



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

Laytown-Bettystown Municipal District

Ordinary Meeting

9.30 a.m., 17th October, 2019, Duleek Civic Offices

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

Councillors Present: Wayne Harding, Annie Hoey, Stephen McKee, Paddy Meade, Sharon Tolan.

Apologies: Councillor Tom Behan.

Officials in Attendance:

Director of Service: Fiona Lawless

Executive Engineer: Christy Clarke

Staff Officer: Triona Keating

Clerical Officer: Edita Zolotuchina

Apologies: Claire King, Meetings Administrator

1 Confirmation of Minutes

1.1 Confirmation of minutes of Ordinary Meeting held on 12th September, 2019.

The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 12th September, 2019 were confirmed on the proposal of **Councillor Sharon Tolan** and seconded by **Councillor Annie Hoey**.

2 Matters arising from the Minutes

Councillor Stephen McKee proposed that the minutes be amended to reflect a discussion which took place at the September meeting in relation to the Part 8 for the housing development in Donore and a request to invite representatives from the Planning Department to the October meeting. This was seconded by Councillor Paddy Meade. It was agreed to amend the minutes to include this request. Fiona Lawless pointed out that the purpose of the minutes is to record decisions taken. Since the last meeting, a number of emails have issued clarifying the position in relation to the Part 8 process.



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3 Expressions of Sympathy and Congratulations

Congratulations were extended to:

- Duleek Tidy Towns on their Litter League award and acknowledged the work of Councillor Sharon Keogan with the group.
- Kathleen Healy on her retirement as Principal of Duleek Girls National School and best wishes to Pdraig McGovern on his appointment as Principal.
- Matt Rangers on winning the Louth Intermediate Championship.
- Slane on the increase in their Tidy Towns points this year.
- All towns who took part in the Tidy Towns and the great work they do in particular Bettystown and Julianstown.

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, circulated in advance, was noted.

- 4.1.2 To receive an update on the Proposed Footpath/Cycleway from Donacarney School to Bettystown.

Christy Clarke, Executive Engineer advised that he met with the Planners in relation to formalising the Part 8. As part of the Part 8 Planning Process submissions were required from the various sections of Meath County Council i.e. Archaeologist, Conservation Officer, Heritage Officer and Flood Engineering Officer. Feedback was received from the above and one of the requirements is to carry out a Bat Survey as part of the Part 8 process. The Consultant has been requested to employ an ecologist to prepare the bat survey. Unfortunately the



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bat survey cannot be carried out until March of next year when hibernation season is over and then have to repeat the survey during high season which is June so it will be July, 2020 before the bat survey will be completed. In the meantime, he has met with residents and taken on board any of their concerns and updated the drawings to include for a full 3 metre footpath, which will be subject to negotiation and whether a CPO will be required. Copies of the latest layout were circulated to the councillors.

Matters raised by Councillors included:

- Delighted to see cattle will be catered for with the underpass.
- Asked if the whole road could be moved 1 to 2 metres to the left at houses 2 to 10 which are very close to the road and have short gardens – it was advised that the road is going to be moved slightly over to provide more existing footprint in front of the houses.
- The need for Councillors to ask people to work with us to deliver these facilities.
- The infrastructure will not be kept pace with population growth that is going to occur on the east coast.

4.1.3 To receive an update on proposed Traffic Calming at Castlemartin Green and Millmount Abbey estates in the Laytown-Bettystown Municipal District.

Paul Phelan, Senior Executive Engineer, Transportation advised that, following a review of speed surveys carried out in housing estates which had 30 km/h speed limits applied in 2016 and 2017, a number of estates had been highlighted which should be considered for additional traffic calming. This is following on from similar traffic calming installed in 2016 as part of the Phase 1 of the scheme. He pointed out that the scheme was subject to non-statutory public consultation with the proposals due to go on public display next week and the final proposal to be presented to the municipal district.

