



Miontuairiscí/ Meeting Minutes

Ordinary Meeting 7th February 2011, Council Chamber

An Cathaoirleach, Councillor Ann Dillon-Gallagher presided.

Members Present:

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

Officials in Attendance:

County Manager Tom Dowling

Directors of Service: Tadhg McDonnell, Kevin Stewart, Brendan McGrath, Fiona Lawless.

Meetings Administrator Martin Rogers

Senior Executive Officers: Larry Whelan, Ger Murphy (Acting)

Senior Planner: Pat Gallagher

Administrative Officer: Olive Falsey

Apologies: Councillor Joe Reilly and Councillor Ray Butler.

1.0 Confirmation of Minutes

- 1.1 Confirmation of minutes of Monthly meeting held on 10th January 2011.
The minutes of Monthly meeting held on 10th January 2011 were confirmed on the proposal of **Councillor John V. Farrelly** and seconded by **Councillor Maria Murphy**.

2.0 Matters arising from the Minutes

No matters arising.

3.0 Expressions of Sympathy and Congratulations

Sympathy was extended to:

- Vera Farrelly, Planning Department, on the death of her father, Peter Farrelly.

Congratulations were extended to:

- The OPW on receiving an Award at the recent LAMA Awards and to all the other projects that were short-listed for awards.

4.0 Statutory Business

4.1 Environment



Miontuairiscí/ Meeting Minutes

- 4.1.1 To consider raising a loan of €1,350,000 for costs which will be incurred as a result of development of new Dunshaughlin burial ground, and extensions to Dunboyne and Kilcloon burial grounds.

The Slane Members expressed their concern at the situation in Stamullen where there is no more space in the cemetery and burials must take place at Moorechurch.

Brendan McGrath informed the meeting that €500,000 had been included in the budget for burial grounds and that it was intended to make improvements to Stamullen, Boyerstown and Kilmessan graveyards.

Raising the loan was approved on the proposal of **Councillor Noel Leonard** and seconded by **Councillor Tommy Reilly**.

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

6.0 Report from Protocol Committee

The Meetings' Administrator advised that correspondence had been received from Cary, and from the Meath Associations of New York and London regarding St. Patrick's Day events. The Protocol committee proposed that four Councillors and the Cathaoirleach would travel to New York and that four Councillors would travel to London.

Councillor Yore suggested that Councillors travelling for St. Patrick's Day events would pay their own travel costs.

The proposed trips were approved on the proposal of **Councillor John V. Farrelly** and seconded by **Councillor Willie Carey**

7.0 Correspondence

- 7.1 Correspondence from An Bord Pleanála re Deadline for Submission of Report on Strategic Infrastructure Development Application for Increase In the Rate of Waste Acceptance, Extension of the Operational Footprint and New Waste Treatment Infrastructure at Residual Landfill, Knockharley, Co. Meath.

It was noted that a report from the Council on this application must be submitted to An Bord Pleanála by 14th March, 2011.

Brendan McGrath, Director of Services, advised that this matter would be on the March agenda for consideration.

- 7.2 Correspondence from Comhairle na Míre Gaile re procedure for nominations for Bravery Awards.
A formal proposal was put forward to nominate Derek Allen, Trim, who along with his father had rescued a 12-year old girl who drifted out to sea at Bettystown.
It was approved on the proposal of **Councillor Jimmy Fegan** and seconded by **Councillor John V. Farrelly**. Councillor Fegan to forward details to the Meetings' Administrator.

- 7.3 Circular Letter BC 1/2011 – Building Regulations (Part M Amendment) Regulations 2010.
Noted



Miontuairiscí/ Meeting Minutes

- 7.4 Correspondence from NRA re National and Non – National Roads Grants 2011 Allocations.

There was much discussion regarding the 2011 allocations with the main points as follows:

- Funding for Slane by-pass welcomed. The forthcoming oral hearing was noted along with concerns as to the outcome.
- A special case should be made for funding to repair the roads. Will it be possible to transfer monies as was done last year?
- The need for funding to upgrade the new road circuit for the Kells International Road Races.
- A signage audit should be conducted, additional signage on M3 needed, especially for alternative routes, and for some local businesses.
- Signage strategy needs to be completed without delay.
- The funding for the Duleek by-pass and for bridge inspections was welcomed.

The Cathaoirleach summarised and welcomed the funding allocations. She stressed the need for signage to be in place for the Solheim Cup and also stressed the importance of the Slane by-pass bearing in mind the number of fatalities over the years.

The Co. Manager responded and outlined the following:

- Acknowledged the need for action to repair the roads and that a flexible approach would be examined in consultation with the Director of Transportation.
- Acknowledged the importance of signage for Solheim Cup and informed the meeting that the signage strategy/policy is ready to be presented to the SPC.
- The additional signage for alternative routes is important and the Council will endeavour to rectify this situation.
- The allocation provided for Duleek by-pass recognises the principle for the by-pass and will allow the design process to commence.
- In relation to the Slane by-pass, the Council will be putting forward the best possible case but the outcome of a statutory process cannot be predicted or guaranteed.

- 7.5 Correspondence from Dept of Environment, Heritage and Local Government re Training for Elected Members on the Planning and Development (Amendment) Act 2010 – Regional Seminars.
Noted and response due by 11th March.

- 7.6 Correspondence from Health Service Executive re Regional Hospital for the North East.

It was noted that there had been no progress since the site was identified. Councillors stressed the importance of the delivery of the project and hoped that the new administration would continue the focus on the new regional hospital for Navan and the rail-line project.

8.0 Notice of Question

9.0 Notice of Motion



Miontuairiscí/ Meeting Minutes

9.1 Submitted by Councillor Francis Deane:

“I call on Meath County Council to write to the Minister for Justice and Law Reform asking him to examine and amend legislation pertaining to existing long term rental leases containing ‘upwards only’ clauses. I ask the Members of Meath County Council (some of whom may be Members of the 31st Dáil) to support this motion of mine.”

After a short discussion, the motion, as proposed by **Councillor Francis Deane** and seconded by **Councillor Brian Fitzgerald**, 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

Questions asked in relation to MO 080/2010 and 289/2010 were answered by the officials in attendance.

11.0 Presentations

12.0 Any Other Business

- The issue of the Statutory Auditor’s Report for year ended 2009 was raised and it was pointed out that the Members received this report at the November 2010 meeting.
- The issue of changes to constituency boundaries and the revised polling locations was raised and the meeting was informed of a communications plan to alert electors to all the changes in advance of the elections.