



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

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

### ***Ordinary Meeting***

***4.00pm, 21<sup>st</sup> October, 2019, Kells Civic Offices***

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

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

**Officials in Attendance:**

**Director of Service:** Kevin Stewart

**Meetings Administrator:** Claire King

**Executive Engineer:** Aaron Smith

**Staff Officer:** Triona Keating

### **1 Confirmation of Minutes**

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

The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on the 16<sup>th</sup> September 2019 were confirmed on the proposal of **Councillor Paul McCabe** and seconded by **Councillor Johnny Guirke**.

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

Councillor David Gilroy referred to minutes of meetings being published on social media prior to their adoption and it was confirmed that the minutes are not confirmed until their adoption.

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

Sympathy was extended to:

- Former employee Norah Kelly on the death of her husband, Eamonn;



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- The family of the late Anne Gibney, former Navan Town Councillor.

Congratulations were extended to:

- Mrs. Kennedy-Balafore on reaching 100 years of age;
- St. Brigid's N.S., Cortown on their new classroom extension;
- Meath County Council and the Library Service on the show held in Solstice to commemorate Fr. O'Growney, Athboy.

### **4 Statutory Business**

#### **4.1 Transportation**

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

The report, circulated in advance, was noted. Councillor Seán Drew thanked the municipal district engineer for liaising with the residents in Kilmainham in order to reach agreement regarding the planting on the roundabout.

Dara McGowan, Senior Executive Officer, Transportation attended the meeting to provide further information on the proposed road closures/traffic management on the N52, with works on the first section having commenced today for approximately 6 weeks, to be followed by works on two further sections. These were outlined, as were the traffic management plans and reasons for same.

Matters raised by councillors included:

- The impact of the road closures/traffic management on minor roads due to traffic, including HGVs, taking the shortest routes rather than the diverted routes and the possibility of applying to TII for funding to deal with any damage caused. It was pointed out that works would be undertaken during daylight hours only and roads would be open at night and during weekends.



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- The proposed road closures for the remaining sections of roadworks – it was pointed out that the contractor will submit the traffic management plan one to two weeks prior to these works commencing, taking into account the road width, etc.
- Queried the information contained in the advertisement published - it was pointed out that the full traffic management plans were not known at the time of publication and it was hoped to divert HGVs from the sections affected. Full traffic management plans would be published on social media, when finalised.
- Queried as to whether night works were possible – it was pointed out that, due to the rural location, it would not be possible to have adequate lighting to ensure the works could be completed to the standard required.
- The impact of these works on the proposed road closure of the R162 from 29<sup>th</sup> October to 8<sup>th</sup> November – there will be no conflict between the two road closures and during the R162 works as the N52 traffic would be diverted through Castletown instead of Kingscourt.

### 4.1.2 To receive a report on a process for amending the HGV Ban Byelaws.

Kevin Stewart made a verbal presentation to Councillors in relation to the process involved in amending the HGV Ban Bye-Laws in Kells. He reminded Members that this had been raised at the September meeting in the context of a question from Councillors as to whether an amendment would be required in order for HGVs to access the new service station currently under construction on the Cavan Road.

He informed councillors that there were regulations made under the Road Traffic Acts that allowed the council to specify vehicles that could be prohibited from using certain roads and streets and that these regulations might be more appropriate than a bye-law amendment. If that proved to be the case then all that was required was an Executive Order.



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A number of councillors were of the opinion that there should be some form of consultation that would allow the public to have an input and it was agreed to check out the legal position and report back to a future meeting.

### **4.2 Planning**

- 4.2.1 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.

John Sweeney and Neville Carolan, Planning Enforcement attended the meeting and provided clarification on issues previously raised.

- Rochford Hall Housing Estate, Kells.

This was approved on the proposal of **Councillor Sarah Reilly** and seconded by **Councillor Johnny Guirke**.

Councillor Seán Drew stated that, whilst the report clearly stated the boundary wall in question did not form part of the area to be taken in charge, he considered it to be unstable and possibly dangerous and queried any issues that may arise were it to cause an accident in the green area. It was pointed out that the wall belongs to the adjacent property owner.

