



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

Navan Municipal District

Ordinary Meeting

10:00 a.m., 19th May 2021, via Zoom

An Meára, **Councillor Francis Deane**, presided.

Councillors Present: Yemi Adenuga, Edward Fennessy, Pdraig Fitzsimons, Alan Lawes, Tommy Reilly and Emer Tóibín.

Officials in Attendance:

Director of Service: Martin Murray

Meetings Administrator: Claire King

Executive Engineer: Shane Durcan

Staff Officer: Triona Keating

1 Confirmation of Minutes

1.1 Confirmation of minutes of Ordinary Meeting held on 21st April 2021.

The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 21st April 2021 were confirmed on the proposal of **Councillor Tommy Reilly** and seconded by **Councillor Yemi Adenuga**.

2 Matters arising from the Minutes

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

3 Expressions of Sympathy and Congratulations

Sympathy was extended to:

- The family of the late Shane Redmond, formerly of Navan;



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

- The family of the late Paddy Rattigan, Dean Cogan Place, Navan;
- The family of the late Kevin Murtagh, Claremont Estate, Navan;
- The family of the late Margaret Nelson, St. Benildus Villas, Navan;
- All those who were recently killed in Gaza.

Congratulations were extended to:

- Keith Russell, who won the Last Man Standing event, having run for 53 hours and who will participate in the World Championship in Tennessee in October.

4 Statutory Business

4.1 Transportation

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

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

Matters raised by councillors included:

- Requested an update on the CIS for Grange and Antylestown Lane – it was agreed to refer this to Transportation.
- Requested an update on the LDR4 from Rathaldron to the Kells Road – An Bord Pleanála is due to issue its decision on 4th June.
- Commended the standard of work being carried out as part of the Navan 2030 Scheme, e.g. Bridge Street, Canon Row, etc.



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

- Queried how traffic will be managed at Market Square as traffic congestion results from works in the area – reference was made to the supporting information provided in response to Item 6.5 - Notice of Motion.
- Queried when works are due to commence on the pedestrian crossings at the Round O – whilst the plan is ready to go, confirmation on the funding application is awaited.
- Referred to potholes on the R147 at Hitherm and on the road from Old Johnstown Village to the Metges Road – these will be added to the list for repairs.
- Requested an update on the second set of traffic lights on the Metges Road, Johnstown – it was agreed to refer this to Transportation.
- Commended the increased bin collections over the weekends.
- Referred to Bus Éireann operating a bus stop opposite the designated bus stop and at the goods entrance to Navan Shopping Centre and the safety issues for those trying to access it and requested that they be asked to stop using it.
- Requested that the trees at Ard na Gréine, Rathaldron Road, in front of the park, be reviewed as they are affecting children playing and that the fallen trees be cleared – it was pointed out that, whilst no tree pruning can occur during nesting season, the location will be added to the register for surveying and to check any fallen trees.
- Queried when landscaping works are to commence at the decommissioned playground in Claremont – once top soil has been sourced, the works can commence.
- Queried if cycle lanes are planned for both sides of Clonmagadden Road – consultants are to be engaged to develop a design for an interlinked scheme taking into account the estates, schools, links and junctions.



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

- Queried if weeds have been sprayed outside Ferndale – this commenced yesterday.
- Requested an update on the extinguishment of the right of way in Ferndale – the Transportation Department has been corresponding with all stakeholders regarding the wayleave requirements with solicitor correspondence being exchanged.
- Referred to dangerous trees at Bective and requested that clarification be sought on whether these are located on public or private land – these are now on public land following the road realignment. Whilst it was agreed to check these later in the year, they are not considered to be dangerous.

5 Notice of Question

5.1 Submitted by Councillor Francis Deane

“With regard to section 254 of the trading byelaws what are the conditions relating to accommodating outdoor dining furniture for businesses serving food and beverages?”

Response:

Each individual application is assessed on its own merits. The main criteria is that there is sufficient space available for the placing of outdoor dining furniture whilst still accommodating an adequate corridor for pedestrians and other users of the public road/footpath. If sufficient space (usually 2m width) is not available, the licence application is normally rejected.

A licence which is granted under Section 254 of the Planning & Development Acts is usually subject to numerous conditions such as layout, number of tables/chairs, awnings, wind-breakers, hours of operation and evidence of public liability insurance.

