



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

Laytown-Bettystown Municipal District

Ordinary Meeting

9.00 am, 14th January 2021, via Zoom

An Cathaoirleach, **Councillor Tom Behan**, presided.

Councillors Present: Wayne Harding, Elaine McGinty, Stephen McKee, Paddy Meade, Sharon Tolan.

Apologies: Councillor Geraldine Keogan.

Officials in Attendance:

Director of Service: Fiona Lawless

Meetings Administrator: Claire King

Executive Engineer: Christy Clarke

Staff Officer: Triona Keating

1 Confirmation of Minutes

1.1 Confirmation of minutes of Ordinary Meeting held on 10th December 2020.

The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 10th December 2020 were confirmed on the proposal of **Councillor Elaine McGinty** and seconded by **Councillor Sharon Tolan**.

2 Matters arising from the Minutes

Councillor Sharon Tolan requested that Item 6.2 – Notice of Motion be amended to reflect that the motion was agreed – it was agreed to amend the minutes.

3 Expressions of Sympathy and Congratulations

Sympathy was extended to:



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- Councillor Pádraig Fitzsimons on the death of his father, Paddy;
- Councillor Gerry O'Connor on the death of his mother, Eileen;
- Former councillor, Patsy O'Neill, Wilkinstown, and Lilly Reilly, Lobinstown, on the death of their sister, Nancy McGough, Heronstown.

Congratulations were extended to:

- Councillor Deirdre Geraghty-Smith on the recent birth of her baby;
- Meath County Council on the Christmas lights on the Hill of Slane and all those in the towns and villages for the Christmas lights, many of which remain on for January.

4 Statutory Business

4.1 Planning

- 4.1.1 To receive a presentation on the Strategic Housing Development application, reference no. ABP-308803-20 Manley Construction Limited in accordance with Section 8 (4) (c)(ii) of the Planning and Development (Housing) and Residential Tenancies Act 2016.

Philip Maguire, Executive Planner provided details of the application, the consultations that had taken place, the development description, including the proposed site layout, residential typology and facilities, and the next steps, including the submission of the Chief Executive's report by 6th February 2021, which will include a copy of today's meeting minutes.

Matters raised by councillors included:



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- The impact of additional traffic on the town and the associated need for a HGV ban or bypass and other road improvements – the Transportation Section has prepared a report to take account of related issues.
- Queried the capacity of the local schools to accommodate additional students, the increasing need for a secondary school in the town and the additional traffic associated with those having to travel to schools in Navan or Drogheda.
- Queried whether adequate social facilities were available in Duleek for such an increase in population.
- Acknowledged the positive aspects of the development, including the applicant being a local company and contributing to local employment and the economy, the proposed open space to include the allotments and urban park, and the improved connectivity between other estates and the GAA facility.
- Referred to the absence of the electric wires being visible on the website graphics, their potential impact and queried whether these could be undergrounded – whilst a third party, such as the ESB, cannot be conditioned to undertake a particular action, the cost to the developer of undergrounding the cables would be prohibitive.
- Referred to the development being taken in charge in the future and queried the capacity of the local authority to manage and maintain the open spaces – it was agreed that the local authority does not manage or maintain any green areas located in estates and that the Chief Executive's report would include a recommendation that a management company be established to undertake this role.
- Suggested that the landscaping of the open spaces be designed in such a way as to minimise the maintenance required.



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- Expressed concerns regarding the proposed pond/open attenuation area in terms of the potential health and safety implications and underlined the need for a closed attenuation system.
- Queried the impact of this development, if granted, on the core strategy either before and after the draft County Development Plan is adopted – these lands are to be dezoned in the draft plan based on the core strategy. If granted, it will be zoned in the future plan and this will have implications for zoned land elsewhere.
- Expressed reservations around the adequacy of the proposed number of car parking spaces – this will be considered in the report prepared by the Transportation Section.
- Requested that the Part V units be disability proofed.

4.2 Transportation

- 4.2.1 To receive a Progress Report on works undertaken/planned for Laytown-Bettystown Municipal District.

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

5 Notice of Question

There were no Notices of Question.

6 Notice of Motion

There were no Notices of Motion.

7 Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

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8 Any Other Business

8.1 Councillor Sharon Tolan raised the following issues:

8.1.1 Referred to the urgent need for the Part 8 process to commence in respect of the footpath in Donacarney with a view to undertaking works during the summer and referred to the associated delays in resurfacing the road – a meeting is taking place today with the consultants to review the final draft of the flood risk assessment, which will then be submitted to Planning. The only report outstanding is that from the Heritage Officer.

8.1.2 Requested an update on the strategy being undertaken to respond to the further information requests made by An Bord Pleanála in respect of the Boyne Greenway and suggested that the NTA and Minister of Transport be asked how such infrastructure can be delivered in light of the onerous information requests being made by the board and legal challenges being taken by those opposed to such projects, as has happened recently in another part of the country.

