



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

Ordinary Meeting

4th October 2021 @ 1.30p.m.

Solstice Theatre, Navan (and online via zoom)

Presiding

Councillor Sean Drew, Cathaoirleach

Councillors Present (Solstice Theatre):

Councillors: Yemi Adenuga; Mike Bray; Francis Deane; Brian Fitzgerald; Joe Fox; Noel French; Michael Gallagher; Wayne Harding; Nick Killian; Alan Lawes; Paul McCabe; Elaine McGinty; Paddy Meade; Maria Murphy; Gerry O'Connor; Aisling O'Neill; Tommy Reilly; Gillian Toole.

Councillors Present (online):

Councillors: Tom Behan; Joe Bonner; Eugene Cassidy; Aisling Dempsey; Edward Fennessy; Pádraig Fitzsimons; Deirdre Geraghty-Smith; David Gilroy; Trevor Golden; Suzanne Jamal; Geraldine Keogan; Stephen McKee; Ronan Moore; Damien O'Reilly; Sarah Reilly; Amanda Smith; Niamh Souhan; Alan Tobin; Sharon Tolan; Conor Tormey.

Apologies: Councillor Emer Tóibín

Officials in attendance:

Chief Executive: Jackie Maguire

Directors of Service: Des Foley, Fiona Lawless, Barry Lynch, Dara McGowan

Meetings Administrator: Robert Collins

Senior Executive Officers: David Jones, Ger Murphy, Larry Whelan

Apologies: Mr Martin Murray

1 Confirmation of Minutes

1.1 Confirmation of minutes of Ordinary meeting held on 6th September 2021.

The minutes of the Ordinary meeting held on 6th September 2021 were confirmed on the proposal of **Councillor Paul McCabe** and seconded by **Councillor Joe Fox**.

1.2 Confirmation of minutes of the Special Planning meeting held from the 20th to 22nd September 2021.

The minutes of the Special Planning meeting held from 20th to 22nd September 2021 were confirmed on the proposal of **Councillor Tommy Reilly** and seconded by **Councillor Gerry O'Connor**.



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2 Matters arising from the Minutes

Councillor Gillian Toole referred to the minutes from the September monthly meeting and asked that more narrative be included under the AOB item regarding the causes of homelessness and whether these were raised with members of the Oireachtas.

3 Expressions of Sympathy and Congratulations

Sympathy was extended to:

- Ms. Bernadette Martin, School Warden, Navan and Mr. Gerry Martin, Water Services on the death of their mother/mother-in-law, Carmel Smith.
- The family of the late Amanda Brady, employee Kells Swimming Pool.
- Senator Annie Hoey on the death of her father, Raymond Hoey.
- Mr. John O'Donoghue, former employee and Town Clerk, Navan UDC on the death of his daughter, Deirdre O'Donoghue.
- Ms. Claire King, Corporate Services on the death of her mother, Bernie King.
- Ms. Alison Dowling, former Councillor on the death of her father, Laurence (Larry) Boyle.
- Ms. Liz Dowdall, former employee on the death of her father, Paddy Gibney.
- The Family of Michael McDonagh, Reask Court, Navan.
- The parents and family of Eileen Rushe, Termonfeckin and Bettystown.
- The family of John Smith, Navan
- The family of Nancy Stewart, Clonard.

Congratulations were extended to:

- Councillor Nick Killian on his recent election as Vice-President of AILG
- All elected members and the executive of Meath County Council, and Minister English and Senator Cassells, on their endeavours to have the Navan Rail line included in the National Development Plan
- Ms Amelia Reilly on her retirement after 40 years service in Kells Swimming Pool
- Schools in Meath that are welcoming back their successful pupils/past pupils following their successes in the All-Ireland football finals
- Sergeant Rodney Hodgkinson on his retirement from Laytown Garda Station

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

There were no disposals.

5 Statutory Business

5.1 Corporate Services

5.1.1 To adopt the revised Standing Orders regulating the proceedings of the Council.

On a proposal of **Councillor Tommy Reilly** and seconded by **Councillor Gerry O'Connor** it was agreed to defer this item to allow elected members submit comments/suggestions for consideration. There were comments from **Councillors Noel French and Maria Murphy**. An Cathaoirleach asked that



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members look at the proposals and to submit feedback through the whips or individually by the end of the week.

