



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

Trim Municipal District

Ordinary Meeting

2:00p.m., 16th October 2015, 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

Senior Executive Engineer: Maurice Kelly

Executive Engineer: Maura Daly

Staff Officer: Triona Keating

1 Confirmation of Minutes

1.1 Confirmation of minutes of Ordinary Meeting held on 11th September.

The Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 11th September 2015 were adopted on the proposal of **Councillor Joe Fox** and seconded by **Councillor Enda Flynn**.

1.2 Confirmation of minutes of Ordinary Meeting (Deferred) held on 21st September.

The Minutes of the Deferred Meeting held on 21st September 2015 were adopted on the proposal of **Councillor Joe Fox** and seconded by **Councillor Enda Flynn**.

2 Matters arising from the Minutes

Councillor Caroline Lynch enquired as to whether additional traffic calming works were planned in Ballivor under the Low Cost Safety Scheme – it was confirmed that, whilst Ballivor



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was not included under this scheme, the crossing had been upgraded and that the matter would be referred to Transportation for consideration under a future scheme.

3 Expressions of Sympathy and Congratulations

Sympathy was extended to:

- The family and colleagues of the late Garda Anthony Golden, Blackrock, County Louth who was killed in the line of duty;
- The families of those who were killed and injured in the fire at Carrickmines.

Congratulations were extended to:

- The students of Scoil Mhuire who were featured in the Irish Independent for their art and music projects as part of the 1916 Art Competition;
- All involved in Trim's success in winning gold in the Entente Florale competition;
- The villages and towns that participated in the Tidy Towns competition.

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

This was agreed on the proposal of **Councillor Enda Flynn** and seconded by **Councillor Joe Fox**.

5 Statutory Business

5.1 Transportation

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

Matters raised by Councillors included:



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- The continuing issues with the traffic light timings in Enfield and the outcome of the traffic light survey – it was confirmed that adjustments had been made and the impacts monitored with further adjustments to be made as required.
- The timeframe for changes to be made to the bypass lanes to reduce congestion on Main Street, Enfield – it was confirmed that a wider traffic survey would be needed before any changes could be introduced and it was agreed that a separate meeting with Transportation Design would be required.
- The need to include connecting routes to Ballivor and Kildalkey on this year's winter gritting programme – it was confirmed that the new winter gritting programme would be presented to the November meeting of Meath County Council, having considered previous suggestions made.
- A reminder regarding the Kilbride report.
- The timeframe for the switching on of the traffic lights in Clonard - it was confirmed that the Council was waiting for the ESB to connect these.
- The date of the appointment of a tree surgeon – it was confirmed that site visits had occurred, as identified by Councillors , and that a report and recommendations was now due.
- The need to erect a 'Welcome to County Meath' sign from the motorway into Enfield.
- The timing of traffic lights in Longwood – it was agreed to refer this to Transportation Design.
- The policy that determines the type of crossings selected – it was pointed out that traffic studies determine the necessity for and nature of crossings and that NRA guidelines are also used.



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- The low kerb on the footpath from Glen Abhainn to Enfield – it was confirmed that works would take place during the mid-term break.
- The need for traffic calming and speed enforcement on the Dublin Road Trim – it was confirmed that this location was on the list for review.
- The absence of a barrier at the railway bridge in the Hill of Down.
- The need for parking and street cleaning at Sarsfield Avenue – it was confirmed that residents had been informed of the outcome of the meeting of 21st September and were happy with same.
- The need to address the noise from manhole covers – it was confirmed that rubber sealing was being considered.

5.2 Economic Development

- 5.2.1 To receive an update on the implementation of the Meath Economic Strategy.

Kevin Stewart, Director of Service, and Caroline Power, Administrative Officer, Economic Development attended the meeting. Following a discussion on the type of update required, a presentation on the implementation of the Meath Economic Strategy was delivered to the meeting.

Matters raised by Councillors included:

- That business networks for Meath people living abroad be established with ambassadors being invited to attend conferences, events, etc.
- The benefits of the Enfield/M4 corridor in terms of economic development.
- The need to improve linkages with schools to encourage young people in business.



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- Welcomed the Boyne Valley Food Hub initiative and congratulated the Meath winners and participants in the Blas na hÉireann Irish Food Awards.

It was agreed that a quarterly update on enterprise and economic development in the Trim Municipal District would be circulated to Councillors and would be included on the next ordinary meeting agenda for discussion.

6 Notice of Question

6.1 Submitted by Councillor Caroline Lynch

“In view of the lack of space in the graveyard in Kilbride, would the Council consider using the piece of land it owns to extend this facility for the local community?”

