed by **Councillor Wayne Harding** and seconded by **Councillor Stephen McKee**.

A lengthy discussion followed on the capital programme allocation and what it can be used for, the significant role of St. Colmcille's GFC in the community, the role of the local authority and the local groups in developing the site, the long term nature of the project and the need for commitment from all stakeholders to proceed with any development, the different design stages and what would be included.



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The motion was noted.

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

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

### **4.3 Environment**

- 4.3.1 To receive an update on the Architectural Competition for the development of a Seafront Building and Civic Space at Seaview Terrace, Bettystown.

Larry Whelan, Senior Executive Officer, Environment confirmed that the conveyancing was substantially complete and that the Council should be able to take possession in January. David Keyes, Senior Executive Engineer provided an update on the architectural competition with stage 1 of the procurement stage complete. Stage 2 is to commence, with 5 shortlisted companies to be invited to submit tenders in mid-January with a return period of 3-4 weeks. The award criteria were outlined. The most suitably qualified architect would be selected following this more detailed assessment. The preferred candidate would be selected in March, with the preliminary design to commence by the end of March and anticipated completion of end of 2019. The results of the structural survey were also summarised and the conclusions outlined. Reference was also made to Item 9.1.

Bernadine Carry, Environmental Education Officer delivered a presentation on the key issues raised in submissions received in respect of the Draft Beach Management Plan and it was confirmed that, following a further public display period, a further presentation would be brought to the municipal district.

David Keyes also outlined three alternative car parking options and indicated the preferred site, on which further investigations would be carried out with an update to be provided to a future meeting.

Matters raised by Councillors included:



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- The possibility of acquiring unsightly buildings in the village that detract from the overall plan – it was pointed out that this may not be possible but that the specific building referred to had recently been sold.
- The possibility of retaining some of the character of the existing buildings to the front and side – it was pointed out that this may act as a constraint on the overall development, that the architectural expertise would advise on this, that the buildings were not protected structures but that the design would be presented to Councillors for consideration.
- The management of works during the summer months – it was confirmed that works would be managed to account for increased beach activity during the summer.
- The need for a permanent beach manager/beach warden.
- The reality of completion within the proposed timeframe.

It was agreed to provide a further update at the February meeting.

### 4.3.2 To receive an update on Timoole Remediation Project.

Caroline Corrigan, Senior Executive Engineer, Environment Department delivered a presentation to the meeting, which included information on the site location and plan, site investigations, waste deposits, work programme and costs, project challenges, works completed to date, PR and communications plan, stakeholders, access routes and surveys, main issues, challenges and positives to date, the next steps and administration of the project.

The Cathaoirleach and Councillors complimented the approach being taken to the project, with particular reference to the communications plan being implemented. Queries were raised in respect of the funding allocated being adequate for the project, the pollution caused by the site and remediation action being taken, the health implications, the possibility of recovering the costs from those responsible, the nature of the waste and site treatment, the role of the landowners, and other unauthorised landfills – responses were provided to each of the queries/points raised.



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### **5 Notice of Question**

#### **5.1 Submitted by Councillor Stephen McKee**

“To ask what action has been taken by Meath County Council to progress the proposed Duleek Bypass since March 2017 and what correspondence, if any, has been received by the Council regarding the possible inclusion of this scheme for funding under the 'Building on Recovery; Infrastructure and Capital Investment 2016-2021 Programme.”

#### **Response:**

*Following the Municipal District meeting in March 2017, improvement works commenced in Duleek. While considering the HGV ban, it was decided to review the situation after a period of time to see if the improvement works in the town lead to a reduction in the speed of the HGV's passing through the main street. While it was suggested that Meath County Council would try and progress a bypass for Duleek, to date there has been no correspondence with the Department on this matter, as Meath County Council are actively working and focusing their efforts in this area with the relevant authorities to progress a capital scheme bypass in Julianstown.*

Councillor Stephen McKee requested clarification on why the Duleek Bypass no longer seemed to be considered feasible despite being included in the County Development Plan. It was pointed out that, in order to proceed, such a project had to be included in the government's capital investment scheme and that this project was not included. It was also pointed out that not every objective in the County Development Plan could be realised.

### **6 Notice of Motion**

#### **6.1 Submitted by Councillor Wayne Harding**

“I propose that when St Colmcilles Gaelic Football Club secure all of their relevant planning permission at Seafields Laytown they should secure €235,000 of the €700,000 capital fund allocated to the community amenity ground in order to further their development plans.”

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



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The funding is for Meath County Council projects only. There is no capital community grant scheme in the current capital program.

See Item 4.2.1.

### **6.2 Submitted by Councillor Stephen McKee**

“That Meath County Council take immediate further measures to improve road safety at Beamore Cross.”

