



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

Ratoath Municipal District

Ordinary Meeting

9.30 a.m., 11th March 2015, Dunshaughlin Civic Offices

An Cathaoirleach, **Councillor Gerry O'Connor**, presided.

Councillors Present: Brian Fitzgerald, Nick Killian, Maria Murphy, Maria O'Kane, Damien O'Reilly, Gillian Toole.

Officials in Attendance:

A/Director of Service: Joe Fahy

Meetings Administrator: Claire King

Senior Executive Engineer: Maurice Kelly

Executive Engineer: Philip Traynor

Staff Officer: Triona Keating

1 Confirmation of Minutes

1.1 Confirmation of minutes of Ordinary meeting held on 11th February.

The Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 11th February 2015 were adopted on the proposal of **Councillor Brian Fitzgerald** and seconded by **Councillor Nick Killian**.

2 Matters arising from the Minutes

There were no matters arising.

3 Expressions of Sympathy and Congratulations

Congratulations were extended to Maria Keogh, Ratoath who recently won a Vodafone National Volunteer Award.



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It was agreed to send letters of support to the Manager, Mr. Tom O'Connor, and the staff of Bank of Ireland, Dunboyne following the raid on the bank on Tuesday and to Mulhussey Tidy Towns, which has recently been established.

4 To receive an update from Adrian O'Loughlin, Services Manager, Bus Éireann

Mr. O'Loughlin referred to his attendance at the November meeting of Ratoath Municipal District and confirmed that all comments and observations had been incorporated into the consultation process that is ongoing, the first stage of which relates to the M3 corridor and the second stage to the Dublin, Ashbourne, Ratoath corridor. He updated councillors on a number of specific issues that had been raised including Kilmessan/Dunsany, Athboy/Trim/Dublin, Ballivor, M3 Parkway, Drogheda/Fairyhouse, Blanchardstown IT and Connolly Hospital. Once all information has been gathered, Bus Éireann will discuss the options with the NTA, who licence the public service contract.

Matters raised by Councillors, and responses received, included:

- The types of bus shelters available and the process for application.
- The schools service to Dublin and its possible removal – it was confirmed that this route had been outsourced, that usage was low and that it may be removed.
- The terminus locations in Dublin city centre were under review taking into account the impacts of the Luas works, for example.
- The numbers commuting from Meath, particularly south Meath, into Dublin.
- The need for consultation with councillors by the NTA prior to final decisions being taken around route changes.
- The need for greater interconnectivity between service providers, i.e. Bus Éireann, Dublin Bus and Irish Rail.
- Issues around customer service, capacity and reliability – it was pointed out the PSO for Bus Éireann is available on the NTA website, which sets out performance targets and penalties for failing to reach these. It was also confirmed that every complaint



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receives a response as per the Customer Charter and that performance is constantly monitored.

- Business development strategy – it was confirmed that efforts are constant to drive additional demand in conjunction with the NTA.
- Access to the M3 Parkway, Connolly Hospital, Blanchardstown IT – it was pointed out that the needs of users need to be identified and balanced, i.e. direct access to city centre versus accessing these locations.
- Accuracy of the electronic signage - the technology used was outlined and it was confirmed that the IT department would review for any issues arising.
- Fleet management and availability – it was confirmed that the number of high capacity vehicles would increase in the coming months.
- Disability access on vehicles – the availability of and process for booking accessible vehicles was outlined and it was agreed to check the 109A route for any issues arising.
- The provision of joint bus shelters for Bus Éireann and Dublin Bus on either side of the road in Clonee – it was agreed to request the Transportation Department to check this.

It was agreed to invite a representative from the NTA to a future meeting of Ratoath Municipal District to discuss the issues raised and the future service in the area.

The Cathaoirleach and Councillors thanked Adrian for attending and for the information provided.

5 Statutory Business

5.1 Planning

- 5.1.1 To consider taking in charge the following estates and the making of a declaration that the roads within the estates shall be public roads in accordance with Section 11 Roads Act 1993 and the Planning & Development Act 2000-2014.



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- Old Fair Green, Dunboyne

This was agreed on the proposal of **Councillor Maria Murphy** and seconded by **Councillor Damien O'Reilly**.

- Grange Hall, Dunshaughlin

This was agreed on the proposal of **Councillor Nick Killian** and seconded by **Councillor Brian Fitzgerald**.