5.2 Housing

5.2.1 To adopt the Revised Housing Allocation Scheme.

Mr. David Jones, Senior Executive Officer, Housing Department presented the revised Housing Allocation Scheme which had been approved by the Housing, Community and Culture SPC previously. In his presentation he outlined the legislative context and the basis on which allocations are made; the main provisions of the scheme; and the key material amendments to the scheme, which were the new Choice Based Letting (CBL) system and the 'Rightsizing' initiative.

There were a number of interventions from **Councillors: Aisling Dempsey; Tommy Reilly; Aisling O'Neill; Edward Fennessy; Gerry O'Connor; Ronan Moore; Gillian Toole; Mike Bray; Nick Killian; Alan Lawes; Elaine McGinty; Joe Fox; Maria Murphy; and An Cathaoirleach.** While there was broad support for the new scheme a number of issues were raised, including on: the categorisation of housing need and health matters; removal of applicants from the housing list; offences that may disqualify an application; illegal occupation; the assessment process and meetings with applicants; the implications of the CBL and the practicalities of applicants being aware of dwellings and the difficulties some may have if it is an online only system; the workings of the rightsizing scheme and how its benefits could be better publicised; the distinct needs of housing applicants and HAP applicants.

Mr. Jones provided clarifications and responses on issues raised and the elected members welcomed the proposed workshop for members on the CBL.

On a proposal of **Councillor Nick Killian** and seconded by **Councillor Maria Murphy**, the revised Housing Allocation Scheme was adopted, as presented.

A number of elected members also took the opportunity to thank Mr David Jones for his seven years of service with Meath County Council, his achievements in the Housing Department and his support to the members during that time. The Chief Executive and Director of Services, Mr. Barry Lynch also thanked Mr. Jones for his exceptional work and wished him every success in his future career.

5.3 Finance

5.3.1 To note the dates for Municipal Districts to consider and adopt the draft Budgetary Plan which will take place online via zoom as follows:

Municipal District	Date	Time
Ratoath Municipal District	Wednesday 10 th November	2.00pm – 3.30pm
Ashbourne Municipal District	Wednesday 10 th November	4.00pm – 5.30pm
Laytown-Bettystown Municipal District	Thursday 11 th November	9.00pm – 10.30am



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Navan Municipal District	Thursday 11 th November	11.00am – 12.30pm
Kells Municipal District	Thursday 11 th November	2.00pm – 3.30pm
Trim Municipal District	Thursday 11 th November	4.00pm – 5.30pm

These were noted by the Elected Members.

6 Reports

6.1 Chief Executive's Report

There were comments and clarifications sought by **Councillors Nick Killian, Ronan Moore, Pdraig Fitzsimons, Aisling O'Neill; Maria Murphy; Paul McCabe and Yemi Adenuga** focusing on:

Housing: construction of houses at Lagore;

Transport: inclusion of roads proposals in the National Development Plan; publication of the Feasibility Study on Navan Rail

Libraries: clarification on Eduroam; Cultute Night and opportunity for heritage and community events in future

Corporate: Tender for undertaking services

Environment: Climate action targets and data centres; Halloween and disposal of bulky waste; illegal dumping

Responses were provided by Mr. Dara McGowan, Mr Des Foley and Mr Barry Lynch, Directors of Services.

6.2 Report from the Corporate Policy Group

The Meetings Administrator provided a report from the meeting of the CPG held on Friday, October 1, which was noted by the Elected Members.

6.3 Report from the Protocol Committee

The Meetings Administrator provided a report from the meeting of the Protocol Committee held on Monday, October 4, which was noted by the Elected Members.

7 Correspondence

7.1 Correspondence from Minister of State for Transport, Hildegard Naughton TD in response to Notice of Motion 9.3 adopted at the May 2021 meeting of the full Council re. request to consider stricter penalties for road traffic violations to the fines already in place.

Noted by the Elected Members

7.2 Correspondence from Minister for Health, Stephen Donnelly T.D. in response to Notice of Motion 9.5 adopted at the September 2021 meeting of the full Council re. request to carry out a public investigation into the handling of the epidemic.

Councillor Gillian Toole wished to have her displeasure with the response recorded.

The correspondence was noted by the Elected Members.



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- 7.3 Correspondence from Senator Victor Boyhan received from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage re. procuring of legal advice by local authority elected members to aid them in the exercise of their reserved functions.

Noted by the Elected Members.

