



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

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

### ***Ordinary Meeting***

***9: 30 a.m., 11<sup>th</sup> March 2020, Dunshaughlin Community Centre***

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

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

Apologies: Councillor Deirdre Geraghty-Smith.

#### **Officials in Attendance:**

**Director of Service:** Des Foley

**Meetings Administrator:** Claire King

**Executive Engineer:** Philip Traynor

**Staff Officer:** Triona Keating

## **1 Confirmation of Minutes**

### **1.1 Confirmation of minutes of Ordinary Meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> February 2020.**

The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> February 2020 were confirmed on the proposal of **Councillor Gillian Toole** and seconded by **Councillor Maria Murphy**.

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

Councillor Gillian Toole referred to the following:

- The meeting invitation extended to residents in relation to Kilsaran, with the issue having been raised at their AGM. Whilst traffic calming in Kilmessan is included in the draft County Development Plan, residents wish for other measures relating to health & safety to be brought forward.



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- The reference to lighting and ducting in Jamestown at Moulden Bridge and the Ashbourne Road – this is being followed up.

Councillor Damien O'Reilly referred to the community lands in Kilmessan and it was pointed out that Skayne Valley Community Council had met Kilsaran regarding the community fund and how it will be administered.

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

Congratulations were extended to:

- Shane Foley, former Principal in Dunshaughlin, recently appointed as Principal in Enfield.
- Bridget Bennett, Acting Principal, Dunshaughlin.

### **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 six (6) properties, under the Local Infrastructure Housing Activation Fund (LIHAF) Cost Reduced Housing Units Scheme, in accordance with Section 211 of Planning & Development Act 2000 and subject to the provisions of Section 183 of the Local Government Act 2001. The subject properties are situated at and known as Numbers 2, 5, 6, 8, 9 & 11 The Way, Broadmeadow Vale, Ratoath, Co. Meath.

Brendan Fulham, Administrative Officer, and Joanne Husband, Clerical Officer, Housing Department attended the meeting and the background to the proposed disposal was outlined, with the details having been circulated in advance.

Matters raised by councillors included welcoming the reduction in the unit prices but acknowledged the continuing difficulties in securing mortgage approval due to income limits, etc. and the need to address the issue of how these units are treated by Revenue, i.e. considered second hand units and therefore ineligible under the Help to Buy Scheme – it was agreed that a letter should issue to the Minister seeking clarification on this issue.



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This was agreed on the proposal of **Councillor Maria Murphy** and seconded by **Councillor Nick Killian**.

It was pointed out that current funding is being used to pay for Part V units and new builds with no funding available to acquire second hand units.

### **5 Statutory Business**

#### **5.1 Transportation**

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

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

- Thanked Philip and his staff for litter picking and storm damage repairs.
- Requested that the road sign at the County Club be cleaned.
- The possibility of ensuring that the timeframe for works associated with road openings be determined as part of the licence to ensure cooperation and minimise traffic impacts and also to notify councillors in advance of works taking place – a calendar system is already in place on the system and works cannot commence without a licence. The works can vary in size and impact and can only be monitored once on the system.
- Referred to works carried out in Leigh Valley estate on behalf of Irish Water, where vehicles parked on the green areas, and asked that residents in estates be notified in advance of works – the bond is refunded after a reinstatement period of two years, where all works have been carried out to standard.
- Referred to works being carried out in three different locations on the Curragha Road and the need for advance warning signage – standards are in place for works but some disruption is inevitable.

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- The need to maintain the litter bin collection schedule in advance of the Litter League judging on 27<sup>th</sup> March – a solar compacting bin will be installed at the bus stop in Dunboyne.
- Referred to disintegrated pothole repairs at the junction of the Summerhill Road at the Garda Station.

### **5.2 Community**

- 5.2.1 To receive a further update on proposals for the Ratoath Playground Upgrade.

Emmanuel Mwadiwa, Executive Engineer, Community Department provided an update on the revised proposals for the playground in Steeplechase, Ratoath. The original proposal to extend the playground and certain additional equipment has been removed and the revised proposal, within the current footprint of the playground, was outlined, including the resurfacing works, equipment, furniture, bins, footpath and access. If the works come in under the budget of €80,000, additional equipment can be provided.

The revised proposals were unanimously welcomed, having taken into account the views and concerns of local residents.

