



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

Ratoath Municipal District

Ordinary Meeting

9:30a.m., 15th November 2017, Dunshaughlin Civic Offices

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

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

Officials in Attendance:

Director of Service: Kevin Stewart

Executive Engineer: Philip Traynor

Staff Officer: Triona Keating

Clerical Officer: Edita Zolotuchina

Apologies: Des Foley, Director of Service, Claire King, Meetings Administrator

1 Confirmation of Minutes

1.1 Confirmation of minutes of Ordinary Meeting held on 4th October, 2017.

The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 4th October, 2017 were adopted on the proposal of **Councillor Gerry O'Connor** and seconded by **Councillor Nick Killian**.

1.2 Confirmation of minutes of Special Meeting held on 18th October, 2017.

The minutes of the Special Meeting held on 18th October, 2017 were adopted on the proposal of **Councillor Nick Killian** and seconded by **Councillor Gerry O'Connor**.

1.3 Confirmation of minutes of Special Finance Meeting held on 2nd November, 2017.

The minutes of the Special Finance Meeting held on 2nd November, 2017 were adopted on the proposal of **Councillor Gerry O'Connor** and seconded by **Councillor Nick Killian**.



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

2 Matters arising from the Minutes

Councillor Gillian Toole referred to the minutes of the Ordinary meeting held on the 11th October and a request for a meeting with the NTA. Kevin Stewart advised that correspondence had been received from the NTA offering a meeting at 3.00p.m. on the 30th November in their offices. This will be a joint meeting between Ashbourne and Ratoath Municipal District Councillors to discuss bus services in the Ratoath/Ashbourne areas.

Councillor Gillian Toole referred to the Special meeting held on the 18th October and to the Capital Programme where it was indicated that Atkins may be able to come up with incentives for the use of cycleways in Ratoath and asked if there was any information available.

Councillor Gillian Toole referred to the minutes of the Special Budget meeting held on the 2nd November where no reference was made to Ratoath Community Centre and the argument she made for Ratoath to be considered for funding.

3 Expressions of Sympathy and Congratulations

Congratulations were extended to:

- Hillview Estate on becoming joint winners of the County Pride of Place;
- Dunboyne Ladies Football on reaching the semi final of the Club Championships;
- Ratoath Minors on winning the County Championships.
- Cumann Luthchleas Gael, Ratoath underage football teams and the three different ages of categories who won through at County Level.
- Special Community Employment Scheme in Navan of which two participants on the scheme are from Ratoath Municipal District on winning a Special Pride of Place Award for their garden.

4 Planning Matters

The planning list, circulated in advance, was noted. The following items were discussed:-



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

- It was noted that Lidl received approval for Dunshaughlin which was welcome for the town.
- Facebook are proceeding with Phase 2 of their development.
- Shire obtained planning permission for redesigned buildings and commencement is proceeding.
- Reference was made to the County Development Plan and to whether or not the National Framework and the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategies (RSES) which are being prepared by the Regional Assembly's would cause delay in proceeding with the Draft Development Plan process. Direction may be given by the Department to put the Draft Development Plan process on hold pending the RSES.
- Supervalu obtained approval from An Bord Pleanála for a Supermarket in Dunboyne. There was a housing element in the original planning application for this site as a mixed use site which would be great to see it progressed as soon as possible.
- The need to have the road in the Business Park in Dunboyne taken in charge as soon as possible in order to progress the road further.
- Planning permission for a housing development at the roundabout in Dunshaughlin on both sides of the road is due to commence. It was suggested that a footpath be erected as part of this planning as a lot of people are using the area for walking which has no public lighting from the Water Tower down to the Drumree Road.
- A hard copy of the Council's submission on the National Planning Framework was requested – it was agreed to circulate same.
- Requested an update on the Dunboyne Clonee Flood Relief Study and whether it had been finalised.
- Requested monthly updates going forward from January on the Outer Ring Road in Ratoath in respect of tendering etc.

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



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

- 5.1 This was agreed on the proposal of **Councillor Gerry O'Connor** and seconded by **Councillor Gillian Toole**.

