



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

### ***Navan Municipal District***

### ***Ordinary Meeting***

***10:00 a.m., 17<sup>th</sup> April, 2019, Navan Civic Offices***

An Meára, **Councillor Jim Holloway**, presided.

**Councillors Present:** Sinéad Burke, Francis Deane, Edward Fennessy, Padraig Fitzsimons, Wayne Forde, Tommy Reilly.

**Officials in Attendance:**

**Director of Service:** Kevin Stewart

**Meetings Administrator:** Claire King

**Executive Engineer:** Paul O'Brien

**Staff Officer:** Triona Keating

#### **1 Confirmation of Minutes**

##### **1.1 Confirmation of minutes of Ordinary Meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> March, 2019.**

The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> March 2019 were confirmed on the proposal of **Councillor Francis Deane** and seconded by **Councillor Edward Fennessy**.

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

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

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

Sympathy was extended to:

- The family of the late Ann (Ena) Tobin, Navan, sister of Meath footballer, Seán;
- The family of the late Donal Giles, Farganstown, Navan.



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

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

#### **4.1 Agreement in principle to disposal of Land at Limekilnhill, Navan Co. Meath**

This was agreed on the proposal of **Councillor Tommy Reilly** and seconded by **Councillor Edward Fennessy**.

### **5 Statutory Business**

#### **5.1 Planning**

The background to the below updates was provided, with Category B funding having been allocated under the Urban Regeneration Scheme. The scope and objectives were outlined, with public consultation and engagement central to the development of the plans and, once plans are developed, further funding applications can be made. Councillors were reminded that both plans were at a very early stage, with the intention being to gather information and ideas and generate a conversation about the possibilities.

##### **5.1.1 To receive an update on the preparation of Urban Design Plans for Meath County Council lands at Railway Street.**

Gráinne Shaffrey and Kevin McKeivitt, Shaffrey Associates delivered a presentation which included the location, the historical context, information on both the Council owned lands and buildings and St. Patrick's Classical School, and the challenges, constraints and opportunities.

Matters raised by councillors, with responses, included:

- Welcomed the presentation and the commencement of the preparation of the plan.
- The consultation with adjacent property owners on Academy Street/Circular Road who had previously proposed ideas around access – it was pointed out that consultation had taken place both internally and with Irish Rail, with the intention being to talk to adjacent landowners.



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

- The possibility of the council owned site being developed as a bus station or used to provide urban housing.
- The potential of the area to become a cultural quarter, close to the Solstice, the library and St. Finian's Terrace and the potential to provide a museum, tourist information and to highlight the history of Navan, including its industrial history.
- The intended timeframe for the implementation of the masterplan – further funding would be required to implement the agreed plan, with recommendations to be made for short, medium and longer term works. The masterplan would also act as guidance for any development on the subject site.
- The difference between an archive and a museum – the county archive would hold all records relating to the local authority as well as records relating to industry, large estates, etc. The material is assessed by historians and records stored. Space would also be made available for talks, presentations and small exhibitions.
- The need for a county museum to provide adequate exhibition space and to promote the many historic sites.
- The possibility of maximising the views from the old school.
- The next steps – a public consultation event is arranged for 1st May 2019, invitations to same will be circulated to the adjacent neighbours. All information collated will be brought together, a draft plan prepared and a further round of public consultation will take place.

The Mayor and councillors thanked Gráinne and Michael for the presentation.

- 5.1.2 To receive an update on the preparation of Urban Design Plans for lands at Flowerhill.

James Hennessy, the Paul Hogarth Company, delivered a presentation which included the Terms of Reference, delivery stages, study area, challenges and



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

opportunities. A public consultation event has been arranged for the evening of 1<sup>st</sup> May.

Matters raised by councillors included:

- Welcomed the plan for the area, which suffers from a number of challenges including traffic volumes, vacant buildings, anti-social behaviour, lack of building maintenance, etc.
- The need to develop a sustainable neighbourhood, which encourages urban living, and the need to consider adequate parking to facilitate this.
- Welcomed the focus on the river and its potential, including the development of a walkway to Kilcarn Bridge.
- The reliance on the cooperation of property owners in the area and the need to engage with them to encourage their involvement.
- The potential of the area and the need to retain its character and ensure a quality approach and vision, which considers the socio-economic aspect of building a community.

The positive engagement and contribution by local businesses, householders and property owners was acknowledged in preparing the funding application.

The Mayor and councillors thanked James for his presentation.

