



***Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes  
County Meath Joint Policing Committee***

***8<sup>th</sup> March 2021 over Zoom in Navan***

**In Attendance:**

**Chairperson:** Cllr Maria Murphy

**County Council Members:** Francis Deane, Gillian Toole, Noel French, Tom Behan, Paul McCabe, Trevor Golden ,Yemi Adenuga, Alan Tobin, Pdraig Fitzsimons,David Gilroy

**Oireachtas Members:** Dep Darren O Rourke, Dep Peadar Toibin Cllr Elaine McGinty as obs for Sen Annie Hoey, Dep Johnny Guirke ,Sen Shane Cassells.

**An Garda Síochána:** Chief Superintendent Fergus Healy

**County Council Officials:** Barry Lynch, Fiona Fallon

**Community & Voluntary Sector:** Conor O Leary, John Tobin, Ronnie Owens, Tinu Achioya

**Co-ordinator:** Eugene Farrelly SSO

**Apologies:** Min D English , Min H McEntee, Min T Byrne, Sen R Doherty , Cllr A Tobin, Cllr A O'Neill, , B Comerford, J Maguire

Item	Discussion / Action
1.	<b><u>Confirmation of Minute of Meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> December 2020</u></b> The Minutes of the meeting were adopted on the proposal of Cllr Noel French seconded by Cllr Fran Deane



**2. Matters arising and Correspondence**

Barry Lynch addressed the matter of the Text Alert Systems from Komeer and See Something Say Something and informed that the two systems were still under review which will largely be based on economy and effectiveness of such a system -from an initial look it appears that the Komeer one would cost up to 80,000 annually, whereas the SSSS one would cost about 30,000 if ran across 6 towns with additional cost of 50cent per text sent to the number. Cllr Tobin commented that the additional functionality of the Komeer phone app was far superior to the SSSS text scheme which purely is text based .Cllr McGinty informed that the SSSS in Tralee was quite effective in controlling incidents of ASB where there is a large transient population of tourists who may report issues when out sightseeing. Cllr Toole informed that as per the September 20 meeting she was still open to piloting the Komeer App in Ratoath MD and if other councillors were willing to volunteer some of their discretionary money the 80k could easily be found .

**3. To receive an update on the CCTV Extension in Navan**

Fiona Fallon gave a verbal update on the scheme informing that the scope of the cctv was now extended to be included in the Navan 2030civil works with the main arterial routes into Navan to be covered in addition to Johnstown and under consideration are the laneways in the center of Navan. This would mean 22 for central Navan and a further 7 for Johnstown including the existing 8 cameras .FF informed that once the JPC agreed with this proposal and an amended letter submitted to Garda Headquarters the Part 8 Planning Process could commence .Cathaoirleach thanked Fiona for her presentation and opened it to the floor for comments.

**The JPC Agreed to progress as stated on the proposal of Alan Tobin seconded by Frances Deane with quarterly updates to each JPC Meeting and a list of the locations of same provided to the full Committee.**

**Councillors raised the issue of seeking cctv in other locations such as Ashbourne ,Trim ,Kells ,Athboy Ratoath ,Laytown-Bettystown etc and some felt that a schedule of towns should be included in the CCTV Policy so that it would be known in advance the order in which cctv could be installed .Fiona informed that proposals for cctv should initially come to the CCTV Steering Committee so that garda crime statistics may be examined and agreed and as needed by AGS. It was generally agreed that any new cameras proposed should integrate fully with the garda systems already in place and be GDPR Compliant from the start.**

**4. To Receive a Presentation on CRW18 of 2020 LA Collision Reporting.**

Michael Finnegan Road Safety Officer outlined the procedure in place from 2008 for reporting on fatal or near fatal collisions by completing the LA16 Report Form.IT was noted that there was a poor record across the country of completion of same at some 30% therefore the updated electronic system was devised and came into force from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2021 whereby the councils nominated engineer Jody Byrne will liaise following the accident with the investigating garda and complete a site survey with photos measurements etc and report immediately if immediate measures are to be implemented at the road site. Cathaoirleach thanked Michael for his presentation and opened it to the floor for comments:

