



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

Ashbourne Municipal District

Ordinary Meeting

10:00 a.m., 6th October 2020, Ashbourne Civic Offices

An Cathaoirleach, **Councillor Conor Tormey**, presided.

Councillors Present: Joe Bonner, Aisling O'Neill, Amanda Smith and Alan Tobin.

Apologies: Councillor Suzanne Jamal.

Officials in Attendance:

Director of Service: Fiona Lawless

Meetings Administrator: Claire King

Executive Engineer: Mel Cronin

Staff Officer: Triona Keating

1 Confirmation of Minutes

1.1 Confirmation of minutes of Ordinary Meeting held on 8th September 2020.

The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 8th September 2020 were confirmed on the proposal of **Councillor Alan Tobin** and seconded by **Councillor Amanda Smith**.

2 Matters arising from the Minutes

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

3 Expressions of Sympathy and Congratulations

Sympathy was extended to:



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- Adrian Hobbs, former District Engineer, on the death of his mother, Mairead.

Congratulations were extended to:

- Darren and Maria O'Rourke on the recent birth of their daughter.

4 Statutory Business

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 2000-2020.

- Wafre Lodge, Ashbourne.

This was agreed on the proposal of **Councillor Alan Tobin** and seconded by **Councillor Aisling O'Neill**.

- Archerstown Wood, Ashbourne.

Councillor Alan Tobin raised a number of issues and it was agreed that he would submit details of these for referral to the Planning Section for clarification.

4.2 Corporate Services

4.2.1 To discuss the 2020 Arts, Festivals, Festive Decoration & MD Renewal Budgets.

Audrey Norris, Corporate Services outlined a proposal that the remaining budget be used towards investment in an asset that can be reused throughout the year to support various events and initiatives, i.e. a projector for which the colour and design of the projection can be changed as required. It was pointed out that, whilst the area outside the civic offices is ideal for its use, it can also be used in other locations. A protocol and schedule can be prepared, to which councillors can contribute suggestions. The proposal was widely welcomed.



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A query was raised as to whether support would be available also to assist Ashbourne Suicide Awareness and Prevention to host an initiative on 18th December and it was agreed that a request should be submitted and assistance will be made available.

It was confirmed that the Christmas Tree would be provided this year but a virtual turning on of the lights ceremony may be arranged.

- 4.2.2 To note Municipal District Allocations submitted by Councillors on behalf of Ashbourne Municipal District.

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

4.3 Transportation

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

The report had been circulated in advance and a further update provided.

Matters raised by councillors included:

- Queried the removal of the gym equipment – the contractor was appointed for the county last week, the crews will provide the bases for the new locations in the next 1 to 2 weeks, following which the gym equipment will be moved and reinstalled.
- Complimented the footpath works at the graveyard and queried whether these could be continued to serve the houses further out – there is an issue with trees and underground utilities so this will be considered in 2021.
- The possibility of installing reflective road studs on ramps – this will be looked at.
- The possibility of providing a stop sign exiting the school and community centre whilst works are being undertaken in Deerpark.



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- Complimented the quality of work being carried out by council crew.
- Referred to the lower tree branches obstructing the footpath on Milltown Road and beside the shops at Garden City. A review of the trees in Garden City by an arborologist was also requested.
- The possibility of removing the small pumping station at Crestwood – it was pointed out that this was on lands owned by the Department of Education & Skills.
- Referred to ongoing water supply issues affecting areas including Hunters Lane, Ashwood and Racehill and the need to inform residents of works planned and any related disruptions. Reference was also made to inadequate filtration systems on two boreholes that are now being reused.
- Requested that the contractor in the Linear Park leave the wildflower beds undisturbed until the seed disperses and referred to the removal of trees during grass cutting.
- Referred to the need to either remove or repair the fencing at Racehill Manor.
- Thanked the council for the barrier at Gormanston and for the COVID-19 social distancing stencils in Stamullen.
- Queried the timeframe for flood relief works in Stamullen – it was confirmed that this is on the programme for works.
- Queried whether the works outside the pumping station included road resurfacing – new kerbing, footpath is to be carried out, with the affected stretch of road to be resurfaced.
- Requested an update on the provision of bus stops on the R125 at Harlockstown – this is being progressed and is at design procurement stage.



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5 Notice of Question

5.1 Submitted by Councillor Alan Tobin

“What is the latest update on Linear Park Zone 3 and when will the public be invited to submit their ideas for Linear Park Zone 3?”

Response:

It was previously agreed with the Elected Members that a skatepark would be constructed in Zone 3 of the Linear Park. Therefore, it is proposed to engage consultants to assess the site and prepare the Part VIII documentation to bring the development through the Part VIII process. A pre-planning meeting has already taken place. It is intended to commence the Part VIII process in late 2020 or early 2021. The procurement process will be commenced following completion of the planning process.

The response was noted. Councillor Alan Tobin sought clarification on the reason for the delay in the public consultation stage, which was to have taken place in September/October.

6 Notice of Motion

6.1 Submitted by Councillor Alan Tobin

“In light of Ashbourne’s bicentennial Year, I call on Meath County Council to rename Linear park Zone 4 “Frederick Bourne Park” and to erect a suitable information board to ensure that the man is commemorated properly and historically should the motion pass.”

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

Proposals for memorials, plaques, monuments or the naming of infrastructure can be made by any person and should be submitted in writing to the Senior Executive Officer, Corporate Services, Meath County Council. A proposal endorsed by a Municipal District will be forwarded to the Senior Executive Officer, Corporate Services.



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The Senior Executive Officer, Corporate Services, will circulate the proposal to the members of the Civic Commemoration Committee for comment and will convene a meeting, if required. A report will be prepared for consideration by the Protocol Committee. A commemoration proposal must be endorsed by the Protocol Committee and forwarded to the full Council for approval. A proposal not receiving the endorsement of the Protocol Committee will fall.

The supporting information and motion, proposed by **Councillor Alan Tobin** and seconded by **Councillor Aisling O'Neill**, was adopted.

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

- 7.1 To note the report from the Housing, Community & Cultural Development SPC meeting of 16th September 2020.

The report was noted. Councillor Alan Tobin requested that the Housing Department be asked if the decision from An Bord Pleanála in relation to the 76 units on Castle Street can be expedited.

- 7.2 To note the report from the Transportation SPC meeting of 24th September 2020.

The report was noted.

- 7.3 To note the report from the Climate Action, Environment & Emergency Services SPC meeting of 24th September 2020.

The report was noted.

- 7.4 To note the report from the Planning Economic Development, Enterprise and European Affairs of 25th September 2020.

The report was noted.

8 Correspondence

There was no correspondence.



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9 Any Other Business

9.1 Fiona Lawless raised the following issue:

9.1.1 Reminded councillors that a planning workshop is taking place this Thursday, for which the presentations will be made available for those unable to attend.

9.2 Councillor Alan Tobin raised the following issues:

9.2.1 Referred to correspondence received from the Ardcath Parents Association and requested that a letter issue to the Parents Association c/o Ardcath N.S. requesting details of their concerns and relevant contact information.

9.2.2 Requested that Bus Éireann be asked to increase capacity to facilitate both students and workers and asked that Bus Éireann be invited to attend a meeting to discuss relevant issues.

9.3 Councillor Amanda Smith raised the following issue:

9.3.1 Queried the process in having a clothes bin removed.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed:

Cathaoirleach