



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

Navan Municipal District

Ordinary Meeting

10:00 a.m., 14th July 2021, Via Zoom

An Meára, **Councillor Padraig Fitzsimons**, presided.

Councillors Present: Yemi Adenuga, Francis Deane, Edward Fennessy, Alan Lawes and Tommy Reilly.

Apologies: Councillor Emer Tóibín.

Officials in Attendance:

Director of Service: Martin Murray

Meetings Administrator: Claire King

Executive Engineer: Shane Durcan

Staff Officer: Triona Keating

1 Confirmation of Minutes

1.1 Confirmation of minutes of Annual Meeting held on 23rd June 2021.

The minutes of the Annual Meeting held on 23rd June 2021 were confirmed on the proposal of **Councillor Tommy Reilly** and seconded by **Councillor Francis Deane**.

1.2 Confirmation of minutes of Ordinary Meeting held on 23rd June 2021.

The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 23rd June 2021 were confirmed on the proposal of **Councillor Tommy Reilly** and seconded by **Councillor Alan Lawes**.

2 Matters arising from the Minutes

There were no matters arising from the minutes.



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3 Expressions of Sympathy and Congratulations

Sympathy was extended to:

- The family of the late Jimmy Cudden, former Meath County Councillor, to whom tributes were paid.
- The family of the late Seán Brady, Claremont.

4 Disposal of Land in accordance with Statutory Notices circulated pursuant to the provisions of Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001

4.1 Disposal of 0.2007 Ha of Land in Navan, Co Meath.

This was agreed on the proposal of **Councillor Francis Deane** and seconded by **Councillor Tommy Reilly**.

5 Statutory Business

5.1 Environment

5.1.1 To receive a short presentation about the UN Sustainable Development Goals and how Meath County Council are integrating these into organisational culture. To receive an update on the URBACT Global Goals for Cities project.

Caroline Corrigan, Senior Executive Engineer, Environment delivered a presentation which provided information on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), Global Goals 4 Cities, which includes Trim, the only Irish town, and examples of how to become involved.

The Mayor and councillors thanked Caroline for the presentation, commended the work being undertaken and expressed interest in further training opportunities.

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5.2 Transportation

- 5.2.1 To advise the members of the Municipal District that Meath County Council Transportation Department propose to put the draft Road Traffic (Special Speed Limits) (Housing Estates) County of Meath Bye-Laws (No.1) 2021 on public display as required by Section 9 of the Road Traffic Acts, 2004 (No.44 of 2004).

Paul McKown, Executive Engineer, Transportation outlined the information circulated in advance, including the estates to be added for review. Consent was sought to proceed to put the maps and new byelaw on public display, following which they would be brought back to the municipal district and then to the full council for approval.

Matters raised by councillors included:

- Queried the timeline for the implementation of the byelaw and whether further estates can be added – once an estate is taken in charge, it is added to the list. The statutory process, which takes some time, is undertaken every few years. Once the byelaw is approved, a funding application will be made for the associated signage.
- Queried whether the council had erected 30kmph speed signs on Donaghmore Lane – it was agreed to check this.

It was agreed on the proposal of **Councillor Tommy Reilly** and seconded by **Councillor Francis Deane** to proceed as outlined.

- 5.2.2 To receive a Progress Report on works undertaken/planned for Navan Municipal District.

The report had been circulated in advance and a further update provided at the meeting.

Matters raised by councillors included:



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- Requested that Market Square be included on the street washing programme – it was confirmed that Market Square was included.
- Queried whether the gully cleaning programme was ongoing – the programme is ongoing and councillors were requested to submit locations for inclusion.
- Requested that a compacting bin be provided in the Johnstown shopping area.
- Referred to the persistent littering on Kennedy Plaza and queried whether local takeaway businesses have any responsibility for clearing this litter – a compacting bin has been provided at this location and the area is cleaned as regularly as possible.

5.3 Corporate Services

- 5.3.1 To note Municipal District Allocations submitted by Councillors on behalf of Navan Municipal District.

The list of allocations, circulated in advance, was noted. Councillors were reminded that the deadline for the receipt of completed application and deferral forms is 30th September.

6 Notice of Question

6.1 Submitted by Councillor Edward Fennessy

“Noting the presence of a descriptive stone at the entrance to the Blackwater Park which lists the names of the councillor who opened the park and the County Manager. Can the Executive clarify why those who donated the land to the people of Navan, namely Boliden Tara, are not named and whether or not plans are in place to address that anomaly through the erection of a stone confirming same.”

