



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

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

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

***10:00 a.m., 18<sup>th</sup> September, 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:** Kevin Stewart

**Meetings Administrator:** Claire King

**Executive Engineer:** Paul O'Brien

**Staff Officer:** Triona Keating

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

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

The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> July 2019 were confirmed on the proposal of **Councillor Francis Deane** and seconded by **Councillor Edward Fennessy**.

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

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

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

Sympathy was extended to:

- The Forde family on the death of their mother, Pearl.

Congratulations were extended to:



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- The Meath Ladies Team who reached the All Ireland Intermediate Final on Sunday.

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

- 4.1 This was approved on the proposal of **Councillor Francis Deane** and seconded by **Councillor Emer Tóibín**.

### **5 Statutory Business**

#### **5.1 Transportation**

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

The report had been circulated in advance and key activities highlighted.

Matters raised by councillors included:

- Queried the location and timeframe for the provision of the two pedestrian crossings in Johnstown - this was outlined.
- Welcomed the planned works in the playground in Boreen Keel.
- Referred to the poor condition of the playground in Reask, including the equipment and the fencing, which is broken and is facilitating access to a deep drain, and also reports of drug use – it was pointed out that grants are required to undertake works in playgrounds and that applications would be made.
- Requested an update on the removal of the playground and equipment and pitch at Claremont, with a local youth group having expressed an interest in taking on the security of the pitch for continued use – it was agreed to talk to residents.
- The possibility of painting the wall of the council yard on Abbey Road, following recent works – once the ESB connection works are completed, the wall will be re-plastered.

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- Queried the design of the pedestrian crossing at St. Paul's School – the provisional plans include a raised platform.
- Requested an update on the maintenance of bus shelters –due to the age of the bus shelters, parts are no longer available and must be specially made.
- Queried whether road resurfacing works were planned for the Slane Road following completion of works by Irish Water – due to the extent of the works being undertaken, full reinstatement would be expected but it was agreed to check the road opening licence.
- The possibility of reducing the footpath width on the road from Old Johnstown to Metges Road to provide two lanes to facilitate traffic turning and reduce traffic congestions – it was confirmed that Transportation Planning & Design were aware of the issues at this junction and are reviewing it to identify appropriate measures.
- Referred to the difficulties facing vehicles exiting the filling station at Blackcastle due to the configuration of the traffic lights.

### **5.2 Planning**

- 5.2.1 To receive a presentation on the proposed Variation No.3 (to give effect to an objective in the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy for the eastern and midland region in relation to providing further employment opportunities in Navan through the rezoning of a parcel of land) to the Navan Development Plan 2009-2015, together with the Chief Executive's report on submissions.

Wendy Bagnall, Senior Executive Planner and Seán Clarke, Senior Executive Officer, Planning attended the meeting and outlined the submissions received in respect of the proposed Variation No. 3. As a result of the submissions received, no changes are required. It was advised that the proposal would now go to the full council for adoption.

Matters raised by councilors included:

- Requested an update on the Balreask junction – whilst the junction is not included in this variation, it will form an objective to be inserted into the written statement for Navan. Transportation Planning &

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Design are also reviewing the junction, in recognition that it does require improvement.

- The planned junction treatment at the Borallion – a signalized junction is planned, with plans to implement an engineering solution that will result in reduced traffic by deterring traffic from this route.

5.2.2 To consider taking in charge of the following and the making of a declaration that the roads within the developments shall be public roads in accordance with Section 11 Roads Act 1993 and the Planning & Development Acts 2000-2018.

- Oakleigh Housing Estate.

This was agreed on the proposal of **Councillor Pádraig Fitzsimons** and seconded by **Councillor Francis Deane**.

- Beechmount Vale Housing Estate.

This was agreed on the proposal of **Councillor Edward Fennessy** and seconded by **Councillor Pádraig Fitzsimons**.

- Herbert Place Housing Estate.

This was agreed on the proposal of **Councillor Francis Deane** and seconded by **Councillor Alan Lawes**.

## **6 Notice of Question**

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

“What is the current status / start date of the proposed new builds social housing development at Nangle Court, Clonmagadden Road?”

