



Miontuairiscí/ Meeting Minutes

Ordinary Meeting 1st March 2010, Council Chamber

An Cathaoirleach, Councillor William Carey presided.

Members Present:

Councillors Joseph Bonner, Ray Butler, Sirena Campbell, Shane Cassells, Eugene Cassidy, Francis Deane, Anne Dillon Gallagher, Regina Doherty, John V Farrelly, Jimmy Fegan, Brian Fitzgerald, Oliver Fox, Wayne Harding, Jim Holloway, Eoin Holmes, Suzanne Jamal, Nick Killian, Noel Leonard, Tracy McElhinney, Niamh McGowan, Jenny McHugh, Maria Murphy, Seamus O'Neil, Bryan Reilly, Joe Reilly, Tommy Reilly, Catherine Yore.

Officials in Attendance:

County Manager Tom Dowling

Directors of Service: Tadhg McDonnell, Fiona Lawless, Kevin Stewart, Eugene Cummins, Brendan McGrath, Liam Henry, Michael Killeen.

Meetings Administrator Bill Sweeney

Planners: Pat Gallagher, Wendy Bagnall, Deirdre Fallon.

Senior Executive Officers: Martin Rogers, Michael Griffin, Larry Whelan

Administrative Officers: Olive Falsey, Ger Murphy

Apologies: Jimmy Cudden

1.0 Confirmation of Minutes

- 1.1 Confirmation of Minutes of monthly meeting held on 1st February 2010.
The minutes of monthly meeting held on 1st February 2010 were confirmed on the proposal of **Councillor Noel Leonard** and seconded by **Councillor Maria Murphy**.

2.0 Matters arising from the minutes

Councillor Yore raised the matter of the allocation of funding for trips but was advised that this was proposed by the Protocol Committee at February meeting and unanimously agreed by the Members at the Council Meeting.

Councillor Campbell raised the matter of the reporting in the minutes of the discussion on the Mazar's Report. It was outlined that the minutes are recorded to reflect decisions taken and matters discussed, as appropriate. It is not the practice to record all individual contributions.

3.0 Expressions of Sympathy and Congratulations

Sympathy was extended to:

Tom Traynor, Housing Department on the death of his father-in-law.

4.0 Correspondence

- 4.1 Correspondence from NRA re National Roads Authority 2010 Allocations.



Miontuairiscí/ Meeting Minutes

- 4.2 Correspondence from Iarnród Éireann re Navan Rail Line.
The correspondence from Iarnród Éireann was welcomed together with the commitment to proceed with the line from Dunboyne to Navan. Concern was expressed re Dunshaughlin and the option to proceed with Route A. The extension of the rail line to the Cavan Border was suggested by a number of Councillors. The Co. Manager informed the Council that a meeting was held on 9th. February to set up a framework for future meetings. The Council's position is that the preferred route would be option 2 (Route B). It is the intention to keep moving forward with this project and address all the issues through the series of meetings.
- 4.3 Correspondence from DoEHLG – LG 2/2010 re Local Government Act 2001 (Section 142) Regulations 2010.
- 4.4 2010 Regional and Local Roads Grant Allocations.
Road funding was welcomed and Eugene Cummins stated that Area Committees will be briefed on the 2010 allocations and on the formulation of the Road Works Programme.
- 4.5 Annual Report 2008 available to view at:
<http://www.meath.ie/LocalAuthorities/Publications/MeathLocalAuthoritiesCorporatePublications/MeathLocalAuthoritiesAnnualReport/> .
Copies on disc available on request.
- 4.6 Correspondence from DoEHLG re Review and Update of the Regional Planning Guidelines.
- 4.7 Correspondence from Arts Office re Arts Council Funding 2010.

5.0 E.U. Correspondence

- 5.1 EU News Bulletin – Number 67 – January 2010

6.0 Report from Protocol Committee

The meeting was held but not items to report to full Council.

7.0 Disposal of Land in accordance with Statutory Notices circulated pursuant to the provisions of Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001.

8.0 Other Statutory Business

8.1 Planning

- 8.1.1 To receive a briefing on the contents of the Draft Regional Planning Guidelines, 2010-2022.

Two presentations were made to the Councillors, one from Bernard Greene, SEP, on the The Mid-East Regional Authority Economic Development Strategy and the other from Wendy Bagnall on the Draft Regional Planning Guidelines for the Greater Dublin Area 2010- 2022. Following the presentations there was a lengthy discussion with the salient points being:



Miontuairiscí/ Meeting Minutes

- The benefit of a port to the East area.
- The proposed regional hospital.
- The concern of the business communities in Dunshaughlin and Ashbourne.
- The question of inter-county relationships re the delivery of services.
- Dunboyne industrial development not keeping pace with residential development.
- The problems associated with housing and locations.
- The need for more input from the IDA.

The Co. Manager acknowledged the work of the Planning Department and also the input of the Members in influencing change. He outlined that the Draft R.P.G.'s reflect National Policies. He advised that the process was a very delicate one, and that appropriate language needs to be formulated to address the issues regarding areas such as Ashbourne and Dunshaughlin. Similarly, the issue of the port needs a use of language to allow it to happen. The establishment of a port at Breamor would require a change in national policy as it cannot appear in regional policy if not set out in national policy. The hospital is mentioned without identifying an exact location. Liam Henry, DOS, Planning stressed that good planning is about optimum use of resources and the Regional Planning Guidelines can facilitate this process.

