



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

Ordinary Meeting 2nd February 2009, Council Chamber

An Cathaoirleach, Councillor Liz Mc Cormack, presided.

Members Present:

Councillors Charles Bobbett, Patrick Boshell, Oliver Brooks, Phillip Cantwell, William Carey, Shane Cassells, Eugene Cassidy, Jimmy Cudden, Jenny D'Arcy, Anne Dillon-Gallagher, John V Farrelly, Jimmy Fegan, Brian Fitzgerald, Michael Gallagher, Peter Higgins, Eoin Holmes, Jim Holloway, Tom Kelly, Nick Killian, Noel Leonard, Joseph Bonner, James Mangan, Seamus Murray, Patsy O' Neill, Bryan Reilly, Joe Reilly, Tommy Reilly.

Officials in Attendance:

County Manager: Tom Dowling

Head of Finance: Fiona Lawless,

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

Meetings Administrator Bill Sweeney

Senior Planners: Pat Gallagher, Wendy Bagnall (A)

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

Administrative Officers: Olive Falsey, Ger Murphy

Apologies:

Councillor Michael Lynch

1.0 Confirmation of Minutes

1.1 Confirmation of Minutes of Full Ordinary Council Meeting held on 12th January 2009.

The minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on the 12th. January 2009 were confirmed on the proposition of *Councillor John Farrelly and seconded by Councillor Jenny D'Arcy.*

2.0 Matters arising from the Minutes

Councillor Killian proposed the suspension of Standing Orders to discuss the process regarding Local Area Plans and referred to Sections 139 & 140 in the Local Government Act being a mechanism whereby Councillors can revoke what's in an LAP. Clarification was sought on whether every piece of land should have a submission, including any land put forward by the Planners. The Co. Manager outlined the process explaining that the Planning Department look and see what is desirable in an area and, having engaged in extensive consultation, may put forward land in an LAP. The LAP process is an open and transparent way of zoning land and the draft display gives an opportunity for submissions. However, while the Co. Manager presents the draft, the Councillors have the final say in the process. It was agreed to circulate the legal advice (2006) on LAP processes.



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3.0 Expressions of Sympathy and Congratulations

The following expressions of sympathy were extended to:

- 3.1 Sean Clarke, Human Resources, on the death of his mother.
- 3.2 Galen Doran, Housing Department, on the death of his mother.
- 3.3 The family of Christopher Dolan on his death in Australia.
- 3.4 Councillor Boshell on the death of his niece.

Congratulations were extended to:

- 3.5 Meath VEC on recent musical performance in Solstice Arts Centre – it was agreed that a letter of congratulations would be sent to Meath VEC.
- 3.6 The GAA on their 125th Anniversary celebrations at Croke Park on 31st. January. There was noted dissatisfaction that the event was not broadcast by RTE. However, it was pointed out by some Members that this was a business matter between the GAA and Setanta Sports.
- 3.7 Bishop Smith on celebrating his 25th. Anniversary as Bishop of Meath.
- 3.8 The Housing Department on the recent Affordable Homes promotion event in Ashbourne. Larry Whelen, SEO, Housing Department commented that the evening was very successful and well attended. It is planned to host other such events in the near future. He explained how house prices were negotiated at the height of the market and that in the current climate these prices have to be reduced. The next step is to show the properties.

4.0 Correspondence

- 4.1 Correspondence received from DoEHLG in relation to Environmental Information Service by Public Libraries.
- 4.2 Notification in relation to Meath Adult Learners Festival 2nd- 6th February 2009
- 4.3 To receive update on Proposed Regional Hospital.

There was general satisfaction and enthusiasm that Navan has been selected as the preferred site for the proposed regional hospital. Congratulations were extended to all those who were involved in making the case for the hospital to be delivered for Navan. Members agreed that this development would be a great opportunity for Navan but stressed the importance of follow-up and delivery of the project. Eugene Cummins, Director of Services, Infrastructure acknowledged the foresight of the Co. Manager who put together a dedicated team to make the case for Navan as the preferred location. He noted that the Consultants' report identified three possible sites and that the hospital will be the catalyst for the future development of Navan.