8 Notice of Question

8.1 Submitted by Councillor Ronan Moore

"To ask the Council to provide in tabular form the number of data centres currently operational and being proposed (by way of the planning process) in County Meath and the energy usage associated with each."

Response

The response was provided in tabular form and appended to the meeting documentation.

Noted by the Elected Members.

8.2 Submitted by Councillor Mike Bray

"To ask Meath County Council to provide the number of local authority houses that have been returned to use in each Municipal District in 2020 and to date in 2021 as part of the Void Programme funding allocated to the council by the Minister for Housing."

Response

In 2020, pre let funding was secured from the Department of Housing, Local Government & Heritage for 80 units, to a combined value of €1,336,000, with all 80 units returned to productive use.

In 2021, funding was approved towards the pre let expenditure on 73 units, to a combined value of €1,047,609. To date, 68 units have been returned to productive use.

The distribution of pre let units that received funding from the Department of Housing, Local Government & Heritage in 2020 and 2021, that have been returned to productive use, per Municipal District, is outlined in the table below:

2020		2021	
Municipal District	No. of Pre Let Units	Municipal District	No. of Pre Let Units
Ashbourne	3	Ashbourne	5
Kells	19	Kells	16
Laytown-Bettystown	7	Laytown-Bettystown	5
Navan	17	Navan	18
Ratoath	16	Ratoath	10
Trim	18	Trim	14
TOTAL	80	TOTAL	68

Noted by the Elected Members.



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8.3 Submitted by Councillor Sharon Tolan

“Can you please advise if consultants have been appointed to draft the Meath Coastal Protection Strategy, and provide members with an update on the schedule of same?”

Response

Notwithstanding the establishment of an Interdepartmental Working Group to scope out an approach for the development of an integrated, whole of Government coastal change management strategy, the Council commenced a process for the appointment of its own Consultants to undertake a coastal defense strategy study of the Councils coastline of circa 13 miles.

While the initial focus of the study was coastal erosion it became clear, following discussions with other Local Authorities and the OPW, for the need to broaden the brief to also incorporate a flood risk management study as coastal erosion and flooding are inextricably linked.

The OPW are the lead Authority in this area and fund Coastal protection and Coastal Flood Alleviation schemes and quite recently published a guidance strategy on the form that strategic studies should take and produced a template for use by Local Authorities etc who can apply for funding of up to 90% of the cost of the study.

It is also clear that Nature based solutions particularly at sensitive Natural Ecosystems such as our Dunes systems are now being considered for funding and it is timely that we will be including for such consideration in our Strategy. It is now proposed to make an application to the OPW for funding of the study and also to benefit from their expertise in vetting our scoping documentation such that our eventual Strategy will reflect best practice.

Subject to receipt of confirmation of funding from the OPW in November, the tender invitation will be published and it is hoped that Consultants will be appointed by year end and that the strategy will be finalised within a 12 month period thereafter.

Councillor Sharon Tolan expressed her disappointment with the response.

Noted by the Elected Members.

8.4 Submitted by Councillor Alan Tobin

“Is there a specific list of all buildings in Meath that have a preservation order placed upon them?”

Response

The Record of Protected Structures is available to view online at <https://www.meath.ie/system/files/upload/Record%20of%20Protected%20Structures%20List%20for%20the%20County.pdf>



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Councillor Alan Tobin requested that the Council receive a presentation by the Council's Conservation Officer to provide an overview of the preservation order process.

Noted by the Elected Members.

8.5 Submitted by Councillor Emer Tóibín

“To ask MCC how many heritage buildings/structures are in their ownership of the Council across the county and how many are currently awaiting funding for renovation and/or repurposing and to outline the budget for all works carried out in the area of Council owned heritage buildings/structures for the last 5 years?”

Response

The table below outlines the historical buildings owned by Meath County Council and the proposed works/funding associated with each building

