



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

Trim Municipal District

Ordinary Meeting

2:15p.m., 19th February 2016, Trim Civic Offices

An Cathaoirleach, **Councillor Noel French**, presided.

Councillors Present: Enda Flynn, Joe Fox, Trevor Golden, Caroline Lynch, Ronan McKenna.

Officials in Attendance:

Director of Service: Des Foley

Meetings Administrator: Claire King

Executive Engineer: Maura Daly

Assistant Engineer: Jim McElhinney

Staff Officer: Triona Keating

Apologies: Maurice Kelly, Senior Executive Engineer

1 Confirmation of Minutes

1.1 Confirmation of minutes of Ordinary Meeting held on 15th January, 2016.

The Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 15th January 2016 were adopted on the proposal of **Councillor Joe Fox** and seconded by **Councillor Ronan McKenna**.

2 Matters arising from the Minutes

There were no matters arising.

3 Expressions of Sympathy and Congratulations

There were no expressions of sympathy or congratulations.



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

- 4.1 This was agreed on the proposal of **Councillor Ronan McKenna** and seconded by **Councillor Caroline Lynch**.

5 Statutory Business

5.1 Transportation

- 5.1.1 To receive an update on works completed/ planned within Trim Municipal District.

The report had been circulated in advance and matters raised by Councillors included:

- The possibility of surfacing the car park at the church in Castlejordan – it was agreed to check this.
- The date for the opening of the 1916 Commemorative Garden – it was confirmed that this was provisionally scheduled for Friday 18th March at either 12.30pm or 1.00pm and prior to the March meeting of Trim Municipal District.
- Concerns regarding leakage from the sewerage treatment plant in Ballinabrackey – it was pointed out that this matter should be reported to Irish Water but that it would be checked for surface water issues.

5.2 Community

- 5.2.1 To consider the Draft Local Economic Community Plan (LECP).

Aine Bird, Administrative Officer, Community Department delivered a presentation to the meeting, including the background to an overview of the plan, an outline of the sections and objectives, and the next steps. The plan was endorsed on the proposal of **Councillor Joe Fox** and seconded by **Councillor Ronan McKenna**.



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5.3 To consider and adopt the 2016 Schedule of Municipal District Works.

David Jones, Housing Department outlined the categories for housing maintenance and repair and explained the background to the allocations, including those managed centrally. It was pointed out that the 2016 budget for Housing had increased significantly on 2015.

Matters raised by Councillors included:

- The need to fund works for Priority 2 and 3 categories under the Adaptation Grants – it was pointed out that an earlier allocation would be made in 2016 for these grants allowing work to commence earlier and it was hoped to address some of the backlog of Priority 2 and 3 applications. It was also pointed out that the budget for disabled persons grants had increased by approximately €1.5 million and that, whilst this was not included in the Schedule of Municipal District Works, progress on these scheme would be included in the monthly Chief Executive's report.
- The inadequate central government funding for housing to Meath.

John McGrath, Senior Engineer, Transportation Department provided an overview of the breakdown of funding relating to transportation, the sources of funding and how these can be spent, the rationale for the allocations to the Municipal District and the central budgets that are allocated over the six municipal districts. The three year road programme for the restoration improvement grant was also outlined.

Matters raised by Councillors included:

- The need for attention on Kilbride to Rathcairn road.
- Confirmation that public lighting in estates such as Mornington Heights meets safety standards, an explanation as to why private developers are being asked to improve lighting in estates such as Butterstream Manor before these are taken in charge, and clarification on whether lighting is meeting minimum safety standards rather than best practice.
- The need for additional funding to be allocated to estates.



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The 2016 Trim Schedule of Municipal District Works was adopted on the proposal of **Councillor Joe Fox** and seconded by **Councillor Ronan McKenna**.

The 2016-2018 Roadworks Programme for Trim Municipal District was adopted on the proposal of **Councillor Ronan McKenna** and seconded by **Councillor Noel French**.

6 Notice of Question

There were no Notices of Question.

7 Notice of Motion

7.1 Submitted by Councillor Caroline Lynch

“That Trim Municipal District calls on the appropriate council officials to engage in a consultation process with the key stakeholders in Trim to establish the feasibility of the Garda station moving to the Trim Council offices in Mornington House to provide a larger space for community use including the Trim Tourist office.”

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

Meath County Council currently have no proposals to move the tourist office from the town centre to the Trim Civic Offices, however arrangements will be made for tourist information to be displayed in the Trim Civic Offices.

The Trim Civic Offices and grounds are currently being used by the customer services team, Municipal District technical staff and Municipal District operations staff. The available space and associated infrastructure to provide a Garda station from the Trim Civic Offices site is not available.

