



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

### ***Navan Municipal District***

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

***10:00 a.m., 17<sup>th</sup> July, 2019, Navan Civic Offices***

An Meára, **Councillor Tommy Reilly**, presided.

**Councillors Present:** Yemi Adenuga, Francis Deane, Edward Fennessy, Padraig Fitzsimons, Alan Lawes, Emer Tóibín.

**Officials in Attendance:**

**Director of Service:** Des Foley

**Meetings Administrator:** Claire King

**Senior Resident Engineer:** Fiona Beers

**Clerical Officer:** Edita Zolotuchina

**Apologies:** Kevin Stewart, Director of Service

### **1 Confirmation of Minutes**

#### **1.1 Confirmation of minutes of Ordinary Meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> May, 2019.**

The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> May 2019 were confirmed on the proposal of **Councillor Francis Deane** and seconded by **Councillor Edward Fennessy**.

#### **1.2 Confirmation of minutes of Annual Meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> June, 2019.**

The minutes of the Annual Meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> June 2019 were confirmed on the proposal of **Councillor Francis Deane** and seconded by **Councillor Yemi Adenuga**.

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

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

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



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Sympathy was extended to:

- The families of the three councillors who had passed away since the local elections.
- The family of the late Ryan McGovern, Townparks, Navan.
- Jean Whelan on the death of her father and Larry Whelan on the death of his father-in-law, Jimmy Allen.

### **4 Statutory Business**

#### **4.1 Corporate Services**

- 4.1.1 To adopt the Standing Orders for the meetings of Navan Municipal District.

These were adopted on the proposal of **Councillor Edward Fennessy** and seconded by **Councillor Francis Deane**.

#### **4.2 Planning**

- 4.2.1 To receive an update on the Flowerhill and Abbeylands Urban Design Plan from the Paul Hogarth Company.

Wendy Bagnall, Senior Executive Planner outlined the background to the plan and James Hennessy, Paul Hogarth Company delivered a presentation, which included reference to the public consultation and workshops held, the analysis of the findings and key messages, including the river, location, and buildings. The structure of the plan was outlined, as were the projects and next steps. The preparation of the plan was funded under the Urban Regeneration Fund with plans to seek further funding for a range of actions that Meath County Council can progress. It was emphasised that there were a number of stakeholders involved.

Matters raised by councillors included:



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- Welcomed the plan as outlined, including the opportunity to create a sustainable community with high standard residential accommodation, green spaces and a range of small businesses.
  - Underlined the need to deal with the heavy traffic and realign junctions to enhance the area and provide adequate lighting to improve visibility and safety.
  - The possibility of opening up the river and providing a walkway to Johnstown.
  - Welcomed the proposal regarding artwork and the possibility of involving schools in this aspect of the plan.
  - Welcomed the proposal to install CCTV.
  - Queried the plans for dealing with individual buildings – it was underlined that this plan provides a point of reference to monitor progress, prioritise actions and seek funding. Partnership is required with the owners of all properties in the area.
- 4.2.2 To receive an update on the Urban Design Plan/Conservation Management Plan for lands at Railway Street, Navan from Shaffrey Architects.

Wendy Bagnall identified the two sites involved, i.e. County Buildings and the old St. Pat's Classical School. Kevin McKeivitt, Shaffrey Architects delivered a presentation which included the issues and opportunities as they relate to both sites, the outcomes of consultation undertaken with local residents and the overall issues and objectives.

Matters raised by councillors included:

- Welcomed the progress made and how these plans will tie in with the Navan 2030 plan.
- The possibility of creating a cultural quarter, including the library and Solstice.



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- The potential to host different events in the old school and getting young people involved.
- Suggested that consideration be given to providing residential units suitable for older people on the county hall site whilst the benefits of having a car park at this location was also acknowledged.
- The estimated cost of upgrading the old school – this will depend on the level of finish and servicing required.
- The possibility of connecting the two sites – this was confirmed.
- The estimated cost of refurbishing the old school – it was pointed out that this would depend on the level of finish and servicing required.
- The inclusion of the old infirmary in the plan – it was pointed out that this was in private ownership and not within the scope of this plan.
- Contact with adjacent landowners on Academy Street who had developed plans for linkages to these sites and were anxious to become involved.

### **4.3 Transportation**

- 4.3.1 To receive a Progress Report on works undertaken/planned for Navan Municipal District.

The report had been circulated in advance. It was also confirmed that works at the fire station junction were due to be substantially completed this coming weekend, with tidying up works to follow, and works on Railway Street would continue to January 2020, with one lane to be opened for the schools re-opening and works to be suspended over the Christmas period.

