



Miontuairiscí/Meeting Minutes

Transportation Strategic Policy Committee 23rd October 2019, Training Room , Room 128, Buvinda House, Navan at 4.00pm

Attendees – (Councillors): Cllrs T Golden, W Harding, P Meade, J Guirke, N French, P McCabe, S Tolan,

Apologies: Cllr G O’Connor, D Geraghty-Smith, A Smith.

Attendees – Peter Farrelly

(Sectoral

Representatives): Apologies: Geoffrey Clarke, Alan Watson, John Curran, Alan Brunton, Damien Hughes

(Officials): Des Foley, Nicholas Whyatt, John McGrath, Dara McGowan, Robert Collins, Majella Farrell, Andrew Bagnall, Danielle Monahan, , Jimmy Young,

Item	Discussion / Action
1.0	<p><u>Minutes of Previous Meeting</u> The minutes of the previous meeting held on 16th April 2019 were approved. Proposed by Cllr J Guirke and seconded by Cllr P Meade</p>
2.0	<p><u>Matters Arising from Minutes</u> No matters arising.</p>
3.0	<p><u>Approval of draft Strategic Policy Committees Standing Orders</u> Robert Collins provided an explanation of the draft Strategic Policy Committees Standing Orders to the SPC members.</p> <p>The following issue was raised</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The term of appointment of the Chairperson. <p>It was noted by the meeting that the election of Chairperson of the SPC was approved by the County Council at its Annual Meeting and that in the absence of the Chairperson from a meeting the arrangements for chairing a meeting can be decided as outlined in item no 8 of the standing orders on the day of the meeting.</p> <p>The draft Strategic Policy Committee Standing Orders were adopted on the proposal of Cllr J Guirke and seconded by Cllr S Tolan.</p>
4.0	<p><u>Corporate Plan Consultation</u> Robert Collins made a presentation to the Committee on the revision of the Corporate Plan 2019-2024.</p> <p>It was noted that the consultation process was still open and that the Council was required to consult internally & externally.</p> <p>Following the presentation the members raised the following items</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Should there be another consultation period after the Draft plan is published. • There is no opportunity for something that is not in Draft plan to be included. • Are staff held to account for non performance ?



Miontuairiscí/Meeting Minutes

	<p>The Following responses were given by officials</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Corporate Plan is required to be adopted at the December meeting of Meath County Council. • There will be an opportunity to comment on something that is not in draft plan at the December Council meeting. • There are metrics in the Corporate Plan for how the Council is achieving its objectives eg. Pavement Condition Survey. <p>It was agreed to circulate the consultation survey on the revision of the Council's Corporate Plan 2019-2024.</p>
<p>5.0</p>	<p><u>Winter Services Plan 2019/2020</u></p> <p>Andrew Bagnall made a presentation on the Winter Services Plan 2019/2020.</p> <p>Following the presentation the Members raised the following</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Could the plan be circulated out in a printed form as public do not know what roads are gritted - perhaps to libraries and civic offices. • Gritting of all Regional Roads is a priority. • Can footpaths be gritted at same time as road gritting is carried out ? • Contractors engaged by other Counties to put dust on roads during heatwave to deal with tar are also then used to assist in extreme snow etc. Can we consider this in MCC. • Commended work done on gritting roads during the extreme weather. • Can bus routes be included in the gritting schedule? • Can population centres be prioritized? • Discuss with contractors some days in advance when extreme weather is forecast. • Can traffic Count for Piltown Road be carried out, with a view to including this road on the gritting route? • Can following roads be included on the gritting schedule - Kells to Slane Regional Road, Mullagh- Moynalty Road from where the Mullagh Road meets the Bailieboro Road, Athboy-Oldcastle Road? <p>The Following responses were given by officials</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agreed to circulate the Plan to libraries and civic offices. Noted that Winter Services Plan was also on Website. • Costs of including all Regional Roads in Gritting Schedule are being put together for the Council's Budget Meeting and it is hoped to get to a stage where all the Regional Roads will be included over a 2 year programme. • A different salt is used for gritting footpaths. There is no specific grant allocation for gritting footpaths on regional and local roads but we do assign additional resources in extreme weather events.



Miontuairiscí/Meeting Minutes

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council already put grit and sand on salters for use during summer. Work ongoing on compiling list of Contractors that can be utilized in extreme weather conditions. • Bus routes and population centres already form part of MCC’s prioritisation policy. • Traffic count can be carried out on Piltown Road when counters are available.
<p>6.0</p>	<p><u>SPC Objectives & Programme incl Transportation Policies</u></p> <p>Nicholas Whyatt made a presentation on Transportation Policies that are included in the County Development Plan and also on what objectives the SPC wishes to achieve.</p> <p><u>The Chairman suggested the following approach:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Members go away and assess these policies and revert back with 3 or 4 priorities each to be achieved.</u> • <u>Priorities could be split in two; national projects and local policy issues</u> • <u>Need to agree then which ones will be progressed</u> <p>The members raised the following issues</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Members of committee come back with proposals and keep those to the front of the SPC’s work • Objectives to be considered: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ make roads safer ▪ improve ratings of roads in PCSI surveyServe hedge cutting notices and prosecute if failure to comply <p>It was noted that 100 hedge cutting notices had been issued within the past 2-3 weeks.</p> <p>It was also noted that the Road Safety Strategy will be due for review in 2020 and that this would be an opportunity to look at road safety.</p>
<p>7.0</p>	<p><u>List of motions referred to SPC for consideration.</u></p> <p>Cllr D O’Rourke – Traffic Calming policy</p> <p>This motion was deferred for discussion to a later date.</p>



Miontuairiscí/Meeting Minutes

<p>8.0</p>	<p><u>AOB</u></p> <p>The following issues were raised.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The direction by the Department of Transport, Tourism & Sport that it is not permissible to use Local Authority Own Resources or General Municipal Allocations to fund the community element of the scheme. It was proposed that the SPC write to the Department on this and request a meeting with the Minister.• When fixing potholes the squares should be cut out. • Can a letter be issued to NTA on the difficulty in getting bus shelters constructed.• What term is the current contract with JC Decaux for provision of bus shelters? <p>The following response were given by officials</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The concerns regarding not allowing the use of Local Authority Own Resources or General Municipal Allocations to fund the community element of the scheme have been raised with the Department. <p>The chairman closed the meeting by thanking the outgoing SPC committee and commending the good work done.</p>
	<p><u>Recommendations from SPC Committee to Corporate Policy Group and to Full Council.</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1) Issue a letter to the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport regarding concerns on the direction by the Department that it is not permissible to use Local Authority Own Resources or General Municipal Allocations to fund the community element of the Community Involvement Scheme and requesting a meeting with the Minister.2) Issue a letter to the National Transport Authority regarding the difficulties in getting bus shelters constructed.