



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

### ***Ashbourne Municipal District***

#### ***Ordinary Meeting***

***10:00 a.m., 11<sup>th</sup> May 2021, via Zoom***

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

**Councillors Present:** Joe Bonner, Suzanne Jamal, Aisling O’Neill, Amanda Smith and Alan Tobin.

**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 13<sup>th</sup> April 2021.**

The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> April 2021 were confirmed on the proposal of **Councillor Suzanne Jamal** 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**

Congratulations were extended to:



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- Minister Helen McEntee and her husband, Paul Hickey, on the recent birth of their baby son.

### **4 Statutory Business**

#### **4.1 Transportation**

- 4.1.1 To receive an update on the proposed provision of parklets in Ashbourne Municipal District.

Dara McGowan, Senior Executive Officer, Transportation referred to the recent email circulated, which outlined details of the additional outdoor infrastructure fund to facilitate the provision of outdoor dining facilities where footpaths are not wide enough. The type of infrastructure to be provided was outlined, including a temporary kerb, sand, drain if required and suitable surface to create an area flush with the footpath. Eligible businesses can also apply for grant assistance to provide furniture, etc. for daily use. A number of locations have been suggested and S254 applications received in Ashbourne Municipal District and the views of councillors are being sought to proceed to application stage. The views of the Access Officer and the Gardaí are also being sought. If the locations are agreed today, consultation will be undertaken with businesses to agree the most suitable size, designs and costings will be undertaken and applications made by this coming Friday with a view to being in place by the June opening date. The licence could be in place for up to a year unless it is considered not to be working and it can be removed. The proposed locations were outlined.

The following locations were agreed:

- Bridge Street, Ashbourne
- Frederick Street (east), Ashbourne
- Bachelor's Walk/Milltown Road, Ashbourne
- Garden City (Centra), Ashbourne



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- Main Street (Whyte's), Stamullen
- Main Street (Daily Bread), Stamullen

The following locations were opposed:

- Broadmeadow Street, Ashbourne. It was agreed to assess the footpath at this location to see if was adequate for the provision of tables.
- Frederick Street West, Ashbourne

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

The report had been circulated in advance and a further update was provided at the meeting, including updates on Delvin Bridge/parking on Gormanston beach, Curragha traffic calming, resurfacing works at Rathfeigh, Riverstown and Walterstown, and the proposal for Kilbreck and Glasheen estates.

Matters raised by councillors included:

- Welcomed the securing of the beach at Gormanston, the fencing at Kilbreck and Glasheen, the works on the approach roads at Curragha and the ramp at St. Mary's.
- Queried whether any response had been received from the Department of Education & Skills regarding the request to either provide road safety measures or have the road taken in charge
- Referred to the shared surface at Milltown which has led to cars parking on the cycle lanes – it was agreed to write to the Gardaí requesting that they enforce the parking legislation. The residents in the apartments have designated parking to the rear. Additional cycle lane markings are to be provided as well as changes to the signage to address parking on the crossing points.



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- Queried whether a costing had been received for replacement signs in Kilbreck and Glasheen – residents have submitted a list of signs with names, which are to be translated into Irish, and these will be installed when received.
- Queried whether any response had been received from TII regarding the roundabout at Nine Mile Stone and the Pillo roundabout.

### **4.2 Corporate Services**

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

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

## **5 Notice of Question**

### **5.1 Submitted by Councillor Amanda Smith**

“Have Meath County Council any plans for the provision of a car parking facility in Gormanston that will be disability and age friendly for those who use the beach area?”

#### **Response:**

*Meath County Council currently has no proposals to develop a car park facility at Gormanston Beach. There were plans prepared previously for the construction of a car park, but there was no funding available at that time, for the delivery of this project.*

The response was noted. It was pointed out that the entire coastline in Meath is being looked at from a number of perspectives and involving a number of departments.

## **6 Notice of Motion**

### **6.1 Submitted by Councillor Amanda Smith**



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“I call on Meath County Council to take immediate action to seek expression of interests from owners of lands in the Stamullen/Gormanston area that may consider selling lands to the council for the provision of recreational spaces.”