### **4.4 Community**

- 4.4.1 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 &

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Development Regulations 2001–2018 on the proposed construction of a new playground, installation of children’s play equipment, carparking area, footpaths and access entrance at Beech Drive, Johnstown, Navan, Co. Meath. (P8/190004).

Fiona Fallon, Senior Executive Officer, Community Department referred to the public consultation undertaken in 2017, which resulted in a playground being the preferred amenity to be provided. Whilst the majority of land is in private ownership, two council owned sites were identified and assessed. One of these at Farganstown is not available for development and is further away from the residential developments in Johnstown. The site at Johnstown Wood, being in a central location, was selected and the Part 8 process commenced. Following the circulation of the Chief Executive’s Report on 21<sup>st</sup> June, a decision is now required by 1<sup>st</sup> August. If no Notice of Motion to amend the proposal is received at this meeting, a Special Meeting would be required before 1<sup>st</sup> August. If a decision is taken to reject the proposal, a reason must be provided. Sandra McCormack, Graduate Planner outlined the report, including reference to 93 submissions received, relating to 32 issues, the recommendation to proceed and the other recommendations included.

It was proposed by **Councillor Francis Deane** and seconded by **Councillor Alan Lawes** to reject the proposal as outlined due to the site being an unsuitable location and it was decided to hold a roll call vote, as follows:

<b>Councillor</b>	<b>Reject/Support</b>
ADENUGA, Yemi	Reject
DEANE, Francis	Reject
FITZSIMONS, Pdraig	Reject
LAWES, Alan	Reject
REILLY, Tommy	Reject
TÓIBÍN, Emer	Reject

It was therefore unanimously agreed to reject the proposal as outlined.

### **5 Notice of Question**



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### **5.1 Submitted by Councillor Francis Deane**

“Regarding the May 2019 survey carried out by consultants pertaining to the regeneration plan for Flowerhill/Abbeylands area, I wish to ask when will funding be available for the proposed projects?”

**Response:**

*Meath County Council received funding to prepare an Urban Regeneration and Public Realm Plan for the Flowerhill area. Work on this has commenced with a number of consultation events/meetings held. Following completion of this report, a number of recommendations will be selected for further development and these will be included in the next round of URDF funding submissions as specific projects.*

The response was noted.

### **5.2 Submitted by Councillor Edward Fennessy**

“Can the executive inform this council when works to address the flooding problem on Bakery Lane will take place?”

**Response:**

*Remedial works to surface water drainage on Bakery Lane are programmed to take place at the end of Summer 2019. The refurbishment of Bakery Lane is included on the master plan for Navan 2030 and it is envisaged that an improved drainage system shall be installed as part of these works.*

The response was noted.

### **5.3 Submitted by Councillor Alan Lawes**

“I would like to ask the Executive of Meath County Council how much the Council spent on the emergency accommodation at No 56 Brews Hill and the Khan Tandoori Indian B+B both in Navan for the years 2016, 2017, 2018, the present cost per room per night in both and also confirm if the council will be continuing to use the emergency accommodation on Brews Hill, following the opening of the homeless Family HUB on Flower Hill by the Fr. McVerry Trust?”

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### Response:

*Expenditure on the provision of emergency accommodation at the properties referenced are outlined in the table below, covering the period 2016-2018.*

	2016	2017	2018
<i>Brews Hill</i>	€162,816	€268,960	€234,416
<i>Tandoori B&amp;B</i>	-	€18,285	€38,945

*The rates charged by emergency accommodation providers are deemed to be commercially sensitive information, and in that context, this information will not be provided in the response to this Notice of Question.*

*It is confirmed that the premises at Brews Hill, Navan will continue to be used for the purposes of emergency accommodation for single adults.*

*The strategic development of Meath County Council's homeless services in recent times has seen the provision of a number of supported emergency accommodation models in collaboration with Simon Community, Peter McVerry Trust and Drogheda Homeless Aid, in addition to tenancy sustainment service, Homeless HAP Placefinder Service and a targeted multiagency Homeless Action Team.*

*The development of homeless services in the County will build on this progress, with a particular focus in the short term on the implementation of the Housing First model and the provision of further supported family emergency accommodation.*

The response was noted. Councillor Alan Lawes sought clarification on the last paragraph in the response, i.e. the Housing First Model, and challenged the position that the rate charged by emergency accommodation providers is commercially sensitive information.

### **5.4 Submitted by Councillor Pádraig Fitzsimons**

“With regard to the pathway connecting the Proudstown Road to Blackcastle Shopping Centre (which runs between St. Mary’s Park and St. Oliver’s National School), are there any plans to improve the surface and improve the aesthetics of the pathway?”



