



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

Ratoath Municipal District

Ordinary Meeting

9: 30 a.m., 15th July 2020, County Hall, Navan

An Cathaoirleach, **Councillor Damien O'Reilly**, presided.

Councillors Present: Deirdre Geraghty-Smith, Nick Killian, Maria Murphy, Brian Fitzgerald.

Apologies: Councillors Gerry O'Connor and Gillian Toole.

Officials in Attendance:

Director of Service: Barry Lynch

Meetings Administrator: Claire King

Executive Engineer: Philip Traynor

Staff Officer: Triona Keating

Apologies: Des Foley, Director of Service

1 Confirmation of Minutes

1.1 Confirmation of minutes of Annual Meeting held on 10th June 2020.

The minutes of the Annual Meeting held on 10th June 2020 were confirmed on the proposal of **Councillor Brian Fitzgerald** and seconded by **Councillor Maria Murphy**.

1.2 Confirmation of minutes of Ordinary Meeting held on 10th June 2020.

The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 10th June 2020 were confirmed on the proposal of **Councillor Nick Killian** and seconded by **Councillor Brian Fitzgerald**.

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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 Statutory Business

4.1 Planning

- 4.1.1 To receive a presentation on the Strategic Housing Development application, reference no. ABP-307244-20: Loughglynn Development Limited in accordance with Section 8 (4) (c)(ii) of the Planning and Development (Housing) and Residential Tenancies Act 2016.

Billy Joe Padden, A/Senior Executive Planner provided details of the application, the consultations that had taken place, the proposed site layout, residential typology and facilities, and the next steps, including the submission of the Chief Executive's report by 22nd July, which will include a copy of today's meeting minutes. The decision due date is 16th September 2020.

Matters raised by councillors included:

- Expressed concerns at the current traffic volumes and speed on the R125 and the need for the road to be upgraded.
- Queried the demand for apartments.
- The need for adequate open space and the need for a park and playground in that area to service the developments existing and planned.



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- Queried the effectiveness of residential units close to the road in slowing traffic and referred to the impact on residents of traffic noise.
- The need to ensure that the creche is provided at the early stages of the development, if granted, and take steps to encourage providers to operate it.
- Queried whether the creche had adequate separate green space.
- Expressed concern that an increased density would not be in keeping with the character of the village.
- Suggested that the proposal should not include any block in excess of three storeys.
- Referred to a recent survey carried out to determine the types of units required for social housing, which indicated a strong demand for 1 and 2 bed units rather than 3 and 4 bed units, but reference was also made to a demand for larger units for families.
- Underlined the need for step-down housing and queried whether the proposed smaller units would be designed to cater for the elderly and also the preference for bungalows rather than apartments for the elderly.
- Queried whether the overall parking provision was adequate, including the proposed provision for the creche and playgrounds.

In response, it was pointed out that the Transportation Department would carry out a robust traffic assessment, to include traffic safety, and a road safety audit and a DMURS compliance certificate would be required. The Transportation Department will also assess the proposed parking provision to ensure compliance with the standards set out in the County Development Plan. The creche proposal will be assessed in terms of green space provision and a recommendation made, if required. It will also be recommended that the creche be provided in the early phase. Recommendations will also be made in relation to step down housing

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provision, on assessment of the typology. Meath County Council is satisfied with the proposed density, which is in keeping with the County Development Plan.

4.2 Transportation

4.2.1 To receive an update on the N3 to M50 Clonee Scheme.

Nicholas Whyatt, Senior Engineer, Transportation introduced the presentation on the update on the option selection process. Fingal County Council is the lead authority, with AECOM having been appointed to undertake the design. Eoin Greene, AECOM delivered the presentation, which provided a scheme overview, work to date, the current steps in Phase 2 and the next steps, with the emerging preferred option to be identified at the end of this year, the statutory process to be undertaken in Q3 2022, followed by detailed design, procurement and construction subject to statutory approval and funding allocation.