### **5.2 Transportation**

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

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



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

- Trees requiring pruning in Troytown – a list of all locations submitted is being compiled and, later in the year, an arborologist will carry out an assessment, resulting in a list of trees that require attention from September to February. Works outside of this timeframe will be only be undertaken if urgently required and/or at junctions where visibility is affected. Trees affecting public lighting should be referred to that section.
- Issues with footpath in Belcourt Estate, opposite Blackcastle Manor – drainage and resurfacing works will be carried out at this location in 2019/2020.
- The possibility of funding being allocation to a CIS scheme in Grange, Bohermeen – this is dealt with centrally.
- Requested an update on the pedestrian crossing on Metges Road – surveys have been undertaken with the number and location of crossings to be determined but works due by autumn.
- The need for remedial works on the speed ramps in Parnell Park, McDermott Villas and Dean Cogan – these are on the list of resurfacing works , with drainage works to be carried out in Dean Cogan initially.
- Requested an update on the playgrounds in Clogherboy and Claremont – the playground in Clogherboy is to be cleaned up this week. The survey of residents in Claremont indicated a strong preference for the removal of the playground, but funding is to be sourced for this to be undertaken.
- Requested an update on the soccer pitches in Blackwater Park – the pitches are adequate for normal games with specialists being consulted to extend these to meet the FAI regulations.
- The need for ongoing inspection and monitoring of reinstatement works and the disposal of waste material associated with road opening licences – an active team is in place to control and monitor these works.
- Bollards in St. Oliver's – this is on the list of works.



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

- The provision of ‘No Alcohol’ and ‘No Dumping’ signage in Chestnut Court, at the rear of Johnstown Church – this is on the list of works.
- The preference of residents in Claremont for the removal of the football pitch.

It was suggested and agreed by councillors that pre-budget meetings should take place at municipal district level to discuss necessary allocations for tree maintenance, playgrounds, etc.

### **5.3 Corporate Services**

5.3.1 To note Municipal District Allocations submitted by Councillors on behalf of Navan Municipal District.

The list of allocations, circulated in advance, was noted. Councillors were reminded of the deadline for the receipt of completed applications.

## **6 Notice of Question**

### **6.1 Submitted by Councillor Wayne Forde**

“What plans have the Executive for the old Meath County Council premises at County Hall and the old tax office on Railway Street, Navan, County Meath?”

**Response:**

*Meath County Council is considering options for the long term future of the County Hall site. However, in the meantime, the Louth and Meath Education Training Board have signed a temporary licence with Meath County Council for the use of the premises.*

The response was noted.

### **6.2 Submitted by Councillor Francis Deane**

“When are we likely to expect delivery of the solar compacting bins to Navan and Johnstown?”



## **Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes**

### **Response:**

*Meath County Council are currently evaluating the tenders following the completion of the tender process for the purchase of Solar Powered Compacting Litter Bins. When this process is complete, the number of bins purchased and their locations will be decided.*

The response was noted.

### **6.3 Submitted by Councillor Edward Fennessy**

“Has Navan Municipal District Council considered making an application for inclusion in the €15.5 million Bórd Fáilte initiative, Tourism Destination Towns?”

### **Response:**

*The Destination Towns – Tourism Investment Scheme was launched by Failte Ireland on 27<sup>th</sup> March last. The overall fund is €15.5 million for capital works with a maximum of €500,000 for each county. A county can submit a maximum 2 projects and each project must have a minimum value of €250,000. The Council will be required to provide 25% matching funding to any successful application.*

*The full details of the scheme are not yet known and we will need to examine the terms and conditions closely to establish what capital works qualify for inclusion and what other conditions apply. Failte Ireland have made it clear that any project submitted will be subject to rigorous economic appraisal and only those showing a clear economic return will be considered. The proven potential of a project to contribute additional bed nights and economic activity to the region will be a key consideration. In summary they have advised that focus should be on a well developed and fully costed project rather than any countywide spread of funding. We understand that projects that can be funded from other sources will generally not be considered.*

*Failte Ireland have also indicated that they wish to meet with officials in each county to discuss potential projects and advise on what would offer the best opportunity to meet the rigorous scheme criteria. The state of “readiness” of a project including agreement and completion of design and planning will also be key factors as the expectation is that projects will be “ready to go” if approved and will be delivered within a specified timeframe.*



## **Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes**

*I will advise the Council as further details become available.*

The response was noted.

