



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

Trim Municipal District

Ordinary Meeting

2:00 p.m., 24th January, 2020, Trim Civic Offices

An Cathaoirleach, **Councillor Noel French**, presided.

Councillors Present: Aisling Dempsey, Joe Fox, Trevor Golden, Ronan Moore, Niamh Souhan.

Officials in Attendance:

Director of Service: Des Foley

Executive Engineer: Maura Daly

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 20th December 2019.

The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 20th December 2019 were confirmed on the proposal of **Councillor Aisling Dempsey** and seconded by **Councillor Niamh Souhan**.

2 Matters arising from the Minutes

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

3 Expressions of Sympathy and Congratulations

There were no expressions of sympathy or congratulations.

4 To receive a presentation from the PPN Resource Officer.



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Danielle Monahan, PPN Resource Officer, Community Department delivered a short presentation, on the role and structure of the PPN, its composition and planned improvements, with the Department of Rural and Community Development to undertake a review and publish a new handbook. Of the approximate 900 groups represented in Meath, 140 are located in Trim Municipal District. A Community Wellbeing Statement is to be prepared for each municipal district and at county level and a related workshop which took place in Trim last week whereby 22 people representing a variety of groups attended.

The Cathaoirleach and councillors thanked Danielle for coming and wished her well in her role.

5 Statutory Business

5.1 Transportation

5.1.1 To receive an update on works completed/ planned within Trim Municipal District.

The report, which had been circulated in advance, was noted. Matters raised by councillors included:

- Requested a white line at the Post Office junction to show the road swings from Market Street onto Emmet Street – it was advised that the whole point of that junction is to deprioritise any one road to slow traffic and increase awareness of the surroundings. A discussion followed in relation to this and it was agreed to look at the possibility of painting the word STOP on the road at this junction.
- Referred to the one-way system and how it lends to people speeding at various locations and asked about the possibility of raised crossings, in particular beside the library on High Street and Loman Street. It was asked if these works could be incorporated as part of the Theatre works.
- The need to upgrade markings at rural crossroads.
- Dangerous trees on the side of the road – Councillors were requested to submit these details to the District Engineer.



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5.2 Corporate Services

- 5.2.1 To note Municipal District Allocations submitted by Councillors on behalf of Trim Municipal District.

The list of allocations, circulated in advance, was noted.

6 Notice of Question

There were no Notices of Question.

7 Notice of Motion

7.1 Submitted by Councillor Aisling Dempsey

“That the footpath to Blossoms Creche, Enfield be added to the 2020 works programme as a priority, as it is required for the safe passage of parents and children to a childcare facility.”

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

A footpath to Blossoms Creche, Enfield has been added to the Requests for New Works database, from which schemes will be prioritised following an engineering screening/evaluation assessment if funding becomes available.

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Aisling Dempsey** and seconded by **Councillor Noel French**.

A brief discussion followed as to where responsibility lies for the provision of the footpath. Des Foley advised that, as part of the Schedule of Municipal District Works, an assessment will be carried out of this footpath. The details of the assessment will be brought to the February meeting as part of the Schedule of Municipal District Works and will be a matter for the councillors to decide where to put this footpath on the municipal district programme of works.



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The motion was adopted.

8 Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

9 Any Other Business

9.1 Councillor Aisling Dempsey raised the following item:-

9.1.1 Asked how many Polling Stations would be inaccessible in this area to those with disabilities - It was confirmed that the legal responsibility for General Elections lies with the Returning Officer, therefore the location, facilities, risk assessment and accessibility is the responsible of the Returning Officer.

9.2 Councillor Ronan Moore raised the following items:-

9.2.1 Raised the issue of gritting routes and what criteria applies to adding roads to the gritting programme - It was advised that the gritting programme has developed over time and over 80% of all regional roads are gritted. Additional funding has been allocated in the budget and it is hoped to be able to add to the route every year until all regional roads are gritted.

9.3 Councillor Trevor Golden raised the following item:-

9.3.1 Queried parking bye laws and whether they cover cul-de-sacs and housing estates in the Council's charge. It was also asked if anything could be done to those who do not heed the signs for "Residents Parking Only" – It was agreed to forward this query to Transportation for clarification.

9.4 Councillor Noel French raised the following items:-

9.4.1 Referred to the High Court's ruling on the granting of planning permission to Narconon for a drug rehabilitation centre in Ballivor. Narconon had obtained planning permission for a change of use from a nursing home to a drug rehabilitation centre under Section 5 of the Planning Act and were granted permission. It was felt that there were short comings in relation to Section 5



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applications which are not published therefore, did not afford the opportunity for the people of Ballivor or Meath to have an input, whether positive or negative, with respect to this application. Councillor French thanked Trim Municipal District Councillors for putting in an application to An Bord Pleanála, he thanked Meath County Council for putting in an application for a review to An Bord Pleanála and especially thanked Ballivor Community Group for getting the application reviewed.

A discussion took place as to what constitutes a drug treatment unit and residential and rehabilitation centre. It was agreed to write to the relevant Ministers outlining concerns in relation to the legislation for the regulation of such centres and in relation to Section 5s. It was noted that Meath County Council had already written with regard to Section 5s.

9.4.2 The need to deal with forward planning for education in Trim. A discussion followed whereby it was felt that the responsibility lies with the Board of Management and the Principal of the schools to submit their own request to the Department of Education in respect of their needs.

9.5 Des Foley raised the following issue:

9.5.1 Referred to the Royal Canal Greenway and proposal to extend it from Longwood via Ribbontail Way out to the greenway. It was advertised to take in charge the section of the route in Meath and Kildare will do likewise. To date there were 142 submissions in favour of the proposal to connect Longwood to the greenway. There are a couple of submissions which had a number of concerns which are being dealt with. It was agreed to meet on Monday, 3rd February at 1.15pm in advance of the Full Council meeting to receive a report in order to advance this project.

Best wishes were conveyed to the councillors who were standing in the upcoming general election.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed:

Cathaoirleach