



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

Laytown-Bettystown Municipal District

Ordinary Meeting

9.30 a.m., 12th September, 2019, Duleek Civic Offices

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

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

Officials in Attendance:

Director of Service: Fiona Lawless

Meetings Administrator: Claire King

Executive Engineer: Christy Clarke

Staff Officer: Triona Keating

1 Confirmation of Minutes

1.1 Confirmation of minutes of Ordinary Meeting held on 11th July, 2019.

The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 11th July, 2019 were confirmed on the proposal of **Councillor Sharon Tolan** and seconded by **Councillor Wayne Harding**.

2 Matters arising from the Minutes

Councillor Sharon Tolan requested that the minutes include and attribute all comments made by councillors at meetings – it was pointed out that the role of the minutes is to record the purpose of the meeting and agreed outcomes, including decisions taken, and it would neither be feasible nor necessary to record and attribute every individual point raised.

3 Expressions of Sympathy and Congratulations

Sympathy was extended to:



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

- The family of the late Craig Lynch, former teacher at Eureka Secondary School, Kells and Irish athlete;
- Frank Smyth, GO, Laytown-Bettystown Municipal District, on the death of his brother, Brendan;
- Des Foley, Director of Service, on the death of his father, John.

Congratulations were extended to:

- Eileen Tully, who has been co-opted to take her late husband, Oliver's, seat on Louth County Council;
- Slane Community Forum, An Garda Síochána and the staff at Slane Castle for their work on the Cannonball Run through Slane and to Meath County Council staff for their offer of assistance;
- Laytown Race Committee, including the groundskeeping and maintenance staff, on this year's successful event and for the new Pride of Place initiative introduced this year;
- The Meath Ladies Team on reaching the All Ireland Intermediate Finals this weekend, including the local players;
- All involved in this year's 'Dip in the Nip' charity event;
- All involved in organising this year's Fleadh in Drogheda, including Louth County Council.

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 Rathmullan , Drogheda, Co. Meath.

This was agreed on the proposal of **Councillor Sharon Tolan** and seconded by **Councillor Paddy Meade**.



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

5 Statutory Business

5.1 Transportation

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

The report, which had been circulated in advance, was noted. The works undertaken at the toilet facility in Laytown were commended – the assistance of Tony Baragwanath, Clerk of Works, Housing Department was acknowledged in managing the day to day works.

5.2 Environment

- 5.2.1 To receive a report on submissions received in respect of the display of proposed amendments to the Foreshore Byelaws 2010, and arising from recommendations contained in the Beach Management Plan –also to receive an update on the design phase of the sea front building at Seaview Tce Bettystown.

Larry Whelan, Senior Executive Officer, Environment Department outlined the process to date, including the public display of the proposed amendments to the Foreshore Byelaws from 19th July to 30th August. A total of 349 submissions had been received, including petitions and individual submissions, with a special portal having been set up to facilitate the consultation. It was noted that a leaflet had been circulated which included inaccurate and misleading information. The majority of submissions related to the proposed amendment regarding dogs on leads, with the majority being opposed to the proposed changes, and the balance related to horses. A number of other issues, including anti-social behaviour, parking, facilities, etc. were also raised. The main concerns are now being assessed and prioritised. It was noted that 68 suggestions had been made, some of which were considered to be of merit, and these would form part of the discussions with the relevant statutory bodies. It was pointed out that the local authority was obliged to have regard to the statutory Natura Impact Statement (NIS). It is proposed to return to the November meeting of the municipal district with recommendations, having regard to the content of the submissions.

Matters raised by councillors included:

Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

- Welcomed the high level of community engagement.
- Criticised the misinformation that had been circulated.
- The possible consequences for the dunes and other environmentally sensitive areas if the amendment relating to keeping dogs on leads is implemented.
- The possibility of amending the proposals to take account of the opposing views – it was confirmed that discussions would take place with the relevant bodies, and any room for compromise would be considered, once in compliance with the NIS.

David Keyes, Senior Executive Engineer, Environment Department confirmed that the design for Seaview Terrace is progressing well and outlined progress relating to each of the steps undertaken, including stakeholder consultation, Appropriate Assessment screening, archaeology reports and Foreshore Licence application. The timeframe as previously outlined, i.e. tenders in April 2020, on site in August/September 2020 and completion and handover in August 2021, remains. It is intended to provide a more comprehensive presentation to the October meeting. It was also confirmed that discussions had taken place with An Taisce with regard to applying for Blue Flag status in due course.

Matters raised by councillors included:

- Queried the need for the Appropriate Assessment screening – it was pointed out that, whilst the building is not on the beach, the interaction of surface water drainage on the SAC/SPC requires consideration.
- Requested that the poles erected for signage be relocated to improve visibility – it was confirmed that one sign on the approach was intended to warn vehicles if the tide is in prior to entering the beach and that this can be relocated if in conflict with the overall design.