Matters raised by councillors included:

- The need for safe cycle lanes into the city – this will be considered in the preliminary design stage, taking into account the Greater Dublin Area Cycle Strategy.
- Queried whether new residential developments in Dunshaughlin and other centres, and related increases in population, have been taken into account and to what extent – a comprehensive local area model takes into account zoned development areas within the timeframe of the scheme, the design period being 15 years.
- Referred to the traffic volumes from Lucan to Clonee and the need to address traffic congestion and the junction at Clonee, e.g. the addition of new slip roads – the needs for junction improvements, extra lanes and other engineering solutions will be looked at, once the option is first selected.
- The timeframe for works to commence – the submission will be made to An Bord Pleanála in 2022 and the statutory process will take 6-9 months.

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Following that, government funding will be required. The timescale should be clearer towards the end of this year but works are unlikely to commence before 2027.

- Queried the level of consultation being undertaken – the importance of engagement is acknowledged, e.g. commuters, hauliers, etc. It is intended to erect signage on roadsides, use websites, social media and public notices in addition to public information evenings, with affected landholders and major stakeholders being a priority.

4.2.2 To receive an update on the Ratoath Outer Relief Road LIHAF scheme.

Paul Phelan, Executive Engineer, Transportation outlined the report circulated, with the expected completion date being the end of September.

Matters raised by councillors included:

- Expressed disappointment that no allowance had been made for tree planting from Moulden Bridge on the left-hand side.
- The need to address the road into the school.
- Requested that a note be issued to houses prior to the trees being removed at Moulden Bridge.
- Referred to the stones from the bridge and requested that these be used to create an art piece and placed on the approach to Ratoath – whilst the Percentage for Art Scheme does not apply to this scheme, consideration will be given to the options.
- Acknowledged the communication that has taken place to date.

4.2.3 To receive an update on cleaning out the Tolka and Castle Stream, Dunboyne and Clonee.



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John McGrath, Senior Engineer, Transportation provided an update on the issues affecting the stream, including the overgrowth, access, etc. A consultant engineer will be required to undertake environmental reports, appropriate assessment and screening. Consultation and relevant consents are also required. The timing for works will also be limited, due to the nesting season.

Matters raised by councillors included:

- Expressed disappointment at the delays in undertaking works.
- Queried whether works could be undertaken when the water levels are lower.
- Referred to the limited visibility due to the trees and shrubbery and the potential to be an amenity.
- Underlined the need for basic maintenance.
- Queried whether the OPW would provide funding if they were not going to undertake the works required.
- The need for reinstatement works if any damage is caused during works.

4.2.4 To receive an update on Part 8, proposal for Dunboyne Industrial estate link road.

Nicholas Whyatt provided an update and agreed to provide a further update in September.

It was agreed on the proposal of **Councillor Damien O'Reilly** and seconded by **Councillor Maria Murphy** to extend the meeting by thirty minutes.

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



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

- Referred to the Dunboyne Bypass – this has been raised with TII and a survey is being undertaken to see if settling has occurred. It was agreed that a letter would issue to TII requested that remediation works be expedited.
- Referred to the road condition on the R157 from the M3 Parkway to Newtown roundabout and it was agreed that a letter would issue to TII highlighting the deteriorating road condition due to subsidence – it was confirmed that the road would be overlaid if funding is provided.
- Queried the timeframe for the construction of the footpath and the new wall at the new primary school on the Drumree Road – the wall is to be delivered by the contractor and the footpath works are to commence on 27th July.
- The trees obstructing footpaths at Coill Beag, Ratoath.
- The need for the grass to be reinstated on the Curragha Road outside Foxwood following works on behalf of Irish Water.
- The need to renew the yellow box markings at Katy's Chippers in Ratoath.
- The need to renew the disabled parking spaces road markings and erect signage in Dunboyne.
- Referred to the need to either realign the footpath or erect a barrier on the footpath entering Dunboyne Park to improve safety for younger cyclists.
- The need to commence the Part 8 for Newtown Moygaddy to link to the roundabout under construction due to ongoing safety issues.



