



## *Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes*

### *Ordinary Meeting 5<sup>th</sup> May 2009, Council Chamber*

An Cathaoirleach, Councillor Liz Mc Cormack, presided.

#### **Members Present:**

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

#### **Officials in Attendance:**

**County Manager:** Tom Dowling

**Head of Finance:** Fiona Lawless,

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

**Meetings Administrator** Bill Sweeney

**Senior Planners:** Pat Gallagher, Wendy Bagnall (A)

**Senior Executive Officers:** Martin Rogers, Larry Whelan

**Administrative Officers:** Olive Falsey

**Apologies:** Tadhg McDonnell

#### **1.0 Confirmation of Minutes**

##### **1.1 Confirmation of Minutes of Monthly Meeting held on April 6<sup>th</sup> 2009**

The minutes of the meeting of 6<sup>th</sup> April 2009 were confirmed on the proposal of Cllr Murray seconded by Cllr Leonard.

The Cathaoirleach and members paid tribute to outgoing Cllrs Michael Lynch Jenny Darcy and Peter Higgins. Members highlighted Cllr Lynch's long and distinguished service as a public representative.

The Co Manager joined in the tributes and wished all retiring Councillors well.

#### **2.0 Matters arising from the minutes**

#### **3.0 Expressions of Sympathy and Congratulations**

The family of the late Kevin McConnell a former member of the Council.

#### **4.0 Correspondence**

4.1 Correspondence received from The Meath Association of London.

4.2 Correspondence received from Eirgrid re Eirgrid 400V Power Line Projects to next Phase.



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- 4.3 Correspondence received from NRA re 2009 Maintenance Allocations / April 2009 Budget.
- 4.4 Correspondence received from DoEHLG, Circular L3/09 re Water Services Investment Programme.
- 4.5 To receive report on amendments to the Polling Scheme and Register of Electors consequent to the publication of the Navan Town Boundary Alteration Order 2009 and Navan Town Boundary (Supplementary) Order 2009.

The Meetings Administrator advised members that the Navan process provided a template to address the complex issues that need to be resolved in extending the functional boundary of a town council. Both Trim and Kells would benefit from the experience gained.

The County Manager advised that the winner of the Architectural competition for the new Corporate Headquarters would be announced in the coming days. He emphasised that no architect was being appointed at the present time and that significant value had been added to the site by undertaking the competition.

### **5.0 EU Correspondence**

- 5.1 EU News Bulletin – Number 58 – March 2009
- 5.2 EU Policy Review – Number 2/09 - Feb / March 2009

### **6.0 Report from Protocol Committee**

The Meetings Administrator reported as follows:

Agreed to hold Special Planning meeting on 25/5/09 at 9.30am

Nominations forms available from the returning Officer with forms to be returned by appointment.

### **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 Taking in Charge Woodlands and Woodlands Manor estates Ratoath as recommended by Dunshaughlin Area Members at the April



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monthly committee meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> April 2009. (Report & map attached)

Unanimously agreed on the proposal of Cllr Bonner seconded by Cllr Bobbett

### 8.2 **Infrastructure**

- 8.2.1 To consider the Manager's Report in accordance with Part VIII of the Planning & Development Regulations 2001 and 2006, to commence work on East Meath, South Louth & Drogheda Water Improvement Scheme – Kiltrough Water Augmentation Scheme – Stage 2 Works .

Report and recommendation to proceed noted.

### 8.3 **Housing, Social Community & Cultural**

- 8.3.1 To consider recommendations for the Biannual Arts Grant Scheme Phase I 2009 (recommendations attached).

Unanimously agreed on the proposal of Cllr Cantwell seconded by Cllr Cudden

- 8.3.2 To consider recommendations for the School Musical Instrument Purchase Scheme 2009 (recommendations attached).

Unanimously agreed on the proposal of Cllr Mangan seconded by Cllr Dillon Gallagher

### 8.4 **Finance**

- 8.4.1 To approve over expenditure for the financial year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2008 in accordance with S 104 of the Local Government Act 2001.

Approved on the proposal of Cllr Farrelly seconded by Cllr Fegan

- 8.4.2 To consider the Draft Annual Financial Statement for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2008.

Presentation given by F Lawless highlighting:



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- 3<sup>rd</sup> consecutive year of achieving a surplus ( allowing for the Ebonwood compensation claim)
- Significant progress on cost reduction projects including restructuring of machinery yard
- €1m reduction in deficit in the past 3 years.
- Over expenditure compensated for by increased income
- Issue with water charges collection now resolved

Approved on the proposal of Cllr Farrelly seconded by Cllr Fitzgerald.

In response to members questions F Lawless advised that in addressing unfunded capital balances development levies had been transferred between electoral areas. This was prudent financial management and any levies transferred would be regarded as a loan

### **9.0 Notice of Motion**

#### **9.1 Submitted by Councillor John V Farrelly on behalf of the Fine Gael Councillors (deferred from April Meeting)**

*“That the Council call on the Government:*

*To maintain investment in primary education.*

*“To avoid increasing class sizes at primary level and to ensure that the educational opportunities of our children are protected in these economically challenging times”.*

Agreed on the proposal of Cllr Farrelly seconded by Cllr Carey.

#### **9.2 Submitted by Councillor Philip Cantwell**

*“That Meath County Council call on the powers responsible to designate the Hill of Tara as a World Heritage Site and support the application submitted by Juliette Clancy on behalf of her Group. Furthermore, in the interests of our Heritage and Tourism and Culture, Meath County Council shall support all other applications to have the Hill of Tara declared a World Heritage Site”*

Agreed on the proposal of Cllr Cantwell seconded by Cllr Bonner

#### **9.3 Submitted by Councillor Philip Cantwell**

*“That Meath County Council shall write to the Minister for Environment,*



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*Heritage and Local Government Minister John Gormley TD and Minister for Arts, Sports and Tourism Minister Martin Cullen TD, to return to County Meath for burial all remains removed during road repairs and or construction and having been sent to the National Museum are no longer required for medical science of other museum scientific purposes and these remains shall be buried in the nearest graveyard of whatever religion to their place of removal and a record kept in the museum of their reburial and the grave marked and or numbered in accordance with best practice”*

The motion was withdrawn with the agreement of the meeting on the proposal of Cllr Cantwell seconded by Cllr Fegan

### **10.0 Schedule of Manager’s Orders**

- 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

### **11.0 Any Other Business**

In updating members on Traffic Management in Slane E Cummins reiterated that the imposition of a HGV ban was not a simple matter. A full analysis had been carried out of accidents in Slane and improvements in traffic calming measures were being considered in conjunction with the NRA. A further report would be brought to the July meeting.

There being no further business the meeting concluded.