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

*Meath County Council will be applying to the National Transport Authority in 2018, under their Sustainable Transport Measures Grants (STMG) Programme, for funding to provide a pedestrian crossing at this location.*

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Stephen McKee** and seconded by **Councillor Eimear Ferguson**.

Councillor Stephen McKee welcomed the proposed pedestrian location as referred to in the supporting information but pointed out that he had been referring to Beamore Cross at the bottom of Cooper Hill. He acknowledged that the signage had been improved but issues remained regarding road safety and traffic volumes. The possible measures were discussed and it was agreed to ask the Road Safety Officer to liaise with the Gardaí with regard to increased monitoring at this location.

The motion was adopted.

### **6.3 Submitted by Councillor Stephen McKee**

“That Meath County Council take immediate measures to improve road safety in the areas of Colpe, Donacarney and Mornington to include provision of footpaths servicing National and Secondary Schools in that area.”

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



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*The Laytown/Bettystown Walking and Cycling Study was completed and published in 2014. This study recommended a number of improvement measures to be carried out in this area. Following the completion of this study, Meath County Council made a number of applications for funding, however these were unsuccessful. Meath County Council will again seek funding in 2018 to carry out the priority projects specified in the Study Report.*

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

A short discussion followed on the urgency of providing the footpaths referred to in the motion.

The motion was adopted.

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

- 7.1 To note the report from the Planning, Economic Development and Enterprise SPC meeting of 14<sup>th</sup> November, 2017.

The report was noted.

- 7.2 To note the report from the Housing, Community and Cultural Development SPC meeting of 23<sup>rd</sup> November, 2017.

The report was noted.

### **8 Other Matters Arising**

There were no other matters arising.

### **9 Correspondence**

- 9.1 Correspondence received from M.P. Black & Co. Solicitors on behalf of their Client Riverstown Holdings Limited.





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This item had been dealt with under Item 4.3.2.

### **10 Any Other Business**

10.1 Cllr Sharon Tolan raised the following issues:

10.1.1 The condition of roads and footpaths with large deposits of muck from developers and requested that the Eastham road and footpath be cleaned - it was confirmed that the developers had been spoken to and it was agreed to refer this to Planning Enforcement.

10.2 Cllr Sharon Keogan raised the following issues:

10.2.1 Requested a submission be made to the Boundary Commission that Duleek as a town should not be split between Ashbourne and Laytown/Bettystown Municipal District. It was agreed that a submission be made to the Boundary Commission.

10.2.2 A licence has been granted for a Pet Crematorium with no planning permission. It was agreed that the matter be referred to Planning Enforcement.

10.3 Cllr Wayne Harding raised the following issues:-

10.3.1 Agreed with Cllr Sharon Tolan regarding the condition of the roads as a result of Developers and indicated that they should be responsible for washing the wheels of vehicles before leaving the site.

10.3.2 Requested the reinstatement of the sign which was knocked at Rossan Bridge – It was confirmed that this would be reinstated as part of the repairs to the bridge.

10.4 Cllr Eimear Ferguson raised the following issues:-

10.4.1 Requested a straight white line on the Beamore Road – It was confirmed that this was on the list of works.

10.4.2 Asked if the bin on the Golf Links road between Bettystown and Mornington



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could be reinstated – it was pointed out that a review of litter bins was planned.

10.4.3 Condition of the footpath on the Platin road between Matthews Lane and the roundabout.

10.4.4 Parking issue at Brookside Estate and opposite the Relish Cafe – It was confirmed that works were now complete and the Gardaí would be asked to monitor this.

10.5 Cllr Tom Kelly raised the following issues:

10.5.1 Damage to a section of Mornington bridge.

10.5.2 Update on the lights at the railway bridge in Laytown.

10.5.3 Requested that all signage, including that on the beach, be bi-lingual.

10.5.4 The ongoing issues arising from HGVs parking outside petrol stations – it was pointed out that this had been discussed at the Transportation SPC and a number of actions agreed.

10.5.5 The closure of the Garrow Road following an incident.

10.5.6 Requested that the Road Safety Officer be invited to attend the February meeting to discuss road safety issues in the municipal district, e.g. speeding on the Minnistown Road.

10.5.7 Water flowing onto the roadway from a pipe at Bettystown Town Centre.

10.6 Councillor Paddy Meade raised the following issue:

10.6.1 Requested that a letter issue to Minister Michael Ring in the Department of Rural Affairs thanking him for the additional funding allocated to Meath for LIS Schemes and ask that in future a longer time line be given for applications.



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This concluded the business of the meeting.

**Signed:**

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**Cathaoirleach**