



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

Ashbourne Municipal District

Ordinary Meeting

10:00 a.m., 9th July 2019, Ashbourne Civic Offices

An Cathaoirleach, **Councillor Alan Tobin**, presided.

Councillors Present: Joe Bonner, Amanda Smith and Conor Tormey.

Apologies: Councillors Suzanne Jamal and Darren O'Rourke.

Officials in Attendance:

Head of Finance: Fiona Lawless

Meetings Administrator: Claire King

Executive Engineer: Mel Cronin

Staff Officer: Triona Keating

The Cathaoirleach, Councillor Alan Tobin, opened the meeting by welcoming Councillor Amanda Smith to the meeting, having been appointed at the recent full council meeting.

1 Confirmation of Minutes

1.1 Confirmation of minutes of Ordinary Meeting held on, 20th May 2019.

The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 20th May 2019 were confirmed on the proposal of **Councillor Conor Tormey** and seconded by **Councillor Alan Tobin**.

1.2 Confirmation of minutes of Annual Meeting held on 17th June 2019.

The minutes of the Annual Meeting held on 17th June 2019 were confirmed on the proposal of **Councillor Alan Tobin** and seconded by **Councillor Conor Tormey**.

2 Matters arising from the Minutes



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Councillor Alan Tobin queried as to whether any correspondence had been received from Irish Water in response to issues raised at the May meeting. It was confirmed that no response had yet been received.

3 Expressions of Sympathy and Congratulations

Sympathy was extended to:

- All Meath County Council staff members who had recently lost relatives.

Congratulations were extended to:

- Ashbourne Community School on being nominated as the first Marine Ambassador School and is due to host the first School Ocean Assemblé in October.

4 To consider the election, appointment or nomination of Councillors to Local Bodies & Committees

- 4.1.1 To consider the appointment of one Councillor from Ashbourne Municipal District to the Local Traveller Accommodation Consultative Committee.

There was agreement that Ashbourne Municipal District would not appoint a representative at this time.

- 4.1.2 To consider the appointment of one Councillor from Ashbourne Municipal District to Knockharley Community Liaison Committee.

Councillor Amanda Smith was proposed by Councillor Conor Tormey and seconded by Councillor Amanda Smith.

Councillor Joe Bonner was proposed by Councillor Joe Bonner and seconded by Councillor Alan Tobin.

As there were two nominations for the one appointment to the Knockharley Community Liaison Committee, a roll call vote was taken with the following result:

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Councillor	Vote
BONNER, Joe	Bonner, Joe
JAMAL, Suzanne	Absent
O'ROURKE, Darren	Absent
SMITH, Amanda	Smith, Amanda
TOBIN, Alan	Bonner, Joe
TORMEY, Conor	Smith, Amanda

RESULT:

BONNER, Joseph - 2 votes

SMITH, Amanda - 2 votes

As both candidates remained with an equality of votes, the remaining position was decided by the drawing of lots, following which **Councillor Joe Bonner** was declared appointed.

5 Statutory Business

5.1 Transportation

5.1.1 To receive a Progress Report on works undertaken/planned for Ashbourne Municipal District.

The report had been circulated in advance and the key projects were outlined.

Matters raised by councillors included:

- Requested a list of footpath works in Garden City.
- The timeframe for the provision of solar compacting bins – it was pointed out that Ashbourne Municipal District has more of these bins than other municipal districts. Whilst they are effective and efficient, they represent a

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large capital and maintenance cost. A survey of bins is being undertaken, ascertaining the condition of each and suitable locations will then be considered, e.g. Hill of Tara.

- The need to ensure grass verges are maintained to improve visibility of road markings, e.g. N2 – it was pointed out that contractors had commenced works on over 180 sites and are due to complete this work in the coming days. In some areas, e.g. M1, specialised traffic management is required.
- The amount of work being undertaken was commended.

5.1.2 To receive an update on the proposed Traffic Calming Scheme on the R155 at Curragha.

Paul Phelan, Senior Executive Engineer, Transportation outlined the proposed works, the submissions received and responses made. It was pointed out some of the concerns raised would be addressed in the detailed design stage.

Matters raised by councillors included:

- The need for traffic controls at the church during events, a bus drop off point and improved signage before the bridge.
- The need for a signalised junction and/or ramps before and after the junction to slow traffic approaching the pedestrian crossing.
- The works to be undertaken by Irish Water – it was pointed out that resurfacing would be carried out when these other works were completed.
- The possibility of including bus stops and electric vehicle charging points, restricting HGVs on local roads and approaching crossroads, and providing a pull-in area at the 1798 monument.
- The funding allocated and timeframe – it was confirmed that an allocation of €200,000 had been received and an application for additional funding had also been made to DTTAS. The detailed design is to be completed and the tender



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issued to confirm the expected costing, and it is hoped to commence works in the autumn.

The Cathaoirleach and councillors welcomed the proposals.

5.2 Library Services

5.2.1 To receive an update on the Meath County Council Programme for Ashbourne 2020.

Ciarán Mangan, County Librarian outlined the planned programme of events, including the grant scheme, art works, commemorative publication, library/arts programme, arts exhibition and *Cruinniú na nÓg*.