The licencing and conditioning protocols for Section 254s are currently being revised in light of the recent changes to the Planning Regulations and it is intended that the revised conditions shall be in place for new applications in the coming weeks.



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

The response was noted.

5.2 Submitted by Councillor Tommy Reilly

“Can Meath County Council provide an update on the provision of road safety plans at the following schools:-

- Cannistown
- Boyerstown
- Bohermeen?”

Response:

The situation with respect to Cannistown National School is a complex one where it is recognised that the main issue at hand is the lack of adequate parking and set-down areas attached to the school. The resultant traffic congestion at school drop-off and pick-up times is recognised as a cause of concern as opposed to any reports of excessive traffic speed at this location during these times. The Transportation Section of Meath County Council has been in regular contact with the Principal of Cannistown National School, the most recent being in March of this year and the Local Authority has indicated its willingness to be of assistance in any matters of land acquisition which might provide a long-term resolution to the parking/set-down issue. This request needs to come from the Department of Education & Skills as the Statutory body with responsibility for such matters and to date, no such request has been received by Meath County Council.

Meath County Council understands that Cannistown National School has made an application to the NTA / An Taisce under the Safe Routes to School Initiative and Transportation stands by at the ready to be of assistance in the putting in place of measures which may be identified as a result of this application being successful.

Meath County Council undertook extensive School Safety Measure Works at Bohermeen School in 2016/2017 which provide dedicated set-down areas for cars and school buses and this was to be utilised in conjunction with the adjacent Parish car park.



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

As is the case with Boyerstown and Cannistown National Schools, extensive signage, road markings and a reduced 50kph speed limits are in place across the extents of public road fronting all the schools as is the case with all rural schools in Co. Meath.

Notwithstanding these measures, the Transportation Section will carry out traffic flow and speed surveys at both locations to determine if any additional measures are required.

The response was noted.

5.3 Submitted by Councillor Yemi Adenuga

“Can Meath County Council please provide: (a) the design of the plan drawn out, a few years ago, to carry out repair works on the grounds around the wall that divides Beech Drive and Millbrook in Johnstown, Navan and (b) feedback on the progress made so far on delivering the repair work?”

Response:

The Transportation Department has progressed a design for the works in question and is currently working on finalising the drawing in this regard which should be available in the coming weeks. Once the Project Engineer has completed this plan, we can provide details of same.

The response was noted.

5.4 Submitted by Councillor Padraig Fitzsimons

“Following on from Minister Eamonn Ryan's announcement of an additional €5m for litter prevention and litter infrastructure, how much of this has been allocated to Meath County Council and more specifically the Navan area? Have we assessed where the introduction of the smart solar compacting bins are most needed and how many we can introduce in the town? Also, have we picked out more sites where bins can be placed to allow us to keep Navan cleaner as we move towards an "outdoor summer"?”

Response:



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

The €5m additional funding which the Minister is providing is designed to support anti littering efforts arising from increased levels of outdoor dining and domestic tourism following the easing of Covid 19 restrictions. The additional funding will support:

- *The provision of quality litter picking materials such as litter pickers, gloves and bags*
- *Immediate mapping of existing levels of on street infrastructure (bins and dog fouling receptacles) and the urgent provision and immediate roll out of additional infrastructure to address any gaps identified*
- *Support for servicing of on- street infrastructure*
- *Additional education and awareness efforts,*

The Council in support of local business impacted by Covid are promoting and working on various initiatives and funding streams including the Additional Outdoor Infrastructure Fund, the Outdoor Public Spaces Scheme , the Urban Animation Scheme and, while some of these schemes will be conditional on the business making their own arrangements for prevention and removal of litter, the availability of the €5m funding will be taken into consideration where there may a deficit in street infrastructure and arising from increased levels of outdoor activities.

While it is unclear as yet what level of funding the Council will apply for from the €5m fund, the application will include for funding of litter picking material for which there is a constant demand from individuals and groups involved in the Green Kilometre scheme.

The Municipal District, in response to requests from councillors, members of the public, etc. have identified a number of locations where there is a need for additional bins and arrangements are being put in place for these to be provided.

The response was noted.

6 Notice of Motion



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

6.1 Submitted by Councillor Francis Deane

“I propose that Meath County Council would engage with business owners/traders/stakeholders on Trimgate Street with a view to pedestrianising the street on a trial basis starting on July 3rd and running until 29th August on Saturdays and Sundays only from 9am until 7pm on each of the days.

