



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

### ***Ratoath Municipal District***

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

***9: 30 a.m., 16<sup>th</sup> October, 2019, Dunshaughlin Community Centre***

An Cathaoirleach, **Councillor Brian Fitzgerald**, presided.

**Councillors Present:** Deirdre Geraghty-Smith, Nick Killian, Maria Murphy, Gerry O'Connor, Damien O'Reilly, Gillian Toole.

**Officials in Attendance:**

**Director of Service:** Des Foley

**Executive Engineer:** Philip Traynor

**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 11<sup>th</sup> September, 2019.**

The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> September, 2019 were confirmed on the proposal of **Councillor Nick Killian** and seconded by **Councillor Maria Murphy**.

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

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

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

Congratulations were extended to:



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- Ratoath GAA on winning the semi final and wished them well for the county final.
- Dunboyne Motor Club on their successful event.
- Dunshaughlin Harvest Festival on the success of their festival.
- Tony Darby, Main Street, Ratoath on his retirement from business.
- Colaiste na Bhfiann who had over 1,200 young people and families attend during the summer.
- Pride of Place co-ordination team on their successful night and Councillor Gerry O'Connor for providing the venue.
- Councillor Gillian Toole on the success of the Mental Health Day held in Ratoath Community Centre.

### **4 Statutory Business**

#### **4.1 Transportation**

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

The report had been circulated in advance. Philip Traynor, Executive Engineer provided the results of a Traffic Survey carried out on the Skryne road and confirmed that the results were the same as a previous count. The results of the traffic survey carried out on the Fairyhouse Road showed that speeds had increased slightly from the previous count. However, both results were under the national expected speed limit for national roads.

Matters raised by councillors included:

- The need for speed control at the entrance to Ratoath Harps and coming onto the link road from Steeple Chase Junction – it was agreed



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that this would be followed up in terms of additional signage, speed ramps or low cost safety measures.

- Requested the need for An Garda Síochána to have a presence on the roads to reduce speed – it was agreed to issue a letter to the Roads Policing Unit requesting a presence on the Skryne and Kilbride Roads.
- Referred to the making of a public road at Tara News and requested an update on the works including public lighting.
- Requested that contractors be asked not to use sections of housing estates as a depot when carrying out works in estates.
- Sought a timeline for the upgrading of the controllers at the traffic lights in the village of Dunboyne.
- Referred to the condition of the road surface between the Newtown roundabout and the train station – it was agreed to request an update on this.
- Since the opening of the Kilsaran quarry, the road at Dunsany has fallen into disrepair – it was agreed that a meeting was needed with Kilsaran. It was also requested that Kilsaran would provide a Community Fund as an alternative to the 12 acres they are offering to the community. It was noted that Council officials have met with Skane Valley in this regard.

- 4.1.2 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 & Development Regulations 2001–2018 on the proposed road improvement and realignment works at the Kilbride road (L-1007) junction with the R125 Ratoath/Ashbourne Road in the townlands of Raystown, Tankardstown and Ratoath (P8/19008).

Des Foley, Director of Services outlined the process and timeframes for the Part 8 process.



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Matters raised by councillors included:

- Residents welcomed the footpath being brought further up.
- Requested the footpath on the Ashbourne side be brought up a little further if possible.
- The need to review the traffic lights as indicated in the Part VIII when the outer ring road gets to the Fairyhouse road.

This was proposed by **Councillor Nick Killian** and seconded by **Councillor Gillian Toole**.

- 4.1.3 To receive an update on proposed Traffic Calming at the Old Mill estate in Ratoath.

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.

## **4.2 Housing**

- 4.2.1 To discuss housing related issues in Ratoath Municipal District.

David Jones, Senior Executive Officer, Housing Department provided an update on the housing programme within the municipal district, including the Capital Programme, Local Infrastructure Housing Activation Fund (LIHAF), current Annual Programmes and social housing supports.

Matters raised by Councillors included:-



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- The need for the 34 houses in Dunshaughlin to run parallel with the 26 houses which are commencing.
- Asked if the window for applications for the 10 reduced cost units in Broadmeadow Vale could be extended to allow interested parties apply for loan approval – it was advised that funding approval was not a pre-requisite.
- The need to expedite land banks as soon as possible.
- Asked if the 10 affordable sites were being made available as part of the 26 housing units in Dunshaughlin – it was confirmed that these sites are to be developed as part of the 26 units but won't become available until the scheme is completed.
- The need to look at the LIHAF scheme at Dunboyne train station and the need for the Council to secure land to provide for social and affordable houses.
- Requested an update on the housing scheme at St. Mary's Court, Dunboyne.
- Requested a review on infills in council owned housing estates.

### **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 Ratoath Municipal District area and recommended grant offers.

Matters raised by Councillors included:



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- Requested that the Community Department engage with groups which have been unsuccessful.
- Sought an update on the Shire Community Grant Scheme.
- Requested the Community Department re-engage with Dunboyne Scouts and if they are in line with the scheme that they would be included for formal approval at full Council meeting.

The recommendations were agreed on the proposal of **Councillor Maria Murphy** and seconded by **Councillor Damien O'Reilly**.

### **4.4 Water Services**

#### 4.4.1 To receive an update on water related issues in Ratoath Municipal District.

Gerry Boyle, Senior Engineer, Water Services detailed the link between Meath County Council and Irish Water and their respective roles. He also provided a comprehensive overview of water and wastewater services in the municipal district including Ratoath, Dunshaughlin, Dunboyne/Clonee area and Kilmessan.

Pat Wickham, Project Manager for Navan and Mid Meath East Meath Water Supply Scheme also attended and outlined this project and reasons for it. He also provided an update on the Meath Watermain Rehabilitation Phase II.

Matters raised by councillors included:

- Requested a timeframe for the reinstatement of the trench in Ratoath - it was advised that as soon as they have confirmation of the reinstatement works for the trench they will advise councillors. It is likely that full overlay works will not be carried out until next year.
- Referred to outstanding issues in St Peter's Park.
- Expressed concern regarding a connection on the Curraha road which has taken 10 weeks and is still not complete – it was advised that



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Ferrans are the regional contractor employed by Irish Water for new connections and, while Meath County Council do not have a direct role in this, they do receive a high level of related queries. They have met the CDS section of Irish Water and outlined their frustration with the length of time it is taking Farrans to carry out water connections.

### **5 Notice of Question**

There were no Notices of Question.

### **6 Notice of Motion**

There were no Notices of Motion.

### **7 Correspondence**

- 7.1 Correspondence received from the NTA and the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport in response to Notice of Item 6.3 – Notice of Motion as adopted at the September Meeting regarding Bus Services in Clonee and Dunboyne.

The correspondence was noted.

Councillors sought clarification in respect of pick ups and drop offs in Dunboyne and Clonee and who is responsible for the stops on routes currently operated by Bus Éireann in particular routes 109 and 105. It was also asked about the possibility of relocating the bus stop at Centra in the village of Ratoath as it causes a build up of traffic in the evenings.

It was agreed to reply to the NTA and Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport outlining the above issues and invite them to a future meeting of Ratoath Municipal District.

- 7.2 Correspondence received from Irish Water in response to Notice of Item 6.2 – Notice of Motion as adopted at the September Meeting regarding delays in connecting new homes in Dunshaughlin and Kilmessan.



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The correspondence was noted.

### **8 Any Other Business**

8.1 Councillor Nick Killian raised the following issue:

8.1.1 Requested an update on St. John's Well – it was confirmed that until such time as the National Monuments and Museum make a decision on the two heads Meath County Council cannot proceed with the Part 8.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

**Signed:**

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**Cathaoirleach**