



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

Kells Municipal District

Ordinary Meeting

4.00pm, 14th December 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

Technician: Michael Murphy

Staff Officer: Triona Keating

Apologies: Aaron Smith, Executive Engineer

1 Confirmation of Minutes

1.1 Confirmation of minutes of Ordinary Meeting held on 9th November 2020.

The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on the 9th November 2020 were confirmed on the proposal of **Councillor Eugene Cassidy** and seconded by **Councillor Michael Gallagher**.

1.2 Confirmation of minutes of Special Finance Meeting held on 13th November 2020.

The minutes of the Special Finance Meeting held on the 13th November 2020 were confirmed on the proposal of **Councillor Eugene Cassidy** and seconded by **Councillor Michael Gallagher**.



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2 Matters arising from the Minutes

There were no matters arising from the meeting.

3 Expressions of Sympathy and Congratulations

Congratulations were extended to:

- Councillor Mike Bray and Athboy Tidy Towns on receiving the FoamStream machine, funded by LEADER, and Meath County Council on helping to deliver it.

4 Statutory Business

4.1 Transportation

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

The report, which had been circulated in advance, was noted. Councillors acknowledged the amount of work undertaken throughout the year.

5 Notice of Question

5.1 Submitted by Councillor Paul McCabe

“To ask the Transportation Department to provide an update on the bridge and wall building works in Kilmainhamwood village which collapsed earlier in the year.”

Response:

Consultants have been engaged who have submitted options which are currently being considered. It is intended that the preferred option will be designed and tendered as soon as possible so that remedial works can be undertaken in 2021.



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The response was noted.

6 Notice of Motion

6.1 Submitted by Councillor Paul McCabe

“That the Kells Municipal District members call on the Executive to improve road safety along the R164 between Moynalty and Kells in light of ongoing traffic incidents.”

The motion was withdrawn.

6.2 Submitted by Councillor Paul McCabe

“That the Kells Municipal District members resolve to establish a memorial or dedication in or around Kells Town for the late Jack Fitzsimons (1930 - 2014) for his substantial contribution to public life in Meath and to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the publication of 'Bungalow Bliss' in 2021.”

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

If this resolution is passed it would be referred to the Council’s Commemorations Committee for consideration and a recommendation to the Protocol Committee, in line with the Council’s Protocol on Civic Commemorations.

The supporting information and motion, proposed by **Councillor Paul McCabe** and seconded by **Councillor David Gilroy**, was agreed.

6.3 Submitted by Councillor Eugene Cassidy

“I am calling on Meath County Council to start the process of a Public Realm Plan for the town of Kells early in 2021 so we will have it completed before we start the LAP for the town of Kells.”



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

The preparation of a Public Realm Plan will commence as early as possible in 2021. This is dependent on the availability of staff resources which are currently assigned to the Meath County Development Plan.

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

6.4 Submitted by Councillor Sarah Reilly

“Given the latest serious accident at Barfordstown, Eircode A82 H1F3 in which a jeep, travelling NE towards Kells, lost control on a bend within the 60km/h, crossed the road, hit the hedgerow and flipped 270 degrees before smashing into a tree, requiring the attendance of 2 ambulances, 4 fire engines and a Garda car, Kells MD Councillors asks Transportation to present at our December meeting to present the progress that has been made to provide safety improvements and the required pathway.”

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

Further to the recent accident at Barfordstown and on-going safety concerns at this location, the Transportation Department would like to confirm its commitment to preparing drawings and documents for the Part 8 process. A further update on progress will be provided in early 2021.

It was requested that Nicholas Whyatt attend the January meeting to provide an update on this matter and also on the proposed one-way system in Kells.

The supporting information and motion, proposed by **Councillor Sarah Reilly** and seconded by **Councillor Eugene Cassidy**, was noted.

6.5 Submitted by Councillor Seán Drew



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“That Kells Municipal District requests Meath County Council to explore and pursue the acquisition of the Gaelic Centre building from Gaeil Colmcille GFC, to ensure its retention and future use as a Community Building for the people of Kells.”

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

Following consideration of this request, as Meath County Council does not have any current plan to develop a community centre in Kells and has not provided an allocation in the Capital Budget for this proposal, this request cannot be facilitated.

A discussion followed on the status of the building/site and the possible options, including the possibility of a community-led initiative to progress the proposal, if feasible.

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

6.6 Referred by MCC

“To ask Meath County Council to offer 2 hours of free parking to shoppers in all Meath towns for the month of December to help both shoppers and shop owners who have lost so much to Covid and the restrictions.”

It was pointed out that since this motion had been referred, further incentives had been introduced and were being promoted on social media. These were welcomed as they continue to ensure that parking spaces are available to serve local businesses.

The motion, proposed by **Councillor Eugene Cassidy** and seconded by **Councillor Sarah Reilly**, was noted.

7 Correspondence

- 7.1 Correspondence received from TII in response to the Notice of Item 6.1 Notice of Motion as adopted at the October meeting re safety issues on the N51 and N52 roads.



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The response was discussed and it was agreed that another letter would issue requesting a meeting with TII, as per the motion agreed at the October meeting.

8 Any Other Business

8.1 Councillor Sarah Reilly raised the following issue:

8.1.1 Referred to the ongoing safety issues affecting pedestrians using the footpath at McKeown's shop on Bective Street, with cars parking on the designated footpath along the roadside and requested that a letter issue to the owner of the premises requesting that the adequacy of the parking arrangements be reviewed and also requested that the traffic wardens be deployed to enforce parking regulations.

8.2 Councillor Michael Gallagher raised the following issues:

8.2.1 Requested an update on the timeframe and cost of works at Kilberry.

8.2.2 Referred to heavy goods vehicles using back roads and passing the school at Gibbstown to access the Tara Mines tailing ponds.

8.3 Councillor Seán Drew raised the following issues:

8.3.1 Referred to the recent launch of Colmcille 1500 in Kells and requested that contact be made with the group to assist them with planning events for 2021.

8.3.2 Expressed disappointment that Phase II of the Kells Walkway had not been included in the applications under the Outdoor Recreation Scheme and requested that the Transportation and Community Departments begin to draft plans for Phase II and make a funding application to ensure its delivery.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed:



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Cathaoirleach