



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

Ashbourne Municipal District

Ordinary Meeting

9:00 a.m., 12th November 2019, Ledwidge Room, County Hall, Navan

An Cathaoirleach, **Councillor Alan Tobin**, presided.

Councillors Present: Joe Bonner, Suzanne Jamal, Darren O'Rourke, Amanda Smith and Conor Tormey.

Officials in Attendance:

Head of Finance: Fiona Lawless

Meetings Administrator: Claire King

Executive Engineer: Mel Cronin

Staff Officer: Triona Keating

1 Confirmation of Minutes

1.1 Confirmation of minutes of Ordinary Meeting held on 15th October, 2019.

The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 15th October, 2019 were confirmed on the proposal of **Councillor Darren O'Rourke** and seconded by **Councillor Suzanne Jamal**.

1.2 Confirmation of minutes of Special Finance Meeting held on 6th November, 2019.

The minutes of the Special Finance Meeting held on 6th November, 2019 were confirmed on the proposal of **Councillor Suzanne Jamal** and seconded by **Councillor Darren O'Rourke**.

2 Matters arising from the Minutes

Councillor Amanda Smith requested an update on the clarification she sought in relation to Item 5.1 – Notice of Question and it was agreed to issue a reminder to the Planning Department.



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3 Expressions of Sympathy and Congratulations

Congratulations were extended to:

- Kilbride on their award in the county Pride of Place awards.

4 Statutory Business

4.1 Transportation

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

The report had been circulated in advance and matters raised by councillors included:

- Requested an update on flooding – it was pointed out that the new drains had been working well and that works were ongoing to remove leaves, which were preventing water from entering the drains. Updates were provided on specific locations, including Fleenstown, Ardcath, Bellewstown Reservoir and Kilbride.
- Flooding at the entrance to Kilbride GAA – it was confirmed that this had been investigated and did not appear to be resulting from road drainage but rather was due to the nature of the site itself.
- Referred to the flooding problems caused by grass cuttings being dumped in ditches during the summer in rural locations and the possibility of erecting signage to increase awareness of the problems caused and/or providing compost bins for the collection of grass cuttings at known locations – it was agreed to consider signage but the provision of bins may not be feasible.
- Traffic delays heading north bound at the Primatestown lights – it was pointed out that the traffic light sequence had been adjusted to take account of recent works but that these were to be readjusted once works had been completed.



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- The damage caused to the bridge at Donaghmore – temporary fencing is in place and this location is on the maintenance and repair list.
- The need to plan for the road reinstatement at Donaghmore due to damage caused by water erosion and traffic volumes.

4.2 Community

4.2.1 To receive an update on the Ashbourne Linear Park.

An update had been circulated and it was also confirmed that the surface was being looked at with a view to putting in a rubberised surface, that the lights are now operational, that the need for additional street furniture such as bins and cycle stands was being reviewed and that the playground would no longer be locked at night.

Matters raised by councillors included:

- Suggested that playground users be encouraged to use the pedestrian links rather than the limited parking available and that information on alternative parking be provided.
- That personal responsibility be promoted in the event that small incidents occur – it was agreed to request IPB to undertake a facilities audit.
- Requested that security at night be reviewed before December – it was confirmed that it would be monitored.
- Requested that signage be erected at the main entrance outlining the byelaws.
- The possibility of installing ramps and double yellow lines to slow traffic.
- The possibility of meeting with the relevant management company to discuss the possible taking in charge of the walkway – it was pointed



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out that considerable work would be required to make the walkway safe and bring it to a suitable standard and that whilst such works would be identified, they would not be costed or carried out.

Fiona Lawless referred to discussions held with the Housing Department, whereby the piece of land opposite the area to be developed for social housing could be assessed, in conjunction with the Community Department, for the provision of an amenity, such as a skatepark. As the Part 8 process for the housing development was a priority, it was hoped to have this included in the Community Department's 2020 work programme and the agreement of councillors was being sought to proceed with this proposal, which, if progressed, will be funded from the capital programme allocation for the community park. Should lands be secured in the future for the community park, the capital funding allocation can be reviewed. Councillors were also urged to consider the provision of lands for community projects/amenities as part of the County Development Plan review.

Councillors welcomed the proposal, on the basis that this would not impact on the future provision of the community park, should a suitable site become available.

Councillors also referred to the need for all planning permissions granted to developments over a particular size, whether public or private, to include conditions for the provision of adequate amenities, e.g. playgrounds.

5 Notice of Question

5.1 Submitted by Councillor Conor Tormey

“Are there any plans to implement safety measures at Swan's Cross, Skryne, Tara, Co. Meath?”

Response:

A topographical survey of the junction has now been carried out. This survey will be used to design and assess possible safety measure options to highlight the junction to road users. When the design options have been analysed and a suitable design option is chosen, detailed design and procurement can then take place, most likely in Q4 of 2019,



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*with approved works taking place in Q1/Q2 of 2020, subject to funding and approvals.
Elected Members will be updated on progress as the project advances.*

The response was noted.

6 Notice of Motion

There were no Notices of Motion.

7 Strategic Policy Committee & Corporate Policy Group Reports – For Information Purposes

7.1 To note the report from the Transportation SPC meeting of 23rd October, 2019.

The report was noted.

7.2 To note the report from the Climate Change, Environment and Emergency Services SPC meeting of 31st October, 2019.

The report was noted.

8 Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

9 Any Other Business

9.1 Councillor Joe Bonner raised the following issue:

9.1.1 Requested an update on the Christmas tree – it was confirmed that was being delivered tomorrow and it was agreed to hold the switching on of the lights on Saturday 30th November at 6.00pm.

9.2 Councillor Alan Tobin raised the following issue:

9.2.1 Requested that public lighting be provided on the triangular piece of land at the



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Broadmeadow River to facilitate access by local residents to schools, shops, etc.

9.3 Councillor Conor Tormey raised the following issue:

9.3.1 Requested that the public lighting issue at Newtown Cross be addressed as soon as possible.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed:

Cathaoirleach