



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

Ratoath Municipal District

Ordinary Meeting

11:00am, 10th December 2014, Dunshaughlin Civic Offices

An Cathaoirleach, **Councillor Gerry O'Connor**, presided.

Councillors Present: Brian Fitzgerald, Nick Killian, Maria Murphy, Gillian Toole.

Apologies: Councillors Maria O'Kane, Damien O'Reilly.

Officials in Attendance:

A/Director of Service: Joe Fahy

Meetings Administrator: Claire King

Administrative Officer: Paul Monahan

Senior Executive Engineer: Adrian Hobbs

Staff Officer: Triona Keating

Assistant Staff Officer: Rose McManus

1 Confirmation of Minutes

1.1 Confirmation of minutes of Ordinary meeting held on 12th November 2014.

The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 12th November 2014 were adopted on the proposal of **Councillor Nick Killian** and seconded by **Councillor Maria Murphy**.

2 Matters arising from the Minutes

There were no matters arising.

3 Expressions of Sympathy and Congratulations

Congratulations were extended to:

- Michael Finnegan, Meath County Council's Road Safety Officer, who won the 2014 national 'Road Safety Officer' Award and Garda Ashling Connor and Ratoath Senior National School who were joint winners of the 'Emergency Services' Award'.



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- Ratoath Under 21s and Dunboyne Ladies GFC on their recent wins.

4 Statutory Business

4.1 Finance

- 4.1.1 To agree the allocation of the Festive Lighting fund for Ratoath Municipal District.

After a short discussion, it was agreed to make the following Christmas Festival Contributions:

- Clonee - €200
- Dunboyne - €200
- Dunshaughlin - €200
- Kilmessan - €200
- Ratoath - €200

It was also agreed that further research would be undertaken in advance of deciding how the 2015 allocation would be made.

5 Notice of Question

5.1 Submitted by Councillor Maria Murphy

“Now that the Council is purchasing a machine to suck out and clean the gullies, will the Ratoath Municipal District be drafting a maintenance schedule to clean all the gullies in the area?”

A response was provided by Transportation Section, as follows:

The Overseers and Area Engineers have traditionally arranged for the cleaning of gullies as required in the areas. The opportunity presented by the purchase of a Jetvac machine should assist with the drawing up of a revised maintenance schedule in this regard.

Councillor Murphy sought clarification on whether the revised maintenance schedule referred to in the response would include housing estates. Joe Fahy confirmed that this would be considered and that the new equipment would have a dedicated, trained



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crew, allowing for a planned approach to drainage maintenance. He also confirmed that 6 additional outdoor staff is to be recruited for the south of the county.

6 Notice of Motion

6.1 Submitted by Councillor Maria Murphy

“We call on the Ratoath Municipal District to arrange for the sewer lines in the centre of Dunboyne Village to be cleaned out (in particular from the junction at the traffic lights to Eurospar). We have previously discussed issues with sewers overflowing during bad weather. The situation has now escalated with complaints from businesses about foul odours coming from the sinks in their premises. This is affecting their business with clients.”

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Maria Murphy** and seconded by **Councillor Nick Killian**.

Supporting information was provided by Environment and Water Services Section, as follows:

The waste water infrastructure in Dunboyne is monitored on an ongoing basis and will be cleaned out as part of planned maintenance as required.

Councillor Murphy outlined the issues being experienced and the possible solutions as identified by Meath County Council staff, including the cleaning of the line, the installation of a flap and the installation of a new pipe. A discussion followed regarding the responsibility for such issues and it was agreed that this motion would be forwarded to the Water Services Section of Meath County Council and Irish Water.

The motion was adopted.

7 Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

8 Any Other Business

8.1 Request from Councillor Damien O'Reilly to invite Dunboyne 1916 Monument Committee to address a future meeting of Ratoath Municipal District.

