



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

Ashbourne Municipal District

Ordinary Meeting

10:00 a.m., 2nd November 2021, Ashbourne Civic Offices

An Cathaoirleach, **Councillor Suzanne Jamal**, presided.

Councillors Present: Joe Bonner, Aisling O'Neill, Amanda Smith, Alan Tobin and Conor Tormey.

Officials in Attendance:

Director of Service: Fiona Lawless

Meetings Administrator: Claire King

Executive Engineer: Mel Cronin

Staff Officer: Triona Keating

Clerical Officer: Edita Asaciova

1 Confirmation of Minutes

1.1 Confirmation of minutes of Ordinary Meeting held on 5th October 2021.

The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 5th October 2021 were confirmed on the proposal of **Councillor Amanda Smith** and seconded by **Councillor Joe Bonner**.

2 Matters arising from the Minutes

Councillor Alan Tobin sought confirmation that a letter issued to the LMETB as agreed and in relation to Item 5.1 – Notice of Question on the October meeting agenda – it was confirmed that this letter had issued.

3 Expressions of Sympathy and Congratulations



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Sympathy was extended to:

- Claire King, Meetings Administrator on the death of her mother, Bernie King;
- The family of the late Thomas Ryan, a prominent artist of local and national note and to whom tributes were paid;
- The family of the late John O'Grady, former employee of Meath County Council.

Congratulations were extended to:

- Meath County Council on the recent successful Pride of Place awards and all voluntary and community groups who undertake excellent work on behalf of their communities. Councillor Suzanne Jamal was commended on her role as MC at the event and the addition of relevant categories was also acknowledged.

4 Statutory Business

4.1 Transportation

- 4.1.1 To receive a Progress Report on works undertaken/planned for Ashbourne Municipal District.

The report had been circulated in advance and a further update provided, including updates on tree clearance works on the R125 and works planned and undertaken at Oberstown/Skryne.

Matters raised by councillors included:

- Commended the significant amount of work carried out in the municipal district and the progress made.
- Underlined the need for a long-term plan for the R125, which serves as the main route to Fingal and the airport.

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- Thanked Mel and his team for their assistance at the recent recycling day.
- Requested an update on when the outstanding issues would be resolved following the flood alleviation works carried out by the OPW.
- Queried the plans for the junction at Oberstown/Skryne – all options are actively being considered to improve safety, including ramps, which require public lighting with the process for same outlined, and an all stop junction, with sight lines being assessed.
- Welcomed the ramps at Gormanston and queried whether these will be painted and whether LED bulbs can be installed – a different contractor is used for line marking and the ramps will be of the same standard as those in Ashbourne. The issue of the LED bulbs will be raised with the Public Lighting Section.
- Queried whether there is a programme in place for line marking and whether councillors can submit proposed locations, e.g. where centre road lines are needed – local roads are generally not lined, unless at bend sections, and some roads are too narrow for centre lines and these will have yellow lines at road edges. Road lining will take place after road resurfacing, where lines are worn or at bends/junctions.

4.1.2 To receive an update on the proposed Housing Estate Special Speed Limit Bye-Laws statutory process.

Paul McKown, Executive Engineer, Transportation outlined the documentation circulated in advance and sought approval to present the bye-laws to the December full council meeting. If ratified, the signage will be erected and the bye-laws will take effect in early 2022.

Matters raised by councillors included:

- Queried whether the majority of estates that have been taken in charge are now subject to the 30km/h speed limit – the majority are included but some

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smaller estates, with short road lengths, have not been included and estates where representations were received have been prioritised.

- Queried whether Crenigans Banóg, Ashbourne had been included – as no representations had been received in relation to this estate, it has not been included. However, it will be included in the next housing estate speed limit review, likely to be in 2023.
- Queried who enforced these speed limits, once introduced – the Gardaí enforce the speed limits.

It was agreed on the proposal of **Councillor Joe Bonner** and seconded by **Councillor Conor Tormey** to proceed as outlined.

4.2 Planning

4.2.1 To consider taking in charge of the following and the making of a declaration that the roads within the developments shall be public roads in accordance with Section 11 Roads Act 1993 and the Planning & Development Acts 2000-2020.

- Cnoc Neil Grove, Ashbourne

Councillor Alan Tobin sought confirmation that the road and walkway from The Briars, as well as the pedestrian entrance, would be reinstated to a satisfactory standard following works carried out – it was pointed out that the drainage works referred to were separate from the development and these would be reinstated by a council crew, once available.

This was agreed on the proposal of **Councillor Conor Tormey** and seconded by **Councillor Joe Bonner**.

- The Oaks, Ashbourne.

This was agreed on the proposal of **Councillor Alan Tobin** and seconded by **Councillor Conor Tormey**.



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5 Notice of Question

There were no Notices of Question.

6 Notice of Motion

6.1 Submitted by Councillor Amanda Smith

“Following on from the recent motion passed at full Council regarding the testing of waters at all beaches in County Meath, In the interest of public safety can the Council please begin testing the waters at Gormanston beach.”

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

Water quality was sampled at Gormanston Beach on 4 occasions over recent months and all of which met Excellent standard.

The supporting information and motion, proposed by **Councillor Amanda Smith** and seconded by **Councillor Alan Tobin**, was agreed.

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

7.1 To note the Corporate Policy Group Meeting Minutes of 1st October 2021.

The minutes were noted.

7.2 To note the report from the Planning Economic Development, Enterprise and European Affairs SPC of 8th October 2021.

The report was noted.

7.3 To note the report from Climate Action, Environment & Emergency Services SPC of 18th October 2021.



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The report was noted.

- 7.4 To note the report from the Transportation SPC of 19th October 2021.

The report was noted.

- 7.5 To note the report from the Housing, Community & Cultural Development SPC of 20th October 2021.

The report was noted.

8 Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

9 Any Other Business

- 9.1 Joe Bonner raised the following issue:

- 9.1.1 Requested an update on the report relating to the implementation of the Public Realm Plan – it was confirmed that this will be brought to the December meeting.

- 9.2 Fiona Lawless raised the following issues:

- 9.2.1 In relation to Christmas lights, it was agreed that the switching on of the Christmas tree lights in Ashbourne would take place at 6pm on Saturday 4th December and it was also proposed that allocations be made to Kentstown and Stamullen for the provision of a permanent socket and/or Christmas lights – this was agreed.

- 9.2.2 Reminded councillors that the MD Budget Meeting would take place next Wednesday at 4pm via Zoom.



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This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed:

Cathaoirleach