Having consulted with business owners on Trimgate Street, the general consensus is that a trial pedestrianisation period would be accepted during school holidays, if the local authority will commit.

The main priority is to improve footfall on Trimgate Street and generate more trade for the many long established businesses such as drapery shops, florists, jewellers, shoe shops, butchers, fishmonger, newsagents, cafes and bars.”

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

If the Navan Municipal District Councillors adopt this Notice of Motion, Meath County Council will engage with the local business groups and affected parties regarding this proposal, to investigate the feasibility of temporarily pedestrianising Trimgate Street.

Following a discussion, which referenced the ongoing works associated with the Navan 2030 scheme and outdoor initiatives such as parklets, it was agreed that the motion would be withdrawn but that engagement with the stakeholders would take place with a view to considering this in the future.

6.2 Submitted by Councillor Francis Deane

“I call on Navan Municipal District, under the Navan 2030 scheme, to carry out a feasibility report, on the green area at Abbey Road off the R147, with a view to creating ten + extra taxi ranks. Under the 2030 plan there will be an allowance for eleven taxi car park spaces to the rear of the Navan Shopping Centre on Abbey Road.”



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

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

The adopted Navan Town Scheme (P8/17004) provides for a new taxi rank to the rear of the Navan Town Shopping Centre, which is to include the provision of 11 No. spaces. The provision of a taxi rank on the opposite side of Abbey Road at the area indicated in the Notice of Motion is outside of the scope of the Navan Town Scheme.

Post completion of the Navan Town Scheme, a review of the new and existing taxi spaces in Navan will be undertaken by Meath County Council's Transportation Department, with a view to updating the Navan Taxi Bye-Laws. As part of that review, an assessment of usage will be undertaken and it is intended to identify if additional taxi ranks are necessitated for the town and to identify potential sites for the provision of same (if needed).

There may be other uses being considered for the land in question and this could all be teased out as part of the Local Area Plan process for Navan.

It was agreed that clarification was required regarding ownership of the land in question.

The supporting information and motion, proposed by **Councillor Francis Deane** and seconded by **Councillor Edward Fennessy**, was noted.

6.3 Submitted by Councillor Yemi Adenuga

"I call on Meath County Council to approve the request from the business community in Navan, made through Meath Chamber, to Meath County Council, for the installation of 5 parklets in 4 locations, in Navan town centre to facilitate outdoor dining, increase footfall and encourage shopping-local this summer, and for Meath County Council to expedite action on having the parklets ready for June 7th re-opening of restaurants for outdoor services."

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



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

Meath County Council has received a number of Section 254 requests to provide parklets, as outlined in this Notice of Motion, and is currently considering these applications.

A discussion followed, with Councillor Adenuga outlining the proposals which have been agreed with local businesses and the benefits to those businesses and their customers. Each proposed location has been assessed and most are considered suitable and in compliance with health & safety requirements. The type of infrastructure to be provided was outlined, with businesses required to remove furniture at close of business, and the impact on parking spaces was outlined. Reference was also made to the other supports being made available for businesses to facilitate outdoor dining.

The supporting information and motion, proposed by **Councillor Yemi Adenuga** and seconded by **Councillor Tommy Reilly**, was unanimously agreed.

6.4 Submitted by Councillor Yemi Adenuga

“I call on Meath County Council to include the resurfacing of the L40081 Road, in Bellewstown, Navan, in the next 3 year roadworks programme and to approve it as a high priority case.”

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

Later this year, Meath County Council will be preparing a new 3 Year Roadworks Programme and submitting it to the Department of Transport covering the years 2022, 2023 & 2024.

As with previous programmes, it is intended to liaise with the Municipal District Members before finalising the proposed works for this list, which will then inform the Department when it comes to allocating grant funding toward the annual Roadworks Programme contained in the Schedule of Municipal District Works. This will present an opportunity for Members to put forward sections of road for consideration when determining those schemes to be prioritised for funding for this 3 Year period.

The supporting information and motion, proposed by **Councillor Yemi Adenuga** and seconded by **Councillor Tommy Reilly**, was agreed.



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

6.5 Submitted by Councillor Tommy Reilly

“I call on Meath County Council to put a temporary traffic management plan in operation at Market Square, Navan to alleviate traffic congestions for the duration of the works on Ludlow Street.”