### **7 Notice of Motion**

#### **7.1 Submitted by Councillor Francis Deane**

“That the Environment Section of Meath County Council would engage with the Navan Municipal District Tidy Towns Committee to progress a project with the aim of significantly reducing the mowing of grassy areas and protecting our environment in areas identified as being suitable for pollinator nesting habitats and native wildflower meadows.”

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

*Meath County Council are prepared to work with and support Tidy Towns or any other groups in implementing pollinator friendly actions in towns and villages throughout the county and particularly with regard to measures which serve to reverse the decline in the amount of food such as wildlife flowers, and safe nesting sites in our landscapes.*

*It is noted that there is now a Local Authority Pollinator Award within the Tidy Towns competition and which encourages Tidy Towns groups to implement pollinator-friendly actions and where such actions are in keeping with the objectives of the All Ireland Pollinator Plan, which was launched in 2015, to ensure that pollinators can survive and thrive.*

*The Council will work with the Navan Tidy Towns group in pinpointing areas that could act as refuges for pollinating insects, to provide food and shelter as well as identifying and protecting existing pollinator-friendly features such as native flowering hedgerows. In doing so, it is likely to reduce the extent of the mowing of grassy areas in some areas.*

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Francis Deane** and seconded by **Councillor Edward Fennessy**.

The motion was adopted.





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

### **7.2 Submitted by Councillor Edward Fennessy**

“In the interest of protecting public safety, Navan Municipal District appoint a playground manager/caretaker to manage the maintenance and upkeep of public playgrounds located throughout the town.”

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

*A member of staff of Navan Municipal District carries out weekly inspections of all playgrounds in the District. Emergency repairs are carried out by our own operatives where it is feasible to do so and specialist contractors are engaged to carry out works where parts etc. are required. Meath County Council also arranges for detailed annual inspections of all playground equipment by a specialist Contractor.*

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Edward Fennessy** and seconded by **Councillor Sinéad Burke**.

In light of the supporting information provided, the motion was noted.

### **7.3 Submitted by Councillor Wayne Forde**

“Can I call on the Executive to provide extra public lighting this year at two troublesome alleyways in Silverlawns, between 176 and 177 leading to 128 and the alleyway from 90C and 90 leading to Number 11 and Adam Gayle's on the Rathaldron Road to discourage Anti Social Behaviour and for the public safety of residents living beside these Alleyways.”

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

*The alleyways at Silverlawns were previously added to the list of new works for capital public lighting schemes. The number of schemes on the list exceeds the resources available to deliver them. Schemes are selected on a priority basis. This scheme was not selected in 2019 but will continue to be considered in future years.*

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



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

The motion was adopted.

### **7.4 Submitted by Councillor Wayne Forde**

“Can I call on the Executive to install more playground facilities for toddlers and children in Blackwater Park for the forthcoming year.”

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

*In recent years there has been substantial investment in the Blackwater Park playground including additional play equipment and upgrading of the safety surfacing. Applications for funding will be submitted where relevant grant schemes become available to provide further facilities in the park which will help maximise it's potential use.*

*For 2019, it is not intended to provide further additional play equipment in the existing playground or provide additional play areas in Blackwater Park.*

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

The motion was adopted.

### **7.5 Submitted by Councillor Tommy Reilly**

“Calling on Meath County Council to put in place traffic calming measures at the following schools: Cannistown N.S., Boyerstown N.S., Bohermeen N.S. and Robinstown N.S.”

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

*The roads approaching all of the mentioned schools have already received significant levels of investment in traffic management infrastructure including the imposition of reduced speed limits, signage, time activated warning/ flashing signs, road markings and road width reduction/new kerbing in an effort to reduce & control traffic speeds in the*



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

*vicinity. There are currently no plans for additional works at the roads approaching these schools but Meath County Council shall keep the matter under review.*

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Tommy Reilly** and seconded by **Councillor Pdraig Fitzsimons**.

A discussion followed on the need for a policy to provide suitable traffic calming measures at schools, particularly those in rural areas, which do not have school wardens on duty. Reference was also made to the need that ensure that school promoters, when applying for planning permission, consider and provide the necessary measures. It was agreed to refer this to the Transportation SPC for consideration.

The motion was adopted.

### **7.6 Submitted by Councillor Tommy Reilly**

“That Meath County Council would apply for Capital Funding to replace sewerage system in Fr. Flood Park in Dunderry.”

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Tommy Reilly** and seconded by **Councillor Pdraig Fitzsimons**.

The motion was adopted.

