



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

### ***Trim Municipal District***

### ***Ordinary Meeting***

***2:00 p.m., 12<sup>th</sup> July, 2019, Trim Civic Offices***

An Cathaoirleach, **Councillor Noel French**, presided.

**Councillors Present:** Aisling Dempsey, Joe Fox, Trevor Golden, Ronan Moore, Niamh Souhan.

**Officials in Attendance:**

**Director of Service:** Des Foley

**Meetings Administrator:** Claire King

**Executive Engineer:** Maura Daly

**Staff Officer:** Triona Keating

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

##### **1.1 Confirmation of minutes of Ordinary Meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> May, 2019.**

The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> May, 2019 were confirmed on the proposal of **Councillor Joe Fox** and seconded by **Councillor Noel French**.

##### **1.2 Confirmation of minutes of Annual Meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> June, 2019.**

The minutes of the Annual Meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> June, 2019 were confirmed on the proposal of **Councillor Ronan Moore** and seconded by **Councillor Aisling Dempsey**.

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

Councillor Noel French requested that the June AGM minutes be amended to include his request for approval to formally represent Trim Municipal District during his trip to Boyne City, USA in July and that this had been agreed.



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Councillor Ronan Moore requested an amendment to the minutes of the June AGM, where Councillor Aisling Dempsey had requested that the role of Cathaoirleach be decided in future years by draw rather than by agreement, and not by vote as indicated.

Councillor Aisling Dempsey requested that copies of correspondence relating to Lackanash and referred to in the May meeting minutes be circulated.

Councillor Aisling Dempsey enquired as to how councillors can input into the winter gritting programme – it was confirmed that any locations identified at municipal district meetings are submitted to Transportation and these views are considered when the programme is being agreed.

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

There were no expressions of sympathy or congratulations.

### **4 Disposal of Land pursuant to the provisions of Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001**

4.1 Agreement in principle to disposal of Land at Drumlargan, Kilcock Co. Meath.

This was agreed on the proposal of **Councillor Joe Fox** and seconded by **Councillor Aisling Dempsey**.

### **5 Statutory Business**

#### **5.1 Transportation**

5.1.1 To receive an update on works completed/ planned within Trim Municipal District.

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

- Requested information on the pedestrian crossing works taking place in Trim including clarification on the rationale for having a zebra crossing with flashing lights – clarification was provided and it was pointed out



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that this would facilitate a shared space, control pedestrian movements, slow traffic down and, possibly, encourage traffic to take alternative routes.

- Complimented the verge cutting at crossroads, thereby improving visibility, and the need to urge landowners to maintain grass margins along country roads.
- The impact on high sided vehicles from overgrown trees and hedges, including limited access on some routes and vehicle damage – it was confirmed that notices can only be issued during the cutting season.
- Queried whether traffic calming works would be completed in Longwood before the schools return – the contractor has been appointed and it was agreed to check the planned timeframe.
- Requested an update on the Greenway to Ribbontail – as some of the lands to connect Longwood to Ribbontail are publicly owned and some privately owned, discussions are ongoing with landowners, with funding having been secured under the Outdoor Recreation Scheme. It is proposed that the council take the relevant pieces of land in charge, due to concerns regarding liability/insurance. One piece of land lies in Kildare and it is hoped that they will take this land in charge also.
- The need to prune trees on streets where they are obstructing the street lights.
- Requested an update on the completion of the loop in the Porchfields – this has gone to tender, with Ministerial consent required. It is hoped to commence works at the end of August.
- Queried the renewal for the street sweeping contract and whether the new contract could include estates – the tender will issue in August and resources do not allow for the inclusion of estates. It was pointed out that grants are available to residents associations to assist with estate maintenance.



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- Queried the gully on Market Street – it was pointed out that this is a standard channel and, if any issues arise, it will be addressed.
- The impact on accessibility on paths with solar compacting bins – it was pointed out that these were easily moved and, once works on Market Street are completed, their locations will be reviewed.

### **5.2 Corporate Services**

- 5.2.1 To inform the Trim Municipal District Members that Meath County Council Corporate Services Section intend to apply for Part 8 planning approval in accordance with the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended), for works at Porch Field, Trim.

