



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

### ***Laytown-Bettystown Municipal District***

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

***2.00 p.m., 12<sup>th</sup> December 2019, Duleek Civic Offices***

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

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

**Apologies:** Councillor Annie Hoey.

**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 14<sup>th</sup> November 2019.**

The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> November 2019 were confirmed on the proposal of **Councillor Sharon Tolan** and seconded by **Councillor Tom Behan**.

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

Councillor Paddy Meade referred to the correspondence submitted following the November meeting on behalf of Laytown-Bettystown Municipal District to the Transportation Department relating to the proposed road closure of the Navan – Slane Road in December and the subsequent decision to defer the closure, which he welcomed.

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

Sympathy was extended to:



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- Nicholas Whyatt, Transportation on the death of his mother;
- The Regan family, Mornington on the death of their mother, Aileen, who was heavily involved in the East Meath Hospice Association;
- Fr. Kelly, Stamullen & Julianstown Parish, on the death of his father.

Congratulations were extended to:

- Lobinstown Tidy Towns, Bettystown and Laytown on their Christmas lights, with the assistance of Christy Clarke;
- Monica McQuirke on winning an All Star Award for best goalkeeper;
- Keane Barry on his achievements in darts;
- All involved in the Alverno Rejuvenation Programme, with the progress on the footpath programme being welcomed;
- Davis Civil Engineering for the quality of work undertaken in Alverno and on the bus shelters;
- Helen Behan on her performance on BBC's 'Elizabeth is Missing'.

## **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 had been circulated in advance and matters raised by councillors included the welcoming of the footpath works in Stanley Heights, which improved accessibility for wheelchair users, and the possibility of carrying out works on the green in Alverno, with the provision of a suitable surface for



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playing/cycling – the current contract is for footpaths but this will be considered in 2020, with the possible provision of a mini play area.

- 4.1.2 To receive an update on the public consultation for the Boyne Greenway (Drogheda – Mornington section).

Cormac Ross, Resident Engineer, Transportation attended the meeting and delivered a presentation, which focused on the 2,762 submissions received, 3% of which were opposed to the project, 1% with concerns and 96% in support. The key issues raised were outlined, in terms of those opposed and concerned. The next step is the review of the submissions received, updates to the design and reports and the submission to An Bord Pleanála in February 2020.

Matters raised by councillors included:

- Acknowledged the potential of the project to benefit the wider area.
- Welcomed the significant public engagement and the support expressed for the project.
- Welcomed that the concerns expressed are being taken into account, e.g. Tower Road and Mornington Court – the wall into the green area at Mornington Court will be set back slightly to improve sightlines.
- Requested that adequate communication with both councillors and residents take place to ensure accurate and timely information is made available, e.g. regarding the removal of garden areas – maps to show the landtake will be provided. Temporary working space requirements will result in access to properties on a temporary basis and, once works are complete, remediation works on lawns and planting will take place. Information will be provided to residents, indicating the permanent and temporary land requirements and the process regarding the statutory consultation and process.
- The timeframe for the availability of the amended drawings and the possibility of further amendments at a later stage – the drawings will be circulated when ready in January. Considerable non-statutory public consultation has already taken place and it is not envisaged that further



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consultation will be undertaken. Submissions can be made to An Bord Pleanála during that statutory process.

- Acknowledged the role of the Boyneside Trail Committee, who had initiated the process in a voluntary capacity.

### **4.2 Environment**

- 4.2.1 To receive a report in respect of submissions received in respect of the display of the proposed amendments to the Foreshore Bye Laws 2010 and to consider recommendations arising in respect of same.

This item was deferred to the January meeting.

## **5 Notice of Question**

### **5.1 Submitted by Councillor Sharon Keogan**

“Could the Council please give me a definite date for the taking in charge of Larrix Mews, Duleek and The Grange, Donore, confirm whether a full list of works for both estates has been completed and provide a commencement date and timeframe for the works to be completed?”

#### **Response:**

*Both of these estates are on Meath County Council's list to be taken in charge. Please be advised that the works on these estates are estimated to commence on site September/October 2020. Until the full extent of the works is identified it is not known how long the works will take.*

The response was noted. Councillor Keogan sought clarification on the reasons for the delay in the commencement of works in the estates.

## **6 Notice of Motion**

### **6.1 Submitted by Councillor Sharon Keogan**



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“Calling on Meath County Council to ask the OPW to erect signage outside the gates of Oldbridge House and for Meath County Council to erect advance signage on all approach roads to this tourist site.”

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

*There are currently advance directional signage and a Stone Plinth at the entry gates of Oldbridge House indicating the Battle of the Boyne Site. Additional signage for Oldbridge House would be confusing for the large numbers of foreign visitors to the site.*

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

A short discussion followed, with councillors indicating that the current signage is confusing as it refers only to the Battle of the Boyne site. It was pointed out that signs were in place and additional signs could add to the confusion. It may be possible to have signs referring to both the Battle of the Boyne site and Oldbridge House but TII approval would be required for signs on national routes. It was agreed to refer this to Boyne Valley Tourism to see if they were aware of any related issues for visitors.

The motion was noted.

### **6.2 Submitted by Councillor Wayne Harding**

“That this Municipal District calls on Minister Kevin Moran to provide funding for a playground at the Battle of the Boyne site at Oldbridge.”

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Wayne Harding** and seconded by **Councillor Paddy Meade**.

The motion was adopted and it was agreed to refer this to the full council for consideration.

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

7.1 To note the report from the Housing, Community and Cultural Development SPC



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meeting of 11<sup>th</sup> November, 2019.

The report was noted.

### **8 Other Matters Arising**

There were no other matters arising.

### **9 Correspondence**

There was no correspondence.

### **10 Any Other Business**

10.1 Councillor Tom Behan raised the following issues:

10.1.1 Requested that contact be made with farmers who use the Minnistown Road in relation to the need to clean the road after use by agricultural vehicles – this is being monitored and the contractor has been contacted.

10.1.2 The need for hedge cutting and verge trimming on the Minnistown Road – this will be checked and notices issued, if required.

10.2 Councillor Paddy Meade raised the following issue:

10.2.1 Queried the status of the Brú na Bóinne Steering Committee – it was agreed to refer this to the Heritage Officer.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

**Signed:**



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**Cathaoirleach**