



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

Laytown-Bettystown Municipal District

Ordinary Meeting

10.15 am, 17th June 2021, County Hall, Navan

An Cathaoirleach, **Councillor Elaine McGinty**, presided.

Councillors Present: Tom Behan, Wayne Harding, Geraldine Keogan, Stephen McKee, Paddy Meade, Sharon Tolan.

Officials in Attendance:

Director of Service: Fiona Lawless

Meetings Administrator: Claire King

Executive Engineer: Christy Clarke

Staff Officer: Triona Keating

Clerical Officer: Edita Asaciova

1 Confirmation of Minutes

1.1 Confirmation of minutes of Ordinary Meeting held on 13th May 2021.

The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 13th May 2021 were confirmed on the proposal of **Councillor Wayne Harding** and seconded by **Councillor Tom Behan**.

2 Matters arising from the Minutes

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

3 Expressions of Sympathy and Congratulations

Sympathy was extended to:

- The family of the late Charlie Tyndall, Navan and formerly of Alverno Heights, Laytown;



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- The family of the late James Lambe, Slane Road, Drogheda.

Congratulations were extended to:

- Dara McGowan on his appointment as Director of Services, Meath County Council.

4 Statutory Business

4.1 Transportation

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

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

- Congratulated Christy and his team on works carried out including the beach gabions at Laytown.
- Requested that beach wardens start earlier, e.g. 9/10am, to have the beach ready for visitors – it was agreed to consider this for 2022.
- Requested that efforts be made to increase awareness of the designated parking areas and deter haphazard parking, e.g. on Golf Links Road – double yellow lines are to be added on the Golf Links Road. Signs indicating available parking at the school cannot be erected until the exams are concluded. Alternative parking is also available at a small fee.
- Requested that consideration be given to extend the designated parking area on the beach to include provision for family parking – the decision regarding beach parking had been taken at the Environment SPC. The age friendly and wheelchair access areas have been marked out with the area available being restricted due to access to a local business.
- Welcomed the training provided by the traffic wardens to the beach wardens.



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- Requested that alternatives be considered in place of the boulders.
- Requested an update on the footpath in Donacarney – clarification from the consultants is awaited following the pine marten survey, with the reports to be updated.
- Referred to issues relating to verge cutting at dangerous junctions and Garda enforcement.
- Requested that verge cutting at junctions be carried out in south Drogheda – verge cutting is being undertaken on junctions on national primary and secondary roads, with the MD undertaking verge cutting on local roads. If between roads, technically a road opening licence is required. Meath County Council has no objection to maintenance of verges.

4.2 Corporate Services

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

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

5 Notice of Question

5.1 Submitted by Councillor Elaine McGinty

“To ask Meath County Council to provide an update in relation to the Joint Urban Area Transport Plan meetings held with Louth County Council and to outline any progress made to date. In addition, to ask the Council would they consider public participation in this process, e.g. a Citizens Assembly, to help encourage public co-operation, better communication and understanding of any proposed plan?”

Response:



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The statutory process relating to the Joint Urban Area Plan for Drogheda cannot commence until both Local Authorities have adopted their County Development Plans. It is anticipated that the plans will be adopted and come into operation in December 2021. Within 6 months of same, the statutory process must commence with respect to the Joint Urban Area Plan. In the interim, both Councils have been engaging with respect to background studies, such as the Transport Study, which can get underway before the formal process begins. As part of the statutory process, public participation is an essential element and both Councils will ensure the display of the Strategic Issues Paper and the Draft Plan is advertised to ensure and encourage as much participation as possible.

The response was noted.

6 Notice of Motion

6.1 Submitted by Councillor Stephen McKee

“That Meath County Council commit to immediately progressing a Public Realm Plan for Duleek and set as its objectives the development of public infrastructure and the enhancement and improvement of the quality of life for residents in the community.”

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

The Planning Department is currently dealing with a large programme of works with respect to Public Realms Plans. Duleek will be added to the programme and works will commence on same when time and resources allow.

A short discussion followed, highlighting the benefits of public realm plans in considering all aspects of a town or village, including traffic and transport, the benefits of a bypass, facilities and environment. Reference was made to the need for interim solutions, including the completion of traffic calming measures on Main Street and the introduction of a HGV ban.

