



## ***Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes***

### ***Kells Municipal District***

#### ***Ordinary Meeting***

***4.00pm, 15<sup>th</sup> July, 2019, Kells Civic Offices***

An Cathaoirleach, **Councillor Seán Drew**, presided.

**Councillors Present:**, Mike Bray, Eugene Cassidy, David Gilroy, Paul McCabe, Sarah Reilly.

**Apologies:** Councillor Johnny Guirke.

**Officials in Attendance:**

**Director of Service:** Barry Lynch

**Meetings Administrator:** Claire King

**Senior Resident Engineer:** Fiona Beers

**Clerical Officer:** Edita Zolotuchina

**Apologies:** Kevin Stewart, Director of Service and Aaron Smith, Executive Engineer.

#### **1 Confirmation of Minutes**

##### **1.1 Confirmation of minutes of Ordinary Meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> May, 2019.**

The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on the 20<sup>th</sup> May 2019 were confirmed on the proposal of **Councillor David Gilroy** and seconded by **Councillor Sarah Reilly**.

##### **1.2 Confirmation of minutes of Annual Meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> June 2019.**

The minutes of the Annual Meeting held on the 17<sup>th</sup> June 2019 were confirmed on the proposal of **Councillor Paul McCabe** and seconded by **Councillor Mike Bray**.

#### **2 Matters arising from the Minutes**

Councillor Paul McCabe confirmed that the matter of re-commissioning the former Town Council chain of office had been raised at a meeting of the Protocol Committee and that the



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matter is to be considered further, with the possibility of acquiring new chains rather than re-commissioning the old chain.

### **3 Expressions of Sympathy and Congratulations**

Sympathy was extended to:

- The family of the late Councillor Oliver Tully, Louth County Council.

Congratulations were extended to:

- The Executive Committee of the Leinster Fleadh that had recently taken place in Athboy/Rathcairn and thanks were extended to the council and all councillors involved.

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

- 4.1 Appointment of one Councillor from Kells Municipal District to the Local Traveller Accommodation Consultative Committee. (Deferred from the June AGM)

**Councillor David Gilroy** was appointed on the proposal of Councillor Sarah Reilly and seconded by Councillor Eugene Cassidy.

### **5 Statutory Business**

#### **5.1 Transportation**

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

The report, circulated in advance, was noted.



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- 5.1.2 To receive an update on the proposed Traffic Calming Scheme on the R162 at Kilberry.

Paul Phelan, Senior Executive Engineer, Transportation confirmed that, following the non-statutory public display period, no submissions had been received and that, if agreed, the scheme would proceed in the autumn, subject to funding and landowner agreement.

It was agreed that the scheme should proceed, as outlined.

### **5.2 Housing**

- 5.2.1 To receive the Chief Executive's Report in accordance with Part 8 of the Planning & Development Act 2000–2018 and the Planning & Development Regulations 2001–2018 on proposed housing development at Nobber of 19 housing units in total (6 no. 1 bed single storey houses, 8 no. 2 bed two storey houses and 5 no. 3 bed two storey houses), including all site development works, with vehicular access through the existing development at Cluain Beag and a new pedestrian access via O'Carolan Park. The works include the construction of a farm access laneway off the Cregg Road. (P819007)

David Jones, Senior Executive Officer outlined a number of housing schemes, either underway or planned, in the municipal district and the Part 8 process. Pdraig Maguire, Senior Executive Planner outlined the Chief Executive's report, including submissions, assessment, scheme design and planning conditions.

Matters raised by councillors included:

- The issues affecting Cluain Beag estate, including density, lack of green space and road width, with concerns having been expressed regarding access by emergency services and utility providers. It was suggested that contact be made with the department to request additional funding to provide an alternative access to the proposed housing units – it was pointed out that, due to the nature of the site, the creation of a new entrance may not be considered economically viable, particularly as there are only 19 units involved. It was also pointed out that this site is the only one owned by the council and there is demand for social housing in the area. It was also

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highlighted that, if a motion is adopted that requires additional department funding and this funding is not provided, the scheme will not proceed.

- The possibility of amending the design to provide a security fence instead of a wall adjoining the school property – it was pointed out that the boundary treatment would be agreed by all parties during the construction stage.

It was agreed on the proposal of **Councillor Eugene Cassidy** and seconded by **Councillor Sarah Reilly** to hold a Special Meeting to discuss a proposed amendment to the Part 8 and any related implications. This meeting will take place on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> July at 4.00pm, with a Notice of Motion to be agreed and submitted by councillors seven days in advance of that meeting date.

The Cathaoirleach and councillors acknowledged the progress being made in delivering social housing units in the municipal district. It was suggested that, in light of plans for Carrick Street, consideration be given to maximising the use of the Community House and site for residential development and moving the community facility to the other building acquired on Carrick Street.

### **5.3 Community**

- 5.3.1 To receive the Chief Executive's Report in accordance with Part XI of the Planning & Development Act 2000–2018 and Part VIII of the Planning & Development Regulations 2001–2018 on the proposed development which will consist of upgrading of existing footpaths within the Fairgreen area, upgrading of street furniture, removal of a section of existing stone wall along the north western boundary and rebuilding along new boundary line (existing stone will be reused where possible) and repair of existing stone wall. The site is located in the Architectural Conservation Area of Athboy in the Fairgreen, Athboy, Co. Meath. (P8/190009)

Fiona Fallon, Senior Executive Officer, Community Department outlined the Part 8 proposal, for which Town & Village Renewal funding had been secured. Alan Russell, Executive Planner outlined the Chief Executive's Report, including the detail of the scheme.

