



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes
County Meath Joint Policing Committee

14th September 2020 in the Solstice Arts Center Navan

In Attendance:

Chairperson: Cllr Francis Deane

County Council Members: Maria Murphy, Gillian Toole, Noel French, Tom Behan, Yemi Achiola, Paul McCabe, David Gilroy, Trevor Golden.

Oireachtas Members: Dep Darren O Rourke, Dep Peadar Toibin, Dep Johnny Guirke, Senator Sharon Keogan, Senator Shane Cassells,

An Garda Síochána: Chief Superintendent Fergus Healey, Inspector Michael Dorrigan

County Council Officials: Barry Lynch, Fiona Fallon

Community & Voluntary Sector: Ronnie Owens, Tinu Achioya, Bernard Kenny,

Co-ordinator: Eugene Farrelly SSO

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

Item	Discussion / Action
1.	<u>Confirmation of Minute of Meeting held on 25th May 2020</u> The Minutes of the meeting were adopted on the proposal of Cllr Gillian Toole seconded by Cllr Francis Deane
2.	<u>Matters arising and Correspondence</u> There were no matters arising from Minutes and no correspondence for raising with the Members.



3. Report from the 3 Sub Committees

Eugene referred to the written report as circulated last week where the work of the 3 sub-committees was outlined in detail as follows:

Community Safety and Crime Prevention:

The Report outlined the main points arising from the Presentation given to the Committee on 26th August last such as: Cost of current text alert service, lack of interest in collecting money and forms, 4 different text alert suppliers, AGS can link the APP to Pulse, No limit of characters or photos to download, No cost to individual or group, Ease of circulation of community messages, Communication of Council and Garda messages to distinct localities or full county,

Chair thanked Eugene for his report and opened the discussion to the floor:

Members who made contributions were: Cllr Noel French, Senator Sharon Keogan, Cllr Maria Murphy, Cllr Tom Behan, Ronnie Owens, Cllr Gillian Toole and Chief Super Healy, all of whom spoke in favour of the initiative and that it should be moved forward for implementation. Gillian Toole as Chair of the Sub-Committee outlined the further benefits of the app in comparison to the paper-based systems around sign-ups for Text Alert and informed the Sub Committee had mandated her to put a proposal to the JPC as follows:

The CS&CP Sub Committee recommend to the JPC that the scheme be examined further by way of applying a suitable budget to trial the System in the Ratoath Municipal Area through the later months of the year and that a Report on the outcome be brought to the December Meeting of the JPC.

The Motion was seconded by Cllr Noel French and agreed.

Public Order and ASB

Eugene outlined the main items in the report and in particular the item on the availability of the offices of Core Meath to create opportunities for volunteerism of youths in Navan and environs to participate in useful programmes like training and outdoor pursuits such as gardening, photography etc.

Bernard outlined further to the JPC the further longer term plans of his voluntary body who had also been heavily involved in food banks for schools and citizens during the Covid period. He invited any of the members to engage with the office in Meath Enterprise Centre on any similar programmes they would be interested in initiating.

Roads and Improved Driver Behaviour

Eugene outlined the main items in the Report including the 5 No deaths on Co Meath Roads to date in 2020.

The Chair acknowledged the work the Sub Committees are undertaking and thanked all for their participation .



4 To receive a Presentation from Andy Ogle on the North East Drugs Task Force.

The Chair introduced Andy to the JPC and handed over to him to make his presentation .Andy thanked the JPC for allowing him the opportunity to outline the work of the Drugs Task Force in the North East. The Chair thanked Andy for his interesting presentation which was very thought provoking

To receive a Presentation from Philip James on SUST

Chair then introduced Philip James Co-Ordinator for Substance Abuse for Teens in the Louth Meath Area. Philip thanked the Chair and JPC for getting the chance to outline the challenges of working in this area and commenced his presentation.

Chair thanked both Andy and Philip for their very interesting presentations and then opened it to the floor for contributions.

Contributions were made by: Cllr French, Cllr Toole, Cllr Murphy , Cllr Golden ,Deputy J Guirke ,Ronnie Owens, Cllr Tom Behan and Senator Sharon Keogan.

Matters discussed included: Where is the money coming from, TV advertising campaign should be initiated to counter the drugs culture, seeing as drug deaths now outnumber road deaths in the County ,mental health, drugs and suicide links, lack of targeted garda resources ,lack of male role models ,death of youths in Navan from ODs recently, long waiting list for Macdars drug programme in Trim, drug use now a common sight in main towns and parks in the county ,drinking at 13yo is often the gateway to moving onto cannabis and harder drugs use in later teens.

Andy and Philip responded to all contributions in a satisfactory manner and thanked the JPC for hearing their presentation and for their interest in the subject.

5 AOB and next Meeting Date

Cllr Toole raised the issue of Sharps Boxes being available in all 99 pharmacies in the County and that the HSE should be supporting the cost of providing the service and she volunteered to draft a letter to issue from the JPC on the subject.

Next JPC Meeting dates confirmed as 14th December with the Public meeting proposed for 7th October in Ratoath MD now **deferred due** to the continuing Covid 19 pandemic.

The Chair thanked all for their attendance and closed the Meeting



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Signed: _____

Chairperson
CLr Francis Deane

Date: _____