



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

Trim Municipal District

Ordinary Meeting

2.00pm, 21st November 2014, Trim Civic Offices

An Cathaoirleach, **Councillor Joe Fox**, presided.

Councillors Present: Enda Flynn, Noel French, Trevor Golden, Caroline Lynch, Ronan McKenna.

Officials in Attendance:

Director of Service: Des Foley

Meetings Administrator: Claire King

Administrative Officer: Fiona Skehan

Senior Executive Engineer: Vincent Collins

Clerical Officer: Fiona Casserly

1 Confirmation of Minutes

1.1 Confirmation of minutes of Ordinary meeting held on 17th October 2014.

The Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 17th October 2014 were adopted on the proposal of **Councillor Noel French** and seconded by **Councillor Enda Flynn**.

2 Matters arising from the Minutes

Councillor Noel French highlighted the ongoing concerns of residents in St. Patrick's Park due to the odours emanating from the Leper Stream. Vincent Collins confirmed that the Environment & Water Services Section had visited the site but the weather at the time had made it difficult to identify the source of the problem and that the matter is still under investigation.

Councillor Enda Flynn pointed out that traders in Enfield remained unhappy with the parking situation in the village and asked if anything could be done with regard to enforcement. Fiona Skehan confirmed that the matter had been raised with the Garda Superintendent on several occasions and that enforcement of parking obstructions had alleviated the situation on



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

previous occasions. It was agreed that further correspondence would issue to the Superintendent.

3 Expressions of Sympathy and Congratulations

Sympathy was extended to:

- Liz Byrne, Housing Department, on the death of her mother, Mary Lowry.

Congratulations were extended to:

- Trim Enterprise Centre on the recent Enterprise Week and the successful seminar and exhibition held.

4 Statutory Business

4.1 Housing

- 4.1.1 To receive a presentation from the Housing Department on the current housing programme.

Brian Murphy, Administrative Officer, Housing Department, delivered a presentation to Councillors on the current Housing Programme, which included the Housing Department staff structure, functions and services provided under the main headings of Capital/Grants, Social Housing, Technical Services and Homelessness/Housing Investigations. Reference was made to the Housing Strategy and regulations that are due to be published and Part II of the Housing Act. Information specific to Trim Municipal District was also provided.

Matters raised by Councillors included the following:

- The increasing cost of purchasing and renting properties;
- The role of the voluntary housing sector in social housing provision in Meath;
- The availability of further housing units from Part Vs;
- The homeless services provided;
- The difficult job of those working within the Housing Department was acknowledged.



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

The Cathaoirleach and Councillors thanked Brian for the presentation.

4.2 Transportation

4.2.1 To receive a presentation from the Road Safety Officer.

Michael Finnegan circulated a copy of the Road Safety Plan 2013-2020 and delivered a presentation on general road safety issues in the county and within Trim Municipal District.

Following the presentation, Councillors raised the following matters:

- Speeding, especially at schools and through villages, and lack of enforcement;
- The cycling programme for schools was welcomed;
- The installation of flashing lights at every school;
- The volume of HGV traffic through Clonard;
- The use of signage, road markings, etc. to improve road safety;
- The use of standards, e.g. ISO, with regard to road safety;
- Winter gritting programme needed for all regional roads;
- Speed limits in housing estates, e.g. introducing a standardised speed limit of 30km ph.

Responses were provided as follows:

- The inclusion of certain locations for speeding checks by the Gardaí if representations received;
- The planned installation of a pedestrian crossing at Clonard National School;
- The Low Cost Safety Scheme is used to improve safety at know accident locations;
- The role of parents in improving road safety at schools;
- The guidelines issued with regard to speed limits in housing estates.

The Cathaoirleach and Councillors thanked Michael for the presentation.



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

4.2.2 To receive an update on works completed and planned within Trim Municipal District.

The update was circulated and Councillors raised the following issues:

- The resurfacing works on the Dublin Road, at Clonard and at Mornington Heights were welcomed, as was the tree trimming at Mornington Heights.
- The timeframe for the provision of road markings in Clonard and Trim – Vincent Collins confirmed that road markings would be provided immediately in Clonard, to include two disability parking spaces at the community hall, and in the short-term in Trim, weather permitting;
- It was confirmed that two speed signs are to be installed at Knightsbridge Nursing Home;
- The provision of a yellow box at the entrance to First Responders at Patrick Street;
- It was confirmed that the road design issue on the Summerhill Road had been referred to the Transportation Section;
- The need for road sweeping in Enfield and general collection of leaves;
- It was confirmed that there was an adequate supply of salt available for the winter roads programme and that grit was readily available, if required;
- The progress made in relation to the junction at Rathmolyon – it was confirmed that this was still under consideration;
- It was confirmed that the bins in Ballivor would be installed before the end of the year, weather permitting;
- It was confirmed that the new lights in Mornington Heights met the necessary standards and that the trees will be assessed and pruned, where necessary;
- The erection of signage to encourage use of the relief road at Enfield – it was confirmed that works had taken place at Possackstown under the Low Cost Safety Scheme.



