



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

Ordinary Meeting 10th May 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, Jimmy Cudden, 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'Neill, 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 Olive Falsey

Planners: Pat Gallagher, Wendy Bagnall, Mairead Maguire.

Senior Executive Officers: Martin Rogers, Larry Whelan

Apologies:

1.0 Confirmation of Minutes

- 1.1 Confirmation of Minutes of monthly meeting held on 12th April 2010.
The Minutes of monthly meeting held on 12th April 2010 were confirmed on the proposal of **Councillor John V. Farrelly** and seconded by **Councillor Noel Leonard**.
- 1.2 Confirmation of Minutes of special meeting (Quinn Insurance) held on 19th April 2010.
The minutes of the special meeting (Quinn Insurance) held on 19th April 2010. were confirmed on the proposal of **Councillor John V. Farrelly** and seconded by **Councillor Ann Dillon-Gallagher**.

2.0 Matters arising from the minutes

The Quinn Group situation, and the Council's response to date, was discussed. The importance and relevance of Quinn to Navan was acknowledged and it was agreed that it is incumbent on the Council to protect jobs having welcomed the industry to Navan. It was emphasised that the re-training of staff will be crucial, hence the importance of building an innovative learning centre in the area. The Co. Manager reiterated that the Council is ready to do whatever is required and that every possible support would be given to the recently established task force set up by Dan Flinter.

3.0 Expressions of Sympathy and Congratulations

Sympathy was extended to:



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- 3.1 Gerry Dunne (Trim Area) on the death of his mother.
- 3.2 Barbara Smyth M3 Motorway on the death of her father-in-law.
- 3.3 Gabriel Cribben (former Councillor) on the death of his mother.

Congratulations were extended to:

- 3.4 The recipients of the Anti-Litter Awards.
- 3.5 Slane N.S. on receiving a 4th Green Flag Award.
- 3.6 The Environment Department on the recent Spring Clean project.
- 3.7 Navan River Rescue Team on recent clean-up of the river.
- 3.8 Carnaross GAA Club on its recent success.

4.0 Correspondence

- 4.1 Correspondence from An Bord Pleanála re Meath-Tyrone 400 KV Interconnector.
- 4.2 Correspondence from DoEHLG re Ireland's new Tentative List of potential nominees to the World Heritage List.
- 4.3 Correspondence from Polish Ambassador acknowledging Meath County Council's condolences.
- 4.4 Correspondence from DoEHLG re Rural Water Programme: Block Grant Allocations 2010.
- 4.5 Circular L2/10 re Water Services Investment Programme 2010-2012.
- 4.6 Correspondence re Europe Day 2010.
The Cathaoirleach noted the 60th anniversary of the Schuman Declaration.

5.0 E.U. Correspondence

- 5.1 EU News Bulletin – Number 69 – March 2010

6.0 Report from Protocol Committee

The Meetings' Administrator informed the Council that the Protocol Committee agreed to put a proposal to the full council to hold the AGM of Meath County Council on the 5th July 2010. Approved on the proposal of **Councillor John V. Farrelly** and seconded by **Councillor Noel Leonard**



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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 consider Report and if thought fit to approve the Taking in Charge of Alderbrook Estate, Ashbourne Co Meath.

Approved on the proposal of **Councillor Regina Doherty** and seconded by **Councillor Niamh McGowan**.

- 8.1.2 To receive the Manager's report on submissions and observations received regarding Variation No. 9 of the Meath County Development Plan 2007-2013 (Seveso Sites) in accordance with Section 13 (4) of the Planning and Development Act 2000.

Received on the proposal of **Councillor Tommy Reilly** and seconded by **Councillor Sirena Campbell**.

- 8.1.3 To receive the Manager's report on submissions and observations received regarding Variation No. 11 of the Meath County Development Plan 2007-2013 (Rural Occupancy Clause) in accordance with Section 13 (4) of the Planning and Development Act 2000.

Received on the proposal of **Councillor Tommy Reilly** and seconded by **Councillor Seamus O' Neill**.

- 8.1.4 Tara Skryne Landscape Conservation Area, Designation under Section 204 of the Planning and Development Act 2000. To receive a briefing on the process to date in the preparation of the Draft Tara Skryne Landscape Area.

Wendy Bagnall made a presentation on the background to the project with details of the research, public participation and outcomes. The information on public display was outlined. Following the display period i.e. 4th May – 16th June, a report on submissions will be presented to the full Council. It was agreed that Trim would be included in the locations for the public display. Cllr. Fitzgerald raised the issue of planning applications for the area. The Co. Manager advised that a correct approach would help economic development and that it would be prudent to wait and see the outcome of the public consultation process.

8.2 Finance

- 8.2.1 To receive Annual Financial Statement 2009.
Fiona Lawless, Head of Finance, presented the AFS and reported that the Council, in 2009, made a small surplus of €309,000 together with a cut in its deficit to €9.3million, down €1.5 million since 2005. The capital unfunded balances reduced to €21m. down from over €43.1m.



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The work of the Finance Department in managing the finances and reducing the deficit in the current economic climate was acknowledged by the Members. The Co. Manager also acknowledged the work of the Finance Department and outlined the benefits of taking action at the earliest opportunity to address the Council's finances. The powerful cases made to the DOEHLG resulted in Meath County Council receiving an allocation higher than other Local Authorities. He acknowledged the support of the Members and emphasised that work continues every day to create efficiencies and 'do more with less'.

- 8.2.2. To approve over expenditure for the financial year ended 31st December 2009 in accordance with S104 of the Local Government Act 2001.

Approved on the proposal of **Councillor Wayne Harding** and seconded by **Councillor John V. Farrelly**

9.0 Notice of Motion

- 9.1 Submitted by Councillor John V Farrelly:

"We ask that Meath County Council endorses the aims and objectives of the RISE Rural Ireland Says Enough! Campaign. The Council notes the increasing level of popular support being expressed for the Campaign and shares the concerns it is highlighting over several pieces of legislation currently being proposed by the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government, John Gormley TD. The Council calls on the Government to listen to the concerns being expressed, involve stakeholders in full consultation and to respond appropriately".

The motion proposed by **Councillor John V. Farrelly** and seconded by **Councillor Eugene Cassidy** was debated at length. It was agreed to revise the wording and put forward an amended motion.

The amended motion *"Meath County Council notes the increasing level of popular support being expressed for the RISE (Rural Ireland Says Enough!) campaign and shares the concerns it is highlighting over legislation, in respect of stag hunting, currently being proposed by the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government, John Gormley, T.D. This Council calls on the Government to listen to the concerns being expressed, involve stakeholders in full consultation and to respond appropriately"* was proposed by **Councillor John V. Farrelly** and seconded by **Councillor Ann Dillon-Gallagher**. The amended motion was adopted following a 'show of hands' vote, which indicated overwhelming support for the motion.

- 9.2 Submitted by Councillor Maria Murphy:

"That Meath County Council call on the Minister for Justice to remove the embargo on vacancies in the Garda Síochána in Meath".

The motion, proposed by **Councillor Maria Murphy** and seconded by **Councillor Seamus O' Neill**, was adopted.

- 9.3 Submitted by Councillor Regina Doherty:

"To ask that Meath County Council support and applaud the work of the



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Establishing Committee of Gaelscoil Ráth Tó and calls upon the Tánaiste and Minister for Education and Skills to immediately recognise Gaelscoil Ráth Tó which will be opening in September 2010”.

The Motion, proposed by **Councillor Regina Doherty** and seconded by **Councillor Joe Bonner**, was adopted.

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

12.0 Any Other Business

This concluded the business of the meeting.