Matters raised by councillors included welcoming the proposed works and the level of consultation that had been undertaken and querying the proposed



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timeframe for works to commence – it is hoped to commence works in early-mid September, following the Part 8 process.

Councillors acknowledged the work of the council and Trustees in advancing this project.

### **6 Notice of Question**

#### **6.1 Submitted by Councillor Sarah Reilly**

“To ask for a progress update on the Part 8 Planning for the walk/cycleway from Bective Street to the School Campus.”

**Response:**

*The Transportation Section are currently progressing the pedestrian and cycle facilities on the N52 Kells Bypass that received funding as part of the Outdoor Recreational Scheme. The Part 8 for the footpath from Bective Street to the school campus will be reviewed in due course.*

The response was noted.

### **7 Notice of Motion**

#### **7.1 Submitted by Councillor Sarah Reilly**

“That Meath County Council impress upon the TII the fact that there has been three fatalities and numerous accidents at Balrath Crossroads and request the TII to perform safety improvements at the junction as a matter of urgency.”

**Supporting information subject to the motion being proposed, seconded and considered:**

*The TII continually track and monitor the accident history on the National Road Network using a Network Safety Analysis Process. In the aftermath of a fatal road traffic accident, a specific inspection of the site is undertaken by Gardaí and the Local Authority and a LA16 form is completed and sent to TII. Network Safety Analysis uses collision*



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*data and vehicle kilometres travelled to assess the safety of national roads and to identify high collision locations on the national road network. The outputs of this collision analysis go towards targeting annual road safety remedial measures.*

*Collision data and vehicle kilometres travelled are used to estimate collision frequency and collision rates for the national road network. National roads are assigned reference populations for the Network Safety Analysis. The roads in each category are of similar type and therefore are expected to have similar safety performances. The average collision rate and average collision frequency is calculated for each reference population. The national road network is then divided into approximate 1-kilometre sections. The collision rate and collision frequency are calculated for each 1-kilometre section and the results are compared against the average collision rate and collision frequency for the reference population. High Collision Locations are subsequently identified through benchmarking sites against threshold levels (collision rates and collision frequency) established for each specific reference population.*

*Each high collision location is reviewed by a competent review team. The records for collisions at high collision locations are thoroughly examined as part of this process. This information gives details of the types of collisions that have occurred and are used to help establish if any particular collision pattern is evident. This inspection of the site's collision history, coupled with the site visit where appropriate, helps determine if an engineering countermeasure will improve the safety performance of the location. The accident history at Balrath Cross will be considered as per the foregoing process and Meath County Council will discuss possible measures with the TII that may be appropriate to the site.*

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Sarah Reilly** and seconded by **Councillor Paul McCabe**.

A short discussion followed with councillors underlining the need for urgent action to address the safety issues expressed by residents and affecting the road from the roundabout to Balrath Cross. It was agreed that a detailed report would be requested for the September meeting, to include survey results and proposals for traffic calming measures and a footpath.

The motion was adopted.

## **8 Correspondence**



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There was no correspondence.

### **9 Any Other Business**

9.1 Councillor Mike Bray raised the following issues:

9.1.1 The need for the hedges/trees on the R164 Fordstown/Athboy Road from Gillstown junction to Newtown/Girley Bridge to be cut back as they are forcing traffic on to the middle of the road and causing damage to vehicles – the process for dealing with hedges/trees on privately owned lands was outlined.

9.1.2 The derelict site status of the building on Main Street, Athboy and the role of the local authority in pursuing its redevelopment if it is granted planning permission.

9.2 Councillor Sarah Reilly raised the following issues:

9.2.1 Asked that a letter issue to the Gardaí requesting that they increase their monitoring activity at the playground in Kells due to anti-social behaviour by youths in the area and that outdoor staff be asked to visit the playground first thing on Monday mornings to remove the debris left behind.

9.2.2 Requested an update on capital works in Dulane and Rathmore graveyards and requested that the Heritage Officer be invited to attend the September meeting.

9.2.3 Requested that the Arts Officer be invited to a future meeting to discuss arts activities in the municipal district.

9.2.4 Requested clarification on the installation of CCTV, e.g. on Maudlin Road – the issues were outlined, including funding and the role of Data Controller. A policy is being developed by the JPC and the Gardaí will prioritise the locations.

9.3 Councillor David Gilroy raised the following issue:

9.3.1 Requested that CCTV be installed at the bottle banks in Athboy to deter illegal dumping.



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9.3.2 The extent of illegal dumping taking place in Girley and Frayne bogs, the responsibility for each and the need to introduce measures to prevent access.

9.4 Councillor Paul McCabe raised the following issues:

9.4.1 The possibility of providing a footpath from the village to Belair estate and football pitch in Moynalty – it was agreed to review the location.

9.4.2 Requested that bins are emptied over weekends when events are being held, e.g. Hinterland Festival.

9.5 Councillor Eugene Cassidy raised the following issue:

9.5.1 Requested an update on the illegal dumping at Meath Hill.

9.6 Councillor Seán Drew raised the following issues:

9.6.1 Complaints received regarding the issuing of parking fines during the recent Hinterland Festival.

9.6.2 The process by which the council and Gardaí work together to deal with anti-social behaviour by council housing tenants and requested that the matter be raised with the Garda Chief Superintendent to prioritise the production of evidence and expedite evictions, where appropriate.

9.6.3 The need to consider the nature of an estate where the council purchases housing units and ensure that new tenants do not adversely impact on existing residents.

9.6.4 Requested an update on the proposed agreement for the Kells Victorian Waterworks site.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

**Signed:**





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Cathaoirleach