Dara McGowan, Senior Executive Officer, Asset Management presented the development proposal arising from the feasibility study, with surveys and consultation being undertaken. It is intended to advance the Part 8 by the end of August.

Councillors welcomed the proposals as outlined, acknowledging how they were not intrusive and were sympathetic to the overall site. Matters raised by councillors included:

- The possibility of installing measures to minimise sound from the roadway in the performance area – it was agreed to consider the options, including planting, etc.
- The suitability of the reinforced grass for running.
- The accessibility to lands fenced off – it was pointed out that animal access would be required and therefore the lands would be accessible.
- The installation of fencing to prevent access to the biodiversity area – as the sheep will be fenced in, it is not intended to fence off the biodiversity area, which will run to the walkway.



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- The need to ensure the fencing is as unobtrusive as possible due to the archaeology in the area – it was confirmed that the geophysical survey will indicate the areas to avoid.

It was agreed to proceed as outlined on the proposal of **Councillor Trevor Golden** and seconded by **Councillor Joe Fox**.

### **6 Notice of Question**

#### **6.1 Submitted by Councillor Trevor Golden**

“What is the latest update on the implementation of the Boyne Blueway?”

**Response:**

*Under the 2018 Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme, funding was approved of €35,520 for the Trim Blueway. Work has now been completed on the Boyne Blueway Trim brochure with the mapboards expected to be completed this month. A new page for the Blueway will also be created on the discoverboynevalley.ie website. A recent information seminar took place on attaining accreditation for Blueways, it is intended to develop a program of work to address any issues with the intention of applying for accreditation for the Trim Blueway.*

The response was noted.

### **7 Notice of Motion**

#### **7.1 Submitted by Councillor Trevor Golden**

“That Meath County Council will assess and prepare a report for the Members’ consideration on improving pedestrian access from the R154 to Lackanash Road. This report should include, but not be limited to:

- Measures on the bridge
- Pedestrian Crossing on the R154.”



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

*Following a meeting with the Senior Engineer, Transportation, it has been agreed that a report will be prepared and circulated to councillors, when complete.*

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Trevor Golden** and seconded by **Councillor Aisling Dempsey**.

It was suggested that the assessment include the possible installation of lights that would give preference to pedestrians and cyclists or a design such as the cantilever bridge in Navan.

The motion was adopted.

## **8 Correspondence**

- 8.1 Correspondence received from the Department of Education and Skills in response to the Notice of Item 7.1 – Notice of Motion as adopted at the May meeting re the purchase of sites for schools and the provision of a Post Primary School in the Enfield area.

The correspondence was noted.

## **9 Any Other Business**

- 9.1 Councillor Noel French raised the following issue:

9.1.1 Requested approval that he could formally represent Trim Municipal District during his planned trip to Belgium in September for the commemoration of Lord Barnwell, Trimblestown being organised by Meath Historical Society – this was agreed.

9.1.2 The need to consider options to revitalise the town centre and prevent business closures.



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- 9.1.3 Complaints received from tourists regarding parking tickets being issued in the vicinity of the castle – it was pointed out that this income, if lost, would have to be made up elsewhere and that there were adequate signs to inform those using the available parking that charges apply. In addition, most tourism destinations are subject to paid parking.
- 9.1.4 Enquired as to whether the housing units being developed on the ring road are intended as social housing.
- 9.2 Councillor Trevor Golden raised the following issue:
  - 9.2.1 Requested clarification on the parking permitted in loading bays out of hours and on weekends – it was agreed to check the relevant byelaws.
- 9.3 Councillor Aisling Dempsey raised the following issue:
  - 9.3.1 The request from traders that the 10 minute free parking grace be extended to 30 minutes – it was pointed out that this grace period is at the discretion of the traffic warden and allows time to purchase a ticket. Parking incentives are used where there are surplus free spaces but where spaces are filled, incentives achieve nothing. The current system is not intended as a revenue generating scheme but is designed to ensure adequate parking is available for those wishing to avail of it.
  - 9.3.2 The possibility of installing CCTV in Trim town to deter anti-social behaviour – this is being dealt with by the JPC, with several issues, including the responsibility for the role of Data Controller, to be agreed. Once agreed, the locations requiring CCTV will be prioritised.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

**Signed:**

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**Cathaoirleach**



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