



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

Climate Change ,Environment and Emergency Services SPC

31st October 2019 , Buvinda House

Attendees - Councillors: Cllr. Eugene Cassidy (Chair), Cllr. Tom Behan , Cllr Joe Bonner , Cllr. Mike Bray, Cllr Ronan Moore,

Apologies: Cllr. Sharon Keogan , Cllr Gillian Toole, Cllr Francis Deane, Cllr David Gilroy, Cllr Suzanne Jamal.

Attendees - Sectoral Representatives: Mr. John Curran , Ms. Karen Mahon, Ms. Riona Gilroy
Apologies: Noel Maguire & Tom Rogers

Officials: Mr. Kevin Stewart, Director of Services , Mr. Larry Whelan, Senior Executive Officer, Mr. Jarlath Flanagan , Administrative Officer, Ms Caroline Corrigan, Senior Executive Engineer, Mr. David Keyes, Senior Executive Officer, Ms Paula McDonnell, Assistant Staff Officer.

Item	Discussion / Action
1.	To agree the draft Standing Orders which will regulate the proceedings of the meetings and if though fit to recommend same to the full Council for adoption. Larry Whelan advised that following the adoption of the SPC Scheme at the Sept Council meeting each SPC had to now agree the standing orders governing the orderly conduct of the meetings. The members raised no objection to the draft standing orders which were circulated with the agenda for the meeting.
2.	To agree the dates, times and venues for future SPC meetings. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It was agreed that future meetings would start at 4pm and finish by 6 pm. A meeting will be held in December (date to be confirmed)
3.	To receive a report on the provisions of the Lobbying Act 2015 and specifically the Transparency Code Larry Whelan outlined the main provisions of the Lobbying Act and specifically the provision therein relating to the Transparency Code which subject to publication of specified information on the Councils web-site would exempt any communications with the SPC from the requirement to register and report on lobbying activity – specific information



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	contained at point 41 in the draft Standing Orders document.
4.	<p>To receive a presentation on the functions of the department and for which the SPC will be involved in policy considerations –the presentation will also outline the key staff involved in these functions.</p> <p>A spreadsheet was circulated to the members setting out the broad range of functions which fall under the remit of the Climate Action, Environment, Fire & Emergency Services departments and the main elements of work under each particular function. A separate sheet was circulated setting out the key staff involved in these areas. The Members welcomed the provision of such information.</p>
5.	<p>To receive a presentation in respect of consultation with Internal Stakeholders on the formulation of Meath County Councils Corporate Plan for 2019 -2024</p> <p>Robert Collins, Senior Executive Officer, Corporate Services made a presentation and outlined details of the consultation on the draft plan which is the local authority’s strategic framework for action during the lifetime of the Council. He responded to questions raised and advised that notwithstanding the 29th Oct deadline for internal submissions, members of the SPC could still complete the consultation sheet by the 8th November.</p>
6.	<p>To consider a Notice of Motion submitted by the Sinn Fein Councilors in respect of Waste Collection services to the September full Council meeting and which by agreement was referred to the SPC for further consideration. (As per draft Standing Orders mover of this motion were invited to attend the meeting)</p> <p>Larry Whelan went through the response which issued to the motion and including the basis for the decision to reject calls for the bringing of the service back under the control of the Local Authorities.</p> <p>While Karen Mahon representing the Environmental Pillar advised of her support for such a move the other Members and particularly Cllr Bray supported the Council’s decision and noted that a review of Government Waste Policy (A Resource Opportunity) is to be undertaken and which will take on board recommendations from a 2018 Competition Protection Commission report on the operation of the household waste collection market and possible competitive tendering procedures.</p>
	<p>To receive a presentation by Eugene Conlon of Energy Team about how communities can benefit from becoming a Sustainable Energy Community using the case study of the successful Dunleer SEC.</p> <p>Eugene Conlon, Chairperson of the Dunleer Sustainable Energy Community made a</p>



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	<p>presentation on this matter and explained that the Dunleer Community Development Board (DCDB), an umbrella organisation for 24 community groups in our area, became part of the SEAI's energy community network. He explained that an Energy Team was established to manage the energy programmes within their network and the aim to engage and relate to people about the realities of climate change and show them how together they could make a difference. The members welcomed the presentation and expressed interest in replicating its success in Towns & Villages in Meath and drawing on the support of Mr. Conlon and other stakeholders</p>
	<p>AOB</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Larry Whelan advised of the practice of circulating the Chief Executive Report which goes to the elected members as part of the Monthly Meeting agenda to the SPC to keep sectoral reps etc abreast of developments.• Larry Whelan circulated a copy of the Draft Litter Management Plan and advised that it would be presented to the Full Council meeting on 4th November 2019 for approval. He advised that the draft plan was the subject of public consultation.• Karen Mahon raised an issue in relation to the Boyne Greenway that assurance given that there will be no adverse effect on the SPA/ SAC. Larry Whelan advised that this project is being dealt with by the Transportation Dept and confirmed that while already the subject of non-statutory public consultation will be subject to further consultation as a Natura Impact Statement (NIS) has to be prepared and submitted to An Bord Pleanála – the NIS will take account of specialist advice obtained in relation to ensuring there is no adverse affect on the integrity of the SPA/SAC• Cllr Bonnar requested clarification on the role of the SPC in relation to dealing with motions – Kevin Stewart confirmed that motions arising from full Council meetings are often referred to the SPCs for consideration and following such consideration the Chairperson of the SPC can bring back recommendations to the Corporate Policy Group – the SPC have no decision making powers in such matters.