The following issues were raised by Councillors:-



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- Requested a copy of the results of speed surveys for the estate – it was agreed that these would be circulated.
- Asked why chicanes are being proposed rather than ramps – it was advised that the National guidance at present is that ramps would be a last choice as they have implications for people in ambulances, buses, public transport and cars. Chicanes were put into a number of estates and are working well. A copy of the statistics on speed reduction in these estates was requested.

4.1.4 To receive a presentation from Louth County Council on Proposed Traffic Calming on the R132 at Stameen.

Darius Messayeh and Ben Holland from Louth County Council attended the meeting and circulated copies of the proposal and outlined the objectives and details of the scheme which entails putting an island on the road and realigning the road markings at the boundary between Louth and Meath at Stameen. Once the scheme is agreed today it is proposed to present a draft Section 85 Agreement to the meeting of Meath County Council on the 4th November next for adoption to allow Louth County Council to carry out those works in Meath County Council's administrative area. Subject to adoption of the Section 85 Agreement it is intended to have the works in place by Christmas.

Matters raised by Councillors included:-

- Asked if there would be a case for a pull in lane or filter lane into Stameen.
- Asked about the possibility of putting in preparatory work for a cycle lane – it was advised that there wasn't sufficient space further up the road for a cycle lane.

This was agreed on the proposal of **Councillor Stephen McKee** and seconded by **Councillor Sharon Tolan**.

4.2 Environment

4.2.1 To receive an update on the design phase of the sea front building at Seaview



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Terrace, Bettystown.

David Keyes, Senior Executive Engineer, Environment introduced Robin Lee and Una Collins of Robin Lee Architecture who gave a presentation which provided a brief update on the design phase of the sea front building which included the challenges with the site, accommodation schedule, access, layout of building and material to be used.

David Keyes outlined the timeframe for the project and indicated that they are awaiting a decision as to whether the project goes through a Part 8 or to the Board which will be decided by Appropriate Assessments. It would be hoped to commence construction in August of next year with a one year construction phase with August 2021 being the completion date.

Matters raised by councillors, with responses provided, included:

- Expressed concerns in relation to the materials as a white building would result in high maintenance – it was advised that future maintenance is crucial, which is why materials such as power coated aluminium and precast concrete which are suitable for maritime conditions are being considered.
- Expressed concern in relation to the amount of steps in terms of access for the elderly, those with disabilities and wheelchair users – it was pointed out that there is a winding pedestrian path which will give full access to all users.
- Asked if access could come down directly onto the beach for wheelchair users.
- Commended Fiona Lawless for her vision to go up two levels to ensure there was a community meeting area upstairs.
- Asked if there were plans for sustainability of the building – it was confirmed that there are sustainability requirements to be complied with.



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- Requested a separate escape route for Lifeguards – the stair communicates straight down to ground floor and exits straight out onto the beach through a separate exit. Equally for someone to be brought to the building in an emergency will use this point of entry/exit.
- Asked about the possibility of closing off the section of the coffee shop as it may not be viable to keep open all year round to allow the toilets to remain open – it was confirmed there will be a secure sliding door closing off the coffee shop during out of hours.
- Expressed concern regarding unisex toilets and the need to look at child protection issues.
- Given the nature of the location i.e. sands and wind, the cost factor involved in the cleaning of windows will be a very high cost factor.

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 outlined the background to the scheme, the appraisal process, details of applications received from Laytown Municipal District area and recommended grant offers. She also pointed out that there was a high level of demand for the scheme in this municipal district.

Matters raised by Councillors included:

- The need to discuss any issues with unsuccessful groups in respect of their applications prior to applying again next year – it was agreed that feedback would be provided to the groups who were unsuccessful.
- Requested that major projects be looked at in the next tranche.



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- Disappointed to see money being deferred when there are some shovel ready projects and a lot of work was involved in getting to this stage – it was pointed that there are specific reasons why some groups were not allocated funding and these would be communicated back to the groups.

The recommendations were agreed on the proposal of **Councillor Stephen McKee** and seconded by **Councillor Wayne Harding**.