6 Statutory Business

6.1 Transportation

- 6.1.1 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 urgent need for footpath and public lighting along the road at Mai Foley's. An update will be provided for the December Meeting.
- Thanked all the staff for the work done during Storm Ophelia.
- Requested an update on the repaving works in Dunboyne – it was confirmed that the delay was due to the supply in paving and a meeting is arranged with the Contractor later in the week for recommencement of the work.
- The need for a tree on the well road to be cut down.
- Traffic calming required at Glascairn Lane following the removal of speed bars. An update was requested on Solar Signs at Glascairn.
- The need for a 3m strip to be resurfaced at the lights at Tesco on the Fairyhouse Road.
- Thanked Meath County Council and the OPW for the works carried out at Riverwalk.
- Requested an update on the Knox Road – it was confirmed that these works would be carried out in the coming week.



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

- Asked that margins on rural roads in particular Rackinstown and Wilkinstown be looked at.
- Left turning at Avoca and when the permanent solution would be installed at that location.
- The need for cats eyes on the Fairyhouse Road.
- Responsibility for leaves on footpaths – it was confirmed that once they were in the public domain they are the responsibility of the Council.
- Concern was expressed for dangerous trees along the public road and the need to highlight these to landowners.
- The Inner Relief Road in Ratoath – issues remain with the wall, ramps, speeding, line markings, cycle lanes and encouraging students to use them – It was confirmed that a snag list will be prepared and gone through with the Contractor. Additional items, such as railings, are not part of the snag list but will be done separately. There is also a defects period whereby the Council hold money back in case of defects. A safety audit of the scheme will be carried out which will generate a list of works to be carried out, in which case a Contractor will be appointed to carry out these works.

6.1.2 To receive an update on safety works on the Maynooth Road, Dunboyne.

Nicholas Whyatt, Senior Engineer attended the meeting and referred to three fatalities along the R157 between Dunboyne and Maynooth within a 12 month period. Following these a road safety audit was carried out on the R157 and the issues which arose following same was vehicles poorly tracking bends across the white line and some overtaking where there shouldn't. There is a limit to what can be done in these cases. Roadside hazards, signage and road linings and ways to separate the two streams of traffic were looked at. The Council have gone to tender for a scheme which takes a 3km stretch of the R157 from Offaly bridge up to the roundabout at Dunboyne. This scheme will rationalise signs and warning signs and make them more visible which conveys dangers of the road. This will incorporate chevrons, replacing old and worn signs, white lining



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

and resurfacing. It is expected that Contractors will be on site in January to carry out these works. There are two particular areas of poor visibility between the bog road and Dunboyne roundabout. One of the landowners has agreed for Meath County Council to remove vegetation and setback the boundary which will increase sight lines for drivers and houses adjacent to it. A meeting is arranged with the Hamlets to discuss doing similar with their hedge. A meeting is also arranged with Kildare County Council to discuss the R157 and the Maynooth and Kilcock Environs and what their plans are.

6.1.3 To receive a presentation on R147 between Blackbull and Pace.

Nicholas Whyatt, Senior Engineer referred to the Special Meeting held on the N3 Transportation Study and in particular the signalisation of the Blackbull and Pace roundabout and the concern raised around it. Shane Donny from Aecom presented a model tool to show how a signalised junction would work.

Before this can be developed further a transport study has to be agreed with the NTA and TII. It was outlined that the Chief Executive and Des Foley are committed to this and are looking for a meeting with the NTA and TII at the earliest opportunity.

Matters raised by Councillors included:-

- Asked if consideration was taken of traffic at Junction 6 coming from Dunshaughlin. There will be 1,400 houses built in Dunshaughlin in a short space of time, taking 2 cars per house is nearly 3,000 extra cars avoiding the toll – It was confirmed that growth all around Meath was assumed in the model as per the Local Area Plans.
- The R147 and the old Navan Road is now getting busier due to toll avoidance.
- In order to solve the traffic in Ratoath a new road that links onto the N2 is needed.
- The need to look at the wider issues of Ratoath. Traffic from the 9 mile stone into Ratoath and the Skryne and Kilbride roads are extremely



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

busy during peak times.

