



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

### ***Trim Municipal District***

### ***Ordinary Meeting***

***2:00p.m., 19<sup>th</sup> May 2017, Trim Civic Offices***

An Cathaoirleach, **Councillor Enda Flynn**, presided.

**Councillors Present:** Joe Fox, Noel French, Trevor Golden, Caroline Lynch, Ronan McKenna.

**Officials in Attendance:**

**Director of Service:** Des Foley

**Meetings Administrator:** Claire King

**Executive Engineer:** Maura Daly

**Staff Officer:** Triona Keating

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

##### **1.1 Confirmation of minutes of Ordinary Meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> April, 2017.**

The Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> April, 2017 were adopted on the proposal of **Councillor Noel French** and seconded by **Councillor Joe Fox**.

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

Councillor Caroline Lynch requested an update on the meeting to take place with residents in Longwood regarding road safety issues.

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

Sympathy was extended to:

- Áine Doran, former employee of Trim Town Council, and the students and staff of Boyne Community School on the death of Evan Brennan, Summerhill.



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Congratulations were extended to:

- Christy Ginnerty on the Special Recognition Award presented to him by the FAI at a recent event organised by Trim Celtic;
- Trim Celtic on their recent celebrations;
- Councillor Ronan McKenna on the birth of his baby;
- Taoiseach Enda Kenny on his contribution and achievements during his career in politics and during his time as Taoiseach – it was agreed that a letter would issue on behalf of Trim Municipal District Councillors wishing him well in his retirement.

#### **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 Irish Water in this initiative – it was confirmed that Irish Water was a key implementing body at governance level and that their capital investment programme would be aligned with the work being undertaken.
- The role of rivers as key amenities and resources.
- The need to positively engage with landowners and the agricultural sector, whose knowledge and awareness of water channels should be harnessed.
- The benefits of engaging with bodies who have a direct involvement in the rivers, e.g. angling, water sports, etc.



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- The number of smaller rivers and streams and the canal that exist in Trim Municipal District.

The Cathaoirleach and Councillors thanked Aoife for her presentation and wished her well in her role.

### **5 To receive a presentation from South Meath Social Economy.**

Jacinta O’Sullivan and Josie Donnellan provided background information on South Meath Social Economy (SMSE), the current structure and services provided, linkages with other bodies, and issues that need to be addressed including signage to their offices in Scurlogstown Business Park, the charges that apply to using the recycling centre and the need to upgrade their fleet.

Matters raised by Councillors included:

- Welcomed the employment generated and the services provided to vulnerable groups.
- The plans to extend the service to other groups – it was confirmed that, whilst the focus would remain on services to the elderly/those with a disability, linkages with other groups were being formed and that services can be provided to other customers where possible.
- The possibility of changing the brand to more clearly indicate the purpose and services of the group – it was confirmed that this was being actively considered.
- The possibility of a representative from Trim Municipal District joining the Board to improve linkages and increase awareness.

It was agreed to refer the issue of signage to the Economic Development Section, although it was pointed out that this was a private business park, and it was agreed to refer the issue of recycling centre charges to the Environment Section, although it was pointed out that this was run by a private operator.

### **6 Statutory Business**



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### **6.1 Transportation**

6.1.1 To receive an update on works completed/planned within Trim Municipal District.

The report had been circulated in advance and matters raised by Councillors included:

- Update on the meeting to take place with residents in Longwood regarding road safety issues – it was confirmed that this will be arranged.
- The footpath from the graveyard to Manorlands – it was pointed out that this was not on the list for 2017.
- The need to tighten the manhole covers on the Dublin Road.
- Welcomed the ongoing liaison with Prosper Meath and the works being undertaken as a result.
- The responsibility for lifebuoys along the river – it was pointed out that a review was planned for all lifebuoys with a view to replacing them.
- Welcomed the footpath works on the Dublin side of Enfield.
- Concerns in Enfield with regard to the raised table – it was confirmed that works would take place during the school holidays.
- The need for works on the old N4/R148 – it was pointed out that this was not included in the Schedule of MD Works.
- The need for markings and cats eyes on the N4/R148 – it was confirmed that this would be undertaken during the summer.
- The erection of speed signage on the Johnstown Road, Enfield – it was pointed out that this does not meet the criteria as agreed by the



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Transportation SPC and therefore cannot be erected, the criteria being introduced to maintain the effectiveness of such signage.

