



Miontuairiscí/ Meeting Minutes

Ordinary Meeting 7th March 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, 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, Joe Reilly, Catherine Yore.

Officials in Attendance:

County Manager Tom Dowling

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

Meetings Administrator Martin Rogers

Senior Executive Officers: Michael Griffin, Ger Murphy (Acting)

Senior Engineer: Gerry Lynn (Acting)

Planning Staff: Pat Gallagher, Fiona Redmond, Orla O' Brien.

Administrative Officer: Olive Falsey

Apologies:

An Cathaoirleach opened the meeting and congratulated Councillors Ray Butler and Regina Doherty on their election to Dáil Éireann. It was agreed on the proposal of **Councillor John V Farrelly** and seconded by **Councillor Tommy Reilly** to hold a special meeting on Monday 14th March 2011 at 2.00p.m. to fill the casual vacancies arising from their election.

1.0 Confirmation of Minutes

- 1.1** Confirmation of minutes of Monthly meeting held on 7th February 2011.
The minutes of Monthly meeting held on 7th February 2011 were confirmed on the proposal of **Councillor Tommy Reilly** and seconded by **Councillor John V. Farrelly**

2.0 Matters arising from the Minutes

No matters arising

3.0 Expressions of Sympathy and Congratulations

None

4.0 Statutory Business

4.1 Planning



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4.1.1 **Navan Development Plan 2009-2015**

To receive the Managers report in respect of submissions and observations received as a result of the display of the Draft Local Area Plan 1 for Johnstown/Athlumney in accordance with Section 20 (3)(c)(i) of the Planning and Development Acts 2000-2010. **Received.**

4.1.2 **Review of existing Meath County Development Plan 2007-2013 and Preparation of a new County Development Plan 2013-2019**

To receive a presentation on the Pre Draft Public Consultation Phase: Strategic Issue Paper.

Orla O' Brien, Acting Senior Executive Planner, made a presentation and this was followed by a discussion. The following points were raised.

- Current Development Plan not fully implemented – is it necessary to invest such time and resources in the preparation of a new plan especially in the current circumstances.
- The new Plan should reflect the current strategies in place and there should be innovative ways for public interaction especially via the Web.
- Many parts of the Plan need not change but we need to scrutinize its suitability in the current circumstances and focus on integration and community involvement.

The Meath Co. Development Plan 2013-2019 'Strategic Issues Paper' booklet was circulated and welcomed as a very informative document.

4.1.3 **Navan Rail Project**

To receive a briefing on proposed amendments to the Dunshaughlin Local Area Plan 2009-2015 relating to Navan Rail Project.

Referred to the Dunshaughlin Area Meeting

4.1.4 To receive the Managers report on an application for an “increase in the rate of acceptance, extension of the operational footprint & new waste treatment infrastructure, at residual landfill Knockharley Co Meath by Greenstar North East Limited (Ref 17.PA0019) and if appropriate to resolve to attach to that report, the recommendations of the members on the proposed development, as recorded by the meetings administrator in accordance with Section 37E (6) of the Planning & Development (Strategic Infrastructure) Act 2006 as amended”.

The Members having considered the Manager's report in respect of a proposal by Greenstar North East Limited to increase the rate of acceptance, to extend the operational footprint & to provide new waste treatment infrastructure at Knockharley Kentstown and after receiving a presentation by Ms Fiona Redmond, Senior Executive Planner which provided an overview of the application, summarised the legislative context and gave the views of the Planning Authority on the proposal, **unanimously resolved, on the proposition of Cllr Eugene Cassidy seconded by Cllr Nick Killian, to append a recommendation to the Manager's report calling on An Bord Pleanála to refuse the proposal by Greenstar North East Ltd.**



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During the course of their deliberations the following points were raised by the Members in respect of the proposed development.

