



Clár / Meeting Agenda

Ordinary Meeting

8th September 2014, Council Chamber

1 Confirmation of Minutes

1.1 Confirmation of minutes of Ordinary meeting held on 7th July, 2014.

2 Matters arising from the Minutes

3 Expressions of Sympathy and Congratulations

4 Statutory Business

4.1 Community & Enterprise

4.1.1 To note the nomination of Des Henry, Principal Officer, Divisional Manager Midlands-North to replace Aisling Mulroe, as representative of the Department of Social Protection, on the Local Community Development Committee (LCDC).

4.1.2 To consider certain amendments to the Local Community Development Committee Regulations 2014 .

4.1.3 To receive a progress report on the Public Participation Network (PPN).

4.2 Corporate Services

4.2.1 To note the 2013 Meath Local Authorities' Annual Report.

4.2.2 To consider submissions and approve the draft SPC Scheme 2014 – 2019.

4.2.3 To adopt revised Standing Orders for Meath County Council.

4.3 Finance

4.3.1 Appointment of three external members (Frank McLoughlin, Kate Williams, John Kelly) to the Meath County Council Audit Committee in accordance with Section 122 of the Local Government Act, 2001 as amended by the Local Government Reform Act, 2014.



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- 4.3.2 To receive half year financial update to the 30th June, 2014.
- 4.3.3 To receive the Audited Annual Financial Statement 2013 and to receive and note the Local Government Statutory Audit Report for Meath County Council Year Ended 31st December, 2013.
- 4.3.4 To fix a date (Monday 22nd September, at 10.00a.m.) to consider the report of the Chief Executive prepared in accordance with the provisions of the Local Property Tax (Local Adjustment Factor) Regulations 2014, for the purpose of resolving as follows:
 - a) Vary the basic rate and set a local adjustment factor that will apply for a period of one year from the next Local Property Tax liability date, or
 - b) Not vary the basic rate, or
 - c) Decide to consider the matter further at a subsequent meeting of Meath County Council to be held not later than the 30th September, 2014.
- 4.3.5 To set dates for Municipal Districts to consider and adopt draft Budgetary Plan – proposed dates: Wednesday 8th October (Ratoath 10.00a.m. and Ashbourne 2.30p.m.) Thursday 9th October (Navan 10.00a.m. and Kells 4.00p.m.), Friday 10th October (Laytown/Bettystown 10.00a.m. and Trim 2.30p.m.)

5 Report from Protocol Committee

6 Correspondence

- 6.1 Irish Water re. IW/Local Authority Elected Members Liaison
- 6.2 LG 21/2014 – Training for Elected Members
- 6.3 Circular WP 13/14 – S.I. No. 320 of 2014 – Waste Management (Facility Permit and Registration) (Amendment) Regulations 2014
- 6.4 Aarhus Convention Access to Justice Provisions - Notification of Public Consultation
- 6.5 Eastern Catchment Flood Risk Assessment and Management Study – Upcoming Public Consultation Days
- 6.6 Water Framework Directive – 2nd Cycle of River Basin Management Plans
- 6.7 Department of Justice and Equality – Garda Síochána Act 2005 – Revised Guidelines for Joint Policing Committees



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7 Notice of Question

7.1 Submitted by Councillor Wayne Harding

"Can I ask the Chief Executive for a full update on all data compiled in relation to the Slane Bypass?"

7.2 Submitted by Councillor Gerry O'Connor

"Could the Chief Executive provide a written breakdown of the following:

How many staff did Meath County Council have in 2006, what was the breakdown of job categories, and what age profile in the following age brackets, under 30, 30-40, 50 -60, 60+. and could I have the same information for the current Meath County Council staff levels?"

7.3 Submitted by Fine Gael Councillors Group

"What percentage of the overall 2014 budget did the LGF cover and has the Chief Executive and her Finance team received sufficient information from the various Departments who make up the balance of the overall figure for 2015, to enable her respond to the results of the public consultation on the reduction/increase of the LPT charge?"

7.4 Submitted by Councillor Shane Cassells

"Given the statement from John Bruton, Chairman of the Meath Economic Forum, that he does not have to present a report to the elected members of County Meath on the work of this body (established by Meath County Council) can the Chief Executive please inform members 'very specifically' what has been accomplished by Mr Bruton and the forum given the fact that his appointment as Chairman was presented to us in the chamber as being a "major fillip for the attraction of jobs into County Meath."

7.5 Submitted by Councillor Wayne Forde

"To ask the Chief Executive, to outline to the Council, the steps that have been taken to secure the provision in Navan, of the proposed new regional hospital, for the Dublin North East area, including details of any studies carried out by Meath County Council. And also to ask the Chief Executive, to further confirm, that the Navan Development Plan, contains policies, and objectives, that support the proposal, and confirm that sufficient appropriately zoned land is available, for the hospital in Navan."

7.6 Submitted by Councillor Francis Deane

"Following the abolition of Town Councils, can the Chief Executive please advise if the Municipal Districts will be taking a more active role in the estate taking-in-charge processes, and if so please also advise of the staff allocation for this purpose."



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7.7 Submitted by Councillor Nick Killian

"Further to media reports that in excess of €16m. is owed to Meath County Council in development levies, can the Chief Executive give a full breakdown on these levies, including the names of developers who owe these monies and indicate what efforts are or have been taken been taken to recoup these outstanding levies up to and including 2013, by Municipal District?"

