



## Miontuairiscí/Meeting Minutes

### Transportation Strategic Policy Committee 6<sup>th</sup> May 2021, Training Room, Room 128, Buvinda House, Navan at 3.30 pm (by Zoom)

**Attendees – (Councillors):** Cllrs T Golden, P Meade, G O’Connor, N French, P McCabe, S Tolan, W Harding,

**Attendees – (Sectoral Representatives):**

**(Officials):** M Murray, N Whyatt, J McGrath, D McGowan, L Fagan, M Finnegan, M Farrell, J Young

Item	Discussion / Action
1.0	<p><b><u>Minutes of Previous Meeting</u></b></p> <p>The minutes of the previous meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2020 and Special Meeting held on 25th January 2021 were approved. Proposed by Cllr P McCabe and seconded by Cllr G O’Connor.</p>
2.0	<p><b><u>Matters Arising from Minutes</u></b></p> <p>No matters arising</p>
3.0	<p><b><u>Draft Road Safety Plan</u></b></p> <p>Michael Finnegan, Road Safety Officer made a presentation on the Road Safety Plan 2021-2030.</p> <p>Following the presentation the Members raised the following issues.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- It was noted that there were low submission numbers received in relation to the draft Road Safety Plan in some Municipal District areas and that this may be due to the general public not being aware of public notices published in the Meath Chronicle.</li> <li>- The number of submissions received do not represent the number of actual safety issues.</li> <li>- If public notices were sent to Councillors they could use their social media outlets for distribution.</li> <li>- Speeding on roads is a problem.</li> <li>- Enforcement and road repairs have helped reduce accidents.</li> <li>- Chicanes were successful at Inse Bay, Laytown.</li> <li>- Safety issues at following locations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Speeding on R147 at The Willows, Dunshaughlin</li> <li>- Safety issue on N52 at Balrath, Kells</li> <li>- Footpath level same as road level at Heronstown school</li> <li>- Road markings upgrade required at Piltown Road</li> <li>- Children in Northlands trying to cross R150 Eastham Road where footpath ends.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Council officials responded as follows</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The public notice was published on Meath Council social media outlets and on the website in addition to the Meath Chronicle.</li> </ul>



### ***Miontuairiscí/Meeting Minutes***

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Councillors had been notified of the draft Road Safety Plan process on 18<sup>th</sup> January 2021 by email.</li> <li>- Enforcement of speed limits has an impact but possibly less enforcement in past year due to Garda resources being required elsewhere.</li> <li>- Aware of Councillors notices of motion in relation to the various safety issues and these will be considered in drafting the new Road Safety Plan. It was noted that the Road Safety Plan was to identify strategic objectives for road safety rather than listing individual projects and that individual projects could be identified in other plans and programmes.</li> </ul>
<p><b>4.0</b></p>	<p><b><u>Update on programme for safety audit of rural school locations and prioritisation of safety works.</u></b></p> <p>Lara Fagan who has been appointed as Active Travel Officer, which is a new role introduced by the National Transport Authority (NTA), made a presentation introducing two new school safety initiatives</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Safe Route to School programme.</li> <li>2. NTA “Front of School Interventions” guidance document for Local Authorities - concept&amp; design options</li> </ol> <p>Following the presentation the Members raised the following issues</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Wished Lara well in new role,</li> <li>- This is long overdue at national level,</li> <li>- How many applications have been made by schools in Co Meath for the Safe Route to School programme,</li> <li>- Issue with parking at Donacarnev schools and issues with cluster of schools in Laytown,</li> <li>- Safety issue with walking to Heronstown school as footpath level under level of road,</li> <li>- Has there been any liaison with Bus Eireann,</li> <li>- St Seachnaill’s school, Dunshaughlin on R147 would be ideal for road markings.</li> </ul> <p>Council officials responded as follows</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- It is not known how many applications have been made by Meath schools but Council will be informed who goes to next level of selection process,</li> <li>- 100 schools will be selected in year 1,</li> <li>- Problem areas at schools were highlighted to NTA,</li> <li>- Council is working closely with the schools,</li> <li>- No one solution to the safety issues at schools,</li> <li>- Will encourage schools to make applications and will work to design solutions to the safety issues.</li> </ul>



## Miontuairiscí/Meeting Minutes

<b>5.0</b>	<p><b><u>Update on Navan Rail study.</u></b></p> <p>An update on the Navan Rail Study was provided by Dara McGowan.</p> <p>Following the update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- The members welcomed the update</li><li>- Enquired if any study was prepared for an extra train service from Navan to Dublin via Drogheda.</li></ul> <p>Officials response</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Not aware of any study having been prepared but aware of capacity issues on Drogheda to Dublin line.</li></ul>
<b>6.0</b>	<p><b><u>AOB</u></b></p> <p>The members welcomed Martin Murray as Director of Services for Transportation and wished him well in his new role.</p> <p>The members also thanked Des Foley for his work as Director of Services in Transportation and wished him well in his new role in the Planning Department.</p> <p>The members raised the following issues</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Have the tenders for the roadworks programme been received;</li><li>- Winter gritting of all the regional roads,</li><li>- What is the position on the recruitment of extra staff for which NTA funding was provided.</li></ul> <p>The Council officials responded as follows</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Tenders have been received for the roadworks programme &amp; in the process of awarding the contracts with one contract already awarded,</li><li>- Tender prices have increased,</li><li>- Funding has been sanctioned for inclusion of the additional regional roads in the winter gritting programme and a report will be provided later in the year,</li><li>- Commenced recruitment process for extra staff following NTA approval of funding and will come back on numbers of staff.</li></ul>



## ***Miontuairiscí/Meeting Minutes***

	<p><b><u>Recommendations from SPC Committee to Corporate Policy Group and to Full Council.</u></b></p> <p>No recommendations.</p>
--	---