



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

### ***Laytown-Bettystown Municipal District***

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

***10.00 a.m., 11<sup>th</sup> July, 2019, Duleek Civic Offices***

An Cathaoirleach, **Councillor Sharon Keogan**, presided.

**Councillors Present:** Tom Behan, Wayne Harding, Stephen McKee, Paddy Meade, Sharon Tolan.

**Apologies:** Councillor Annie Hoey.

**Officials in Attendance:**

**Director of Service:** Fiona Lawless

**Meetings Administrator:** Claire King

**Executive Engineer:** Christy Clarke

**Staff Officer:** Triona Keating

### **1 Confirmation of Minutes**

#### **1.1 Confirmation of minutes of Ordinary Meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> May, 2019.**

The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> May, 2019 were confirmed on the proposal of **Councillor Paddy Meade** and seconded by **Councillor Wayne Harding**.

#### **1.2 Confirmation of minutes of Annual Meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> June, 2019.**

The minutes of the Annual Meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> June, 2019 were confirmed on the proposal of **Councillor Paddy Meade** and seconded by **Councillor Tom Behan**.

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

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

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



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

Sympathy was extended to:

- The family of the late Councillor Oliver Tully, Louth County Council with tributes paid to his work on behalf of the community and education sectors.

Congratulations were extended to:

- Ella O'Rourke, Ellen Brodigan and Katie Lenehan on reaching the All Ireland Under 16s Final.

### **4 Statutory Business**

#### **4.1 Transportation**

- 4.1.1 To receive a Progress Report on works undertaken/planned for Laytown-Bettystown Municipal District.

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

- The need for equipment to be repaired in the playgrounds in Bettystown and Laytown – it was confirmed that some of the items had been repaired with quotations sought for additional works.
- Requested that grass clippings be removed from playgrounds when grass is cut – it was agreed that, whilst this did not form part of the contract, it would be checked.
- Thanked the staff for all their assistance during the recent Beach Volleyball competition.
- Welcomed the installation of the solar compacting bins throughout the municipal district and also the roadworks undertaken in Lobinstown.
- Acknowledged the speedy response to reports of Japanese knotweed and queried whether notices are issued to landowners where ragwort is growing –



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

it was pointed out the more invasive species such as knotweed are prioritised, with a process in place for identification, spraying and monitoring.

- The possibility of increasing the number of bins at Bettystown and Laytown beaches, e.g. at Jimmy Tully Bridge – it was confirmed that each request is reviewed but that additional bins are avoided, where possible.
- The review of road markings at junctions – a database of locations is prepared and progressed throughout the year.

### 4.1.2 To receive an update on the Boyne Greenway.

Nicholas Whyatt, Senior Engineer, Transportation attended the meeting with Robert Kelly, DBFL Consultants, who delivered a presentation on the emerging preferred route for the Drogheda to Mornington Greenway, the alignment options, cross section types along the route, recent and ongoing progress, and next steps. The public consultation is provisionally scheduled for August and councillors will be notified in advance.

Matters raised by councillors included:

- Concerns expressed by land owners along Tower Road and Mornington Court regarding possible loss of property to accommodate works and the possibility of engaging in collective negotiation – it was pointed out that whilst some may prefer to engage in collective negotiation, others preferred to do so individually but collective negotiation can be undertaken once representatives have been appointed. It was also pointed out that it was intended to agree a permissive access route rather than by CPO.
- The benefits of providing a visual display to those affected in Mornington Court – it was agreed that the route could be pegged out.
- The impact of the proposal on the available green space in Mornington Court.
- Expressed disappointment that a NIS was now required and that this would require an application to An Bord Pleanála, inevitably leading to delays in the project proceeding – it was pointed out that were the project to be progressed via a Part 8 process and it was objected to on the basis of the NIS



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

not having been undertaken, the process would be over. The non-statutory public consultation will provide a means of providing information to the community and allow issues to be identified and addressed in advance.

- Requested an update on the Section 85 agreement with Louth County Council.
- Referred to many similar issues which had been overcome in other counties through engagement with communities.
- The need to ensure that the application cannot be refused – it was pointed out that a Greenway had been refused in Wexford, with similar issues to the Boyne Greenway and that, whilst every effort had been made to respond to the relevant issues, there were no guarantees that the application would succeed.
- The role of councillors in the decision making process – councillors can make submissions to An Bord Pleanála.
- Requested an update on the Greenway from the Battle of the Boyne site to Slane – funding was secured under the Rural Regeneration Development Fund to prepare the documentation, with a preliminary design to Newgrange. Ecological and technical expertise had been employed but the timeframe, given the SPA/SAC nature of the route, would be 3 to 5 years.
- Proposed that a funding application be made for the Kells to Kingscourt Greenway under Fáilte Ireland's Platforms for Growth investment programme.