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

*In 2018 Meath County Council sought expressions of interest from landowners in the area to sell a suitable site to the Council for a Public Playground in Stamullen. The Council received no expressions of interest. Further engagement took place with representatives of the group “Stamullen Needs a Playground” regarding a site however no suitable location was ever identified.*

*At present no suitable sites are available for a playground or recreational area in Stamullen however the Community Section will examine any potential sites which are identified in consultation with the Planning Section as to their suitability for development.*

The challenges around land acquisition and funding were outlined. Whilst approaches can be made to other bodies to see if they are willing to open up their lands to the public, no funding is available to purchase land or enter into an agreement for a joint management venture.

The supporting information and motion, proposed by **Councillor Amanda Smith** and seconded by **Councillor Conor Tormey**, was noted.

### **6.2 Submitted by Councillor Conor Tormey**

“I call on Meath County Council to place fencing and hedging at the open entry points along the boundary wall between Forgehill/ Gracemeadow and Kilbreck/Glasheen housing estate in Stamullen.”

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

*Following several site inspections and discussions with Local Representatives and An Garda Síochána, the works requested in the Notice of Motion will be designed and*



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*presented to councillors at a future municipal district meeting. Subject to the agreement of the councillors, works could take place when resources and funding become available.*

The supporting information and motion, proposed by **Councillor Conor Tormey** and seconded by **Councillor Alan Tobin**, was agreed.

### **6.3 Submitted by Councillor Amanda Smith**

*“In light of the recent investment of Fingal County Council to 'The Fingal Coastal Way' connecting Donabate to Balbriggan and on to the Meath Border at Delvin Bridge, I call on Meath County Council's Active Travel Officer to look at the potential of linking in Gormanston and our remaining coastal areas for future walking and cycling development opportunities.”*

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

*The NTA's cycle manual for the Greater Dublin Area identified Route M1 known as the 'East Coast Trail' extending from Drogheda to Dublin and links the coastal towns and villages of Meath and Fingal. It also contains an alternative inland route (M2) along the east coast using regional and local roads. The recently reviewed 'Laytown and Bettystown Walking and Cycling Study' also identifies a number of routes in East Meath which could be extended south towards the Fingal border to connect to the Fingal Coastal Way.*

*The Council currently has an application before An Bord Pleanála for a greenway between Drogheda and Mornington, and is also working on identifying a preferred route for the Boyne Greenway between Navan and Oldbridge House with a view to making an application for statutory planning approval in 2022. However, whilst we note with interest Fingal County Council's plans for their coastal way, Meath County Council is not currently in a position to begin the detailed work required to identify a preferred route between Gormanston and the Fingal Border. The Council does intend to discuss the Fingal Coastal Way with Fingal County Council during the current public consultation phase and may make a submission on same in due course.*

A discussion followed, with information provided to councillors on how such projects can be progressed. It was agreed to consult with Fingal County Council and see how such a project could be progressed in the future.



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The supporting information and motion, proposed by **Councillor Amanda Smith** and seconded by **Councillor Alan Tobin**, was noted.

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

7.1 To note the Corporate Policy Group Meeting Minutes of 9<sup>th</sup> April 2021.

The minutes were noted.

### **8 Correspondence**

8.1 Correspondence received from Michael MacDonagh, Chief Archaeologist National Monuments Service.

The correspondence was noted. It was pointed out that the issues cannot be addressed until such time as the Tara Conservation Management Plan is finalised.

### **9 Any Other Business**

9.1 Fiona Lawless raised the following issue:

9.1.1 Suggested that the Annual and June monthly meeting of Ashbourne Municipal District, scheduled for 15<sup>th</sup> June, take place in Ashbourne Civic Offices – this was agreed.

Councillor Conor Tormey thanked his councillor colleagues and the executive for their assistance and support throughout the year.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

**Signed:**

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**Cathaoirleach**



comhairle chontae na mí  
meath county council



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