



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

### ***Ratoath Municipal District***

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

***9:30a.m., 12<sup>th</sup> April 2017, Dunshaughlin Civic Offices***

An Cathaoirleach, **Councillor Gillian Toole**, presided.

**Councillors Present:** Brian Fitzgerald, Nick Killian, Maria Murphy, Gerry O'Connor, Maria O'Kane, Damien O'Reilly.

**Officials in Attendance:**

**Director of Service:** Des Foley

**Meetings Administrator:** Claire King

**Executive Engineer:** Philip Traynor

**Staff Officer:** Triona Keating

#### **1 Confirmation of Minutes**

##### **1.1 Confirmation of minutes of Ordinary Meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> March, 2017.**

The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> March, 2017 were adopted on the proposal of **Councillor Nick Killian** and seconded by **Councillor Gerry O'Connor**.

#### **2 Matters arising from the Minutes**

There were no matters arising.

#### **3 Expressions of Sympathy and Congratulations**

Sympathy was extended to:

- The family of the late Martin McGuinness, former Deputy First Minister of Northern Ireland.



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Congratulations were extended to:

- Robbie Power on winning the Gold Cup;
- Dunboyne Under 14s and the Ladies team on reaching the Féile;
- Rathbeggan N.S. and Meath Arts Office on reaching the national final of the children's performance for the Deirdre Kinahan play;
- Tom O'Connor, Ratoath Athletics Club on winning the European Championship for long distance.

#### **4 To receive a presentation in respect of the operations of the Local Authorities Waters and Communities Office (LAWCO) and an update on the preparation of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Cycle Draft River Basin Management Plan.**

Aoife McGrath, Community Water Officer, Local Authorities Waters & Communities Office (LAWCO) delivered a presentation on the Water Framework Directive, water quality and significant water pressures, an introduction to the LAWCO, progress to date and future plans. Reference was also made to the issues affecting the local rivers and forthcoming public meetings.

Matters raised by Councillors included:

- The role of the OPW – it was agreed that the OPW had a key role and that coordination was taking place at a high level with local engagement also taking place.
- The funding available – it was pointed out limited funding was available but that other funding opportunities were being explored, including Department funding to assist Tidy Towns groups.
- The possibility of using the Civic Offices for public meetings – it was agreed that all suitable venues would be considered.
- The role of the Tolka River and River Liffey in the Dunboyne/Maynooth environs.



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- The river quality at Dunboyne – it was pointed out that further information on river quality was available at [www.catchments.ie](http://www.catchments.ie).
- The potential for rivers as amenities.

The Cathaoirleach and Councillors thanked Aoife for the presentation, wished her well in her role and offered assistance in terms of publicising the public meetings.

### **5 To receive an update from Bus Éireann on bus services in the Municipal District.**

It was noted that Adrian O'Loughlin, Services Manager, Bus Éireann had sent his apologies and it was agreed to reschedule this item to a future meeting.

### **6 Disposal of Land pursuant to the provisions of Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001**

- 6.1 This was agreed on the proposal of **Councillor Gerry O'Connor** and seconded by **Councillor Nick Killian**.

### **7 Planning Matters**

The planning list, circulated in advance, was noted.

Reference was made to the ongoing issues at the residence at Portan, Clonee – it was agreed to check the timeframe with Planning Enforcement.

### **8 Statutory Business**

#### **8.1 Transportation**

- 8.1.1 To receive a Progress Report on works undertaken/planned for Ratoath Municipal District.

The report was circulated in advance and additional items outlined. Councillors were requested to submit proposed locations for road markings. Matters raised by Councillors included:

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- Update on Mullinam Lane – it was confirmed that this was actively being reviewed with an update to follow.
- The possibility of progressing the Part 8 at Kilcock to link with the new road at Moyglare and to alleviate the number of incidents on the road, which opened onto the river – it was agreed to check this.
- Acknowledged the work in clearing the site at Bracetown – the measures undertaken and planned were outlined.
- The concerns of residents at Hillview regarding recent incidents.
- The issue of speeding on the R125.
- Requested an update on the Big Belly bins for the May meeting.
- The possibility of providing blue disabled car parking spaces across the Municipal District.
- The recent traffic issues at Avoca.
- The need for public lighting in the park and skateboard area in Dunshaughlin.
- Update on the capital projects in the Municipal District – it was pointed out that the projects must first be agreed. It was agreed that Councillors should make submissions to Des Foley in respect of the capital programme and that these would be agreed at the May meeting.

It was agreed on the proposal of **Councillor Gerry O'Connor** and seconded by **Councillor Gillian Toole** that the HGV ban for Dunshaughlin should proceed.

### **8.2 Environment**

- 8.2.1 To receive an update on Dunboyne Burial Ground.