Response:

The Environment Department will examine the capacity issues associated with Kilbride Graveyard and this will take into consideration the potential use of the adjoining lands which are in the ownership of Meath County Council.

The response was noted.

7 Notice of Motion

7.1 Submitted by Councillor Noel French

“That Meath County Council identifies where defibrillators are located in Trim Municipal District and that they are listed on the Meath County Council website and suitable signage is provided so that they are easily located.”

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

Meath County Council currently has no mechanism for identifying where all the automated external defibrillators (AEDs) in the Municipal District are located. If this proposal was to be implemented, as well as finding it difficult to locate all the AEDs,



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Meath County Council would have to maintain the website, showing where AEDs are stored, if moved where are they moved to and only fully serviced AEDs should remain on the website. This is a substantial project and the resources are currently not available to implement this.

However, there are a number of websites and phone apps that allow people/groups to upload the location of their AEDs onto a central system, one example of this is <http://helpinghearts.ie/> which has a map of Ireland with all the uploaded AED locations shown.

In relation to the request for suitable signage, AEDs are generally stored in private premises/sports grounds and the signage at each of these locations would be a matter for the private group/individuals to consider.

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

Following a short discussion, it was agreed that Councillors should submit lists of known AED locations to the website www.helpinghearts.ie.

The motion was noted.

7.2 Submitted by Councillor Caroline Lynch

“In view of budget preparations currently taking place, Sinn Féin urges Meath County Council to include the Ballivor Library project in its capital funding programme for 2016 and that all possibilities to support this, such as the sale of St Kinnith’s church to provide funding, are explored as a matter of urgency.”

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

The current 6 year capital programme for Meath County Council (2015-2020) has prioritised funds for urgent upgrades and enhancements to library buildings which are currently operational .The funding priority for new library infrastructure is Bettystown library. A new build at Bettystown is also number one on our development plan and number one on our funding priority list with the department.



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The current estimates process is confined to the revenue budget and the priority for the library service is securing an increase in the annual book fund to restore and replenish stock in the existing facilities.

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

A short discussion followed, which referenced the support already being provided.

The motion was noted.

7.3 Submitted by Councillor Caroline Lynch

“With reference to the Chief Executive’s report at the last Meath County Council meeting, can Trim Municipal District Councillors urge that more property is acquired in the Trim area to begin to address the housing crisis.”

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

The executive is committed to maximising the number of housing units attained through the acquisition programme in each of the Municipal Districts, subject to the availability of appropriate housing stock and consideration for value for money.

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Caroline Lynch** and seconded by **Councillor Ronan McKenna**.

A short discussion followed on the issues that impact on the acquisition of homes in the Municipal District, the need for central government funding to meet the growing housing needs, the schemes planned for Meath and the role of the Housing SPC.

The motion was adopted.

7.4 Submitted by Councillor Enda Flynn

“In the interest of road safety, sustainable transport and local amenity, I call upon Meath County Council to secure funding for, and commit to the construction of a foot



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path from Baconstown school to the GAA pitch and a pedestrian crossing providing a vital link between the School and the ‘after School’ and preschool building under the 2016 road works programme.”

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

Meath County Council regularly receives proposals for new works which are logged on a database. The cost of the proposed works on the database far exceeds the funding and resources available. Meath County Council proposes to draft a 3 year works programme in consultation with the members for each Municipal District, commencing in 2016, for works such as those outlined in this Notice of Motion. This programme will be based on the prioritisation of schemes following an engineering screening/evaluation assessment.

The number of schemes on the programme will be determined by the funding available. The items raised in this Notice of Motion will be added to the database and considered for the schedule having regard to available budgets.

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

A short discussion followed, which referred to the need to consider alternative funding sources, the need for footpaths at all schools to be reviewed and the need for such infrastructure to be included in planning permissions granted.

The motion was adopted.

8 Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

9 Any Other Business

9.1 Councillor Noel French raised the following issues:

9.1.1 The system used to monitor smells resulting from the spreading of bio-solids on land – it was pointed out that extensive guidelines exist and a permitting



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system used. It was agreed that a copy of the guidelines would be circulated to Councillors.

9.1.2 Complaints received regarding illegal dumping in towns, villages and estates and the difficulties in securing prosecutions.

9.1.3 Thanked all Councillors, staff and the community for their efforts in securing the gold award for Trim in the Entente Florale competition.

9.1.4 The forthcoming Pride of Place awards.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed:

Cathaoirleach