



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

Ratoath Municipal District

Ordinary Meeting

9:30a.m., 11th November 2015, Dunshaughlin Civic Offices

An Cathaoirleach, **Councillor Nick Killian**, presided.

Councillors Present: Brian Fitzgerald, Maria Murphy, Gerry O'Connor, Maria O'Kane, Damien O'Reilly, Gillian Toole.

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 14th October, 2015.

The Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 14th October 2015 were adopted on the proposal of **Councillor Gerry O'Connor** and seconded by **Councillor Maria Murphy**.

1.2 Confirmation of minutes of Special Finance meeting held on 3rd November, 2015.

The Minutes of the Special Finance Meeting held on 3rd November 2015 were adopted on the proposal of **Councillor Gerry O'Connor** and seconded by **Councillor Maria Murphy**.

2 Matters arising from the Minutes

Councillor Gillian Toole pointed out that no traffic survey had been carried out on the Skryne Road and that the presentation delivered by Halcrow Barry did not provide information on the provision made by Meath County Council for the service area – it was pointed out that the



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County Development Plan did provide for service areas and that the process was just commencing.

Councillor Nick Killian referred to recent media coverage on Riverwalk Court – Des Foley confirmed that a draft report had been prepared by the Fire Services Department and, based on legal advice, had been circulated to the relevant parties, whose views had been sought prior to deciding on the next course of action, which may include invoking the relevant statutory processes, and it was intended to inform all relevant parties of any decisions taken as soon as possible.

3 Expressions of Sympathy and Congratulations

Congratulations were extended to:

- All involved in the recent Pride of Place awards held in Ratoath Municipal District.
- Paddy Maher, Dunshaughlin A.C. for his success at the Leinster Cross Country Championship.

4 Planning Matters

There were no matters arising.

5 Statutory Business

5.1 Transportation

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

The report had been circulated in advance and additional information provided on works ongoing. Matters raised by Councillors included:

- The need for road markings on the Tesco to Skryne roundabout at Woodlands.



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- The defective light at the compound in Hillview – it was agreed to refer this to the Public Lighting Unit.
- The need to consult with businesses and the Chamber of Commerce when the watermain works are being carried out in Ratoath, scheduled for approximately Q2 2016.

Councillors thanked Philip and his team for the works undertaken in the Municipal District to date.

5.1.2 To receive an update on the Traffic Survey on the L-1007.

Information had been circulated in advance.

Councillors requested that this matter be deferred to the December meeting and that Transportation be requested to carry out a similar survey on the Skryne Road as well as presenting the results of the survey carried out some years ago.

5.1.3 To receive a drawing of a proposed pedestrian crossing and ramp at Jamestown, Ratoath.

The information, circulated in advance, was noted.

5.2 Environment

5.2.1 To receive an update on Dunboyne Graveyard.

Larry Whelan and Caroline Corrigan attended the meeting and outlined the information circulated in advance. It was confirmed that the urgency of the need for a burial ground was acknowledged, every effort being made to identify a suitable location and the area being considered was now being widened.

Councillors requested that the land adjacent to the existing graveyard be reconsidered and surveys undertaken to identify the possible solutions for the drainage issues at this location – it was confirmed that this would be done. It was agreed that an update would be provided at the February 2016 meeting.



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6 Notice of Question

6.1 Submitted by Councillor Maria Murphy

“Please advise who is responsible for cleaning the area in the vicinity of the Bring Banks at the GAA car park, Rooske Road, Dunboyne?”

Response:

The operations of the Councils three Civic Amenity Sites as well as the bottle and clothes banks at various locations around the County including Dunboyne are the subject of a contract with Oxigen and while such contract provides for general upkeep any tidying up around the banks by the Contractor, the responsibility for removal of large items indiscriminately dumped at such locations rests with Meath County Council. This area was previously the subject of indiscriminate dumping and necessitating the putting in place of CCTV Cameras on a temporary basis and resulting in follow up action being taken. The area was recently cleaned up and will be monitored closely and if necessary, consideration will be given to further use of CCTV to deter offenders.

The response was noted.

6.2 Submitted by Councillor Damian O'Reilly

“Does the Heritage Department plan to review Rodanstown Church remains and/or undertake any maintenance work to the Church?”

Response:

The Heritage Department has no budget for works of this nature. The care of Graveyards is in charge of the Environment Department. While Environment have made a budgetary provision for certain repair works in burial grounds, this would generally be to cover situations where falling masonry or minor repair works to walls etc would be involved and not requiring expenditure of any significant amounts. The graveyard at Rodanstown will be added to the list of sites to be investigated and assessed.

The response was noted.



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7 Notice of Motion

7.1 Submitted by Councillor Maria Murphy

“We call on the Council to review the practice of creating water cuts which they undertake in the area every year to improve surface water drainage on our rural roads. This work was formerly completed manually by Council staff using manual tools. However in recent years the Council has contracted diggers to create the water cuts. The work undertaken using diggers is excessive and this results in damage to the grass verges. Large tracks are created and the excess soil is then dumped on the bank creating a hazard. I have received complaints from residents living across my area from Warrenstown to Jarretstown to Dolanstown where grass verges are well maintained by landowners and residents.”

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

Water cuts are necessary for proper road maintenance. Work practices have developed over the years to reduce manual handling and the risks associated with same. In this instance Meath County Council, if not already doing so, will provide more user friendly water cuts in maintaining verges.

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Maria Murphy** and seconded by **Councillor Gillian Toole**.

The motion was adopted.

7.2 Submitted by Councillor Damien O'Reilly

“That Meath County Council provides a progress report and estimated completion date for the realignment of the Mullagh Cross and, in the meantime, provides the cost of moving the ESB/Eir poles and removing hedges/ trees at the junction.”

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



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Meath County Council has endeavoured to secure funding for the R156 Jenkinstown to Mullagh Cross Improvement scheme. The Council has not been successful to date and there is currently no funding available to progress this scheme.

The R156 Jenkinstown to Mullagh Cross Improvement scheme, as referred to above, provides for a staggered road layout to alleviate the problems which currently occur at this junction. If the scheme got the go ahead, this would probably eliminate the need to remove the poles and hedges at the junction. The Council would have to incur costs to provide a costing for the removal of the poles and hedges/trees at the junction and as indicated above, we do not currently have any funding for this scheme.

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Damien O'Reilly** and seconded by **Councillor Maria Murphy**.

A short discussion followed on the issues affecting this junction and the possibilities to introduce short-term solution until adequate funding is allocated to implement the planned scheme. It was agreed that the Transportation Department would again be consulted.

The motion was adopted.

8 Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

9 Any Other Business

9.1 Festive Lighting Allocations 2015

9.1.1 It was agreed to make five allocations of €200 to each of the following towns: Clonee, Dunboyne, Dunshaughlin, Kilmessan and Ratoath.

9.2 Councillor Damien O'Reilly raised the following issues:

9.2.1 The need to ensure the bus shelters in Bracetown were in the right locations.

9.2.2 The need to prioritise the road and signage in the estates in Clonee that have



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supported the Facebook development – it was pointed out that this should be considered in the 2016 Schedule of Municipal District Works.

9.3 Councillor Maria Murphy raised the following issue:

9.3.1 The possibility of composting the leaves collected and offering it to the community.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed:

Cathaoirleach