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An update was circulated with the agenda and Councillors acknowledged the work being undertaken by the Environment Section in progressing the matter. It was agreed that further updates would be provided as appropriate.

### **8.3 Corporate Services**

#### **8.3.1 To discuss the 2017 Arts, Festivals, Festive Decoration & MD Renewal Budgets.**

Dara McGowan, Senior Executive Officer, Corporate Services attended the meeting and confirmed the budget available for 2017. Reference was made to the submissions received, as well as the Community Grants Scheme that may be more appropriate for some of the projects submitted.

Following a discussion, the following allocations for festive lighting were agreed:

<b>Town/Village</b>	<b>Allocation €</b>
Dunboyne	4,000
Dunshaughlin	4,000
Ratoath	4,000
Kilmessan	1,000
Clonee	500
Kiltale	500
Kilcloon	500
Batterstown	500

Councillors were requested to provide the relevant contact details for each group and it was emphasised that allocations in future years may differ from this year.

#### **8.3.2 To discuss a civic reception for local people/groups for outstanding achievements in 2016/2017.**

It was agreed that the civic reception would take place on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> May at 7pm in Dunshaughlin Civic Offices. Councillors were asked to forward any additional recipients to Corporate Services as soon as possible, bearing in mind the criteria for the awards.

#### **8.3.3 To note Municipal District Allocations submitted by Councillors on behalf of**



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Ratoath Municipal District.

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

### **9 Notice of Question**

#### **9.1 Submitted by Councillor Damien O'Reilly**

“Can Meath County Council provide update on roundabout sponsorship scheme for local businesses to advertise on Meath County Council roundabouts and maintain these roundabouts?”

**Response:**

*Meath County Council is supportive of the implementation of a Roundabout Sponsorship Scheme similar to that initiated prior to the Solheim Cup Golf tournament hosted in Meath in 2011. The Transportation Department are currently developing a policy that will be brought to the Transportation SPC for consideration.*

The response was noted.

### **10 Notice of Motion**

#### **10.1 Submitted by Councillor Damien O'Reilly**

“I call on Meath County Council to immediately provide funding for increased safety measures on the R157 (Castlefarm / Grange, Maynooth Road, Dunboyne) as three fatalities have taken place on this section of road in the last 11 months and also to provide progress report on R157 to date.”

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Damien O'Reilly** and seconded by **Councillor Maria Murphy**.

A discussion followed on the incidents that have occurred on this road and the concerns of residents in the area. A number of short and medium/long term measures were suggested including signage, hedge/tree maintenance and speed control



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measures/enforcement. Reference was made to the direction of traffic to the M3 from the M4.

Nicholas Whyatt, Senior Engineer, Transportation Section attended the meeting and outlined the procedures undertaken in conjunction with the Gardaí following fatal road traffic accidents. It was pointed out that, prior to these incidents within the last year, the accident figures were not exceeding expectations. The issues on the road were acknowledged and it was confirmed that TII had been consulted. It was also confirmed that Monaghan County Council were undertaking a study in relation to a similar situation and this would assist in informing any measures that could be undertaken. A number of short-term measures were proposed and an update will be provided at the May meeting, with the information circulated in advance for review. This location would also be reviewed as part of the Speed Limit Review with a draft to be presented to the Municipal District in June/July.

The motion was adopted.

### **11 Strategic Policy Committee Report – For Information Purposes**

- 11.1 To note the report from the Planning, Economic Development and Enterprise SPC meeting of 13<sup>th</sup> March, 2017.

The report was noted.

### **12 Correspondence**

- 12.1 Correspondence received from Irish Water in response to Notice of Item 4 – Planning Matters from February meeting.

The correspondence was noted. It was agreed to consult with Paul O'Brien in relation to this matter and to request Irish Water to provide an explanation of the term 'interim connection charges'.

### **13 Any Other Business**

- 13.1 Councillor Nick Killian raised the following issues:



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- 13.1.1 Requested an update on the taking in charge of Somerville estate;
  - 13.1.2 The recent water disruptions in Ratoath;
  - 13.1.3 The dangerous state of the hoarding in Ratoath and the possibility of taking action under derelict sites legislation;
  - 13.1.4 The need to advance the planning process in respect of infill sites for housing to avail of future funding – it was confirmed that the Housing SPC would meet on 25<sup>th</sup> April, where this could be discussed, and that a further update would be provided to Councillors in June.
- 13.2 Councillor Maria Murphy raised the following issue:
- 13.2.1 The regulations relating to drone racing.
- 13.3 Councillor Gillian Toole raised the following issue:
- 13.3.1 Update on the traffic surveys on the R147, arising from the Transport Sub-Committee – it was confirmed that a traffic study was underway, taking into account all relevant factors, locations and developments. The finalised report will be presented to Councillors for discussion. It was also confirmed that current traffic issues were being monitored.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

**Cathaoirleach**