Heritage Buildings	Current Project Stage	Funding Scheme
Trim Town Hall	Design	RRDF funding received by the OPW for the design of the restoration of the building for use as an Interpretative Centre.
St. Kenneth's Church, Ballivor	Restoration	Town & Village Renewal Scheme and MCC funding to restore the building to community use.
St. Patrick's Church, Trim	Restoration	RRDF funding received to include the restoration of this building as the Trim Library and Cultural Centre.
Courthouse, Kells	Restoration	RRDF and Fáilte Ireland funding received to carry out improvements works to the Old Courthouse in Kells.
Spire of Lloyd	Scoping exercise	Costings being undertaken on improvement works to be carried out to the internal fittings in the building. This will be used for future grant applications.
Dunshaughlin Courthouse	Application	RRDF funding sought in the recent call for funding for the restoration of this building for use as a community building. A decision on this project will be known before the end of 2021.
Kilmessan Church	Scoping Exercise	Costings being undertaken on improvement works to be carried out to the building. This will be used for future grant applications.
Duleek Courthouse	Restored (works complete)	Indaver / Meath County Council / Community funding used to restore this building for community use.
St. Patrick's Classical School, Navan	Design	URDF funding received to bring design through the Planning process with the intention to seek further funding to deliver the project.
Old Community School, Athboy	Improvement works complete	Town & Village Renewal Scheme.

Noted by the Elected Members.



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9 Notice of Motion

9.1 Submitted by Councillor Edward Fennessy (Deferred from September Meeting)

"To call on Meath County Council to carry out a review of playgrounds, per Municipal District area, in the interests of combatting vandalism and anti-social behaviour and enhancing safety in public playgrounds in the county."

Supporting Information subject to the motion being proposed, seconded and considered.

It is proposed to forward the Notice of Motion to the next meeting of the Joint Policing Committee where the issue of anti-social behaviour at playgrounds and other locations can be discussed.

Councillor Edward Fennessy gave a short introduction to his motion and indicated that he was happy for this to be further considered at the JPC. There were interventions by **Councillors Stephen McKee** and **Alan Tobin**, who referred to road safety issues in the vicinity of playgrounds and the use of CCTV as a deterrent.

The supporting information and the motion proposed by **Councillor Edward Fennessy** and seconded by **Councillor Michael Gallagher** was agreed.

9.2 Submitted by Councillor Sharon Tolan

"I call on Meath County Council to introduce new 'Hidden Disability' parking spaces at popular family locations across the county, similar to the very successful Hidden Disability Sunflower Spaces provided by Waterford County Council."

Supporting Information subject to the motion being proposed, seconded and considered.

Unlike the Age Friendly parking spaces introduced previously, which were supported by national policy, the Council is not in a position to introduce any new parking arrangement outside of national legislation/policy as these spaces would be unenforceable.

Councillor Sharon Tolan introduced her motion suggesting that Meath County Council could take the lead on this and provide parking spaces for people with a hidden disability. The scheme, she considered, does not need legislation, would be non-enforceable and could be piloted with two spaces at Bettystown Beach. There were supporting interventions from **Councillors Ronan Moore; Stephen McKee; Nick Killian; Sarah Reilly; Tom Behan; Maria Murphy; and Elaine McGinty**, with some members also seeking an urban pilot of the scheme. Director of Services, Mr. Dara McGowan clarified that there is no existing scheme in the country of parking spaces for people with a hidden disability and suggested that the beach would be the most appropriate location for a pilot.

The supporting information and the motion proposed by **Councillor Sharon Tolan** and seconded by **Councillor Alan Tobin** was agreed.



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9.3 Submitted by Councillor Alan Tobin and Councillor Aisling O'Neill

"To ask Meath County Council's Transportation Department to put in place a formal application form or advisory to ensure that home owners in residential estates that are taken in charge with grass verges and associated landscaping cannot alter those verges without permission and consultation with Meath County Council. Failure to consult would result in a fine and order to return to original specifications".

Supporting Information subject to the motion being proposed, seconded and considered.

Any proposed works to be carried out by a third party on a public road (which would include verges) requires a Road Opening Licence and as part of this application process, if there was a request to remove trees, this would be considered as part of that process.

Councillors Alan Tobin and **Aisling O'Neill** gave an introduction to their motion, explaining a situation whereby trees were cut down, in breach of the Wildlife Acts, but that there was very little that the statutory agencies could do. They wished to see legislation and better use of local licencing and awareness-raising to prevent further such events. **Councillor Maria Murphy** considered that there may be a role for residents associations and the PPN in this regard. **An Cathaoirleach** considered that good suggestions were made during the discussion and that the matter should be referred to the Transportation SPC.

The supporting information and the motion proposed by **Councillors Aisling O'Neill/Alan Tobin** and seconded by **Councillor Michael Gallagher** was agreed and would be referred to the Transportation SPC for further consideration.

9.4 Submitted by the Fine Gael Councillors

"To ask corporate services to review and change, if possible, the arduous and time-consuming steps and barriers in place due to GDPR needed by Councillors to represent people in need of vital housing services and our representation". This should take into account easier methods undertaken in other authorities in the state."