4.4 Planning

- 4.4.1 To enter into an agreement with Louth County Council pursuant to Section 85 of the Local Government Act, 2001, whereby Meath County Council will exercise the statutory powers, functions and duties of Louth County Council in relation to the remedial works to Rosevale Estate Drogheda, in the townland of Lagavooren, which are described in the Schedule to the Agreement.

John Sweeney, Building Control Officer and Neville Carolan, Technician attended the meeting and advised that Rosevale Housing Estate was taken in charge in 2017. As a section of this development is in Louth County Council approval was sought for Meath County Council to carry out the works as outlined.

This was agreed on the proposal of **Councillor Stephen McKee** and seconded by **Councillor Sharon Tolan**.

4.5 Corporate Services

- 4.5.1 To receive an update on meeting between executive of Louth County Council and Meath County Council.

Fiona Lawless, Director of Services advised that both Executives of Meath County Council and Louth County Council met in relation to the boundary and works on the boundary. Members of each Local Authority are going to meet to agree an Agenda for a meeting of the members of Louth County Council and Meath County Council. Most important detail is a Joint Urban Area Plan which needs to be drawn up and Planners in Meath are talking to the Planners in



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Louth. There is co-operation and it is hoped to have areas of mutual interest.

Matters raised by Councillors included:-

- The need for collaboration between Meath County Council and Louth County Council to know what plans are in place e.g. road closures which would have a direct impact on both sides.
- The need to focus on getting people working and living in our community and trying to get investment into the IDA Business Park and requested a member from Local Enterprise be invited to a future meeting to discuss plans they have to get investment into this area.

5 Notice of Question

There were no Notices of Question.

6 Notice of Motion

6.1 Submitted by Councillor Annie Hoey – Emergency Motion

“To call on Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport, Shane Ross, to designate R132 as a national road.”

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Annie Hoey** and seconded by **Councillor Wayne Harding**

It was agreed that this motion be forwarded to the full council as a joint motion from Laytown-Bettystown municipal district councillors.

An update was requested in relation to the traffic calming measures to be put in place at Julianstown. It was also requested that the technical issue with the bridge in Laytown be examined.

The motion was adopted.



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6.2 Submitted by Councillor Paddy Meade – Emergency Motion

“The elected members of Laytown-Bettystown municipal district call on Meath County Council to cease all progression on the proposed housing development at Staleen, Donore, (including placing the proposed development on e-tenders or seeking tenders through any other method), until such time as the majority of Laytown-Bettystown Councillors vote in favour of the proposed plan.”

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Paddy Meade** and seconded by **Councillor Stephen McKee**.

A long discussion followed in relation to the Part 8 process in general and particular reference was made in relation to the Part 8 for the housing development in Donore.

The motion was adopted.

7 Other Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

8 Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

9 Any Other Business

9.1 Councillor Sharon Tolan raised the following issues:-

9.1.1 The need for a bus bay at Brookside following the improved supply of buses and extra services which is causing traffic to back up during school times. It was requested that Bus Eireann be contacted and asked to delay the bus a few minutes until the traffic is gone from the Educational Campus – It was pointed out that there is not enough room at this location for a bus bay and Bus Eireann would be contacted with this request.



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9.1.2 Sought an update on the appointment of a Beach Manager as recommended in the Beach Management Plan on the basis that there is one point of contact for any beach issues– it was advised that a full time Beach Manager will not be appointed but that beach management will operate from the Environment Section among a number of staff. A dedicated email address can be set up for beach issues.

9.2 Councillor Annie Hoey raised the following issues:-

9.2.1 Asked what the procedure was for traffic calming measures in High Lanes housing estate – the procedure was outlined.

9.2.2 Requested an update on a request made by Grangerath residents to have their estate taken in charge.

9.3 Councillor Paddy Meade raised the following issues:-

9.3.1 The need for repairs to be carried out on the Herronstown road.

9.3.2 Requested a letter be written to Louth County Council and the TII requesting an update on the Ardee By Pass which comes into Lobinstown.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed:

Cathaoirleach