



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

Kells Municipal District

Ordinary Meeting

4.00pm, 8th March 2021, Via Zoom

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

Councillors Present: Mike Bray, Seán Drew, Michael Gallagher and Sarah Reilly.

Apologies: Councillors Eugene Cassidy and David Gilroy.

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 8th February 2021.

The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on the 8th February 2021 were confirmed on the proposal of **Councillor Seán Drew** and seconded by **Councillor Sarah Reilly**.

2 Matters arising from the Minutes

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

3 Expressions of Sympathy and Congratulations

Sympathy was extended to:

- Former councillor Bryan Reilly on the death of his father-in-law.



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Congratulations were extended to:

- All involved in organising the Hinterland series of lectures.

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 was circulated in advance, was noted.

The Cathaoirleach acknowledged the amount of work recently undertaken, including pothole repairs.

- 4.1.2 To receive an update on the proposed Phase 2 of the Traffic Calming Scheme on the R162 at Kilberry.

Paul Phelan, Senior Executive Engineer, Transportation outlined the proposed works and sought approval to proceed to the non-statutory public consultation phase. Following this phase, a report on the submissions will be brought back to the municipal district for consideration.

Matters raised by councillors included:

- Welcomed the proposed improvements.
- Queried whether the proposed works would address junction safety concerns at the entrance to the council estate on the Kells Road – the proposed works do not extend to the estate on the R162.
- Requested that the contractor ensure that local residents are fully aware of works being undertaken including any road closures and whether a leaflet drop could be undertaken – an advertisement will be placed in the Meath Chronicle

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and on social media in addition to the online consultation process. Whilst a letter drop is possible, this would exclude any commuters using this road.

- Requested that councillors be informed when the public consultation commences so they can highlight it to communities.
- Queried the cost of works proposed and completed – department funding for Phase I in 2020 was €600,000 with a 2021 department allocation of €400,000 for Phase II. NTA and other funding sources will also be required for Phase II, with more detail to be available for the next meeting.

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.

4.3 Planning

- 4.3.1 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.

- Moy Park, Kells.

Reference was made to correspondence received from residents concerning the possible taking in charge of the green space. It was pointed out that the accompanying report made reference to the constraints that exist in relation to the green space. It was agreed on the proposal of **Councillor Michael Gallagher** and seconded by **Councillor Sarah Reilly** to defer this matter to the April meeting and to seek further written clarification from Planning around the timeframe for the availability of green space for the estate and the reasons for changes having been made to the maps published.

- Cherry Hill Court, Kells.



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This was agreed on the proposal of **Councillor Seán Drew** and seconded by **Councillor Michael Gallagher**.

5 Notice of Question

There were no Notices of Question.

6 Notice of Motion

6.1 Submitted by Councillor Sarah Reilly

“That Meath County Council prioritise the design of Phase 2 of the Kells Walk/Cycleway to ensure that we, as a Municipal District, are in strong position to apply under the 2021 Outdoor Recreation and Infrastructure Scheme.”

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

Transportation section is not in a position to resource this project at this time.

A short discussion followed, with reference made to the success of Phase 1 of the walkway and, whilst the issues with Phase 2 were acknowledged, it was requested that commencement of the design process be prioritised in order to be ready to avail of funding when available. It was pointed out that resources to progress the project were limited and, whilst the design options are complicated due to environmental constraints, there is a commitment to progress the design process when resources become available.

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

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 17th February 2021.



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The report was noted.

8 Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

9 Any Other Business

9.1 Councillor Sarah Reilly raised the following issues:

9.1.1 Thanked officials for their response in relation to issues raised regarding Tobar Ban estate.

9.1.2 Referred to illegal dumping to the rear of the Victorian Waterworks.

9.2 Councillor Mike Bray raised the following issues:

9.2.1 Requested that maintenance and clean up works be undertaken in the playground in Athboy.

9.2.2 Commended all groups who are involved in the Green Kilometre initiative and referred to the amount of litter on roads which are dangerous and with few houses, e.g. Balrath to Cloncat – the Green Kilometre Initiative has been extremely successful. With regard to unsafe areas, the annual Anti-Dumping Initiative targets problem locations and councillors were invited to nominate locations for inclusion.

9.3 Councillor Michael Gallagher raised the following issues:

9.3.1 Requested a report on wastewater capacity in Kells.

9.3.2 Requested an update on plans for the council owned lands in Drumconrath.

9.3.3 Referred to 65 trees removed on parkland in Drumconrath and asked that the council request the landowner to replace these trees.



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- 9.3.4 Queried the delay in progressing plans to develop the tourism potential of the Kells Victorian Waterworks.
- 9.3.5 Referred to the data protection issues affecting the use of CCTV in tackling illegal dumping – reference was made to the working group at national level which are trying to resolve the associated issues.
- 9.4 Councillor Seán Drew raised the following issues:
 - 9.4.1 Requested that, following it's taking in charge, that Cherry Hill Court be added to the list of estates for the speed limit review.
 - 9.4.2 Referred to a recent development surrounding a housing allocation in Kells and it was agreed that the support of Kells Municipal District councillors for the related appeal would be forwarded to the Housing Department and an update sought.
 - 9.4.3 Commended the district engineer and outdoor staff for the works undertaken, despite the ongoing Level 5 restrictions.
 - 9.4.4 Referred to the increased issue of dog fouling and the need for increased awareness and education – councillors were asked to submit information on particular locations, where stencils or signage can be provided as appropriate.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed:

Cathaoirleach