



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

### ***Kells Municipal District***

### ***Ordinary Meeting***

***4.00pm, 14<sup>th</sup> September 2020, County Hall, Navan***

An Cathaoirleach, **Councillor Paul McCabe**, presided.

**Councillors Present:** Mike Bray, Eugene Cassidy, Seán Drew, Michael Gallagher, David Gilroy and Sarah Reilly.

**Officials in Attendance:**

**A/Director of Service:** Larry Whelan

**Meetings Administrator:** Claire King

**Executive Engineer:** Aaron Smith

**Staff Officer:** Triona Keating

#### **1 Confirmation of Minutes**

##### **1.1 Confirmation of minutes of Ordinary Meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> July 2020.**

The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on the 13<sup>th</sup> July 2020 were confirmed on the proposal of **Councillor Eugene Cassidy** and seconded by **Councillor Seán Drew**.

#### **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 of the late former councillor, Ann Dillon-Gallagher.



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Congratulations were extended to:

- Clann na Gael Ladies team on winning the Meath LGFA Junior Championship Final;
- Meath County Council on securing RRDF funding for the Athboy Public Realm Plan;
- Mairead McGuinness on her new role as European Commissioner.

### **4 Statutory Business**

#### **4.1 Community**

- 4.1.1 To receive details of the allocations under the Community Amenity Project Scheme 2020 and if in agreement, recommend to the full Council of Meath County Council for approval.

Fiona Fallon, Senior Executive Officer, Community outlined the recommended grant allocations following the assessment process. These were agreed on the proposal of **Councillor Sarah Reilly** and seconded by **Councillor Eugene Cassidy**.

It was requested that, in future, advance notification and more detail on submitted projects be provided to councillors and this was agreed.

#### **4.2 Corporate Services**

- 4.2.1 To note Municipal District Allocations submitted by Councillors on behalf of Kells Municipal District.

The list of allocations, circulated in advance, was noted and councillors were reminded of the deadline for the receipt of completed applications, i.e. 30<sup>th</sup> September.

#### **4.3 Transportation**

- 4.3.1 To receive a Progress Report on works undertaken/planned for Kells Municipal District.



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The report, which had been circulated in advance, was noted.

A query was raised as to whether funding was available for remediation works on roads subject to damage from flooding – councillors were requested to submit details of roads affected; these will be added to the register and either council staff can undertake necessary drainage works or appropriate funding can be sought for more extensive works required.

### **5 Notice of Question**

There were no Notices of Question.

### **6 Notice of Motion**

#### **6.1 Submitted by Councillor Sarah Reilly**

*"That a progress report be provided by Transportation on the safety improvements/footpath installation works planned for Balrath, Mullingar Road, Kells."*

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

*The Transportation Section has formally submitted the Feasibility and Options Report to the TII for their consideration. We are awaiting a response before progressing further work on the preliminary design.*

The supporting information and motion, proposed by **Councillor Sarah Reilly** and seconded by **Councillor Michael Gallagher**, was agreed.

#### **6.2 Submitted by Councillor Mike Bray**

*"That a set day be assigned each month for the roads sweeper to carry out cleaning works in Athboy in order to assist with the upkeep and maintenance of the town which is mainly done by volunteers."*

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



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*The appropriate funding to commit to sending a large hired street sweeper to Athboy each month is not available currently. It is proposed that the small street sweeper from Kells town visit Athboy on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month where possible and on a trial basis. While we will endeavour to accommodate this commitment it will be dependent on weather conditions as this sweeper can only function correctly in dry weather and will also depend on the availability of a driver from the Kells Town crew.*

The supporting information and motion, proposed by **Councillor Mike Bray** and seconded by **Councillor David Gilroy**, was noted.

### **6.3 Submitted by Councillor Mike Bray**

“That Meath County Council engage with the relevant authorities to introduce dog control measures in Girley Bog. This follows on from a number of incidents in which locals and farmers were attacked by dogs not on leads when their owners were using of the Girley Bog walk.”