- The traffic management plan for the Dublin Road – it was confirmed that, following an assessment of the pedestrian crossings, an application for NTA funding was being made for a pedestrian crossing, a footpath extension of approximately 100m, a zebra crossing, a raised table and street bollards at the school. It was also planned to widen the footpath, where possible. If no NTA funding is received, a provision has been made in the capital programme for the upgrade of the zebra crossing and the bollards. Change to approved Part VIII for the Royal Canal Cycle Scheme.

- 6.1.2 The Approved Part VIII, which had the facility on the South Bank is now being switched over to the North Bank.

This was approved on the proposal of **Councillor Joe Fox** and seconded by **Councillor Ronan McKenna**.

It was confirmed that the contractor was ready to commence works once the funding allocation was confirmed and that this would be brought again to the Municipal District in September.

- 6.1.3 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 Ronan McKenna** and seconded by **Councillor Enda Flynn**.

## **7 Notice of Question**

### **7.1 Submitted by Councillor Caroline Lynch**

“Is there a list available for the Trim area of vacant commercial units which could be acquired by the council to convert to residential housing use to encourage people on the housing list back into town and village centres?”



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### **Response:**

*The Housing Department has completed an initial analysis of the vacant and derelict property data for the County, with a view to employing a targeted approach in the uptake of the Repair to Lease and/or Buy to Renew Scheme for appropriate properties for social housing. Vacant commercial properties may also provide an opportunity for future social housing provision. There are 103 vacant commercial units in the Trim area known to the Finance Department via commercial rates data. However, considerations regarding location, availability, suitability and planning matters would need to be examined carefully to determine viability for the purposes suggested, for any vacant commercial unit.*

The response was noted.

## **8 Notice of Motion**

### **8.1 Submitted by Councillor Caroline Lynch**

“Given the shocking increases in rent in the Trim area this Municipal District calls on the Minister to include Trim in the rent pressure zone as a matter of urgency.”

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Caroline Lynch** and seconded by **Councillor Noel French**.

A short discussion followed on the limited supply of houses and the increasing rental costs.

The motion was adopted.

### **8.2 Submitted by Councillor Caroline Lynch**

“This Municipal District should write to the IDA and request that they detail their plans for encouraging investment in the Trim area.”

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Caroline Lynch** and seconded by **Councillor Noel French**.



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A discussion followed on the condition of the site at the entrance to Scurlogstown Business Park and its impact on attracting investment. It was pointed out that was privately owned.

The motion was adopted.

### **9 Correspondence**

- 9.1 Correspondence received from the Irish Walled Town Network in relation to funding secured for Trim under the Irish Walled Town Network Conservation/Capital Grant Scheme 2017.

The correspondence was noted and acknowledgement was given to Loreto Guinan for her work in securing this funding.

- 9.2 Correspondence received from An Garda Síochána in response to Notice of Item 12.2 – AOB from March meeting re parking issue in Enfield.

The correspondence was noted.

- 9.3 Correspondence received from Youth Work Ireland in response to the Notice of Item 9.2 – Notice of Motion as adopted at March meeting re volunteering for Tidy Towns projects.

The correspondence was noted.

- 9.4 Correspondence received from Trim Family Resource Centre in response to the Notice of Item 9.2 – Notice of Motion as adopted at March meeting re volunteering for Tidy Towns projects.

The correspondence was noted. It was agreed to write to Trim Family Resource Centre offering support to the centre in re-establishing the youth club Cúla Búla.

- 9.5 Correspondence received from Boyne Community School in response to the Notice of Item 9.2 – Notice of Motion as adopted at March meeting re volunteering for Tidy Towns projects.



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The correspondence was noted.

### **10 Any Other Business**

10.1 Councillor Noel French raised the following issues:

10.1.1 Requested that a letter issue to the Garda Superintendent commending him on the number of foot patrols taking place and ask that they be increased in Trim and introduced to Enfield.

10.1.2 Requested that a letter issue to the Minister for Justice requesting that additional Garda resources be allocated to Trim, which has no Community Garda and is the location for court hearings.

10.2 Councillor Caroline Lynch raised the following issues:

10.2.1 Pointed out that she had requested the Education Welfare Officer to look at the issue of children not attending school.

10.2.2 Confirmed that a meeting between Trim Tourism Network and the Council was taking place next week regarding a proposal for the Town Hall.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

**Signed:**

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**Cathaoirleach**