



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

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

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

***9:30a.m., 17<sup>th</sup> May 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 12<sup>th</sup> April, 2017.**

The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> April, 2017 were adopted on the proposal of **Councillor Nick Killian** and seconded by **Councillor Maria Murphy**.

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

Councillor Brian Fitzgerald queried as to whether the Kilcock to Moyglare road had been reviewed – it was confirmed that it was being examined in terms of appropriate short and longer term measures.

Councillor Gillian Toole reminded Councillors of the Civic Awards event taking place.

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



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Sympathy was extended to:

- Adrian Hobbs, former Area Engineer, on the death of his father, Anthony.

Congratulations were extended to:

- Sam Pidgeon, Ratoath, on winning a European award in karate in Strasbourg;
- Under 16s Gaels on winning the Division 1 Cup Final;
- Ratoath Musical Society on their concert to mark 20 years;
- Dunboyne Musical Society on their sell out production of 'Rent'.

### **4 Planning Matters**

Wendy Bagnall, Senior Executive Planner attended the meeting, when the correspondence received from Irish Water regarding the Regional Biosolids Storage Facility for greater Dublin was discussed. The background to the proposed development was outlined, as were the planning process and the potential sites identified in Meath. It was confirmed that this would be a lengthy process and that Meath County Council would make a submission but that this facility was required to facilitate the upgrade at Ringsend.

Matters raised by Councillors included:

- The land acquisition process – it was confirmed that this would be by way of negotiation.
- The concerns of local residents, for example the odours – it was pointed out that the material would be removed from the trucks internally and that submissions can be made during the SID process.
- The traffic movements involved – it was pointed out that all sites identified were in close proximity to the motorway network to minimise the traffic impacts and that the detailed traffic movements would be available at the next stage.



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- The need to know the health implications of such a development and the proposed design.
- The suitability of the sites and their potential to attract a development that would generate greater employment – it was confirmed that this issue would be covered in the submission.

It was agreed to provide further updates on this as they become available.

### **5 Statutory Business**

#### **5.1 Transportation**

- 5.1.1 To consider and, if thought fit, to approve for public display the “Draft Road Traffic (Special Speed Limits) (Housing Estates) County of Meath Bye-Laws (No.1) 2017.

This was approved on the proposal of **Councillor Maria Murphy** and seconded by **Councillor Nick Killian**.

Councillors raised a number of specific queries, to which responses were provided.

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

The report had been circulated in advance and further updates were provided.

Matters raised by Councillors included:

- Requested a report on the Big Belly Bins – it was agreed to circulate a report on the experience of Ashbourne with regard to the bins. A map of the 44 existing standard bins in Dunshaughlin had been prepared and a discussion followed on the most appropriate locations for the new bins. It was agreed to contact the company regarding their offer of a small number of free bins and to place one at the bus stop in

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Dunshaughlin. It was also agreed that the Ratoath Tidy Towns would submit a list of litter blackspots.

- Welcomed the line markings at Manorlands.
- The footpath survey being undertaken by the Council in conjunction with IPB as part of efforts to minimise public liability claims.
- Efforts to deal with the issues at Bracetown – it was confirmed that legal options, etc. had been considered and other local authorities consulted.
- A damaged hydrant marker – it was agreed to check this on receipt of the image/location.
- Low water pressure in Ratoath due to high demand and the wider water supply issues in Ratoath – it was agreed to bring a report on water supply in Ratoath to the June meeting.
- The need to advise businesses of any disruption likely by the pipeworks planned for Ratoath.
- The ongoing water disruptions in Clonee.
- The failure to replace the hoarding in Ratoath – it was pointed out that this should be done this week and, if not, other options would be considered.
- The possible sale of the lands being used by the BMX club and the commitment given that this land would be retained for amenity purposes and also for traffic management measures to benefit Glascarn Lane – it was pointed out that this had been discussed at the Housing SPC and at the Council meeting.

5.1.3 To receive an update on the capital projects in the Municipal District.

It was agreed to defer this to the June meeting.



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5.1.4 To receive an update on safety measures on the R157.

Des Foley referred to the meeting that took place recently with local residents and outlined a number of proposed measures, including:

- Surface dressing – preparatory work will be completed today and, subject to weather conditions, the surface dressing should be completed within 1-2 weeks.
- Following this, the road markings would be renewed and additional markings provided.
- Additional signage to be erected.
- Hedges will be trimmed to improve sight lines.
- A road safety assessment, to be carried out over a number of months, has commenced, with cameras to be installed to observe driver behaviour and an update will be provided as appropriate.
- This location will be reviewed as part of the countywide speed limit review, with a report to be brought to a future meeting of the Municipal District.
- Correspondence has issued to the Department of Transport, Tourism & Sport seeking the reintroduction of the specific improvement grants and referred to long term measures, e.g. realignment.
- The Gardaí have been requested to increase enforcement on this stretch of road but have reported that speeding in excess of the 80km ph limit is not excessive.