Clarification was sought as to whether Meath County Council had agreed to pay the insurance if a playground was to be provided at Ratoath Sports Campus. It was confirmed that the council would not be responsible for the insurance. If the playground is taken in charge in the future, the council would then be responsible for it and this would include maintenance and insurance. The provision of the playground remains subject to planning permission.

### **5.3 Environment**

- 5.3.1 To receive an update on Dunboyne Burial Ground.

Larry Whelan, Senior Executive Officer, Environment Department provided an update on the status of the different sites being considered. The land to the rear of the existing graveyard is being assessed to see what engineering solutions might make it adaptable at a reasonable expense. All auctioneers are on notice to identify any suitable lands that may arise.



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Matters raised by councillors included:

- The need to provide 2 rows to the rear of the existing graveyard to ensure capacity for 2-3 years.
- The need to clean the ditch along the Clonee side of the graveyard – it was pointed out that expert advice had suggested that this would have little positive impact and that permission would be required, as these are on private lands.
- Queried the type of engineering solution that might be considered – this would involve the importation of material to build up the embankment.
- The possibility of ensuring that the plots are used in such a way as to minimise the impact of the water table.
- The possibility of providing a columbarium wall to minimise the need for plots.

It was agreed to provide a further report on the engineering assessment to the April meeting.

### **5.4 Corporate Services**

- 5.4.1 To consider allocations under the 2020 budget for Arts, Festivals, Festive Decorations & MD Renewal.

This was deferred to the April meeting.

- 5.4.2 To note Municipal District Allocations submitted by Councillors on behalf of Ratoath Municipal District.

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

## **6 Notice of Question**



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### **6.1 Submitted by Councillor Damien O'Reilly**

“Can Meath County Council provide update and timeframe when Dunboyne Playground will be upgraded?”

**Response:**

*The Community section has received no request to upgrade the Dunboyne Playground. Consequently, there is no funding provision made for such works and it is not included in the 2020 work plan.*

*If this question refers to the Rookse Road project, it is anticipated the construction of the Rookse Road Linear walkway and the reinstatement of the Turner Bridge will commence in July 2020.*

The response was noted. Councillor Damien O'Reilly sought clarification on whether an allocation had been made in the capital programme for this project.

The capital programme is due to be presented to the full council in May and it was agreed that priority projects would be discussed at the April municipal district meeting.

### **7 Notice of Motion**

There were no Notices of Motion.

### **8 Correspondence**

There was no correspondence.

### **9 Any Other Business**

9.1 Councillor Gerry O'Connor raised the following issue:

9.1.1 Requested that video conferencing be used for the next meeting due to the Coronavirus.

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9.2 Councillor Maria Murphy raised the following issue:

9.2.1 Requested that the OPW be asked to assist with maintaining the Castle Stream to the rear of Archview/Castle View – it was agreed to follow this up.

9.3 Councillor Gillian Toole raised the following issues:

9.3.1 Requested an update on the timeframe for the public display for the capital project on Main Street, Ratoath and the Part 8 cycleway, whether this had been delayed due to a pinch-point at Tesco and whether there was an overlap with the proposed Rybo development.

9.3.2 Requested an update on the overlay of Main Street, Ratoath – this is provisionally planned for Easter.

9.3.3 Sought an update on whether a buyer had been secured for the Takeda plant in Dunboyne – there is no update available.

9.3.4 Requested an update on the timeframe and phasing of the LIHAF road – this is subject to ongoing internal discussion and has been delayed due to a third party appeal.

9.3.5 Sought an update on the provision of additional bus shelters – a submission was made to the NTA on this matter and it was agreed to circulate this.

9.3.6 Requested an update on Pace and the money allocated for the transportation plan – it was agreed that this could be discussed further at the April meeting.

9.3.7 The need for funding for Ratoath Municipal District to advance a number of initiatives including urban regeneration, litter management, heritage projects, etc. similar to other municipal districts – a funding application has been made to prepare a Public Realm Plan for Dunshaughlin. The capital plan will come before the full council in May and the development levies scheme will be subject to a review in 2021.

9.4 Councillor Brian Fitzgerald raised the following issue:

9.4.1 Requested an update on St. John's Well.



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This concluded the business of the meeting.

**Signed:**

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**Cathaoirleach**