### **7.7 Submitted by Councillor Francis Deane**

“That Meath County Council will carry out a survey on R153 Kentstown Road to explore the possibility of installing a speed monitoring sensor, located at Athlumney Close towards Navan, where there has been a huge growth of residential properties generating additional large volumes of traffic.”

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

*Meath County Council Transportation Section will conduct a traffic speed survey on the R153 Kentstown Road at this location in order to determine if traffic calming measures are required. Members will be notified of the results of the survey in due course.*



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

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Francis Deane** and seconded by **Councillor Edward Fennessy**.

Item 7.11 was also dealt with.

The motion was adopted.

### **7.8 Submitted by Councillor Padraig Fitzsimons**

“I propose the motion seeking funding for the installation of ramps and warning lights on the New Line Road, at the Bohermeen Community Centre.”

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

*Meath County Council currently has no funding or plans for the introduction of traffic speed management on the mentioned section of road. This request will be added to a list of potential schemes to be considered if funding is to become available in the future.*

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Padraig Fitzsimons** and seconded by **Councillor Wayne Forde**.

It was agreed that a letter would issue to the Navan Superintendent requesting that speed checks be undertaken at this location in addition to the R153 Kentstown Road and the school locations referenced in Item 7.5.

The motion was adopted.

### **7.9 Submitted by Councillor Padraig Fitzsimons**

“I propose the motion to write to the Minister of Education to try to establish a College for Apprenticeships in Navan.”

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Padraig Fitzsimons** and seconded by **Councillor Edward Fennessy**.



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

A discussion followed on the merits of such a facility in Navan, the need for skills in different business sectors and the approach that might be taken in achieving this. It was agreed that, prior to making contact with the Minister, a working group would be formed to develop the proposal and to take account of relevant research and information already available. It was suggested that this working group would involve the LEO and the Regional Skills Forum.

In light of the agreement, the motion was noted.

### **7.10 Submitted by Councillor Sinéad Burke**

“That Navan Municipal District accept the donation of a wheelchair accessible park bench from the family and friends of the late Alannah Russell and that this bench be placed, with the agreement of the Parks Department and the District Engineer, in an appropriate spot in Blackwater Park. This gift is intended as a thank you gift to the people of the town for their support to Alannah and her family and friends.”

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

*The offer of a wheelchair accessible park bench for Blackwater Park is gratefully accepted. Once a delivery date is known, the location for the bench can be agreed on site.*

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Sinéad Burke** and seconded by **Councillor Wayne Forde**.

In light of the supporting information provided, the motion was noted.

### **7.11 Submitted by Councillor Sinéad Burke**

“That Meath County Council install speed monitoring cameras on the stretch of road from Athlumney Bridge to the petrol station on the Kentstown Road to monitor car speeds in this area and, if appropriate, look at any traffic calming measures that might resolve the issue.”

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



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

*Meath County Council Transportation Section will conduct a traffic speed survey on the R153 Kentstown Road at this location in order to determine if traffic calming measures are required. Members will be notified of the results of the survey in due course.*

This item was dealt with under Item 7.7.

### **7.12 Submitted by Councillor Edward Fennessy**

“That Navan Municipal District Council, in the interest of protecting pedestrians and children accessing the Tailteann estate, agree to install bollards between Tailteann Drive and Tailteann Crescent and speed ramps along Tailteann Drive.”

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

*Meath County Council Transportation Section will put Tailteann Drive/Tailteann Crescent on the list for traffic speed surveys to determine if traffic calming is required. Members will be informed accordingly of the results of the survey.*

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Edward Fennessy** and seconded by **Councillor Sinéad Burke**.

The motion was adopted.

## **8 Strategic Policy Committee & Corporate Policy Group Reports – For Information Purposes**

8.1 To note the report from the Environment SPC meeting of 22<sup>nd</sup> March, 2019.

The report was noted.

8.2 To note the report from the Housing, Community & Cultural Development SPC meeting of 28<sup>th</sup> March, 2019.

The report was noted.

## **9 Correspondence**



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

- 9.1 Correspondence received from Mr Adrian O'Loughlin, Bus Éireann in response to the Notice of Item 6.10 – Notice of Motion as adopted at the March meeting.

The correspondence was noted.

### **10 Any Other Business**

- The Mayor, councillors and executive offered their sincere congratulations and best wishes to Eilis Sheehy, who is leaving LMFM to take up a position with RTE, and to whom a presentation was made.
- It was agreed that the date of the May meeting would be changed to Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> May at 10.00am.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

**Signed:**

---

**An Meára**