Supporting Information subject to the motion being proposed, seconded and considered.

The Council's data protection policies and procedures have been developed to ensure that it is fully compliant with the General Data Protection Regulation and the Data Protection Acts. These procedures are also intended to support the elected members, as data controllers in their own right, to also remain compliant.

The Council intends to review the application of its Section 40 policy across the organisation with a view to addressing any inconsistencies as to how departments/teams process Members Representations.



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The Council is also currently upgrading its Customer Relations Management (CRM) system and as part of this upgrade will develop a Members Portal for the submission and tracking of Members Representations. In doing so, the Council will address and make any necessary changes to help improve and streamline the processing of Members Representations across the organisation.

Councillor Alan Tobin introduced the motion and suggested that the GDPR provisions were causing an unnecessary delay in elected members processing representations and that a simpler, more user-friendly system was required. He did indicate that he was satisfied with the response provided. A number of elected members supported the motion and highlighted specific cases, including: **Councillors Joe Fox, Aisling O'Neill and Noel French**. Many others felt that the current system was generally working well, with a few exceptions, including **Councillors Gillian Toole; Mike Bray; Yemi Adenuga; Gerry O'Connor and Nick Killian**. Mr Dara McGowan clarified some questions raised and **An Cathaoirleach** suggested that the new CRM system should deliver some improvements when it is fully operational.

The supporting information and the motion proposed by **Councillor Aisling O'Neill** and seconded by **Councillor Maria Murphy** was noted.

9.5 Submitted by Councillor Ronan Moore

"To ask Meath County Council to increase its usage of Irish Sign Language (ISL), where practical, in its public communications; and if it has not already done so, to draw up a strategy and timeline to increase the level of information the council provides in ISL to help us meet our duties as a public body under the Irish Sign Language Act 2017."

Supporting Information subject to the motion being proposed, seconded and considered.

Meath County Council has availed of the services of external assistance to provide Irish Sign Language interpretation in the past and will aim to increase its usage of Irish Sign Language in public communication going forward.

Councillor Ronan Moore gave a short introduction to his motion, citing the Irish Sign Language Act 2017 and the requirements this has for public bodies. He emphasised that the Council seeks to provide services in an inclusive manner and that a balance needs to be struck in terms of providing certain public notices using ISL. There were supporting inputs from **Councillors Alan Tobin and Gerry O'Connor**.

The supporting information and the motion proposed by **Councillor Ronan Moore** and seconded by **Councillor Edward Fennessy** was noted.



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9.6 Submitted by Councillor Ronan Moore & Councillor Mike Bray

"To ask Meath County Council to write to the International Protection Accommodation Service (IPAS) and the Minister of Justice asking them to provide free WIFI throughout Mosney Village, so that it's residents can more readily access information to services."

Councillors Ronan Moore and Mike Bray introduced their motion, which was informed by their involvement with Comhairle na nÓg and the difficulty that children in the Mosney facility have in accessing the digital space, preventing them from educational opportunity and more general social and recreational services. They suggested that while there is broadband, it is not accessible across the campus. There were supporting interventions from **Councillors: Gillian Toole; Sharon Tolan; Aisling O'Neill; Nick Killian; Maria Murphy; and Gerry O'Connor.**

The motion proposed by **Councillors Ronan Moore and Mike Bray** and seconded by **Councillor Gillian Toole** was agreed.

9.7 Submitted by Councillor Elaine McGinty

"To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate, Communications and Transport to urgently address the need for greater interagency co-operation between our local Councils, An Bord Pleanála, EirGrid, Irish Water, Department of Finance and other state agencies to ensure that Ireland meets its commitments to the Climate Action and Development Bill 2021."

Councillor Elaine McGinty introduced her motion setting out the rationale for greater inter-agency cooperation for meeting the country's climate action commitments, in particular: to address the balance between the use of land for food and energy production; and also to look at the future of data centres and their wider and longer-term costs. There were supporting comments made by **Councillor Gillian Toole.**

The motion proposed by **Councillor Elaine McGinty** and seconded by **Councillor Gillian Toole** was agreed.

9.8 Submitted by Councillor Paul McCabe

"That Meath County Council calls on the Ministers for Finance, Public Expenditure, Environment, Climate and Communications and Rural and Community Development to ensure that additional resources are allocated to the rollout of the National Broadband Plan in the upcoming budget and that Meath County Council invite representatives of National Broadband Ireland to provide an update on rollout progress in county Meath at an upcoming monthly meeting."