#### **Response:**

*The proposed development at Nangle Court, Navan is currently at an advanced stage in respect to design.*



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*Subject to Departmental approval, it is intended to commence the Part 8 Planning process before year end, with commencement on site expected during Q2 2020.*

The response was noted.

### **6.2 Submitted by Councillor Edward Fennessy**

“Can the Executive provide a progress report on the construction of slipways along the rivers Boyne and Blackwater?”

#### **Response:**

*The Contractors commenced construction work on the Slipways on the 12<sup>th</sup> August 2019 and as of the 6<sup>th</sup> September the in-river works at Kilcarn Slipway, Ardmulchan Slipway and Trim Castle Slipway are complete with landscaping works to be carried out and completed by the end of September. In the case of an Emergency these slipways are currently accessible for use by the Emergency Services.*

*Work is about to commence on the construction of the Slipway at the Rampart Navan as heavy rainfall and high river levels in recent weeks and poor river bed conditions have caused some delays at this location.*

*Work is also about to commence on the remaining Slipway at Blackwater Park, Navan. It is anticipated that all of the Slipways including landscaping will be completed by the end of September 2019 and available to use by the Emergency Services and River Search Organisations.*

The response was noted.

## **7 Notice of Motion**

### **7.1 Submitted by Councillor Francis Deane**

“I propose that Meath County Council will install parking bays at Flowerhill, Abbeylands, outside Flowerhill Furniture and Fox's Public House where, at present, car owners are parking their cars all day long, six days per week, thereby taking up parking space which should be available for customers of the two above mentioned businesses.”

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

*Unfortunately, due to the physical parameters of the mentioned locations, namely the proximity to an existing busy junction, the physical road width available and the restrictions imposed by the Road Traffic Acts, it is not possible to provide additional car parking spaces in this area. As you will be aware, the Flowerhill Area is subject to a proposed regeneration scheme and Meath County Council will look upon this as an ideal opportunity to deliver improvements in many areas, including parking.*

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

The motion, in light of the supporting information provided, was noted.

### **7.2 Submitted by Councillor Francis Deane**

“Under the 2020 roadworks programme, I call on Meath County Council to upgrade the footpath outside Johnstown Church and introduce traffic calming measures on the three approach roads to Old Johnstown Village as well as upgrading the problematic issues relating the culvert.”

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

*Transportation Section recognises that improvement works are required to Johnstown Village and is willing to work with Members to reach a satisfactory resolution in this matter. The initial task is to arrange for a topographical survey of the village which shall enable provisional design proposals to be carried out for junction and kerbing realignment/improvements. The current 3 year Roadworks Programme 2019 – 2021 has been agreed and ratified by Members and this unfortunately did not include for works in Johnstown Village. The subsequent programme, when agreed could allocate funding to this project and additional funding shall be required for the footpath/kerb improvements.*

*Furthermore, it is the intention of Navan Municipal District to utilise drainage budget funding to upgrade/replace the mentioned culvert in 2020 in preparation for the additional works mentioned above. The Transportation Section shall revert to Members when preliminary designs for village improvement works are available.*



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

The motion was adopted.

### **7.3 Submitted by Councillor Edward Fennessy**

“In an effort to reduce severe traffic congestion - both on the Metges Road and the main distributary road in Johnstown Wood estate - due to traffic entering and exiting Johnstown School Campus, I propose this motion to carry out the following works and initiatives:

1. Employment of two traffic control wardens, to control the flow of pedestrians crossing at the two pedestrian crossings on the roundabout on Metges Road.
2. Installation of yellow boxes on Metges Road outside the entrances to both Bailis Downs and Athlumney Hall estates, to allow cars enter and exit during severe traffic congestion.
3. Installation of yellow boxes in four locations on the main distributary road in Johnstown Wood estate, to allow residents gain entry and exit from their roads.”

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

1:

In February 2019, the CPG, on the recommendation of the Transportation SPC, adopted a policy and procedure document for processing requests for deployment of School Wardens. When school wardens at a new site are requested, this is the policy:

Request for new Sites

Where the Council receive requests to establish a School Crossing Patrol Service an assessment of the site the subject of the request will be carried out in conjunction with Road Safety Officer.