- Garnett Vale, Dunboyne

This was agreed on the proposal of **Councillor Maria Murphy** and seconded by **Councillor Damien O'Reilly**.

- Garnett Hall, Dunboyne

This was agreed on the proposal of **Councillor Maria Murphy** and seconded by **Councillor Damien O'Reilly**.

- Fox Lodge Manor, Ratoath

This was agreed on the proposal of **Councillor Maria O'Kane** and seconded by **Councillor Nick Killian**.

- Sadlier Hall, Dunboyne

This was agreed on the proposal of **Councillor Maria Murphy** and seconded by **Councillor Damien O'Reilly**.

Councillor Nick Killian requested that an updated list of estates taken in charge be circulated. He also requested an update on the extinguishment of the right of way on Cookstown Lane and it was agreed to provide an update on this at the April meeting.



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6 Notice of Question

6.1 Submitted by Councillor Damien O'Reilly

"Please provide update on progress locating graveyard for the people of Dunboyne in the Dunboyne area."

A response was provided by the Environment Section, as follows:

Dr. Robert Meehan has been engaged to undertake a desk study of Dunboyne and environs to ascertain if there are suitable lands which meet the geological, hydro geological and hydrological criteria for burial grounds. This study is on-going.

The response was noted.

It was agreed that progress updates would be provided as they were available and that a presentation would be arranged once the study was complete.

7 Notice of Motion

There were no Notices of Motion.

8 Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

Reference was made to previous correspondence received from Maynooth District Council, requesting a meeting on the Maynooth Outer Orbital Route. It was confirmed that this meeting will take place on Wednesday, 18th March at 10.00am in Dunshaughlin Civic Offices. Councillors O'Connor, Killian, Fitzgerald and O'Kane confirmed that they would attend, as will Bernard Greene, Senior Executive Planner and Nicholas Whyatt, Senior Engineer.

9 Any Other Business

9.1 Councillor Gerry O'Connor raised the following issues:



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- 9.1.1 The removal of a tree and the upgrading of lighting outside a residence in College Park, Dunshaughlin, has left the cul de sac poorly lit but the residence highly illuminated – the problem of trees blocking lighting and the possibility of installing back plates was raised. It was agreed to check this with the Public Lighting Unit.
- 9.1.2 The need for pruning of a tree at College Green, Dunshaughlin and the acknowledgement of correspondence in respect of same.
- 9.1.3 The announcement of €6.9 million in Leader funding for Meath.
- 9.2 Councillor Nick Killian raised the following issue:
 - 9.2.1 The absence of direct contact at municipal district level for raising issues – the customer service model being established and the administrative support available to Transportation Operations was outlined. It was agreed to provide a map at the next meeting regarding the outdoor staff distribution, contact names, depots, etc.
- 9.3 Councillor Damien O'Reilly raised the following issues:
 - 9.3.1 The clearance of trees, cutting of hedges and removal of ESB poles at Mullagh Cross to improve visibility and until such time as a more permanent solution can be implemented.
 - 9.3.2 The allocation of some of the development levies collected for the old Dunshaughlin Electoral Area to projects in Ratoath Municipal District – it was pointed out that the capital programme would be discussed at the April meeting of Meath County Council and that each municipal district should be preparing a programme of works, identifying three or four community projects that can be progressed if funding is available.
- 9.4 Councillor Gillian Toole raised the following issues:
 - 9.4.1 The timeframe for the full commencement of the new customer service approach – it was agreed to check this and revert.
 - 9.4.2 The inclusion of smaller projects, such as the new litter bins, out of



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development levies – it was pointed out that the capital programme was for other projects but that if additional funding were to become available, it was hoped that the Ratoath Municipal District would benefit.

9.4.3 The works being undertaken in Riverwalk, Ratoath – it was pointed out that this was a private development and the obligations lay with the developer/owner/contractor.

9.5 Councillor Maria Murphy raised the following issues:

9.5.1 Commended the use of the roadsweeper in Dunboyne and Ratoath and the work on clearing the sewers in Dunboyne.

9.5.2 The process involved in acquiring a section of green area by a resident – it was confirmed that in disposing of public property, a case must first be made to Meath County Council, and a recommendation would then be made to Councillors.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed:

Cathaoirleach