- An efficient bus service from the M3 Parkway to Dublin is needed to take cars off the road.
- The need for traffic lights on the M3 roundabout.
- Fundamental to this working is driver behaviour and misbehaviour but needs to be in conjunction with addressing the toll at the Blackbull and public transport.
- The need for a rail in Dunshaughlin.
- Concern was expressed in the delay in completing this assessment and reaching agreement with the TII. There are planning applications waiting to be put through pending this report and the economic development of the area is being held up.
- It was proposed by Cllr Brian Fitzgerald and seconded by Cllr Nick Killian that a motion be put forward for the December Full Council meeting to remove the toll for a period and assess the flow of traffic on the R147 during that period.

6.1.4 To consider the draft 'Drumree Road, Dunshaughlin Heavy Goods Vehicles (HGVs) Traffic Restriction Bye Law'.

This was approved on the proposal of Councillor Gerry O'Connor and seconded by Cllr Brian Fitzgerald.

It was agreed that a copy of the Public Notice would be emailed to each Councillor

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

6.2 Corporate Services



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

6.2.1 To consider a Town Twinning Initiative.

Audrey Norris, Senior Staff Officer, Corporate Services attended the meeting and outlined that they had been approached by a lady seeking a twinning with their town Garenne-Colombes in France. Comparisons were made between this town and Ratoath Municipal District and it was agreed that this town be explored further parallel with previous proposals submitted.

It was requested that Carey be included on our website for twinning.

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

The list of allocations, circulated in advance, was noted. Councillors were reminded of the 30th November deadline to submit allocations and deferral forms.

7 Notice of Question

There were no Notices of Question.

8 Notice of Motion

8.1 Submitted by Councillor Damien O'Reilly

"I call on Meath County Council to install 'Welcome to County Meath' signage at the 3 bridges in Kilcock that you cross over the river Rye into County Meath and on the Maynooth Road at Carton estate."

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

Meath County Council's Transportation Department have identified a number of locations on the Regional and Local Primary roads network around the county where the provision of a county boundary sign, along with an Ireland's Ancient East supplementary plate, could be installed, subject to available funding. As part of this



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

review, an on-site assessment was undertaken at these locations, which considered the available room within the existing road verge to safely erect the county boundary signage in accordance with the DTTAS Traffic Signs Manual. The 4 roads which cross between Co. Kildare and Co. Meath in this Notice of Motion are the R125, R157, R158 and the L-6211.

- The R158 at Kilcock and the R157 Maynooth road have been included within this provisional list and signage will be provided subject to available funding.
- The R125 at Kilcock has not been included at this time due to the limited verge width at the county boundary in this location.
- As this review focused on the Regional and Local Primary roads, the L-6211 Local Secondary Road was not included.

If funding becomes available for a larger scheme, it may be feasible to examine some of the Local Secondary Network (including the L-6211) at a later date.

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

The motion was adopted.

It was requested that the bridge at Milnerstown Development also be included.

9 Strategic Policy Committee Reports – For Information Purposes

- 9.1 To note the report from the Housing, Community and Cultural Development SPC meeting of 5th October, 2017.

The report was noted.

- 9.2 To note the report from the Transportation SPC meeting of 18th October, 2017.

The report was noted.



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

- 9.3 To note the report from the Planning, Economic Development and Enterprise SPC meeting of 25th October, 2017.

The report was noted.

10 Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

11 Any Other Business

11.1 Councillor Nick Killian raised the following issue:

- 11.1.1 Requested a report and update for the January meeting on lands designated and funding allocated for housing in Dunshaughlin.
- 11.1.2 Referred to the 10 sites to be allocated to the community and requested that it be agreed with Councillors as to how these are going to be allocated in advance.

11.2 Councillor Gerry O'Connor raised the following issue:

- 11.2.1 Requested an update on traffic calming and safety measures at Hillview and Grangehall.
- 11.2.2 Requested an update in relation to discussions on the taking in charge at Tara News.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed:

Cathaoirleach