



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

### ***Kells Municipal District***

#### ***Ordinary Meeting***

***4.00pm, 11<sup>th</sup> October 2021, County Hall, Navan***

An Cathaoirleach, **Councillor Mike Bray**, presided.

**Councillors Present:** Seán Drew, Michael Gallagher, Paul McCabe and Sarah Reilly.

**Apologies:** Councillors Eugene Cassidy and David Gilroy.

**Officials in Attendance:**

**Director of Service:** Dara McGowan

**Executive Engineer:** Aaron Smith

**Staff Officer:** Triona Keating

**Clerical Officer:** Edita Asaciova

**Apologies:** Claire King, Meetings Administrator.

#### **1 Confirmation of Minutes**

##### **1.1 Confirmation of minutes of Ordinary Meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> September 2021.**

The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on the 13<sup>th</sup> September 2021 were confirmed on the proposal of **Councillor Paul McCabe** and seconded by **Councillor Michael Gallagher**.

#### **2 Matters arising from the Minutes**

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

#### **3 Expressions of Sympathy and Congratulations**



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Sympathy was extended to:

- Claire King on the death of her mother, Bernie King.
- Cllr Shane O'Reilly, Cavan County Council on the death of his uncle, Philip (Solbert) O'Reilly,

### **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 0.0535 Ha of Land at Kells Business Park, Kells, Co Meath.

This was agreed on the proposal of **Councillor Paul McCabe** and seconded by **Councillor Sean Drew**.

4.2 Disposal of 0.08 Ha of Land at Carlanstown, Kells, Co Meath.

This was agreed on the proposal of **Councillor Paul McCabe** and seconded by **Councillor Michael Gallagher**.

### **5 Statutory Business**

#### **5.1 Transportation**

5.1.1 To receive a Progress Report on works undertaken/planned for Kells Municipal District.

The report was circulated in advance with further updates provided.

Aaron Smith, Executive Engineer confirmed he was in the process of preparing the three year roadworks programme and, once it is finalised, an online Teams Meeting will be arranged to note same.

Councillors thanked Aaron Smith and his team for the great work they are doing on the ground.



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### **5.2 Corporate Services**

- 5.2.1 To note Municipal District Allocations submitted by Councillors on behalf of Kells Municipal District.

The list of allocations, circulated in advance was noted.

### **5.3 Community**

- 5.3.1 To receive an update on Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure and Town & Village Schemes

Fiona Fallon, Senior Executive Officer, Community Department provided an update on the Rural Funding Scheme. This included CLÁR funding, for which two schemes were approved in 2021 at Moylagh Community Centre and Ballinacree Community Walking Track to the value of €96,800. Under the ORIS (Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme), over €1.74 million has been invested in the Kells Municipal District between 2017 – 2020. Under the 2021 scheme, nine applications were submitted and a decision on these applications is awaited. Under the Town & Village Renewal Scheme, over €1.75 million has been invested in Kells Municipal District. A decision is awaited on 2021 applications.

It was noted that Kells Municipal District has benefited greatly from the above funding and groups have been very pro-active in applying for funding and coming up with ideas for projects. The high level of engagement between councillors and community groups was welcomed.

Matters raised by councillors and responses provided included: -

- Queried, of the nine applications submitted for the ORIS scheme, how many applications were in Kells Municipal District and similarly how many were submitted for the Town and Village Scheme – it was agreed to circulate these details to Councillors.



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- Asked if a second round of funding was envisaged for this year similar to last year – It was advised that the Council have not been informed of a second round of funding for this year. However, a scheme recently announced was the Streetscape Improvement Scheme for which Oldcastle and Athboy were selected on the basis that there is a Public Realm Plan provided for these towns. Oldcastle received in the order of €67,000 in grants for those premises who submitted applications and Athboy received €14,000.
- Asked if there was any funding for the provision of footpaths in rural towns and villages – It was pointed out that if a town and village is located within the Clár area, funding is available for a footpath to connect a community centre to a village, if it is on the outskirts.
- Thanked Fiona Fallon on the opening of the new Community House in Kells.

## **6 Notice of Question**

### **6.1 Submitted by Councillor Seán Drew**

“I am seeking an update as to when the scheduled new bus shelters will be erected at the following locations:

- Cavan Rd, Kells Town.
- Carnaross Village
- Martry.”

#### **Response:**

*The Bus Shelter Enabling Works scheme, which includes the three locations referenced, is currently out to tender. The latest date for receipt of tenders for this scheme is 12:00noon on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> October. After this time, submitted tenders will be evaluated, in order to*



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*identify a preferred compliant tenderer. It is envisaged that the successful compliant tenderer will be appointed after this time, and works will then commence on site. While it is not possible to state definitively when the three stops noted will be erected, it is anticipated that this will be in the coming months.*

The response was noted.

### **7 Notice of Motion**

#### **7.1 Submitted by Councillor Seán Drew**

“That Meath County Council prioritise the preparation of a Public Realm Plan for Kells with particular emphasis on improving pedestrian safety & accessibility within the town centre area.”

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

*Responsibility for producing Public Realm plans lies with the Planning Department. Transportation will liaise with the Planning staff in relation to infrastructural matters such as pedestrian safety and accessibility, as part of the development of a plan for Kells.*

*Planning is currently finalising the plans that are underway and working on selection of the next Public Realm/Local Area Plans to be progressed. When this decision is made, we will be able to revert to the Members to confirm when the plan for Kells will be commencing.*

The supporting information and motion, proposed by **Councillor Seán Drew** and seconded by **Councillor Paul McCabe**, was agreed.

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

8.1 To note the Corporate Policy Group Meeting Minutes of 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2021.



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The minutes were noted.

- 8.2 To note the report from the Housing, Community and Cultural Development SPC of 29<sup>th</sup> September 2021.

The report was noted.

### **9 Correspondence**

- 9.1 Correspondence received from Mr Seán Murphy, ESB in response to the notice of item 6.1 from September meeting.

The correspondence was noted.

It was agreed to contact Seán Murphy, ESB after the 22<sup>nd</sup> October and ask if he is in a position to meet with a delegate of Councillors.

### **10 Any Other Business**

- 10.1 Councillor Michael Gallagher raised the following issue: -

10.1.1 Referred to Irish Water facilities and the supply of waste water, in particular problems in Drumconrath with boiled water notices – It was agreed to invite Gerry Boyle, Senior Engineer, Water Services to a meeting to provide an update on water and wastewater in Kells Municipal District.

- 10.2 Councillor Sarah Reilly raised the following issue: -

10.2.1 Asked if funding was available for the maintenance of all walkways and cycle ways with particular reference to the Blackwater Walkway – It was advised that there is no specific code for the maintenance of these schemes. Priority is given based on funding availability. An allocation would need to be made within the budgetary process. It was agreed to bring this matter to the Management Team.

- 10.3 Councillor Sean Drew raised the following matters: -



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- 10.3.1 Asked as to what stage the Drumbaragh Road footpath is at.
- 10.3.2 Referred to the Jim Brunnock Road and asked if there was any update – It was agreed to include this as an Item on the Agenda for the November meeting.
- 10.4 Dara McGowan, Area Manager raised the following issue: -
  - 10.4.1 Provided clarification as a follow on from the September meeting in relation to the Athboy Scheme, as he read some comments on social media. Every scheme takes time and there is a process to go through. He confirmed that he and the Management Team have full confidence in the staff in Kells and the project staff working on various transportation projects in Kells. - It was agreed that there is far too much misrepresentation put out on social media as to what happens at meetings.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed:

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Cathaoirleach