7.8 Submitted by Councillor Claire O' Driscoll

"Can the Chief Executive update the Members on how many people, who own a house in Meath, have been issued with an invoice for monies owed with respect to the NPPR charge this summer? How much has been collected to date since the letters were issued? How many people have paid the whole fee, how many have entered into agreements about a payment plan to pay the outstanding balance and as of September 1st how many people have neither cleared their bill nor entered into an arrangement to pay?"

8 Notice of Motion

8.1 Submitted by Councillor Wayne Harding

"I ask that this Council immediately calls on the Minister for Transport and Tourism to release funds for the spine road in Laytown, Bettystown. This is an essential piece of infrastructure that will relieve the chronic traffic congestion at Scoil Oilibhéir Naofa and Coláiste na hInse."

8.2 Submitted by Councillor Seán Smith

"That the Chief Executive commits to an individual Engineering structure for each of the six Municipal Districts. This is to consist of a Senior Executive Engineer, a Executive Engineer and an Assistant Engineer for each Municipal District and is to be in place for the beginning of January 2015. These Engineering structures will be for each individual Municipal District and will not have responsibility for more than their own Municipal District."

8.3 Submitted by Councillor Wayne Forde

"This meeting of Meath County Council, calls on all Members to fully support the retention of emergency services at Navan A & E 24/7. It is our county Meath hospital, and we must send a clear message to the Government and the HSE, that we are fully united, in our support, for the A & E in Navan and there must be no service change to our A & E in Navan, until the new regional hospital is built in Navan, and is ready, to receive and treat patients, and I ask that this motion be sent to the Minister for Health, Leo Varadkar, and all Meath Oireachtas Members."

8.4 Submitted by Councillor Shane Cassells



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"That the members of Meath County Council agree that in the event Irish Public Bodies pay Meath County Council a dividend in 2015 that this amount be divided among the 6 Municipal areas evenly for the specific purpose of the creation of a project beneficial to the community in that electoral area and end the practice of it being included in the annual budget as an "anticipated item of income" which goes against the ethos of the payment itself."

8.5 Submitted by Councillor Francis Deane

"I call on the Members of Meath County Council to support my motion in relation to charities in the Finance Bill i.e. to write to the Minister for Finance, Mr. Michael Noonan, to exempt the VRT obligation on a new patient transport vehicles purchased by Alzheimer Associations. Such an exemption would be greatly beneficial to the Meath Alzheimers' Day Care Centre who struggle to keep their service in operation."

8.6 Submitted by Councillor Damien O'Reilly

"That all new development levies in each municipal area are maintained within that area for local community amenities and infrastructure."

8.7 Submitted by Councillors Darren O'Rourke, Joe Reilly, Sinéad Burke, Eimear Ferguson, Michael Gallagher, Johnny Guirke, Caroline Lynch, Maria O'Kane

"In light of the number of people on Meath County Council's housing list, the number of people at risk of and threatened by homelessness, the lack of housing available to rent, the inadequate rent allowance rates available for those seeking to rent, Meath County Council calls on the Government to immediately initiate, in partnership with Meath County Council, a comprehensive house building programme."

8.8 Submitted by Councillor Joe Reilly

"Sinn Féin believes the nine month internal investigation into alleged irregularities between a Meath County Council employee attached to the Housing and Construction Section of Meath County Council and a Construction company employed by Meath County Council lacks clarity, transparency and accountability. Sinn Féin therefore calls on the Chief Executive to immediately hold a full independent investigation into the alleged irregularities for which the employee has been suspended and to publish this report."

8.9 Submitted by Councillor Claire O' Driscoll

"That Meath County Council continues to engage with those individuals affected by the hefty fines associated with the NPPR charge, to work out a plan to ensure that monies are collected in a way that is acceptable to the homeowners and to Meath County Council, and that this Council collectively supports that the proposed increase in penalties that came into effect on the 1st of September 2014 be replaced with substantially lesser penalties."

8.10 Submitted by Councillor Ronan McKenna



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“That Meath County Council supports the call from the Restaurants’ Association of Ireland for the ongoing retention of the 9% VAT rate for the food, tourism and hospitality sector that has helped create and sustain employment, and that Meath County Council asks the Minister for Finance to keep the VAT rate at 9% into 2015.”

8.11 Submitted by Councillor Joe Fox

“As the hedge cutting season started on the 1st September, I am calling on Meath County Council to be more proactive in encouraging landowners to keep their roadside hedges cut and trimmed. Overgrown and overhanging hedges are causing serious safety issues to motorists, cyclists and pedestrians alike.”

9 Chief Executive’s Report and Schedule of Chief Executive & Approved Orders (For Information Only)

9.1 Schedule of Chief Executive’s Orders – Transportation

9.2 Schedule of Chief Executive’s Orders – Environment

9.3 Schedule of Chief Executive’s Orders – Housing Construction

9.4 Schedule of Chief Executive’s Orders – Community & Enterprise

10 Presentations by other Bodies/Statutory Agencies

10.1 Presentation by Meath Wind Turbine Information Group

11 Any Other Business

NB Please ensure mobile phones are switched off during council meeting.