Councillors welcomed these developments and emphasised the role played by driver behaviour on a populated road and the need for ongoing Garda enforcement.

## **5.2 Planning**



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5.2.1 To consider taking in charge the following and the making of a declaration that the roads within these developments shall be public roads in accordance with Section 11 Roads Act 1993 and the Planning & Development Acts 2000-2016.

- Somerville, Ratoath

Councillor Nick Killian requested that this item be deferred to allow residents more time to consider it and he also outlined a number of works required, including improved accessibility on footpaths. John Sweeney, Building Control Officer, confirmed that the developer had completed the works in accordance with the planning permission and that it was not possible to retrospectively apply current standards or insist on any other works being carried out. It was pointed out that should the development not be taken in charge, and an issue with services arises, the local authority would not be in a position to assist. However, if taken in charge, the local authority may be able to do additional works at a future point. It was agreed to defer this to the July meeting.

- Leighvalley, Ratoath

This was agreed on the proposal of **Councillor Nick Killian** and seconded by **Councillor Gillian Toole**.

### **5.3 Corporate Services**

5.3.1 To note Municipal District Allocations submitted by Councillors on behalf of Ratoath Municipal District.

The list of allocations, which had been circulated in advance, was noted.

5.3.2 To receive an update on recent requests made to the Asset Management Section in the Ratoath Municipal District.

Dara McGowan, Senior Executive Officer, Corporate Services provided an update on four projects currently under consideration:



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- Dunboyne Boxing Club – the background to the site and proposal was provided, including the site constraints, and it was proposed that a S183 would be brought to the Municipal District in 4-8 weeks.
- 12 acre site in Dunshaughlin – The background to this ongoing process was provided and it was confirmed that the Council was now in a position to progress this and that an official request to start the process had been received from the soccer club and negotiations were also ongoing with another club. The proposals will be brought to a meeting of the Municipal District.
- Dunshaughlin Courthouse – it was confirmed that the building did require works and expenditure would have to be incurred. The potential options were outlined, i.e. that the Council would retain the building and apply for funding where possible or give it to the community to apply for funding. Councillors referred to a feasibility study previously undertaken, the amount of work required and the protected status of the interior, the number of community facilities already available in the town and other potential uses.
- 8 acre site in Dunboyne – it was confirmed that the Gaelscoil and the GAA had reached agreement in principle and that the legal issues were being finalised, with a proposal to be brought to the Municipal District in June or July.

### **6 Notice of Question**

There were no Notices of Question.

### **7 Notice of Motion**

#### **7.1 Submitted by Councillor Nick Killian**

“That Ratoath Municipal District requests the Department of Housing, Planning, Community & Local Government to put a moratorium on place on all Solar Farm planning applications until such time as National Guidelines are in place.”



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The motion was proposed by **Councillor Nick Killian** and seconded by **Councillor Maria Murphy**.

The motion was adopted.

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

"I call on Meath County Council to install temporary warning flashing screens and road safety cones along the R157, Maynooth road from Castlefarm, Grange to Ashhill until permanent road safety's improvements are completed."

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

It is proposed to erect Variable Message Signs in advance of planned works to resurface the road and refresh road markings later this month.

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

The motion was noted.

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

"I call on Meath County Council to complete application to request funding from the NTA for pathway and cycle way to Dunboyne AFC, Summerhill Road, Dunboyne from Newtown roundabout."

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

*Meath County Council has, on a number of occasions previously, applied to the NTA for funding for this proposed footpath to the Dunboyne Soccer Club on the Summerhill Road.*

*Additionally, it would also have been made known to the NTA that this footpath was on our "Wish list of Schemes"*





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*The NTA so far has indicated that this project is not a priority for them and that in general they want to target multi-purpose schemes in more populated areas such as town centres.*

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

The motion was adopted.

### **8 Correspondence**

- 8.1 Correspondence received from Irish Water re Regional Biosolids Storage Facility for greater Dublin.

This correspondence was dealt with under Item 4.

### **9 Any Other Business**

- 9.1 Councillor Gerry O'Connor raised the following issue:

9.1.1 The need to enforce the planning condition associated with the M3 to provide a cycle way linking the water tower to the roundabout on the Drumree Road – it was agreed to check this.

- 9.2 Councillor Nick Killian thanked Councillor Gillian Toole for the manner in which she conducted meetings, etc. during her year as Cathaoirleach and commended her on the manner in which she represented Ratoath Municipal District.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

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

**Cathaoirleach**