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

*While the Council would be involved in and support various environmental initiatives in Girley Bog the position is that this amenity area is regarded as private property and it is not within the Councils powers to enforce the provisions of the control of Dogs legislation within the confines of the bog.*

*It would be up to the land owner/lessee as with any private property that they make arrangements for people walking their dog that there is sufficient notice from them as to what measures must be taken.*

It was pointed out that a number of environmental initiatives are undertaken in relation to Girley Bog but that the council does not have a statutory remit and cannot issue fines. It was agreed that the Dog Warden would make contact with the relevant groups, on receipt of their contact information.

The supporting information and motion, proposed by **Councillor Mike Bray** and seconded by **Councillor Seán Drew**, was noted.

## **7 Strategic Policy Committee & Corporate Policy Group Reports – For Information Purposes**



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- 7.1 To note the report from the Housing, Community & Cultural Development SPC meeting of 16<sup>th</sup> July 2020.

The report was noted.

- 7.2 To note the report from the Transportation SPC meeting of 30<sup>th</sup> July 2020.

The report was noted.

### **8 Correspondence**

- 8.1 Correspondence received from Our Lady of Mercy Junior School in response to the Notice of Item 4.1.2 from the December 2019 meeting re issues of traffic at school campus.

The correspondence was noted. It was agreed that the Cathaoirleach would seek to arrange an informal meeting with representatives from the various stakeholders, including the Road Safety Officer, to see if the issues can be resolved.

- 8.2 Correspondence received from the Kells by Candlelight Group.

The correspondence was noted. It was pointed out that since meeting with the group, progress has been made with other local groups offering to assist in advancing this unique and significant project.

- 8.3 Correspondence received from Mr Christopher Mc Cormack.

The correspondence was noted. A query was raised in respect of the plans for the former Community House on Carrick Street and it was agreed to refer this to the Housing Department for clarification.

### **9 Any Other Business**

- 9.1 Councillor Sarah Reilly raised the following issues:

9.1.1 Referred to drainage issues at Carnaross Mart.



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- 9.1.2 Queried whether noise monitoring is being carried out in respect of the wind turbine development at Tierworker and requested an update on this matter at the October meeting – it was pointed out that consultants carry out an annual report and that the findings suggested that the noise is within the permitted parameters.
- 9.1.3 Referred to the solar compacting bins and queried whether a foot pedal can be fitted to avoid the need for these to be opened by hand – it was agreed to check this.
- 9.2 Councillor David Gilroy raised the following issues:
- 9.2.1 Referred to road safety issues at Rathmore N.S. where, at a recent meeting, a proposal was agreed to change the school entrance to facilitate a drop off point. He queried whether a funding allocation made in previous years was still available as this would allow the school to advance this project.
- 9.3 Councillor Michael Gallagher raised the following issues:
- 9.3.1 Requested a timeframe for the occupation of vacant social housing units in Moynalty and Athboy.
- 9.3.2 Referred to ongoing anti-social behaviour and queried whether CCTV would help to address these issues – councillors were requested to submit information on the locations affected.
- 9.4 Councillor Paul McCabe raised the following issue:
- 9.4.1 Requested that the Community Garda for the area be invited to meet with councillors to discuss relevant issues.
- 9.5 Councillor Seán Drew raised the following issues:
- 9.5.1 Referred to the monthly Chief Executive's Report, which suggested that there are more social housing vacancies in Kells Municipal District and that these are taking longer to become available for occupation.
- 9.5.2 Underlined the need for members of the public to contact Gardaí with reports



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of any illegal activity that they become aware of to ensure that this is formally recorded.

9.5.3 Queried whether works planned by Irish Water on Maudlin Street are to proceed.

9.5.4 Referred to the recent publicity regarding the Book of Kells and queried whether Meath County Council is engaging with Trinity College to benefit Kells in some way – it was agreed to examine this further.

9.6 Councillor Mike Bray raised the following issue:

9.6.1 Referred to the new parking meters and queried whether the parking fees have been increased as some of these meters will not accept coins less than 50c – it as agreed to refer this to Transportation.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

**Signed:**

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**Cathaoirleach**