



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

Kells Municipal District

Ordinary Meeting

4.15pm, 21st June 2021, County Hall, Navan

An Cathaoirleach, **Councillor Mike Bray**, presided.

Councillors Present: Seán Drew, Michael Gallagher, David Gilroy, Paul McCabe and Sarah Reilly.

Apologies: Councillor Eugene Cassidy.

Officials in Attendance:

Director of Service: Martin Murray

Meetings Administrator: Claire King

Executive Engineer: Aaron Smith

Staff Officer: Triona Keating

1 Confirmation of Minutes

1.1 Confirmation of minutes of Ordinary Meeting held on 17th May 2021.

The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on the 17th May 2021 were confirmed on the proposal of **Councillor Paul McCabe** and seconded by **Councillor David Gilroy**.

2 Matters arising from the Minutes

There were no matters arising from the minutes

3 Expressions of Sympathy and Congratulations

Sympathy was extended to:



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- Fr. Liam Malone, P.P. Nobber & Kilbeg, on the death of his father, Tommy.

Congratulations were extended to:

- All businesses, including retail and hospitality businesses, that have reopened.
- Councillor Seán Drew on being elected Cathaoirleach of Meath County Council and Councillor David Gilroy on his term as Cathaoireach.
- Peter Carry, St. Ciarán's Community School, Kells and his students Óisín Craig, Joshua Keating, Seán McDermott and Carl McGovern on winning the Best Adaptability in the Covid 19 Era award as part of the national Student Enterprise Programme.

4 Statutory Business

4.1 Transportation

- 4.1.1 To receive a Progress Report on works undertaken/planned for Kells Municipal District.

The report, circulated in advance, was noted.

4.2 Corporate Services

- 4.2.1 To note Municipal District Allocations submitted by Councillors on behalf of Kells Municipal District.

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

5 Notice of Question

5.1 Submitted by Councillor Sarah Reilly



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“To ask for a progress update on proposed safety works on Balrath Junction.”

Response:

The Transportation Section of Meath County Council is currently finalising the Feasibility Report for the N52 Balrath Cross HD15 Scheme, for submission to the TII.

The response was noted.

6 Notice of Motion

There were no Notices of Motion.

7 Strategic Policy Committee & Corporate Policy Group Reports – For Information Purposes

7.1 To note the Corporate Policy Group Meeting Minutes of 7th May 2021.

The minutes were noted.

7.2 To note the report from the Planning, Economic Development, Enterprise and European Affairs SPC meeting of 12th April 2021.

The report was noted.

8 Correspondence

8.1 Correspondence received from the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine in response to the notice of item 2 from the April meeting re removal of 65 trees on parkland in Drumconrath, Kells, Co Meath.

The correspondence was noted, with Councillor Michael Gallagher expressing disappointment at the response.



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9 Any Other Business

9.1 Councillor Sarah Reilly raised the following issues:

- 9.1.1 Queried the timeframe for the switching on of the lights at the tennis courts in Kells – an application has been made to the ESB.
- 9.1.2 Queried the timeline for the provision of bus stops, which were the subject of a presentation previously made.
- 9.1.3 Queried whether verge scraping along hard shoulders are being undertaken – generally resources are unavailable for this unless water cuts are being done or they are causing a problem.
- 9.1.4 Requested that the Gaelic Woodland Trust be invited to present at a meeting and that the relevant staff also be invited to attend – it was agreed to raise this initially with the relevant staff to ensure coordination with any current ongoing activity.

9.2 Councillor Michael Gallagher raised the following issue:

- 9.2.1 Requested that the taking in charge process commence in respect of Bird Hill Estate, Drumconrath.

9.3 Councillor Paul McCabe raised the following issues:

- 9.3.1 Queried whether verge and hedge cutting at dangerous junctions was ongoing – contractors are currently in week 2 of a 5 week programme of verge cutting at junctions on regional roads.
- 9.3.2 Queried whether progress is being made in respect of the pothole register and whether adequate resources were available to deal with same – good progress is being made and preparation for surface dressing is also being carried out.
- 9.3.3 Referred to an extension in the 'Do Not Consume' water notice being applied in



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Moynalty due to a mechanical failure in the water treatment plant, thanked council staff for providing a water tanker and requested that the Director of Service for Water Services contact him directly to discuss the issue.

9.4 Councillor David Gilroy raised the following issues:

9.4.1 Queried the taking in charge status of Millview estate, Athboy and also whether public lighting had been connected in the estate.

9.5 Councillor Seán Drew raised the following issues:

9.5.1 Referred to the proposed four week road closure on the N52 and the associated impact on affected businesses, queried the frequency of such closures, which seem to occur every 2 years, and requested that consideration be given to adopting an alternative approach such as a stop/go system, traffic lights or night works – it was agreed to refer this to Transportation but pointed out that works are undertaken on different sections of road and the proposed timeframe may be indicative.

9.5.2 Referred to the funding being made available to facilitate outdoor infrastructure and underlined the need to provide public toilets – an assessment is being carried out to identify suitable locations for such facilities, with the focus being on outdoor and amenity areas. Consideration must be given to ongoing maintenance issues and it may be more appropriate in urban locations to encourage people to access local business facilities.

9.6 Aaron Smith raised the following issues:

9.6.1 Referred to an issue raised at the May meeting regarding speeding on the approach roads into Kells and confirmed that a tender process to purchase two Vehicle Activation Signs had commenced and that these can be deployed at various locations, as needed.

9.6.2 With regard to the Town & Village Renewal funding for the area in front of the Kells Credit Union, it was confirmed that the Part 8 process would commence in the coming weeks and that engagement with the Credit Union would take place



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in relation to the proposals. It was underlined that there is no intention to remove any of the existing features and relocate these within the town – the update was welcomed and those attending meetings were urged to report accurately on meeting proceedings and not to raise concerns unnecessarily.

- 9.6.3 Referred to the issue of cars parking on the footpath on Bective Street and confirmed that bollards have been ordered for either side of the footpath, without impeding the two access points, to prevent parking on the footpath.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed:

Cathaoirleach