Response:

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As payment was made to Tara Mines for the site at the time, the issue of donation does not arise and consequently there is no anomaly to be addressed on the descriptive stone at the entrance to the park.

The response was noted.

6.2 Submitted by Councillor Francis Deane

“When will regeneration site projects such as Flowerhill, Abbeylands, or Old Spicers Bakery, Kentstown Road, go out to tender for proposed development?”

Response:

“The Flowerhill and Abbeylands Urban Regeneration” proposals will go on public display in August. Following receipt of submissions, the Part 8 planning process will follow. Running in parallel to the Planning process an ‘Expression of interest tender’ for lands in control of MCC will commence. Acquisitions associated to the overall URDF grant are progressing.

The response was noted.

7 Notice of Motion

7.1 Submitted by Councillor Edward Fennessy

“Given the number of dog walkers who frequent the Blackwater Park in Navan, can the Council consider the following initiatives to allow patrons the freedom to exercise their dogs without constraint:

1. An allocated daily period of time whereby dogs can be exercised freely on the park without a leash ie: 8am to 10am.
2. The cordoning of an area by fence, near the river, where dogs can run freely under the supervision of their owners.”

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

The Councils Park Bye Laws 2014 makes the provisions below for the control of dogs in Blackwater Park and other parks under the Councils controls. While the Council are involved in regular education and awareness initiatives promoting responsible dog ownership, our limited resources are devoted to ensuring compliance with these provisions and would not be in a position to enforce any additional provisions at this time:

- *Dogs brought into the Park must be on a leash and every person bringing a dog into the park shall be responsible for its conduct and shall be liable for any damage or injury which may be caused by it. Any person bringing a dog into the park must remove it from the park if so directed by an authorised person.*
- *Every person in charge of a dog in the park shall prevent it from causing annoyance to any person using the park or worrying, chasing, injuring or disturbing any animals, birds or other creatures in the park.*
- *If a dog defecates in the park, the person in charge of the dog shall remove the faeces. Guide dogs for the blind are exempt from this Bye- Law.*
- *A person shall not cause or allow any dangerous dog, as defined in the Control of Dogs (Restriction of certain dogs) Regulations, 1991 and 1998 or any subsequent amending Regulations or Act, in their charge to enter or remain in the park unless such dog is kept on a strong lead (only up to 2 metres long) by a person over 16 years of age who is capable of controlling them. The dog/s must be securely muzzled and no person shall, in any portion of the park where a notice prohibiting the admission of dogs, (other than guide dogs or dogs used by members of An Garda Síochána in the course of their duties) is exhibited, cause or allow any dog in their charge to enter or remain there.*

In relation to the development of a “dog park”, there are currently no grant schemes available for the development of a dog run/park. Any such facility would have to be funded from the Council’s own resources and no allowance has been made for this in the 2021 budget.

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The supporting information and motion, proposed by **Councillor Edward Fennessy** and seconded by **Councillor Alan Lawes**, was agreed.

7.2 Submitted by Councillor Edward Fennessy

“That the Navan Municipal District Council, list for consideration, Boyne Valley Estate, Beechmount Lawns and Parnell Park for the housing estate remedial road works, with a view to including them on the 2022 Schedule of Municipal District Works.”

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

Later this year, Meath County Council will be preparing a new 3 Year Roadworks Programme and submitting it to the Department of Transport for 2022 -2024. It is intended to liaise with the Municipal District Members before finalising the proposed works for this list, which will then inform the Department when it comes to allocating grant funding. This will present an opportunity for Members to put forward sections of road for consideration when determining those schemes to be prioritised for funding for this 3 Year period, including housing estate roads, which will be assessed and graded accordingly.

In addition, as part of the Capital Investment Programme 2021 – 2024, the Transportation Department has committed €250,000 per Municipal District for the next three years, to tackle the roads in older Housing Estates that are in most need by addressing potholes, hazards etc. The Estates listed can be considered when this money is being allocated.

It was pointed out that estates are first subject to technical assessment and then included in the programme of works, either as part of the three year works programme or annually, and will be brought back to the municipal district for approval. It is preferable to undertake both the footpath and road restoration works together, with some older estates needing attention.

The supporting information and motion, proposed by **Councillor Edward Fennessy** and seconded by **Councillor Tommy Reilly**, was agreed.