### **4.2 Environment**

- 4.2.1 To receive a presentation in relation to the proposal to amend the Foreshore Byelaws 2010.

Larry Whelan, Senior Executive Officer, David Keyes, Senior Executive Engineer and Bernadine Carry, Environmental Education Officer were in attendance and a presentation was delivered, including an update on submissions made on the Beach Management Plan and issue arising, the proposed amendments to the Foreshore Byelaws and the process for amending the byelaws.



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

Matters raised by councillors included:

- The dates for the public consultation – this is to take place for six weeks, from the last week in July to the first week in September.
- The possibility of changing one or more elements of the byelaws – any amendments to the proposed revision must be agreed. Submissions will be brought to the September municipal district meeting and would be brought to the October full council meeting for adoption.
- Concerns regarding the requirement to have dogs on leads and the restrictions on access by horses, including the impact on the activities of horse trainers – the limited restriction on horses was explained, including the times and area. It was also pointed out that the level of investment being made was intended to make the area accessible to all, including wheelchair users, and that any future application for Blue Flag status required such restrictions.
- Referred to the public display periods already undertaken and the requirements due to the SPA/SAC nature of the area – it was pointed out that failure to comply with the NIS would result in the draft plan not being adopted.

In relation to the architectural framework competition for Seaview Terrace, a number of meetings have taken place with the Architects following the contract signing in May. Site information and surveys are being collated, in addition to statutory regulations requirements regarding planning, building, etc. Different options are being reviewed to retain access to the adjacent property, the appropriate assessment screening has been submitted, the archaeological assessment completed and trial pits/archaeological investigation will be required. A questionnaire will be circulated to various bodies and associations next week, with a follow up meeting planned for mid-August. It is intended to bring an update to the September municipal district meeting, with a view to advancing the Part 8 process at the end of September/beginning of October. The tender process would then be completed in April 2020, the works to commence in August 2020 for approximately one year.

It was requested that security at the existing buildings be increased to deter



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

anti-social behaviour, etc.

### **4.3 Corporate Services**

- 4.3.1 To consider a joint meeting with Drogheda Borough District regarding the preparation of a joint Urban Area Plan for Drogheda.

Seán Clarke, Senior Executive Officer, Planning Department outlined the background to this proposal, with the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy, adopted on 28<sup>th</sup> June, including the requirement to prepare a Joint Urban Area Plan, similar to a Local Area Plan. This would include joint retail and other strategies. Whilst the executive of both local authorities had been meeting informally, these meetings would now be formalised, with proceedings to be agreed. Approval is sought to commence this process, with feedback to be brought to the municipal district as appropriate.

Matters raised by councillors included:

- Expressed their full support for this proposal due to the number of shared issues, the increasing need for collaboration and the potential benefits for those living in the affected areas.
- Requested that the composition of any committee allow for equal voting rights and that the Chair of the municipal district be included – it was pointed out that these details have yet to be agreed.
- The statutory status of the plan/committee – it was confirmed that whilst the plan is a statutory process, the committee has a non-statutory basis.

It was unanimously agreed that the process should commence, as outlined.

### **5 Notice of Question**

There were no Notices of Question.

### **6 Notice of Motion**



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

There were no Notices of Motion.

### **7 Other Matters Arising**

There were no other matters arising.

### **8 Correspondence**

There was no correspondence.

### **9 Any Other Business**

9.1 Councillor Sharon Tolan raised the following issues:

9.1.1 Requested an update on the commencement date for works in Alverno Court.

9.1.2 Requested an update on the works to be completed at Northlands following the flood alleviation works, including landscaping and the art installation.

9.2 Councillor Tom Behan raised the following issue:

9.2.1 Referred to anti-social behaviour occurring in a derelict house in Alverno Heights.

9.3 Councillor Stephen McKee raised the following issue:

9.3.1 The need for bus shelters at various locations – it was agreed to seek an update on the policy for their provision.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

**Signed:**

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**Cathaoirleach**



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