**Councillors French,Toole,Tobin and Deputy O Rourke commented in a positive manner regarding Co Meath's consistent number of fatalities at 7 for each of the last 3 years and the current zero figure in 2021 to date. Other matters discussed was the 30kph speed limit in estates and the review of the Speed Limit in the County coming up shortly. The Chief Super said he would email Garda HQ regarding the poor return of LA16 forms but noted that Meath has 100% returns on all relevant incidents.**



**5. To Approve the JPC Annual Report 2020.**

Eugene Farrelly gave a short presentation on the content of the Annual Report informing that the content had been discussed at the recent Sub-Committee meetings and all were in favour of proposing same to the main JPC. Cathaoirleach thanked Eugene for the report and sought proposer and seconder from the Committee;

**The Annual Report was approved for submission to the Council and Policing Authority on the proposal of Cllr French seconded by Cllr Golden.**

**6. To receive a Report from AGS on Codid 19 in the County.**

Chief Super Healy informed the Committee that the following statistics apply following the recent introduction of fines under Covid 19 enforcement measures;

Category	Meath
Movement of Persons	272
Movement of Persons Airport/Port	
Movement of Persons not resident in State	4
Face Covering – Certain Premises	7
Face Covering - P.S.V	
Face Covering – Public Transport	
Face Covering – Worker	1
Face Covering – Responsible Person	2
Event in Dwelling - Attendee	6
Event in Dwelling - Organiser	2
Event - Organiser	
<b>Total</b>	<b>*294</b>

He said there was a marked upwards movement in the issueing of fines in the last week when the weather got better and there was more movement of people .He informed that the garda had adjusted their attendance patters over the last year to accommodate the additional requirements in moving to 12 hour 7am to 7 pm workday with 4 days on and 4 days off .He also informed that fines were the last resort following the three Es of Engagement ,Engineer ,and Encourage and also informed that covid related illness had fallen from a peak of 90 to currently 7 staff out on covid illness leave. Cathaoirleach thanked CS Healy for his presentation and wished to pass non her appreciation for the work the garda were doing through the whole Covid 19 period coming up on a year now and opened discussion to the floor.

**Councillor French agreed with the Cathaoirleachs sentiment and wished to pass on his condolences from the Committee to the family of Garda Byrne of Trim Station who had passed on over the weekend. All present wished to be associated with this and a letter to issue stating same to Garda Byrnes family.**



7 To receive a presentation on garda Crime Statistics for Co Meath to December 2020.

**Meath Division Crime Statistics**

Crime category	2020	No of Detections YTD	Diff	% Change	Div Detect Rate
<b>Property crime</b>	<b>2181</b>	<b>571</b>		<b>-18%</b>	<b>-9%</b>
<b>Burglary (non aggravated)</b>	<b>392</b>	<b>67</b>		<b>-30%</b>	<b>16%</b>
<b>Theft from Vehicles</b>	<b>383</b>	<b>53</b>		<b>-24%</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>Theft of Vehicles</b>	<b>155</b>	<b>17</b>		<b>-19%</b>	<b>6%</b>
<b>Theft from Shop</b>	<b>594</b>	<b>291</b>		<b>-6%</b>	<b>-16%</b>
<b>Theft of Other Property</b>	<b>462</b>	<b>94</b>		<b>-20%</b>	<b>-18%</b>
<b>Crimes against the person</b>	<b>575</b>	<b>231</b>		<b>-11%</b>	<b>12%</b>
<b>Drugs ( sale &amp; supply)</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>109</b>		<b>2%</b>	<b>51%</b>
<b>Drugs (possession)</b>	<b>405</b>	<b>370</b>		<b>18%</b>	<b>3%</b>

