



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

Ratoath Municipal District

Ordinary Meeting

9:30a.m., 4th October 2017, Dunshaughlin Civic Offices

An Cathaoirleach, **Councillor Damien O'Reilly**, presided.

Councillors Present: Brian Fitzgerald, Nick Killian, Maria Murphy, Gerry O'Connor, Gillian Toole.

Apologies: Councillor Maria O'Kane.

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 13th September, 2017.

The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 13th September, 2017 were adopted on the proposal of **Councillor Maria Murphy** and seconded by **Councillor Gerry O'Connor**.

2 Matters arising from the Minutes

Councillor Gerry O'Connor requested that an amendment be made under Item 5.1.1 reflecting that the AECOM report had been submitted to the NTA and TII for comment rather than the Department of Transport and this was agreed.

Councillor Nick Killian referred to the need to discuss the works ongoing on the Ratoath Inner Relief Road – it was agreed that an on-site meeting could be arranged and that this would be discussed further later in the meeting.



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Councillor Brian Fitzgerald referred to the capital works planned for Batterstown and Dunsany – it was agreed that an update on the capital programme would be provided at a Special Meeting to be arranged (see Item 8.1.2).

Councillor Brian Fitzgerald referred to the need to progress the Part VIII for Kilcock – it was confirmed that discussions were ongoing with Kildare County Council.

3 Expressions of Sympathy and Congratulations

Sympathy was extended to:

- Philip Traynor on the death of his father, Jim;
- The family of the late PJ Moran, Ratoath, former Deputy Commissioner, An Garda Síochána and active participant in roles relating to primary and secondary education in Ratoath;
- The family of the late Jimmy Walsh, Drumree, former County Meath footballer.

Congratulations were extended to:

- The organisers of Dunshaughlin Harvest Festival;
- Meath Camogie team on winning the All-Ireland Final, particularly those from Ratoath Municipal District;
- The organisers of Dunshaughlin Culture Night;
- Meath Land Commission Heritage Group on their information day;
- Fionn Foley, Lagore on winning a Dublin Fringe Festival award;
- Members of Ratoath BMX Club on being selected to represent Ireland in Switzerland;
- Kiltale Hurling & Camogie Club on winning four in a row;



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- Dunboyne Motor Club on organising the Spirit of Dunboyne;
- All local committees involved in the national Tidy Towns Competition;
- Sam Pidgeon, Ratoath on winning a gold medal in karate.

4 To meet with the representative from Bus Éireann in respect of service improvement in the area.

John Sheridan, Media & Public Relations, Bus Éireann attended the meeting and acknowledged the issues that had arisen since the introduction of the new services in the last three weeks. On behalf of Bus Éireann, he apologised to passengers that had been affected by the difficulties that had arisen but pointed out that, following the introduction of measures to mitigate the issues encountered, services had gradually improved and, today, all services were running to schedule. The planned service improvements on the 109, 109X, 109A, 109B and NX were outlined. These had followed public engagement and a communications strategy had been implemented prior to the launch. Some of the reasons behind the issues in the launch of the new service improvements were outlined as were the measures being employed to address these.

Matters raised by Councillors included:

- Acknowledged the difficulties in introducing the new schedules.
- Emphasised the need for greater connectivity with other transport providers including Irish Rail and Dublin Bus and, in particular, connecting with the M3 Parkway – the points made were acknowledged and the increased ticketing flexibility was referenced.
- The need for a bus stop at Killeen Castle – it was agreed to check this and whether the demand would justify a stop at this location.
- The need for an official bus stop at Harlockstown.
- The need for reliability for those using bus services – it was pointed out that all services are monitored live from a central control centre, regarding any early, late or non-arrivals.



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- Buses using the Drumree Road, Dunshaughlin – it was agreed to check this route change.
- Wheelchair accessibility, the hiring of non-accessible coaches and inaccessible bus stops – the reasons for advance booking were outlined.
- The removal of the Ballivor to Summerhill to Dunboyne route.
- The need to consider the deployment of double deckers to the routes that most require them.
- The need for driver training regarding fares – it was confirmed that drivers do receive such training.
- Issues with accessing school bus services – the scheme was outlined.
- Issues with bus stops in Ratoath – it was suggested that a representative from Bus Éireann visit Ratoath to see the issues first hand.
- A public meeting is being arranged by the East Meath & North Dublin Bus Users Group for 12th October and Councillors requested information in advance to deal with queries arising.