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Caroline Lynch** and seconded by **Councillor Noel French**.

A short discussion followed on the various options for the relocation of the tourist office and other public buildings and the issues that would need to be considered. It was



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agreed that consultation with the key stakeholders would be required prior to any feasibility study being carried out.

The motion was adopted.

7.2 Submitted by Councillor Caroline Lynch

“Sinn Féin calls on Trim Municipal District to write to the OPW to support the community proposal currently with them, which seeks a lease for the building in Enfield which has been empty for six years. The lease will allow several Community and Youth groups to provide much needed services in this area.”

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Caroline Lynch** and seconded by **Councillor Enda Flynn**.

The motion was adopted.

7.3 Submitted by Councillor Enda Flynn

“I am calling on Meath County Council to address the concerns of the local community in relation to safety on the Johnstown Road in the vicinity of St. Mary's P.S., Enfield as a matter of urgency by thoroughly examining the situation, drawing up a plan of what is required and implementing the actions to make this area safe for children and adults.”

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

Meath County Council responded to St Mary's Primary School Parents Association in December 2015 in relation to the items raised. Following the December Municipal District meeting, Meath County Council carried out site inspections, most recently with the Road Safety Officer, Michael Finnegan, and Garda Peter Kelly on Tuesday 9th January 2016. An email was circulated to all council members in relation to the items raised on 11th February.

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Enda Flynn** and seconded by **Councillor Noel French**.



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Michael Finnegan, Road Safety Officer, attended the meeting and information had been circulated in advance. Councillor Enda Flynn welcomed the progress made and asked if there was a possibility of providing a second school warden at the school gates. It was pointed out that there was no budget allocation and that a survey had been undertaken at this location, indicating that a minority of school children crossed at the school. A barrier was needed and the green light would be reviewed with the possibility of extending it. It was agreed that these measures would be monitored and their effectiveness assessed by the Road Safety Officer. It was also agreed to check the flashing amber lights on Main Street.

The motion was adopted.

A further discussion took place around the following issues:

- The issue of speeding in urban areas and the criteria for the deployment of the speed detection vans – it was agreed that the Road Safety Officer would raise the possible inclusion of the Dublin and Athboy roads in Trim with the Gardaí at his next meeting.
- The possibility of carrying out a survey at Longwood NS.
- The consideration of a draft minimum standard for road safety measures outside schools by the Transport SPC.

The Cathaoirleach and Councillors thanked Michael for attending.

7.4 Submitted by Councillor Trevor Golden

“With regard to Parking Charges, Trim Municipal District to introduce the following incentives:

1. Two hours for the price of one.
2. Parking Facilities at Council Offices to be Free on Saturdays.”

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



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The adoption or amendment of Parking Bye Laws is a reserved function. If Trim Municipal District members wish to proceed with a Parking Initiative the Transport Department would advise that: -

- *Any proposed measure should be on a trial basis for a fixed period and should be reviewed at the end of the period.*
- *Surveys are conducted to establish some baseline information on existing parking behaviour (turnover & occupancy rates) prior to any initiative being implemented. These surveys should be repeated during the period of operation of the initiative to establish the effect of the proposed change in parking behaviour.*
- *Consideration should be given as to how any reduction in parking income might be offset. The 2015 AFS process is not yet completed – but the 2015 Budget outturn for Trim is an estimated surplus of approximately €6,000.*

Meath County Council has no objection to the proposal for Free Parking in Council Offices car park on Saturdays.

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Trevor Golden** and seconded by **Councillor Ronan McKenna**.

A short discussion followed on the need to progress this matter without any further delay, the parking review previously referred to and its focus on Navan and Kells with it now being extended to include Trim. It was agreed that this motion could be implemented in mid-April following the baseline study, the erection of new signage and the recalibration of the machines. It was pointed out that this initiative could be implemented immediately due to its simplicity, i.e. two hours for the price of one. It was agreed that the initiative would be reviewed at the end of the year.

The motion was adopted.

8 Correspondence

There was no correspondence.



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9 Any Other Business

9.1 Councillor Noel French raised the following issue:

9.1.1 Support the proposed removal of the mast opposite the Civic Offices in Q1 2017.

9.1.2 Wished Councillor Golden and the other candidates well in the forthcoming General Election.

9.2 Councillor Enda Flynn raised the following issue:

9.2.1 Update on works in Glenidan Estate and a timeframe for their completion – it was agreed to refer this to Planning.

9.3 Councillor Ronan McKenna raised the following issues:

9.3.1 Update on the pedestrian crossing on Loman Street – it was agreed to refer this to Transportation.

9.3.2 Update on the street lights in Kilbride and Kiltale – it was agreed to refer this to Transportation.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed:

Cathaoirleach