- 8.1.2 To receive a presentation on proposed Variation No 9 of the Meath County Development Plan 2007-2013, which relates to Chapter 3 Section 3.4 of the Development Plan. The proposed Variation requests a textual amendment in the County Development Plan 2007-2013 in respect of Seveso II sites in Co Meath.

To resolve if thought fit to place the proposed variation on public display, in accordance with Section 13 of the Planning & Development Act 2000 as amended.

Approved on the proposal of **Councillor Wayne Harding** and seconded by **Councillor Tommy Reilly**.

- 8.1.3 To receive a copy of the Rural Design Guidelines (Ref proposed Variation No 10 of the Meath County Development Plan 2007-2013).

Received on the proposal of **Councillor Nick Killian** and seconded by **Councillor Wayne Harding**.



Miontuairiscí/ Meeting Minutes

- 8.1.4 To receive a presentation on proposed Variation No 11 of the Meath County Development Plan 2007-2013. RD Pol 30, Vol 1 Chapter 6, P251 of the Meath County Development Plan 2007-2013 states as follows:

“It shall be the policy of the Planning Authority to attach an occupancy condition to all individual one off rural dwellings, including those located in graigs, on unzoned land, pursuant to Section 47 of the Planning and Development Act 2000, restricting the use of the dwelling to the applicant and their immediate family, as a place of permanent residence. The period of occupancy will be limited to a period of 5 years from the date of first occupation. No such occupancy condition shall be imposed with respect to housing located in Rural Area Type ‘Low Development Pressure Area’.”

The purpose of this variation is to amend the occupancy period stated in RD POL 30 from 5 to 7 years to ensure compliance with the Guidelines Sustainable Rural Housing with regard to rural occupancy.

To resolve if thought fit to place the proposed variation on public display, in accordance with Section 13 of the Planning & Development Act 2000 as amended.

Members expressed concern at the proposal but it was agreed to proceed with the public consultation process. Approved on the proposal of **Councillor Tommy Reilly** and seconded by **Councillor J. V. Farrelly**.

- 8.1.5 To receive the Manager’s Report on submissions received on the Draft County Meath Biodiversity Action Plan, 2008-2012.
Received on the proposal of **Councillor Noel Leonard** and seconded by **Councillor John V. Farrelly**.

8.2 **Infrastructure**

- 8.2.1 To consider and if thought fit to approve for public display the “Draft” Road Traffic (Special Speed Limits) (M3/M2) County of Meath Bye-Laws (No.1) 2010.

Approved on the proposal of **Councillor Nick Killian** and seconded by **Councillor Sirena Campbell**.

8.3 **Environment**

- 8.3.1 To receive briefing note on “Litter & Unauthorised Dumping Campaign”.



Miontuairiscí/ Meeting Minutes

Brendan McGrath DOS, Environment made a presentation and briefed the Councillors on the issue of litter and unauthorised dumping in the County, and outlined the campaign for 2010 to address the problem.

- 8.3.2 To consider the submissions made in relation to the publication of the “Draft” Meath County Council Foreshore Bye-Laws 2009 and, if thought fit, to resolve to make Bye-Laws relating to the management of the beaches, foreshore, estuaries and harbours in the administrative area of County Meath.

The Members resolved to make the Bye Laws on the proposal of **Councillor Wayne Harding** and seconded by **Councillor J.V. Farrelly** in accordance with the Draft and subject to the inclusion of the amendments made following submissions and recommended in the report to the Members.

8.4 Corporate Services

- 8.4.1 To nominate two Members to the Eastern River Basin District Advisory Council.

Councillor Seamus O’ Neill was nominated on the proposal of **Councillor Ann Dillon-Gallagher** and seconded by Councillor Wayne Harding. Councillor Noel Leonard was nominated on the proposal of **Councillor Shane Cassells** and seconded by **Councillor Oliver Fox**.

- 8.4.2 To receive draft text of Corporate Plan 2010-2014.

The meeting Administrator presented the draft Corporate Plan and invited submissions by 8th March.

9.0 Notice of Motion

- 9.1 Submitted by Dunshaughlin Area Members:

“That Meath County Council write to the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government to lift the embargo on the recruitment of School Wardens especially due to the fact that there are currently three vacant positions in Dunshaughlin Electoral Area”.

It was confirmed that a letter had already issued to the D.O.E.H.L.G.

The Motion noted on the proposal of **Councillor J.V. Farrelly** and seconded by **Councillor Brian Fitzgerald**.

- 9.2 Submitted by Councillor William Carey:

“That Meath County Council, while noting that the Council does not have specific power to deal with the issue of Head Shops and similar outlets, calls on the Minister for Health and Children to bring forward her proposal to deal with the issue within the next two months”.

The motion, proposed by **Councillor Willie Carey** and seconded by **Councillor J.V. Farrelly**, was adopted.



Miontuairiscí/ Meeting Minutes

10.0 Schedule of Manager's Orders (For Information Only)

- 10.1 Schedule of Manager's Orders - Infrastructure
- 10.2 Schedule of Manager's Orders - Environment
- 10.3 Schedule of Manager's Orders – Housing Construction
- 10.4 Schedule of Manager's Orders – Community & Enterprise

Noted.

11.0 Presentations from Other Bodies

- 11.1 Presentation from North East Pylon Pressure Group.
Padraic O' Reilly of NEPPG made a presentation on the current status of the process.
The Cathaoirleach acknowledged the work of the group and stated that the group had the full support of the Members.

12.0 Any Other Business