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7.3 Submitted by Councillor Francis Deane

“I propose that Navan Municipal District of Meath County Council erect a moving crib on Kennedy Road for Christmas 2021 to replace the ever popular Live Animal Crib which raised thousands of euros for local charities but cannot go ahead this coming Christmas season due to Covid 19 Restrictions.”

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

The Council will not be making any commitment on possible arrangements for the Christmas period given the current uncertainty regarding Covid cases, the Delta variant and the evolving nature of the public health restrictions.

Councillor Deane noted the information provided and expressed the view that the moving crib should be considered for 2022.

The supporting information and motion, proposed by **Councillor Francis Deane** and seconded by **Councillor Pdraig Fitzsimons**, was noted.

7.4 Submitted by Councillor Francis Deane

“I call on Meath County Council to examine the pedestrian crossing at St Anne's School, via the Fairgreen, and rectify the footpath and kerb to accommodate access for wheelchair users.”

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

Meath County Council will inspect and survey the pedestrian crossing at St. Anne's School with a view to implementing any changes required for wheelchair access specifications, once funding and resources are available.

The supporting information and motion, proposed by **Councillor Francis Deane** and seconded by **Councillor Edward Fennessy**, was agreed.



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7.5 Submitted by Councillor Padraig Fitzsimons

“In conjunction with the Navan 2030 Scheme, I propose the motion that this council seeks to improve, update and revamp some of the smaller, narrower arteries and laneways linking the main streets of the town. I refer to Bakery Lane, Metges Lane, Trimgate Lane, Preston Place, Canon Row Lane thereby making these linkways safer, brighter and more attractive areas for pedestrians, shoppers, residents and business owners in the area.”

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

Provision exists within the scope of the Navan 2030 scheme to review, and where possible remediate some of Navan towns historic laneways. This would include some of the locations noted in Cllr Fitzsimon’s motion.

It is important to note that works in each of these locations present their own unique set of complexities; ownership rights, property access, construction access, and the maintenance of existing utility services to highlight a few. These will be reviewed in detail during a separate location specific design phase, as part of ongoing works on the Navan 2030 project.

All of this will also be subject to the continued availability of funding.

A short discussion followed with the works undertaken to date in relation to the Navan 2030 Scheme being commended and with acknowledgement of the inclusion of Cornmarket and Bakery Lane. However, it was requested that the council liaise with businesses and residents on other lanes and arteries, such as Metges Lane, Trimgate Lane and Preston Place, to make these safer, brighter and more attractive for shopping and pedestrian access. It was also suggested that funding be sought to pedestrianize Trimgate Street and improve these laneways and that engagement take place with local businesses. It was agreed to consider the suggestions made and see if the current plan can take account of these, with engagement ongoing with the Chamber of Commerce.

The supporting information and motion, proposed by **Councillor Padraig Fitzsimons** and seconded by **Councillor Francis Deane**, was agreed.



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8 Strategic Policy Committee & Corporate Policy Group Reports – For Information Purposes

- 8.1 To note the Corporate Policy Group Meeting Minutes of 11th June 2021.

The minutes were noted.

- 8.2 To note the report from the Transportation SPC meeting of 6th May 2021.

The report was noted.

- 8.3 To note the report from the Housing, Community and Cultural Development SPC meeting of 30th June 2021.

The report was noted.

9 Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

10 Any Other Business

- 10.1 Martin Murray raised the following issue:

10.1.1 Outlined a statement in relation to St. Patrick's Classical School, which included background information on the URDF funding allocation, the actions taken following the recent roof collapse and the next steps, including the stabilisation and protection works.

- 10.2 Councillor Edward Fennessy raised the following issues:

10.2.1 Requested that consideration be given to installing bollards on Metges Lane to prevent cars and trucks parking outside business premises – it was agreed to check this but it was pointed out that services do require access.

10.2.2 Requested that the traffic lights sequence on the Dublin Road be reviewed to



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prevent traffic congestion, particularly in the evenings.

10.2.3 Referred to reports that the local town bus service is being impacted by buses damaged when crossing ramps and queried whether there were any plans to address this – the council has been in contact with Bus Éireann and one speed ramp has been altered. However, there is adequate lighting and signage in place and drivers should slow down when approaching the ramps.

10.3 Councillor Yemi Adenuga raised the following issue:

10.3.1 Queried whether a ‘No Through Road’ sign can be provided on Beech Drive, Johnstown – it was agreed to check this.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed:

An Meára