5.3 Planning

- 5.3.1 To consider taking in charge of the following and the making of a declaration that the roads within the development shall be public roads in accordance with



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

Section 11 Roads Act 1993 and the Planning & Development Acts 2000-2018.

- Mornington Park Housing Estate, Donacarney.

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

6 Notice of Question

There were no Notices of Question.

7 Notice of Motion

7.1 Submitted by Councillor Sharon Keogan

“We call on Irish Water to immediately carry out mediation works at the Mornington Pumping Station to prevent sewage leakage on our coastline following repeated discharges over the last few years.”

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Sharon Keogan** and seconded by **Councillor Sharon Tolan**.

The motion was adopted.

7.2 Submitted by Councillor Stephen McKee

“That Meath County Council take action, working in partnership with the Gardaí, in addressing road safety issues across East Meath to include a review of speed limits, road signage and the implementation of adequate measures to improve safety in areas that are known to be dangerous for all road users.”

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

Meath County Council promotes safer roads through its ‘Road Safety Plan 2013 – 2020’, which sets out a road safety strategy based on ‘the 4 Es’, namely Engineering,



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

Education, Enforcement and Evaluation. The implementation of the plan relies on a co-ordinated approach between various stakeholders, and, in particular, between Meath County Council and An Garda Síochána. There is already close co-operation with the Gardaí and regular meetings are held between the Council and the Garda Collision Prevention unit. This forum allows both parties to raise issues within our administrative area and puts a focus on collision prone locations and the actions that can be taken to improve road safety. The next meeting is due to take place in September 2019.

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Stephen McKee** and seconded by **Councillor Sharon Tolan**.

The motion was adopted.

8 Other Matters Arising

There were no other matters arising.

9 Correspondence

- 9.1 Correspondence received from the Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment in response to the Notice of Item 6.1 – Notice of Motion as adopted at the April meeting re Air Quality Control Monitoring Units.

The correspondence was noted. Councillors welcomed the investment outlined and it was agreed that the Environment Department would be asked to request the results from the two monitoring stations planned for Drogheda and Navan from the EPA and submit these to the municipal district councillors on a quarterly basis.

10 Any Other Business

- 10.1 Councillor Annie Hoey raised the following issue:

10.1.1 Queried the Part 8 process and how councillors can raise issues or concerns and whether amendments can be made to the Part 8 as it relates to the proposed housing development in Donore. A discussion followed on the concerns and issues that were raised in relation to the development at the May meeting and in subsequent submissions made. Reference was also made to how

Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

compromise had been reached in relation to the Greenway route prior to the Part 8 process being finalised. Councillors expressed their support for the provision of affordable sites to meet local need but also the need to take the concerns of the community into account – it was pointed out there is limited public land available for the provision of housing, which is urgently required to meet housing demand and that this site was always subject to housing development. It was also emphasised that representatives from both Housing and Planning had attended the May meeting and the Part 8 process had been clearly outlined, both at the meeting and in emails circulated to councillors by the Planning Department. Part 8 is a statutory process, with which Meath County Council had fully complied. Councillors sought clarification on whether it was possible to suspend the Part 8 process until such time as the issues raised were resolved and it was agreed to refer this to the Planning Department.

10.2 Councillor Sharon Tolan raised the following issues:

10.2.1 The need for either a pedestrian crossing or continuation of the footpath on the Eastham Road – it was agreed to check if relevant planning permissions included for the completion of the footpath sections.

10.2.2 The need to either move the gap in the safety barrier at the entrance to the Laytown education campus close to the junction or provide a speed ramp crossing – it was pointed out that this is a private site but that traffic calming measures would form part of the works on the Spine Road. It was requested that the Road Safety Officer contact the Department of Education & Skills asking that the necessary works be carried out.

10.3 Councillor Paddy Meade raised the following issue:

10.3.1 Requested that arrows be marked on the roads in the vicinity of Brú na Bóinne to alert visitors to drive on the left hand side of the road – it was pointed out that signage was already in place and that too many signs/directions can also cause confusion.

10.4 Councillor Tom Behan raised the following issue:

10.4.1 The need for road markings on the Pilltown Road at Colmcille's – it was confirmed that the roadway was too narrow to mark 2 x 3m lanes but that drainage works were planned and consideration would be given to adding



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

yellow lines on the narrow sections.

10.5 Councillor Stephen McKee raised the following issue:-

10.5.1 Referred to the Part 8 for the housing development in Donore and requested that Planners be invited to the October meeting to discuss the matter further.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed:

Cathaoirleach