



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

Trim Municipal District

Ordinary Meeting

2:15 p.m., 19th June 2020, County Hall, Navan

An Cathaoirleach, **Councillor Ronan Moore**, presided.

Councillors Present: Aisling Dempsey, Joe Fox, Noel French, Trevor Golden, Niamh Souhan.

Officials in Attendance:

Director of Service: Des Foley

Meetings Administrator: Claire King

Executive Engineer: Maura Daly

Staff Officer: Triona Keating

1 Confirmation of Minutes

1.1 Confirmation of minutes of Ordinary Meeting held on 21st February 2020.

The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 21st February 2020 were confirmed on the proposal of **Councillor Noel French** and seconded by **Councillor Aisling Dempsey**.

2 Matters arising from the Minutes

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

3 Expressions of Sympathy and Congratulations

Sympathy was extended to:

- The family and friends of the late Detective Garda Colm Horkan, who represented the bravery of those who work to keep communities safe.

4 Statutory Business



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

4.1 Planning

4.1.1 To consider taking in charge of the following and the making of a declaration that the roads within the developments shall be public roads in accordance with Section 11 Roads Act 1993 and the Planning & Development Acts 2000-2019.

- Abbey View, Trim.

This was approved on the proposal of **Councillor Noel French** and seconded by **Councillor Aisling Dempsey**.

4.2 Transportation

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

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

- Referred to the standard of works being carried out on roads in Kildalkey and Ballivor and whether these are adequate to deal with the underlying issues.
- Expressed concerns at the ongoing closure of the public toilets, particularly as many businesses remain closed, and whether an initiative could be undertaken to encourage those businesses that are open to allow public access to their facilities.
- Referred to suggestions made by traders as to whether a one-way system could be introduced in the town to facilitate the social distancing requirements, particularly for the elderly, and also the possible provision of signage to encourage age friendly time allocations of one or two hours – the Council is open to suggestions on the new ways of operating, e.g. outdoor seating where possible and welcomed all ideas, particularly if generated locally.
- The need to be ready to avail of any funding that might come available for initiatives to benefit businesses and the community.



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

- The need for a road sweeper in the town.
- Welcomed the provision of the age friendly gym equipment.
- The possibility of trimming back the trees at the Porchfields to discourage anti-social behaviour, vandalism, etc.
- Requested an update on the provision of the pedestrian crossings on the Dublin Road – some works have been carried out and it was agreed to check what further works are planned at St. John's.
- Referred to the traffic lights on the Navan Road and queried whether a clearway could be provided at De Lacey Crescent, similar to that at De Lacey Court on the R154 to facilitate exiting the estate – the location does not fit the criteria for the provision of a clearway.
- The options to facilitate pedestrians using the bridge at Newtown and the possibility of installing a boardwalk in the long-term – the implications of the various options were outlined and it was agreed to check if public lighting is to be improved. The provision of a boardwalk is costly and difficult in such a sensitive area.
- Queried plans for restoration work on the R161 Kinnegad to Trim Road which carries significant heavy traffic volumes

4.3 Corporate Services

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

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

5 To discuss the proposals for the Enfield Community Building/Site

Dara McGowan, Senior Executive Officer, Asset Management provided an update on the building and site, which has transferred to Meath County Council. Community requirements have been incorporated into the drawings, with the detailed design and costing to follow as



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

part of the tender process. The RRDF application process is to commence soon, with announcements expected in November/December. Subject to funding, the project could commence next Easter. The issues relating to the school building at the rear of the site were outlined, including the delays to the planning process. The proposal to facilitate the accommodation requirements of the school until such time as the community building works can commence were explained, alongside the benefits of having the building occupied in the interim.

Councillors welcomed the cooperation with the LMETB and the proposal as outlined. Some concerns were expressed at the likely increase in traffic volumes that will be generated by the school opening and increased housing developments and the need to look at the traffic flows through the village rather than using the ring road – it was agreed to look at the options. It was also suggested that signage might be increased to redirect HGVs away from the village.

6 Notice of Question

6.1 Submitted by Councillor Aisling Dempsey

“Can the Council outline the number of complaints received in relation to anti-social behaviour at Castle Meadows estate, the number and nature of the complaints, the actions taken or that are ongoing as a result of these?”

Response:

Between 26th and 28th May 2020, eighteen complaints were received by Meath County Council regarding anti-social behaviour in Maudlin Vale, fourteen from residents of Maudlin Vale and four from elected representatives.

The general nature of the complaints is in respect of actions by unnamed persons (minors) claimed to be coming from the adjoining Castlemeadows estate. All the incidents reported took place outside of the Castlemeadows estate boundaries, and therefore are not subject to investigation under our Anti-Social Behaviour policy.

Notwithstanding same, the Housing Department will fully engage in the impending meeting that is being arranged under the auspices of the Joint Policing Committee, with all relevant stakeholders, including residents of Maudlin Vale, in the identification of both short and long term measures, in order to address the issues that have been reported.



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

The response was noted. Des Foley provided a further update on meetings held and the agreed actions. It was suggested that councillors be kept informed of developments.

7 Notice of Motion

7.1 Submitted by Councillor Noel French

“I propose that Meath County Council allow a grace period of 30 minutes free parking from now until Christmas when it can be reviewed as a means of supporting hard pressed businesses in Trim. Time limits for parking to remain the same.”

This was proposed by **Councillor Noel French** and seconded by **Councillor Joe Fox**.

Reference was made to the impact of COVID-19 on businesses and the need to support businesses in as many ways as possible.

Dara McGowan underlined the need for an enforceable and manageable regime that ensures parking is available for business customers. Whilst some income is required to cover the cost of enforcement, incentives can also apply. He referred to the paid parking system and its enforcement, both whilst shops were closed and during the re-opening. A statement will issue next week confirming the incentives in place, i.e. the same charge will apply with a fifteen minute grace period before charges apply and a 30 minute grace period after ticket expiry up to 20th July. After this date, the 30 minute grace period after ticket expiry will reduce to 15 minutes. This new fee structure will be advertised on social media and on parking meters. A parking meter replacement programme is to commence on 29th June, following which it will be possible to pay by phone.

In light of the supporting information provided, the motion was noted.

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

8.1 To note the report from the Housing, Community and Cultural Development SPC virtual meeting of 21st May 2020.

The report was noted.



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

9 Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

10 Any Other Business

10.1 Cormac McCann, Broadband Officer raised the following issue:

10.1.1 Outlined a proposal for a shared access mast in Duggan Industrial Estate, which will require planning permission if proceeding. Councillors generally welcomed the proposal, given its benefits in improving coverage. It was requested that information be provided to councillors to respond to any related queries or concerns.

10.2 Councillor Noel French raised the following issues:

10.2.1 Requested an update on the Blueway including its status and any related promotion.

10.2.2 Requested confirmation that the funding allocation for the Porchfields remains available – it was confirmed that no notification had been received that such funding had been suspended or withdrawn.

10.2.3 Requested that a letter issue to the Department of Education and Skills regarding the school on Patrick Street, which remains empty and attracting anti-social behaviour.

10.2.4 Requested an update on the Clós na Croisse estate in Ballivor, with a number of unfinished retail units.

10.2.5 Requested an update on a previous Notice of Motion regarding stopovers for motor homes.

10.2.6 Requested that a letter of acknowledgement issue to Kevin Stewart, recognising his contribution as Trim Town Manager.



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed:

Cathaoirleach