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

A temporary traffic management plan has been implemented as part of the closure of Ludlow Street in Navan. This includes the provision of a Traffic Marshall at Market Square to allow local access for residents and businesses onto Ludlow Street and also to facilitate loading and unloading at Market Square. Inevitably there will be delays while the work on Navan 2030 is ongoing. However, Meath County Council’s Transportation Department will investigate if any alterations can be made to the traffic signal timings (e.g. increasing the duration of the green signal) at the junction of Watergate Street/R147 Kells Road/Flowerhill, with a view to increasing the priority for traffic exiting the town centre from the direction of Market Square.

The motion was withdrawn.

6.6 Submitted by Councillor Edward Fennessy

“In the interest of reducing danger for pedestrians, cyclists and motorists accessing the Robinstown Village, I propose that Meath County Council install speed ramps or rumble strips on the Dunderry Road and Bective Road in the village.”

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

Meath County Council will assess the issues raised in this Notice of Motion to establish if specific interventions are required. As part of this assessment, the Council will gather data on traffic volumes and speed, to assist with the identification of any specific works required.



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

The supporting information and motion, proposed by **Councillor Edward Fennessy** and seconded by **Councillor Pádraig Fitzsimons**, was agreed.

6.7 Submitted by Councillor Edward Fennessy

“In the interest of reducing danger for pedestrians, cyclists and motorists traversing the Metges Road in Johnstown, I propose that Meath County Council carry out the following works:

1. The installation of bollards outside the Johnstown Shopping Centre between the cycle path and the Metges Road.
2. The installation of rumble strips from the Bailis Village Apartment Complex to the entrance of the Priory Estate.”

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

Meath County Council will assess the issues raised in this Notice of Motion, to establish if specific interventions are required and, if there are interventions required, what type would be suited to the identified locations.

Councillor Fennessy requested that the motion be amended to remove point 2 from the Notice of Motion.

The supporting information and the amended motion, proposed by **Councillor Edward Fennessy** and seconded by **Councillor Francis Deane**, was agreed.

6.8 Submitted by Councillor Pádraig Fitzsimons

“I propose the motion to discuss the possibility of placing more bottle bins in the Navan area.”

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



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

The selection of sites for additional bottle banks can often present considerable challenges and unfortunately, due to anti-social behaviour issues, it has been found necessary to remove the one at the Aura Leisure Centre last year. It was also found necessary to remove a bottle bank from Watergate Street some years ago based on misuse and interference with local residents.

Notwithstanding such challenges, the Council are continuing to look at potential sites and including ones which might arise through the planning process but would very much welcome suggestions from local representatives in terms of potential sites.

A discussion followed, with the need for additional facilities to be provided. However it was pointed out that it is difficult to identify and agree suitable locations for such facilities and councillors were requested to submit possible locations where such facilities could be provided.

The supporting information and motion, proposed by **Councillor Padraig Fitzsimons** and seconded by **Councillor Emer Tóibín**, was agreed.

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

7.1 To note the Corporate Policy Group Meeting Minutes of 9th April 2021.

The minutes were noted.

8 Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

9 Any Other Business

9.1 Councillor Yemi Adenuga raised the following issue:

9.1.1 Referred to complaints received from businesses regarding the issuing of tickets by traffic wardens – it was pointed out that the parking byelaws were being



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

enforced but details of any specific issues should be submitted separately.

9.2 Councillor Alan Lawes raised the following issue:

9.2.1 Confirmed that the Community Garda had agreed to patrol a number of areas in Johnstown, which have been identified as local trouble spots.

9.3 Councillor Pádraig Fitzsimons raised the following issues:

9.3.1 Referred to parking outside houses at the front of Chestnut Court and queried who had responsibility for these and whether residents could cordon/mark these off to restrict parking to residents only – it was agreed to refer this to Planning.

9.3.2 Queried the timeframe for the completion of outstanding works in Cois Glaisin, which has not been taken in charge.

9.4 Councillor Edward Fennessy raised the following issue:

9.4.1 Queried the outstanding works to be completed in Fitzherbert Woods, where Phase I has been taken in charge with Phase II to be taken in charge soon.

9.5 Martin Murray raised the following issue:

9.5.1 Proposed that the Annual Meeting and June monthly meeting take place in County Hall, Navan, subject to a requirement that both meetings, combined, not exceed 1 hour 55 minutes in duration – this was agreed on the proposal of **Councillor Francis Deane** and seconded by **Councillor Pádraig Fitzsimons**.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed:



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

An Meára