Supporting Information subject to the motion being proposed, seconded and considered.

If agreed by the Councillors, Meath County Council can invite representatives of National Broadband Ireland to provide an update on rollout progress in county Meath.



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Councillor Paul McCabe introduced his motion highlighting the significant delay in the roll-out schedule and the frustration of local people with the timelines proposed as to when they will have broadband, December 2026 in some areas of the county. He also referenced comments by the CEO of National Broadband Ireland (NBI) who indicated that it was a little tougher to get things done in Meath than in other counties and considered that such comments did not reflect reality. He also suggested that local authorities need additional technical staff to help process permits and licences. There was support expressed for the motion from **Councillors Mike Bray; Michael Gallagher; Noel French; and Joe Fox**. The Chief Executive clarified that NBI have to get road opening licences and/or planning permission depending on the nature of the works. The Council, she stated, has good engagement with NBI and follows the established national agreed procedures.

The motion proposed by **Councillor Paul McCabe** and seconded by **Councillor Mike Bray** was agreed.

9.9 Submitted by Councillor Mike Bray and Councillor Paul McCabe

"That Meath County Council calls on the NTA and Bus Éireann to reinstate the pre-existing 109A bus service timetable which would operate regular services from Kells to Dublin Airport via DCU, recognising the huge numbers of Meath students that attend DCU, and that the 109A service and route is reviewed in order to make it more passenger friendly and time efficient."

Councillors Mike Bray and **Paul McCabe** introduced their motion by outlining the impact that the change in the 109A service has had across the county and in particular the impact on DCU students. With 10% of the new DCU intake of students coming from Meath, the downgrading of the service has impacted a large number of people. It was felt that the new service does not take account of the needs of students and different type of students, many of whom have evening lectures or wish to participate in on-campus activities.

There were interventions by **Councillors Nick Killian, Michael Gallagher, Paddy Meade, Alan Tobin** and **Gillian Toole**, who all supported the motion and raised other issues to support the case for the service to be reviewed and improved. It was also noted that the Bus Éireann area manager would attend the Ratoath MD meeting and this issue would be raised then. However, all elected members considered that the NTA is where the matter needs to be addressed.

The motion proposed by **Councillors Mike Bray** and **Paul McCabe** and seconded by **Councillor Gillian Toole** was agreed.

9.10 Submitted by Councillor Gillian Toole

"The Members of Meath County Council request the Members of Dáil Éireann to begin drafting, without delay, a Well-being of Future Generations [Ireland] Act. This Act will enshrine the rights of



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future generations; requiring Irish Government Ministers & the organisations they oversee, to firmly fix this commitment into everything they do."

Councillor Gillian Toole informed the meeting that she was withdrawing the motion with a view to re-submitting a revised motion in November.

10 Schedule of Chief Executive & Approved Orders (For Information Only)

- 10.1 Schedule of Chief Executive's Orders – Transportation
- 10.2 Schedule of Chief Executive's Orders – Environment
- 10.3 Schedule of Chief Executive's Orders – Housing
- 10.4 Schedule of Chief Executive's Orders – Community & Enterprise

Noted by the Elected Members.

11 Any Other Business

There was a call that the Council write to the Minister for Health and the HSE regarding services at Navan Hospital, proposed by **Councillor Michael Gallagher** and supported by **Councillors Aisling O'Neill and Gillian Toole**. This was not supported by other members, including **Councillors Joe Fox; Maria Murphy and Paul McCabe**. An Cathaoirleach informed the meeting that he had already emailed the Minister on this issue and he was not allowing Any Other Business to be used as a means of tabling a Notice of Motion by the backdoor.

Councillor Alan Tobin highlighted the visit of a small delegation from Cary in October. This was noted.

Councillor Nick Killian, supported by **Councillor Joe Fox**, asked that local Pride of Place events take place as in-person events, in order to recognise the work of local groups and volunteers. The meeting was informed that this was raised at the recent SPC meeting and that the matter was under review.

The Meetings Administrator informed the elected members that the proposed Civic Receptions to honour the Minor Football Team and the Ladies Senior Football Team would take place in the Solstice Theatre on November 1st and December 1st, respectively, and that further detail will be provided in advance. This was noted by the elected members.