Councillor Maria Murphy confirmed that the committee wishes to erect a monument at the side of the old school in Dunboyne. Adrian Hobbs agreed to check with Land



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Registry to confirm whether this site was in public or private ownership. The committee was also advised to seek a pre-planning meeting and once all information was available, the committee would be invited to present to a meeting of Ratoath Municipal District.

8.2 Joe Fahy highlighted the following matters:

- John McGrath, Senior Engineer, has been appointed to oversee the new operational structure being implemented in January. He will attend the January meeting of Ratoath Municipal District. John will be supported by a team of 3 Senior Executive Engineers centrally and six District Engineers operating at Municipal District level.
- A decision was required as to where to locate Turner's Bridge in Dunboyne and St. Peter's Dunboyne had expressed an interest in it if no alternative location was identified. The issue of accessibility was raised if located at St. Peter's and also the cost of maintenance. It was agreed that it would be better suited to the crossing at Dunboyne Park.
- He confirmed that this was Adrian Hobbs's last meeting prior to his move to Procurement in January. The Cathaoirleach and Councillors thanked Adrian for his work in Ratoath Municipal District, and Dunshaughlin Electoral Area, and wished him well in his new role.

8.3 Councillor Gerry O'Connor raised the following issues:

- The installation and six week trial of 8 new litter bins – supplied by Kyron, Dunshaughlin - on Main Street, Ashbourne to replace the existing bins. These solar powered bins provide 8 times the capacity of normal bins, are secure and also have a capability (but not installed in the trial bins) for a number of additional functionalities such as wifi and electronic signage. It was confirmed that, following the trial period, a full review and cost analysis will be undertaken and, if the initiative is to be expanded, a full tendering process will apply. It was suggested that a further trial could be undertaken in Ratoath. It was also suggested that the traditional bins being removed could be used to replace broken bins in other areas.
- Section 11 for Tara Mews – It was confirmed that this was being progressed and a number of related issues were to be addressed.
- The installation of new signs at Mullagh Cross.
- Request for an update on the Drumree Road.
- The installation of a yellow box at the Health Centre.



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- The potential for residents to install parking bays at the green area at Ardleigh – it was advised that residents consult both the Planning and Transportation Sections.
- The extension of fencing at the new bus stop at Grange Hall.
- The lights at the County Club.

8.4 Councillor Brian Fitzgerald raised the following issues:

- The need for winter gritting in Kilmessan and on the R125 from junction on Trim Road, Dunshaughlin to Kilcock.
- The need for a camera to be used to investigate damaged water pipes from Batterstown Church to the Tolka River – Adrian Hobbs agreed to check this.

8.5 Councillor Nick Killian raised the following issues:

- The funding available and completion of the Part VIII for the junction in Ratoath – Adrian Hobbs pointed out that there were a lot of parties involved and that there was a possibility of a bus hub being installed.
- Wheelchair accessibility from Steeple Chase to Ratoath village.
- The provision of a footpath from Nine Mile Stone to Harlockstown – Adrian Hobbs pointed out that the NTA were unlikely to fund a footpath of this length in a rural location and that local resources would need to be found, perhaps on a gradual basis.
- The installation of flashing speed signs at Baltrasna.
- Flooding at Tony Derbys and on the Kilbride Road – Adrian Hobbs agreed to look into this.
- Allocation of funding for the study on Dunboyne Burial Ground – it was agreed to refer this to the Environment Section.
- A vacant housing unit in Hill View – Joe Fahy agreed to check its likely availability.

8.6 Councillor Maria Murphy raised the following issues:

- The need for the bank of the River Tolka to be cleaned – Adrian Hobbs pointed out that a maintenance allocation was required.
- Speeding at the Newtown roundabout on the Summerhill Road and the need for repeater speed limit signage.



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- Illegal dumping at the Bring Bank at Dunboyne GAA.
- Road safety at Kilcloon NS and the possibility of filling in the ditch to allow for off-road parking – Adrian Hobbs agreed to refer this to Philip Traynor and its impact on drainage.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed:

Cathaoirleach