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- 4.4 Correspondence received from National Roads Authority in relation to 2009 National Road Grants Allocations.
- 4.5 Correspondence from Department of Transport in relation to 2009 Non National Roads Allocation as follows:

Non-National Roads Allocation

Appendix 4A
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Local Authority	Grant Type	Scheme Location (and summary of Proposed RTM Works)	Length (m)	2009 Grant	Total
Meath Co Council	DM: Discretionary Maintenance Grant			€972,000	
	RM: Restoration Maintenance Grant			€2,794,000	
	DI: Discretionary Improvement Grant			€822,000	
	RI: Restoration Improvement Grant (details in Appendix 4B)			€8,768,000	
	BS: Low Cost Safety Improvement Grants (details in Appendix 4C)			€249,000	
	OD: Strategic Regional and Local Roads Grants	OD: Platin-Colp [MCC part]	4150	€69,225	
	SG: Specific Improvement Grants	OD: Trim-Kilcock R158	19500	€4,648,851	€4,718,076
		SG: R125 Jamestown Road Junction, Ratoath		€100,000	
		SG: R150 Duleek Bypass		€150,000	
		SG: R150 Julianstown/Laytown		€50,000	
		SG: R153 Navan to Balrath	1000	€1,000,000	
		SG: R154 Connaught Street, Athboy	300	€300,000	
		SG: R154 Patrickstown-Oldcastle	1000	€500,000	
		SG: R156 Dunboyne/Summerhill		€150,000	
		SG: R157 Dunboyne/Maynooth		€150,000	
		SG: R160 Trim/Longwood		€100,000	€2,500,000
	SIGN: Regional Roads Signposting (details to be agreed)			€300,000	
TR: Regional and Local Roads Training Programme Grants			€89,397		
LIS: Local Improvement Schemes			€100,000		
Total 2009 Regional and Local Roads Grant Allocation					€21,312,473
Total 2008 Regional and Local Roads Grant Allocation					€28,377,945

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There was a lengthy discussion regarding the above proposed RTM Works and Members raised a number of issues.

Eugene Cummins, Director of Services, Infrastructure informed the Members that the Road Conditions Survey was conducted to inform re the division of funds and is now finalised. Detailed presentations would be made at Area Meetings on the grants and the process of filling potholes.



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5.0 E.U. Correspondence

6.0 Report from Protocol Committee

- It was noted that 2009 marks the 110th anniversary of Local Government in Ireland.
- The names of staff members appearing on election literature and leaflets (Trim Area) was deemed totally unacceptable and should be brought to the attention of potential Members of the Councils. Bill Sweeney explained that no law was broken but that there was a breach of the code of Conduct for Councillors.

The Members agreed that a letter should issue to the Town Clerk/Area Administrator in Trim highlighting that the 29 Members of Meath Co. Council reject this type of cheap advertising.

Proposed by Councillor John Farrelly and seconded by Councillor Nick Killian

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 and Economic Development

- 8.1.1 To receive the Managers report on submissions and observations received as a result of the display of proposed amendments to the Local Area Plan for the Southern Environs of Drogheda in accordance with Section 20 (3) (f) (i) of the Planning & Development Act 2000 as amended.

The Report was circulated and it was agreed to refer to the Slane Area Committee and discuss further at the March meeting. *Proposed by Councillor John Farrelly and seconded by Councillor Jenny D'Arcy*

- 8.1.2 To agree date for holding of Special Council meeting

Meeting to be held on Monday 9th. February at 10.00a.m.

8.2 Environment

- 8.2.1 To receive update on Draft Climate Change Strategy

Ger Murphy, Administrative Officer, Environment made a presentation and it was agreed to proceed with the preparation of a Draft Strategy on climate change. *Proposed by Councillor Phillip Cantwell and seconded by Councillor Jimmy Cudden*

- 8.2.2 To consider and if thought fit to approve for public display the Draft Foreshore Bye-Laws 2009, as recommended by the Slane area Members at the January Special meeting held on 21/01/2009.(Circulated)

Approved on the proposition of Councillor Charles Bobbett and seconded by Councillor Eoin Holmes

8.3 Housing, Social Community & Cultural



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- 8.3.1 To receive in accordance with Sections 11&12 of the Housing (Traveller Accommodation) Act, 1998 the Draft Traveller Accommodation Programme 2009-2013 and the Managers report prepared in respect of submissions received while the Draft plan was on public display”

Larry Whelan, SEO Housing Department, made a presentation on the above. The closing date for submissions was 23rd. January 2009 and there were no submissions received. It is proposed to present the plan for formal adoption at either the March or April meeting.

9.0 Schedule of Manager’s Orders

- 9.1 Schedule of Manager’s Orders - Infrastructure
- 9.2 Schedule of Manager’s Orders - Environment
- 9.3 Schedule of Manager’s Orders – Housing Construction
- 9.4 Schedule of Manager’s Orders – Community & Enterprise

The Manager’s Orders were noted.

10.0 Presentations from Other Bodies

11.0 Any Other Business

In reply to Councillor Cantwell’s queries regarding the new leisure facility in Trim, Kevin Stewart, Director of Services outlined the factual position as set out in the agreement with the operators.

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