- Curragh Park Housing Estate, Carlanstown.

This was approved on the proposal of **Councillor Sarah Reilly** and seconded by **Councillor Paul McCabe**.

### **4.3 Community**

- 4.3.1 To receive details of the allocations under the Community Amenity Project Scheme 2019 and if in agreement, recommend to the full Council of Meath County Council for approval.

Fiona Fallon, Senior Executive Officer, Community Department provided an overview of the scheme, which was intended to fund capital works being



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undertaken by community groups for which no match funding was being used. Each municipal district had been allocated €100,000 in both 2019 and 2020, with a minimum grant of €10,000 and a maximum of €100,000. The largest number of applications had been received from Kells Municipal District, with a total of €970,000 being sought. Based on the assessment criteria, two groups were now being recommended, as per the information circulated.

This was agreed on the proposal of **Councillor Sarah Reilly** and seconded by **Councillor Eugene Cassidy**.

### **4.4 Corporate Services**

4.4.1 To consider a proposal by Meath Archaeological & Historical Society to erect a commemorative plaque at Kells Heritage Centre.

This was agreed on the proposal of **Councillor David Gilroy** and seconded by **Councillor Sarah Reilly**.

## **5 Notice of Question**

### **5.1 Submitted by Councillor Sean Drew**

“While I note that the junction at the Ball Alley Drumbaragh - R163 & L6835 is to be prioritised for upgrade as part of a low cost safety scheme, can a projected timescale for the implementation of any safety works be advised?”

#### **Response:**

*Meath County Council has applied to the Department of Transport Tourism and Sport, for funding under the low cost safety improvement scheme, to carry out improvement works at this junction. The junctions to be improved in 2020 will be announced in February or March of 2020. If this junction is successful, Meath County Council will then proceed to prepare contract documents and procure a contractor to carry out the works. In the meantime the signage at this location is being reviewed.*

The response was noted.



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### **6 Notice of Motion**

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

“To reflect the number of serious accidents at the Ballaly in Drumbaragh, the Council will seek funding to stagger the crossroads and as an interim measure the Council will do minor works including rumble strips, reduce speed signage and more appropriate signage placement.”

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

*Please see response to item 5.1 - Notice of Question.*

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Sarah Reilly** and seconded by **Councillor Johnny Guirke**.

The motion was adopted.

### **7 Correspondence**

#### **7.1 Correspondence received from Mr Ronnie McGrane.**

The correspondence was noted. It was agreed to seek further information relating to the requests for deputations previously made.

#### **7.2 Correspondence received from Minister for Health, Simon Harris T.D. and the Office of Finian McGrath T.D., Minister of State for Disability Issues in response to the notice of item 9.3.6 from the September meeting re respite centre in Athboy.**

The response was noted. It was requested that a follow up letter be issued in November if no further response is received.

#### **7.3 Correspondence received from the Department of Rural and Community Development in response to the notice of item 9.2.3 from the September meeting re CLÁR funding.**

The response was noted.



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### **8 Any Other Business**

8.1 Councillor David Gilroy raised the following issues:

8.1.1 Underlined the need to continue progressing matters relating to Kilkeelan, Athboy.

8.1.2 Expressed dissatisfaction at the decision to increase the speed limit on the N51 at Athboy from 50kmph to 60kmph outside residential areas/sports facilities and queried as to whether the byelaws can be amended to change this prior to the five year review.

8.2 Councillor Sarah Reilly raised the following issue:

8.2.1 Requested an update on the planned studies on the N52 at Balrath.

8.3 Councillor Mike Bray raised the following issue

8.3.1 Requested traffic calming measures on behalf of Ballinacree N.S. – it was agreed to refer this to the Road Safety Officer.

8.4 Councillor Seán Drew raised the following issue:

8.4.1 The need for public lighting on Gooseberry Lane/back of Cross Carrick, where new houses have been built on infill sites and where there is currently no public lighting.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

**Signed:**

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**Cathaoirleach**