8.1.3 Referred to litter, including glass, being found by parents each morning in Laytown playground – the amount of domestic waste being deposited in bins has increased. It was agreed to talk to the outdoor crew and possibly reduce the number of bins whilst increasing the visibility of those remaining.

8.1.4 Referred to the ongoing issues in the Mornington dunes and queried who is responsible for protecting this SAC – the dunes are in private ownership and, whilst the council removes burnt out cars, facilitates litter collection by local groups and can limit access, the owner still requires access.

8.1.5 Requested that road markings be renewed at the disabled parking space at The Last Straw and at the stop line at the top of Narrowways.

8.1.6 Welcomed the car park at Laytown and access to beach.

8.2 Councillor Wayne Harding raised the following issues:

8.2.1 Requested an update on the status of the greenway from the Battle of the Boyne

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site to Navan.

8.2.2 Requested that operational CCTV be installed on the gantries at Mill Hill, Slane to record any damage or other relevant incidents and which could be used for traffic counts – the issue relates to data protection and the role of Data Controller. It was agreed to ask TII and the NTA if they are willing to undertake this role.

8.3 Councillor Stephen McKee raised the following issues:

8.3.1 Requested that “No Parking” signs be erected on Crook Road, Mornington – this is a public road and wide carriageway with parking not affecting residents.

8.3.2 Requested that “No Swimming” or warning signs be erected in Mornington Estuary – signs have been ordered.

8.3.3 Referred to the road surface subsiding into the ditch on New Haggard Lane – this is a narrow cul de sac and the incident that did occur related to private construction works.

8.3.4 Requested that contact be made with the contractor undertaking works on the Drogheda Road, outside Duleek, requesting that the landscaped area be reinstated properly as concerns have been expressed by the local group who had undertaken planting – the contractor has been made aware of the landscaping and a commitment has been given to reinstate the planting, the extent of which will be unknown until the Spring.

8.3.5 Requested that a safety railing be installed for pedestrians under the bridge near John’s shop – this will be raised with Louth County Council.

8.3.6 Welcomed the footpath works at Woodgrange.

8.3.7 Requested that road safety measures be installed on Beamore Road to facilitate residents in exiting their homes safely.

8.3.8 Referred to the need for a footpath to facilitate access to Southgate – there is insufficient room on the verge and there are drainage issues, requiring a land



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take. Whilst it can be added to the requested works list, it would not be considered a priority.

8.3.9 Referred to the need for a proper and safe access to be provided between Legavoreen and Rosevale.

8.4 Councillor Elaine McGinty raised the following issues:

8.4.1 Requested that Transportation make a presentation on the traffic management plans for Beamore Road and Colpe as the Bryanstown development proceeds.

8.4.2 Requested that all ditches be reinstated properly following ducting works for the data centre – the ducting contract has not yet been completed and a snag list will be submitted for any outstanding works.

8.4.3 Referred to the need for lighting at the top of Legavoreen – this will be referred to the Public Lighting section.

8.4.4 Queried who is responsible for the laneway by John's shop – this is unregistered land and efforts are being made to establish ownership.

8.4.5 Referred to rubbish left at the seating area opposite Aldi – a bin is in place in the car park.

8.4.6 Referred to the previous motion agreed regarding the provision of pop-up cycle lanes from Julianstown to Laytown and suggested that these would be also suitable for Beamore Road – it was agreed to talk to Transportation but as this was a rural road with no public lighting, additional road lines could cause confusion. With regard to the pop-up cycle lanes from Julianstown to Laytown, a survey of the volume of cyclists and pedestrians will first be undertaken.

8.4.7 Requested the provision of a solar compacting bin outside Millmount Abbey – it is intended to regularise existing bin provision.

8.4.8 Requested that the Community Call service be extended and relaunched to those who must isolate due to COVID – it was pointed out that the helpline is available



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to anyone who requires assistance and support. It was agreed to refer this to Community in terms of a possible relaunch.

8.5 Councillor Paddy Meade raised the following issues:

8.5.1 Welcomed the works at Colpe, Lobinstown and Heronstown and queried what further works are planned – initial works have been completed and it is intended to negotiate with the developer at Colpe regarding access to schools.

8.5.2 Suggested that the lack of vehicular access onto the beach at Bettystown was contributing to increased traffic at Mornington dunes.

8.5.3 Requested that the broken bollards at the IDA roundabout be removed and replaced.

8.5.4 Suggested that resources be redeployed from other municipal districts to assist with road repairs – the potholes caused by poor weather are being repaired and additional resources can be accessed, if required.

8.5.5 Requested that signs be erected at appropriate locations to warn motorists of pedestrians and cyclists on road.

8.6 Councillor Tom Behan raised the following issue:

8.6.1 Requested that a footbridge be provided to facilitate access to the beach past Seafields – further information on the location was requested.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed:

Cathaoirleach