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

5 Notice of Question

There were no Notices of Question.

6 Notice of Motion

6.1 Submitted by Councillor Noel French

“That Meath County Council allows free car parking throughout the town of Trim for the ten days before Christmas in order to encourage consumers shop in Trim.”

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Noel French** and seconded by **Councillor Ronan McKenna**.

Following information provided by Fiona Skehan, an amended motion was proposed by **Councillor Trevor Golden** and seconded by **Councillor Noel French**:

“That Meath County Council allows free car parking throughout the town of Trim at the following times: 11am – 6pm on Saturday 6th December, Saturday 13th, Saturday 20th December and each day from 19th to the 29th December inclusive.”

It was also agreed that this would be extended to include a period in January – Saturday 3rd and Saturday 10th to cover the sales. Following a discussion, it was agreed that signs should be erected on the approach roads to alert people to the free parking initiative and that contact would be made with the Chamber of Commerce to encourage traders to promote the initiative.

7 Correspondence

7.1.1 Moyfenrath Estate, Enfield.

Fiona Skehan confirmed that she had spoken with Mr. Burke and had advised him that Moyfenrath Estate had not been taken in charge and that talks were to take place with the developer in a bid to alleviate the issues raised. Councillor Enda Flynn had spoken to the developer and that, with the developer's permission, signage was to be erected.

7.1.2 Newcastle Woods Residents Association.



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

Fiona Skehan confirmed that this estate has been taken in charge and that the residents association have been advised to make a submission in respect of the speed limit review for housing estates.

7.1.3 St. Columbanus Primary School, Ballivor

It was agreed that the Parents Association would be invited to make a presentation at the January meeting of Trim Municipal District.

8 Any Other Business

8.1 Councillor Joe Fox raised the following issues:

- The tree height at the bridge and field was obstructing visibility of Trim Castle and that the hedges at the Porchfields also required attention. It was also pointed out that the junction warning sign was overgrown.
- Queried as to whether the traffic lights sequence at the exit from the Rathmolyon Road in Summerhill could be changed to allow cars exit more quickly.
- The drainage issues, mud on the road and road markings from Rathkeenan Cross to Kilronan Cross – Vincent Collins confirmed that the mud on the road had been dealt with but that the area would be revisited with regard to the other issues raised.

8.2 Councillor Caroline Lynch raised the following issues:

- The representations made by residents in Blackwater Close with regard to the playground in Enfield – Des Foley confirmed that the statutory planning process was ongoing, that residents could make a submission as part of the Part VIII process and that all submissions made would be considered.
- The absence of the Joint Policing Committee – Des Foley confirmed that this had been discussed at MCC level, that guidelines had been issued with regard to establishing the new county JPC, with a provision for the establishment of sub-committees, that discussions would have to take place with the Chief Superintendent and that the matter will be brought to the full Council for consideration.

8.3 Councillor Noel French requested an update on the Aldi development and stated that he hoped that the shopfront would be appropriate to the streetscape – Des Foley confirmed that the sale is subject to planning permission, that good progress was being made and that pre-planning discussions had been held.

8.4 Councillor Enda Flynn referred to recent media reports regarding the limited resources allocated to Enfield and asked if there was a plan for 2015 that would



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

compliment the work of volunteers – Des Foley confirmed that Meath County Council wished to meet with Enfield Tidy Towns so that progress can be made in 2015.

8.5 Councillor Trevor Golden raised the following:

- He thanked Des Foley and Fiona Skehan for their assistance with regard to the WWI monument.
- He queried if clarification would be available with regard to parking figures in Trim in advance of the budget meeting on 24th November – Des Foley confirmed that responsibility for paid parking would transfer to the Transportation Section in 2015; that a cost neutral 3 month trial initiative was to commence in Kells with the second hour parking free; that the income from paid parking in Trim contributed towards loan repayments for infrastructural developments; that the licence agreement with the Church in respect of the Church-owned car park at Patrick Street would be the subject of discussions as the Church wishes to operate the facility; and that a full review of paid parking would be undertaken in 2015 to include compliance, enforcement, operations, technology, etc. with a report and recommendations to be presented to Councillors when complete.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed:

Cathaoirleach