- Referred the attention of the meeting to the content of the Manager's report (section 12.0) and the clear opposition of the North East Regional steering group to the proposal to increase the rate of intake of waste at the facility outlined therein.
- Concerns that the proposed deepening of the landfill had the potential to impact on ground waters.
- That there is already sufficient composting and anaerobic digestion capacity within Co Meath.
- Concerns that the facility would accept Asbestos waste.
- Noted the previous refusal of a similar proposal by An Bord Pleanála
- Questioned the source of bottom ash from incineration processes.
- Questioned the origin and indeed the need for additional construction / demolition waste capacity.
- Cited the poor track record of the company in complying with the terms of its waste licence
- Stated that the increase in landfill capacity in the region would negatively impact on the regions objective to reach a 43% recycling rate.
- That land-filling is the least favoured option in the waste hierarchy.
- The inadequacy of a number of desk based studies contained in the EIS.
- Requested that An Bord Pleanála examine every detail of the proposal in a fastidious manner and that ABP should seek any further information it deems necessary.
- Questioned the statement within the EIS that the "odours" would remain within the site area.
- Questioned the effectiveness of the EPA to enforce compliance with relevant environmental standards.
- Questioned if there will be sufficient waste to satisfy the maximum intake capacities at landfills in the region and the Carranstown and Ringsend incinerators.
- Questioned if there will be a requirement within the facility for "24 hr" Anaerobic digestion facilities if an increase in the waste intake is not permitted.
- That the intensification proposed is driven by economic considerations and not waste policy.
- Cited the visual impact of the proposed structures and stack.
- Questioned the appropriateness of accepting bottom ash at the landfill and that such material should be used as a resource not a waste.
- The potential impact of increased vehicular traffic on Duleek village if increased waste capacity is permitted at the facility.
- The cumulative impact of the proposed increase in waste infrastructure in the county and the impact of such infrastructure on the counties heritage and tourism sector.
- Noted the potential health impacts of a concentration of waste facilities in the area.



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The Members were informed that the minute of the Members' deliberations in respect of the proposal, together with the resolution calling for the refusal of the proposed development, would be appended to the Manager's report on the proposal and submitted to an Bord Pleanála in accordance with Section 37E (6) of the Planning and Developments Acts.

- 4.1.5 To consider the making of a declaration, as recommended by the Slane Area Members at the December Monthly Committee meeting on Wednesday 15th December 2010 and in accordance with Section 11 Roads Act 1993 and the Planning & Development Act 2000-2009, that the roads within the estates listed hereunder shall be public roads and taken in the charge of Meath County Council.

Estate	Location
Betaghstown Wood (Phase 2)	Eastham Road, Bettystown, Co Meath
Castlemartin	Eastham Road ,Bettystown, Co Meath
The Commons	Main Street, Duleek Co Meath
Gracemeadows	Cockhill Road, Stamullen Co Meath
The Orchard	Cockhill Road, Stamullen, Co Meath
Downstown Manor	Downstown Road, Duleek, Co Meath
The Steeples	Longford Road, Duleek Co Meath
The Cloisters	Eastham Road, Bettystown Co Meath
Ard Rí	Beymore Road, Lagavooren, Drogheda Co Meath

Approved on the proposal of **Councillor Wayne Harding** and seconded by **Councillor Eoin Holmes**.

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

Nothing to report.

7.0 Correspondence

- 7.1 Circular RST 02/2011 from Department of Transport re Guidelines for the Setting up of Special Speed Limits (2010).
Noted
- 7.2 Correspondence from DoEHLG re Additional Supplementary funding for Severe Weather Affected Areas.
Noted



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- 7.3 Circular LG 02/11 – Position of councillors who are elected to Dáil Éireann.
Noted

8.0 Notice of Question
None

9.0 Notice of Motion
None

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

- 11.1 Presentation by National Transport Authority on Draft Transport Strategy for the Greater Dublin Area.

In attendance from the NTA were Gerry Murphy C.E.O. and Hugh Creegan, Director. Gerry Murphy made a presentation to the Members. Following the presentation, the Members raised a number of issues summarised as follows:

- Public transport service needs to be improved – no link up or integration. Many small villages have no service.
- Charging for road usage is the wrong approach.
- There is an urgent need for bus shelters in many parts of the County.
- Leinster Orbital Route should be finalised.
- The public transport system needs to be integrated, reliable and efficient.
- NTA should have input into the Rail Line project.

Gerry Murphy responded as follows:

- Very difficult to address all the problems. There are seven studies underway at present.
- The provision of bus shelters will begin this year.
- Dublin Bus and Bus Eireann have the lowest subsidies in Europe. Government need to hear this message. Low volume routes can be picked up if subsidised.
- Rail fare anomalies need to be addressed – Irish Rail was instructed to address the issue in Kilcock.
- It is important that Local Authorities and Regional Authorities are brought back into the debate regarding the development of public transportation.

The Co. Manager thanked the representatives for the presentation and outlined the Council's commitment to work in partnership with the NTA to develop the best possible public transport system.



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12.0 Any Other Business

The issue of the provision of an 'alternative routes' sign on the approach to the M3 toll station was raised and it was agreed that the matter would be taken up with the NRA.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Following the meeting, An Cathaoirleach made a presentation to the newly elected Dáil Deputies Ray Butler and Regina Doherty and wished both of them every success in their new roles in Dáil Eireann. The Deputies thanked the Cathaoirleach, the Members and the Officials for their good wishes and emphasised their commitment to continue their work on behalf of the people of Co. Meath.