The supporting information and motion, proposed by **Councillor Stephen McKee** and seconded by **Councillor Paddy Meade**, was agreed.



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6.2 Submitted by Councillor Sharon Tolan

“While we support the concept of outdoor dining on public green spaces and beaches, we call on Meath County Council to assess each of the proposed locations (which are not serviced by business) for litter hazards with a view to additional bins and portaloos at each location with daily litter collections including weekends. We also ask that said locations should be considered for trial glass and can collection points.”

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

The Municipal Districts have responsibility for the provision, servicing and emptying of litter bins in their respective areas and each request for additional bins is considered on its own merits and having regard to increased footfall in the area, the extent of litter being generated and the availability of resources.

By Circular, dated 5th May, local authorities were advised by the Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment of the allocation of an additional €5m nationally in support of the provision of anti-littering efforts and infrastructure and to take account of higher levels of outdoor living, dining and domestic tourism arising from the easing of Covid 19 restrictions. The additional funding to support:

- *The provision of quality litter picking material such as litter pickers, gloves and bags*
- *Immediate Mapping of existing levels of on-street infrastructure (bins and dog fouling receptacles) and the urgent provision and immediate roll out of additional infrastructure to address any gaps identified*
- *Support for servicing of on street infrastructure*
- *Additional education and awareness efforts.*

As part of the process to develop specific funding proposals under the funding scheme, the Department asked each Local Authority to provide data on the current status of litter bins and servicing schedules and such information was submitted by this Council and we



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await further confirmation in respect of specific allocations. It is pointed out that additional bins and portaloos are already in place at the beach.

The supporting information and motion, proposed by **Councillor Sharon Tolan** and seconded by **Councillor Geraldine Keogan**, was agreed.

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

There was no correspondence.

9 Any Other Business

- 9.1 Councillor Stephen McKee raised the following issues:

9.1.1 Referred to issues experienced by residents in new estates, with delays to broadband connection and requested that Meath County Council do what it can to expedite these connections – it was agreed to invite the Council's Broadband Officer to the July meeting to discuss such issues.

9.1.2 Requested that bins and bags be provided to deal with dog fouling.

9.1.3 Referred to the need to provide proper access for residents on the laneway between Lagavoreen and Rosevale.



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- 9.1.4 Referred to the need for road markings and traffic calming beside the church in Donore.
- 9.2 Councillor Paddy Meade raised the following issues:
- 9.2.1 Expressed disappointment at the unsuccessful funding application for the provision of serviced sites in Donore and requested an update for the July meeting to include the plan for the site, whether a new funding application will be made and whether a fence will be installed.
- 9.2.2 Referred to the Low Cost Safety Scheme on the L5602-17 & L1604-38 Rathbran Junction not having received national funding and the request by residents that two additional signs and sets of road markings be provided to create a four-way junction.
- 9.2.3 Referred to the need for a footpath in Lobinstown to the school.
- 9.2.4 Requested that the commercial rates arising from the data centre on Donore Road, Drogheda be retained in that area.
- 9.3 Councillor Elaine McGinty raised the following issues:
- 9.3.1 Requested further information on the water and power usage and other impacts of the data centre on the Donore Road, Drogheda and also that the community benefit from such a development – it was pointed out that the planning process in respect of this application has been completed and all related issues would have been considered. Corporate social responsibility will likely lead to community benefits.
- 9.4 Councillor Sharon Tolan raised the following issues:
- 9.4.1 Requested that the Part 8 report for the footpath from Donacarney to Bettystown be brought to the July meeting.
- 9.4.2 Requested that additional measures be used to deter illegal parking on the Golf Links Road, e.g. stickers on cars and large signs.



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- 9.4.3 Requested that consideration be given to installing a safety rail on the corner outside the new coffee shop in Laytown.
- 9.4.4 Referred to issues being experienced by residents in Wellesley Manor and Whitefield Hall arising from construction works nearby, including dust, noise and impacts of groundworks, and requested that the Council seek information on the timeline to completion.
- 9.5 Fiona Lawless raised the following issue:
- 9.5.1 Provided an update on the process undertaken to date with regard to the naming of the Spine Road and outlined the appropriate suggested names submitted. It was agreed that councillors would submit their suggestions in the coming days and all appropriate options would then be put forward on social media for a poll.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed:

Cathaoirleach