



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

Ratoath Municipal District

Ordinary Meeting

9:45a.m., 15th June 2016, 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

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 May, 2016.

The Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 11th May 2016 were adopted on the proposal of **Councillor Maria Murphy** and seconded by **Councillor Nick Killian**.

1.2 Confirmation of minutes of Special Meeting held on 11th May, 2016.

The Minutes of the Special Meeting held on 11th May 2016 were adopted on the proposal of **Councillor Gerry O'Connor** and seconded by **Councillor Nick Killian**.

2 Matters arising from the Minutes

There were no matters arising.



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3 Expressions of Sympathy and Congratulations

Congratulations were extended to:

- Councillor Maria Murphy on her election as Cathaoirleach of Meath County Council.

4 Planning Matters

The planning list, circulated in advance of the meeting, was noted.

It was agreed that a letter should issue on behalf of Ratoath Municipal District Councillors to Irish Water requesting that the upgrading of the water pipe from Dunshaughlin to Ratoath be included in the Irish Water capital upgrade programme to facilitate development in Ratoath and to query the funding status of the Ringsend sewerage treatment plant.

5 Statutory Business

5.1 Transportation

- 5.1.1 To receive an update on the proposed M3 Motorway Service Area.

John McGuinness, Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII), Ambrose Clarke, Westmeath National Roads Office, Peter Morehan & Gary Turley, Halcrow Barry attended the meeting and a presentation was delivered on the TII Service Area Policy, progress to date, site selection summary and a summary of the need for the M3 Motorway Service Area. It was confirmed that the proposed M3 Motorway Service Area (MSA) was being developed in accordance with the TII Service Area Policy in response to EU Regulations and Policy.

Matters raised by Councillors and responses received included:

- The viability of the proposed service area in view of recent planning applications for offline service areas and the demand for such a facility generally – it was confirmed that all alternative private off-line facilities are being monitored and that the business case considers the demand for similar facilities on other motorways and is based on the current M3 traffic volumes.



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The business case would be subject to ongoing review at each stage of the process.

- The cost of the project – it was confirmed that no definitive costing was yet available.
- The business case used to support the need for the proposal – it was confirmed that as part of the design process, as required by DPER, a business case is required. A Draft business case has been prepared (showing a positive BCR) and is currently being audited. The business case is continually reviewed and updated during each phase of the project
- The traffic volumes on the M3 and surrounding road network – it was confirmed that the current traffic volumes, rather than the M3 Motorway EIS forecasts, were used in developing the business case. Whilst the traffic volumes on the M3 had not reached that forecast, they had increased significantly since 2012.
- Dissatisfaction at the site selected and the neutral economic assessment – the criteria for the site selection is contained within the Site Selection Report and is available on the project website (www.t4msa.ie) . It was confirmed that the economic assessment was similar for each of the appraised sites due to similar traffic volumes / locations and hence neutral when compared against one another, but with each showing a positive economic outcome.
- The need for improved maps showing other nearby amenities, etc. – it was confirmed that the other amenities had been considered and that an improved map will be provided via the project website.
- The availability of the relevant information – it was confirmed that all relevant information is made available on the project website. Councillors requested that they be notified when the website is updated.
- The impact of the service area on the local road network – it was pointed out that no major impact was envisaged as local access would be restricted to staff, emergency vehicles and some deliveries. Any further impacts would be identified and considered during the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA).



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- The capacity of private operators to meet EU policy requirements – It was noted that this proposed online MSA allows TII to provide a specified Level Of Service. TII will also retain ability to respond to future and changing demands of road users.
- The possibility of diverting the funding to dealing with the issues on the M3, e.g. ramps at Fairyhouse Cross, to deal with the traffic issues already being experienced and to facilitate existing and potential economic developments – current restricted funding is being used to deliver the capital investment identified in the Capital Plan.

The Cathaoirleach thanked those attending for their presentation and for the information provided.