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- Referred to the Part 8 for the R157 at Carton, where traffic accidents have occurred, the number of developments in the area and the need to move the wall back – this is being reviewed.
- Requested that an update on the winter gritting programme be provided at the September meeting and referred to the need for the Ratoath – Kilbride Road to be included on the programme.

In relation to Cabinhill, councillors were informed that, due to an issue arising, works may not be delivered until 2021.

4.3 Corporate Services

4.3.1 To agree the 2020-2021 Schedule of Meetings

Meetings will commence at **9.30 a.m.** on the following dates:

Municipal District:	Time:	Venue:
Ratoath	9.30am	Dunshaughlin Civic Offices
Date	Type	
Wednesday, 15th July 2020	Ordinary	
Wednesday, 9th September 2020	Ordinary	
Wednesday, 7th October 2020	Ordinary	
Wednesday, 4th November 2020	Ordinary	
Wednesday, 9th December 2020	Ordinary	
Wednesday, 13th January 2021	Ordinary	
Wednesday, 3 rd February 2021	Ordinary	
Wednesday, 3 rd March 2021	Ordinary	
Wednesday, 14th April 2021	Ordinary	
Wednesday, 12th May 2021	Ordinary	
Wednesday, 16 th June 2021	Annual	
Wednesday, 16 th June 2021	Ordinary	



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

- 4.3.2 To adopt the revised Standing Orders for the meetings of Ratoath Municipal District – Sections 1 & 2 regarding meeting dates.

These were adopted on the proposal of **Councillor Brian Fitzgerald** and seconded by **Councillor Maria Murphy**.

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

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

5 Notice of Question

5.1 Submitted by Councillor Damien O'Reilly

“Can Meath County Council provide an update on the timelines for the sales of the affordable self-build council sites in Dunshaughlin?”

Response:

It is intended to advertise the low cost private sites in Dunshaughlin in October 2020, which will be approximately six months prior to the completion of the social housing scheme, which thereafter access to the private sites will be possible for private development.

The response was noted.

6 Notice of Motion

6.1 Submitted by Councillor Damien O'Reilly



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“I call on Meath County Council to install welcome to County Meath signage at every entrance to Millerstown, Kilcock, County Meath.”

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

Meath County Council is not proposing to provide ‘Welcome to County Meath’ signage at all of the entrances to Millerstown, Kilcock.

‘Welcome to County Meath’ signage is generally only placed at the county boundary on main roads.

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Damien O’Reilly** and seconded by **Councillor Maria Murphy**.

It was suggested that signs, similar to those in Duleek, be erected.

The motion was adopted.

6.2 Submitted by Councillor Damien O’Reilly

“I call on Meath County Council to write to TII, Transport Infrastructure Ireland and M3 Eurolink, M3 Motorway requesting permission to move the M3 artwork of “Gateway to Meath” statue located in a field in Clonee into Clonee village to the green space adjacent to the Tolka river to make this statue the centrepiece of Clonee village and embrace the village as the county’s economic hub.”

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Damien O’Reilly** and seconded by **Councillor Maria Murphy**.

A short discussion followed, with reference to a number of possible locations to which the artwork could be moved. It was agreed to consider possible locations.

The motion was adopted.



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7 Correspondence

7.1 Correspondence received from Rathbeggan N.S.

John McGrath confirmed that a recruitment process is to commence to fill a number of School Warden vacancies.

8 Any Other Business

8.1 Councillor Nick Killian raised the following issues:

8.1.1 Referred to requests by residents for traffic calming measures, similar to those on the Inner Relief Road, from Supervalu to the Steeplechase roundabout, due to speeding.

8.1.2 Requested that the green area at St. Oliver's be cleaned up.

8.1.3 The need to formally name roads in Ratoath including the Outer Ring Road, the Inner Relief Road and the Steeplechase Road – it was confirmed that a protocol is in place and it was agreed to add this to the September agenda.

8.1.4 Referred to the lack of public lands available for social and affordable housing in the municipal district.

8.2 Councillor Maria Murphy raised the following issue:

8.2.1 Requested an update on the County Development Plan review process.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed:



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Cathaoirleach