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### **Response:**

*Currently, there are no plans to improve the surface or aesthetics of this pathway. However, it will be placed on a list of maintenance works for consideration at a later date as and when funding becomes available.*

The response was noted.

## **6 Notice of Motion**

### **6.1 Submitted by Councillor Francis Deane**

“Taking into consideration the soon to be started construction of extra facilities at St. Paul's School Campus, and, allowing for large present and growing numbers of pupils attending St.Paul's, I call on Meath County Council to engage with the Department of Education to secure funding for a safe pedestrian crossing adjacent to the school entrance on the Rathaldron Road. This ongoing health and safety concern must be resolved now, once and for all, before building works are completed at his site.”

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

*The Stage 1 Road Safety Audit that was carried out at planning application stage suggested that the existing uncontrolled crossing be upgraded to a zebra crossing, and it was agreed that the council would review it at a later stage. Therefore, the crossing will now be reviewed and members will be updated once this is completed.*

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Francis Deane** and seconded by **Councillor Edward Fennessy**.

The motion was adopted.

### **6.2 Submitted by Councillor Francis Deane**

“That Meath County Council would erect rubber speed ramps on Swan Lane, outside Old Balreask School , where residents have huge concerns arising from speeding cars using this road which is located in a highly populated area of Navan.”



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

*This section of road will need to be examined to determine if traffic calming measures are required, and if so, what form of traffic calming would be most suitable. The request will be added to the Requests for New Works database, from which schemes will be prioritised following an engineering screening/evaluation assessment if funding becomes available.*

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Francis Deane** and seconded by **Councillor Edward Fennessy**.

The motion was adopted.

### **6.3 Submitted by Councillor Edward Fennessy**

“That Navan Municipal District carries out a feasibility study on the waste ground alongside the access road to the Townparks Estate, with a view to installing car parking facilities. Construction of said facility, will act to service traffic overspill from the Claremont Stadium campus and Páirc Tailteann Stadium during busy sporting occasions.”

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

*Firstly, it would be necessary to determine the level of need for additional car parking at this location, whilst also taking into account the desirability of sustainable travel. Subject to this, a feasibility study could then be carried out.*

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Edward Fennessy** and seconded by **Councillor Francis Deane**.

A short discussion followed on the impacts of extra traffic on local residents during events, the promotion of sustainable travel to such events and the traffic planning that precedes these. It was agreed to invite the Meath County Board back to a municipal district meeting to follow up on their previous presentation on their plans to develop the facility to increase its size and their progress in dealing with the issues raised. The economic benefits to the town from these large events was also acknowledged.



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The motion was adopted.

### **6.4 Submitted by Councillor Edward Fennessy**

“That Navan Municipal District Council installs a pedestrian crossing opposite the playground on the Boreen Keel to provide safe access to children and pedestrians accessing the site.”

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

*Meath County Council has plans to install controlled pedestrian crossings at the junction of Boreen Keel/Canon Row/O Growney Terrace as part of the Navan 2030 Scheme and it is hoped that these works shall be brought forward in an advanced part of this project. The proposed crossing on Boreen Keel shall provide a safe crossing point on this road.*

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Edward Fennessy** and seconded by **Councillor Francis Deane**.

The motion was adopted.

### **6.5 Submitted by Councillor Padraig Fitzsimons**

“I propose the motion that Navan Municipal District commit to providing much more on-street electric car chargers throughout the town and its environs in an effort to help reduce emissions and improve air quality.”

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

*Meath County Council published a draft climate action Strategy in 2018 and same titled “Making Meath Climate Ready” is currently the subject of public consultation in light of requirements to carry out Appropriate Assessment (AA). The draft strategy sets out eight thematic areas where action will be taken and drawn from areas within Meath County Council control, including Mobility, and containing various actions which demonstrate a commitment to increasing the use of Sustainable Transport and reducing carbon emissions within our region. These include:*



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- *The Retrofit of charging points in towns in and around Meath.*
- *To support the growth of electric vehicles and EBikes and supporting facilities, through a roll-out of additional electric charging points in collaboration with relevant agencies at appropriate locations.*
- *To facilitate the provision of electricity charging infrastructure for electric vehicles both on street and in new developments in accordance with car parking standards.*

*A number of particular initiatives have already commenced in respect of compliance with these actions including the submission of an application for Interreg funding for the installation of Electric Vehicle Rapid Chargers at five locations in the County.*

*The Climate Action Regional Office (CARO) for the Eastern & Midlands Region and headed by Kildare County Council are also examining possible funding streams to go towards the installation of Electric Vehicle (EV) charging points and the Council will work closely with the CARO and other agencies in increasing the number of such facilities throughout the County.*

*The National Climate Action Plan launched in June 2019 sets out a series of actions and targets including the development of an Electric Vehicle charging network necessary to support the growth of EVs to at least 800,000 by 2030 and set a target for the supply of infrastructure to stay sufficiently ahead of demand. Action 72 of the plan sets out the steps necessary to achieve the targets.*

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Pdraig Fitzsimons** and seconded by **Councillor Francis Deane**.