The Cathaoirleach and Councillors thanked John for attending and for the information provided and requested that he attend a future meeting to provide an update on the service improvements.

5 To receive a presentation from Dunshaughlin Youths F.C. in relation to their proposed club facility in Dunshaughlin.

Dara McGowan, Senior Executive Officer, Corporate Services outlined the background to the proposal and the process to be followed, including the presentation of the S183 at the November meeting.

Oliver McKenna delivered a presentation on behalf of Dunshaughlin Youths FC, which outlined the current situation and status, the key point relating to the proposed lease, the background to the club and the next steps.



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The Cathaoirleach and Councillors thanked Oliver for the presentation, acknowledged the need to progress this initiative, the role of the late John O'Meara in the club's development and the collaboration with the Athletics Club, whose needs were also acknowledged. They wished both clubs well with their future plans.

6 Disposal of Land pursuant to the provisions of Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001

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

7 Planning Matters

The planning list, circulated in advance, was noted.

Reference was made to the need to improve the junction at Glascarn Lane as the population density and traffic volumes were likely to increase.

8 Statutory Business

8.1 Transportation

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

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

- The removal of the double yellow lines at the Old Stand, Ratoath – it was confirmed that these would be replaced.
- The level of outdoor staffing in Ratoath Municipal District compared to other municipal districts and the need to consider both rural and urban needs – it was pointed out that staffing levels in Ratoath Municipal District had increased, remained a priority and would be considered in light of the forthcoming budget deliberations. The role of voluntary groups in this and other municipal districts was acknowledged.



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- The possibility of installing CCTV on the riverwalk in Ratoath and cut the grass at the junction of Glascarn Lane and Kilbride Road to deter illegal dumping.
- The need to review the permanent status of the junction at Avoca and remove the temporary bollards and sandbags.
- The possibility of undertaking the works on the Fairyhouse Road after hours to avoid disruptions – it was confirmed that these would take place between 9.30am and 4.30pm during the school break.
- The allocation of LIS funds – the scheme was outlined and it was agreed to undertake a survey of lanes in each municipal district that are not taken in charge to inform future schemes if they are made available. It was highlighted that Ratoath Municipal District did benefit from NTA funding that was not made available in other municipal districts.

Pat Shore, Assistant Engineer, Planning Department attended the meeting and confirmed that the works in Ratoath were due to conclude by 20th October. A short discussion followed on the standard of works, concerns of residents and the need to encourage cycling as an acceptable means of transport. Councillor thanked Pat for his work on the project and it was agreed that Pat would meet Councillors on site to discuss any other issues arising.

It was agreed on the proposal of **Councillor Damien O'Reilly** and seconded by **Councillor Maria Murphy** to extend the meeting by twenty minutes.

8.1.2 To receive an update on Draft Transportation Study at Dunboyne and Environs.

It was agreed to defer this item to a Special Meeting, date to be agreed.

8.2 Planning

8.2.1 To consider taking in charge of the following and the making of a declaration that the roads within the developments shall be public roads in accordance with Section 11 Roads Act 1993 and the Planning & Development Acts 2000-2017.



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- Kilmessan Village housing estate, Kilmessan

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

- Marble Hall housing estate, Dunshaughlin

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

8.3 Corporate Services

- 8.3.1 To consider a Town Twinning Initiative.

It was agreed to consider this at the Special Meeting to be arranged.

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

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

9 Strategic Policy Committee Reports – For Information Purposes

- 9.1 To note the report from the Environment and Emergency SPC meeting of 27th September 2017.

The report was noted.

- 9.2 To note the report from the Planning, Economic Development and Enterprise SPC meeting of 27th September 2017.

The report was noted.

10 Notice of Question

There were no Notices of Question.



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11 Notice of Motion

11.1 Submitted by Councillor Damien O'Reilly

“To write to the Minister for Transport requesting his Department to begin the public consultation process for a new Dublin outbound ramp onto the M3 from Fairyhouse / Blackbull roundabout (R154/R155) and new inbound ramp onto the Trim road, R154 from the M3. These ramps will dramatically decrease the time on the morning and evening commute to and from Ratoath, Dunshaughlin, Dunboyne and Trim.”

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Damien O'Reilly** and seconded by **Councillor Gerry O'Connor**.

The motion was adopted.

12 Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

13 Any Other Business

There was no other business.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed: _____

Cathaoirleach