**Meath Roads Policing**

Category	2020 YTD	2019 YTD	Change	% Change
<b>Fatalities</b>	8	7	+1	+14%
<b>Fatal Collisions</b>	7	7	+0	+0%
<b>Serious injury collisions</b>	44	46	-2	-4%
<b>Minor injury Collisions</b>	93	120	-27	-22.5%
<b>Driving while Intoxicated incidents</b>	318	291	+17	+9%
<b>MIT Checkpoints</b>	1440	576	-864	-60%
<b>Vehicles Seized</b>	1074	1278	-204	-16%

**Community Engagement**

- Community Engagement since onset of Pandemic - focus on assisting vulnerable and isolated members of community.
- Assisting with deliveries of medication, supplies etc. to those needing assistance
- Attendance at Community Events during year, via remote Platforms such as Zoom, Teleconference and Social Media forums.
- Text Alert system in operation.
- Youth Awards Scheme – 2021 Awards took place in Kells on 19<sup>th</sup> October 2020, to be held via Zoom in 2021.



- **Other normal Community Engagement activities e.g. meetings/school visits – adversely impacted during Covid-19 pandemic.**
- **Divisional Facebook page (Meath Crime Prevention) – 41,000 followers**
- **Divisional Instagram Account being piloted – 1,315 followers**
- **Weekly Garda Crime Desk on LMFM Radio reaching circa 35,000 local persons.**

**Resources – Meath Division**

- 350 Sworn Garda Members (All Ranks) ( from 350)
- 131 Ashbourne District (from 131)
- 114 Navan District (from 114)
- 46 Kells District (from 46)
- 59 Trim District (from 59)
- 16 Divisional Roads Policing (*includes 4 seconded trainees*) (from 16)
- 16 Reserve Members (from 12)
- 44 Civilian Support Staff ( from 44)
- 16 Garda Stations (same)

**Cathaoirleach thanked Fergus for his comprehensive presentation and then opened it to the floor for comments or queries on the content of the report.**

**Members who made contributions were:** Cllr Tom Behan, Cllr Noel French, Dep Darren O'Rourke, Dep Peadar Tobin, Cllr Gillian Toole, Cllr McCabe and Ronnie Owens on subjects such as excessive speeding on back roads, drug dealing during Covid and anti-social behaviour at Laytown Bettystown beach area. CS Healy responded to all queries raised to the satisfaction of the Members and informed that a new Inspector is being assigned to the east Meath Area.

**Cathaoirleach thanked Chief Supt Healy for his report and responses to members who were satisfied with the responses received to the matters raised.**

**8. Report from the 3 Sub Committees**

Eugene outlined the content of the report attached to the Agenda where the work of the sub-committees is outlined which was taken as read on the proposal of Cllr Tobin seconded by Cllr French.

**Cathaoirleach acknowledged the work the Sub Committees are undertaking and thanked all for their participation and thanked Eugene for his presentation and work on the Annual Report 2020.**

**9. AOB and next Meeting Date**

- Cllr Behan raised the matter of the new carpark in Laytown being the subject of meetings of youths in cars and doing doughnuts etc and general ASB since it was reopened. **CSH informed that Inspector Valerie Cannon will be receiving this query upon her commencing in that district.**



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Cllr McGinnty raised the matter of the GUERIN Report on Drugs and gang culture in Drogheda and spilling out into East Meath area and that the report may be on the Minister for Justices desk. <b>CSH reported that he had no information on the status of this study .</b></li><li>• Ronnie Owens sought info on if a replacement for Garda Reynolds in Slane is to be appointed. <b>CSH informed that he hoped once Covid 19 was stabilised garda can go back to their primary roles.</b></li></ul> <p><b>Cathaoirleach thanked all for their attendance at the meeting and confirmed that the Garda Stats can be forwarded to the member of the press present at the meeting.</b></p> <p><b>Next JPC Meeting dates confirmed as 24<sup>th</sup> May ,2021</b></p>

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Chairperson

Cllr maria Murphy