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Where some form of control is required to facilitate school children crossing the road the provision of road engineering measures in conjunction with the School Safety Education Programme will be examined as an alternative to the provision of a School Warden.

Accordingly, an assessment of the site will be carried out in conjunction with the Road Safety Officer, but it is noted that there are already road engineering measures in place.

In the meantime, we note that the design philosophy for this roundabout is pedestrian priority, in the interest of sustainable travel and the reduction of traffic congestion at school times. It is not the use of the pedestrian crossings that is causing the build-up of traffic, but rather the number of cars on the road. The continued facilitation of walking and cycling to school and work decreases the number of cars on the road. The current arrangement prioritises pedestrians and cyclists, who can cross each leg of the roundabout without having to wait for traffic lights or school wardens to stop the traffic. Notwithstanding this, it is acknowledged that there is congestion in this area at school times, and this will be examined in conjunction with the future proposed development in the area. In addition, implementation by the schools of the measures identified in their Mobility Plans should be encouraged to provide a more sustainable solution.

2 & 3:

An assessment of the mentioned locations shall be carried out to determine if control measures are required and a report brought for Members attention.

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Edward Fennessy** and seconded by **Councillor Alan Lawes**.

The motion, in light of the supporting information provided, was noted.

### **7.4 Submitted by Councillor Edward Fennessy**

“That Meath County Council engages with the Probation Services to put in place a structure whereby persons sentenced by the courts to a term of community service can help council clean litter blackspots in Navan town.”

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





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*The Council have in the past worked with the probation service whereby persons sentenced to community service were engaged in the cleanup of litter black spots, painting of railings etc and similar arrangements can be put in place going forward.*

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Edward Fennessy** and seconded by **Councillor Tommy Reilly**.

The motion was adopted.

### **8 Correspondence**

- 8.1 Correspondence received from Irish Water in response to the Notice of Item 7.6 – Notice of Motion as adopted at the April meeting re Fr. Flood Park, Dunderry.

The correspondence was noted.

### **9 Any Other Business**

- 9.1 Councillor Pdraig Fitzsimons raised the following issues:

9.1.1 The need for additional drainage works at Cornmarket, where water lies at the arch following heavy rain.

9.1.2 The need for additional drainage to prevent water running from the roundabout to the entrance at Moatville.

9.1.3 The issuing of parking tickets for buses dropping people off at the shopping centre.

- 9.2 Councillor Alan Lawes raised the following issue:

9.2.1 The increasing drugs problem in Johnstown and Navan, with parents reporting school children being targeted by drug dealers, and recent related incidents and the need for an emergency meeting of the JPC to discuss this issue prior to its scheduled meeting on 23<sup>rd</sup> September.

- 9.3 Councillor Edward Fennessy raised the following issue:



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- 9.3.1 Requested that a copy of the draft plan for Flowerhill be circulated to councillors.
- 9.4 Councillor Francis Deane raised the following issues:
- 9.4.1 Requested an update on the extinguishment of the right of way in Ferndale.
- 9.4.2 Requested an update on the plan to remove the top soil resulting from the installation of the slipways.
- 9.4.3 The need for works on the gully in Hayestown – the gully is being jet washed and the matter will be rectified.
- 9.4.4 Requested an update on works on Railway Street.
- 9.4.5 The possibility of traffic wardens being more flexible in light of ongoing works – the traffic wardens are conscious of the ongoing disruption and are as flexible as possible but must still ensure that loading bays, disabled parking bays, etc. are available for their intended use.
- 9.5 Councillor Tommy Reilly raised the following issue:
- 9.5.1 That residents on Finian’s Terrace are receiving parking tickets, despite others parking beside the pedestrian crossing.
- 9.6 Councillor Emer Tóibín raised the following issue:
- 9.6.1 Proposed that a pilot scheme be introduced in Navan whereby water fountains are installed to discourage the use of single use plastic – a similar initiative is underway in Trim and a water fountain is to be installed in Blackwater Park. It was agreed to check if there were any further plans for Navan.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

**Signed:**



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**An Meára**