- 5.1.2 To receive briefing by CSEA on the emerging preferred options for Dunboyne Cycle Network.

Marcus Clifford, Clifton Scannell Emerson attended the meeting and delivered a presentation that included the project background and objectives, work completed to date, emerging preferred network, priorities and next steps.

Matters raised by Councillors included:

- The need to consider a passage to the M3 Parkway from the Navan Road;
- The need for a footpath/cycleway from the Summerhill roundabout to the soccer pitch;
- The obstacles currently faced by cyclists, including at footpaths/crossings, illegal parking, etc.;
- The heavy vehicular traffic accessing the business park and the absence of a link road;



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- The need to replace any trees removed and consult with residents prior to their removal;
- The need to prevent motorbike access to cycleways;
- The number of pupils currently attending the training centre;
- The need to consult with schools to enable suitable facilities to be provided;
- The need to consult with Bus Éireann in relation to bus stops;
- The need to ensure that cycleways provided are safe and fit for purpose;
- The need to consider current planning applications, e.g. for schools.

The Cathaoirleach thanked Marcus for the presentation and for the information provided.

It was agreed on the proposal of **Councillor Maria Murphy** and seconded by **Councillor Nick Killian** to extend the meeting by 20 minutes.

- 5.1.3 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) 2016.

This was approved on the proposal of **Councillor Gerry O’Connor** and seconded by **Councillor Maria Murphy**.

Councillors requested that they be notified when the public notice is published.

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



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

- The need to deal with the puddle at the health centre in Dunboyne before the schools open in September.
- The need for additional staff resources in Ratoath Municipal District.
- A report on works in Meadowbank Hill, Milltree and the Avenue, Ratoath was requested, to include all works relating to Ratoath College and the breakdown of expenditure and the timeframe for completion.
- The ongoing concerns regarding the junction at Mullinam Lane and the need for additional signage – it was confirmed that this was being reviewed.
- The need for maintenance works on the roundabouts in Dunboyne prior to the Tidy Towns judging.
- The need to ensure bottle banks are emptied, particularly after bank holiday weekends.
- The need for the tender process for road resurfacing to include quality considerations so as to ensure value for money.

5.2 Corporate Services

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

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

6 Notice of Question

6.1 Submitted by Councillor Damien O'Reilly



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“Please provide a progress update on the new Dunboyne graveyard site.”

Response:

As advised at a previous meeting of the Municipal District the Environment Department had identified a number of possible sites for a replacement burial ground for Dunboyne and we now have reduced this to three emerging possibilities which require further assessment. In order to carry out the more intrusive assessment the consent of the landowners is required and the practical arrangements in terms of locations for trial holes etc agreed. We are now commencing this process however it will be appreciated that such consent may not always be voluntarily forthcoming and other options may have to be examined.

The response was noted.

7 Notice of Motion

There were no Notices of Motion.

8 Correspondence

8.1 Correspondence received from Regina Doherty TD in response to the Notice of Item 3 – Letter of Congratulations from May meeting.

The correspondence was noted.

9 Any Other Business

9.1 Councillor Nick Killian raised the following issue:

9.1.1 Update on Riverwalk Court – it was confirmed that all fire safety works were to be completed this week, thereby addressing any fire safety concerns identified. A meeting is being sought with the residents group to discuss some minor issues outstanding.



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9.2 Councillor Damien O'Reilly raised the following issue:

9.2.1 The contact with the OPW in relation to the Tolka River – it was confirmed that a survey of the main junction points was being undertaken to identify any obstructions.

9.3 Councillor Gillian Toole raised the following issues:

9.3.1 The possibility of arranging a meeting with Adrian O'Loughlin, Bus Éireann to discuss issues relating to bus services.

9.3.2 Requested a special meeting, in committee, to discuss the Maynooth Outer Orbital Route – it was agreed to arrange this for 20th or 21st June.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed:

Cathaoirleach