The motion was adopted.

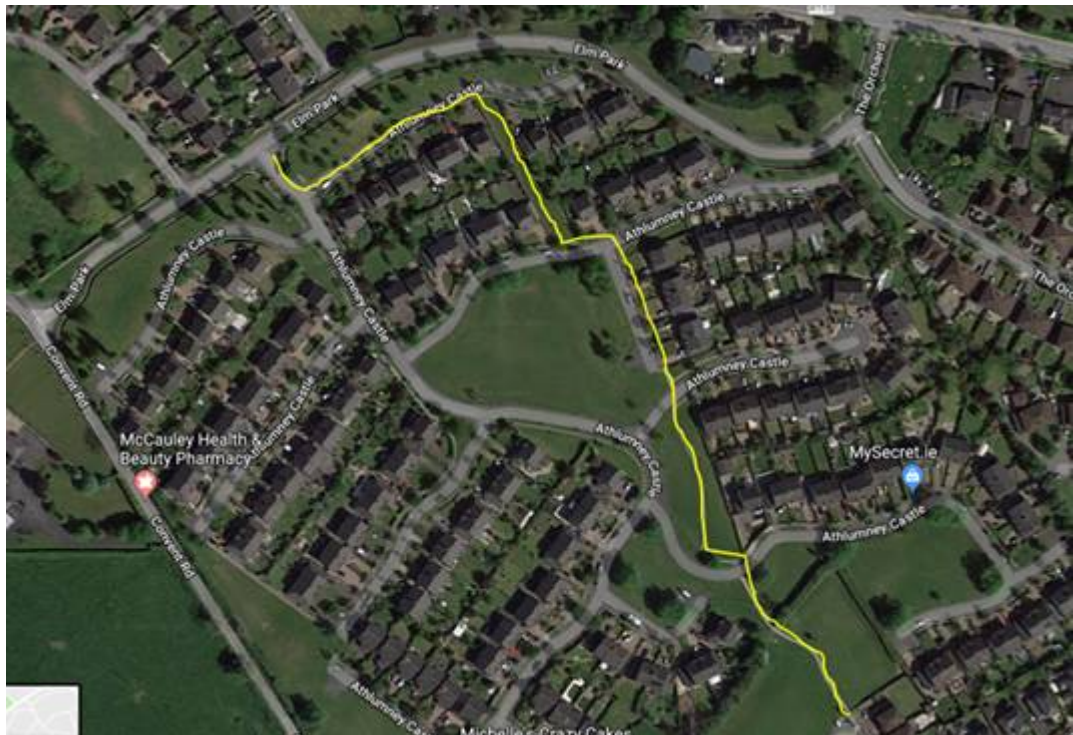
### **6.6 Submitted by Councillor Pdraig Fitzsimons**

“I propose the motion to seek funding to install extra pathways in Athlumney Castle. Many pedestrians are walking from Athlumney Abbey/Johnstown through the estate and have to walk on the road/grass verges as there aren't sufficient pathways to allow for safe access.”

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

*There is already in place a safe walking route through Athlumney Castle. This is shown in yellow below.*



*If the slightly shorter route along the entrance road is taken, there are two short lengths where a footpath would be required to better link the existing footpaths. As there is already a walking route, installing these two lengths would not be considered a priority for funding, but if an opportunity arises they may be installed.*

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Pdraig Fitzsimons** and seconded by **Councillor Francis Deane**.

The motion was adopted.

## 7 Correspondence

### 7.1 Correspondence received from Christina Nestor.



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The correspondence was noted.

### **8 Any Other Business**

8.1 Councillor Padraig Fitzsimons raised the following issue:

8.1.1 Referred to disturbances caused by tenants in properties owned by an individual landowner in Beechmount in addition to the standard of accommodation being provided – it was agreed that a meeting would take place with the Housing Department, ‘in committee’ either before or after the next municipal district meeting to discuss these issues.

8.2 Councillor Francis Deane raised the following issues:

8.2.1 Queried who is responsible for the removal of abandoned cars in estates – it was agreed to seek clarification on the process involved.

8.2.2 Complemented the council on the provision of the solar compacting bins.

8.3 Councillor Alan Lawes raised the following issue:

8.3.1 Queried as to where permission should be sought for the painting of traffic light junction boxes in Johnstown, based on art designs produced by local children.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

**Signed:**

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**An Meára**