The Cathaoirleach and councillors thanked Ciarán and his team for the work put in to developing this programme. In response to queries raised, it was confirmed that the Ashbourne 2020 Committee were developing their own programme of events and, once finalised, these would be publicised on the website. The detail around the planned civic event, to take place in or around 4th March 2020, is to be finalised. It was suggested that, if possible, an outdoor event, possibly coinciding with an official opening, be organised for the amphitheatre in the Linear Park.

5.3 Community

5.3.1 To receive an update on the Ashbourne Linear Park.

The update had been circulated in advance and matters raised by councillors included:

- The level of feedback from the community and the need to progress the project as quickly as possible and avoid any further delays.
- Requested confirmation that the works were on target to be completed by the end of August.



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- The need to communicate with councillors and local residents where any disruption was likely as a result of works.
- Requested an update on security arrangements including the installation of CCTV, opening hours and access via the gate on the bridge.
- Requested the report that was to be provided following the presentation by consultants in April 2018 in relation to Zones 6 & 7 and the brief they were given in relation to same – it was pointed out that the allocated budget is required to complete the works currently being undertaken.
- Requested an update on the Department of Education & Skills land.

5.4 Corporate Services

- 5.4.1 Friendship/Twinning Visit to Corcubion – 18th to 22nd July 2019 and to nominate a third Councillor to participate in the trip.

It was agreed that, due to the unavailability of councillors, an additional official participate in the trip as part of a learning exchange.

6 Notice of Question

6.1 Submitted by Councillor Alan Tobin

“Can a bye-law be introduced in Ashbourne Municipal District or town to stop HGVs, HGV trailers and buses from parking on the hard shoulder or public roads?”

Response:

Section 38 of the Road Traffic (Traffic and Parking) Regulations, 1997 sets out how to implement Restrictions on Parking Heavy Goods Vehicles. It states that where the ‘Prohibition on Parking Sign’ is provided at the entrance to an area in association with an information plate containing a symbol to indicate a large vehicle, a vehicle whose unladen weight exceeds the weight specified on the information plate, shall not be

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parked in the said area. Note that this prohibition does not apply to a large vehicle parked while goods are being loaded in or on to it or unloaded from it, for a period not exceeding thirty minutes from the commencement of the parking.

The extract below from the Traffic Signs Manual shows the signage required and contains information about its erection. The permitted weight limits referred to in 5.17.10 are 3.5t, 7.5t, 10t, 12.5t, 18t, 26t and 32t. Note that it is necessary to consult with the Gardaí in relation to erection of regulatory signage.

ZONAL PARKING RESTRICTIONS

5.17.9 It may be required to limit or prohibit parking by large vehicles within a defined zone. In these circumstances the No Parking Sign, RUS 019, can be used as part of an assembly with Supplementary Plate P 056 to indicate the entry and exit points of the zone. The size of the RUS 019 roundel should be in accordance with Table 5.7 in Section 5.12.

5.17.10 This sign indicates that there is a zonal restriction on the parking of vehicles exceeding a specific weight (e.g. 7.5t as shown). At the end of the restriction zone, the variant displaying "Críoch / END" should be provided. Permitted values for weight limits are given in Section 5.15.

5.17.11 These signs should be erected on both sides of the road, and the entry and end signs will generally be mounted back to back except in the case of one-way streets.



P 056: ZONAL NO PARKING

Requirement:	RUS 019 to be mounted within the plate, as shown.
Required Variants:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Shall show the maximum weight in accordance with Paragraph 5.15.3. 2. Lower panel shall display Ceantar ZONE or Críoch END.

The response was noted. Reference was also made to the issues relating to trucks parking in the industrial estate and it was pointed out that funding had been allocated for the industrial estate which will include double yellow lines to facilitate enforcement. Heavy duty bollards can also be used to prevent parking on grass verges.

7 Notice of Motion

There were no Notices of Motion.

8 Correspondence

There was no correspondence.



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9 Any Other Business

9.1 Councillor Amanda Smith raised the following issues:

- 9.1.1 Requested an update on the taking in charge process for the Grange, Stamullen.
- 9.1.2 Requested improved signage and access at the Fourknocks, Stamullen – it was pointed out that this is an OPW site.
- 9.1.3 Requested advice on the steps required to secure small village/craig status for Cushinstown – it was pointed out that this would be addressed as part of the County Development Plan review, with councillors able to make relevant submissions.
- 9.1.4 The need for improved traffic calming at schools in Ardcath and Stamullen – it was pointed out that ramps and a pedestrian crossing had been installed in Skryne this year. A risk assessment is carried out at each proposed location, following which the appropriate measures are considered.

9.2 Councillor Alan Tobin raised the following issues:

- 9.2.1 Requested a written update and timeframe for the flood alleviation works.
- 9.2.2 Referred to two overflowing compost heaps in Deerpark.

9.3 Councillor Conor Tormey referred to the following issue:

- 9.3.1 Requested that the ditches opposite Cherry Court on the Dublin Road be cleaned out once Irish Water works were completed.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed:



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Cathaoirleach