



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

Navan Municipal District

Ordinary Meeting

10:00 a.m., 19th January 2022, Via Zoom

An Meára, Councillor Padraig Fitzsimons, presided.

Councillors Present: Yemi Adenuga, Francis Deane, Edward Fennessy, Alan Lawes, Tommy Reilly and 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 Ordinary Meeting held on 15th December 2021.

The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 15th December 2021 were confirmed on the proposal of **Councillor Tommy Reilly** and seconded by **Councillor Alan Lawes**.

2 Matters arising from the Minutes

Councillor Emer Tóibín queried whether there was an update on the well near the library, whilst acknowledging that this was not within the remit of the council – it was agreed to check if an update was available.

3 Expressions of Sympathy and Congratulations

Sympathy was extended to:



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- The family of the late Ashling Murphy, Tullamore, with a request that a letter of sympathy issue on behalf of councillors;
- The family of the late Patricia O'Brien, Claremont Estate, Navan;
- The family of the late Mary Carolan (née Boyle), Parnell Park, Navan;
- The family of the late Marie Sheridan, Ardmulchan/Hayestown, Navan;
- The family of the late Anne Fitzsimons, Parnell Park, Navan;
- The family of the late Geraldine Kelly, Woodlands, Navan;
- The family of the late Paddy Flood, Proudstown Hill, Navan.

Congratulations were extended to:

- The Trim GAA team on winning the Leinster Intermediate Football Championship.

4 To consider the election, appointment or nomination of Councillors to Local Bodies & Committees

- 4.1 Appointment of one Councillor from Navan Municipal District to the Corporate Policy Group (CPG), in accordance with Section 48 of the Local Government Reform Act 2014.**

Councillor Pdraig Fitzsimons was appointed on the proposal of Councillor Tommy Reilly and seconded by Councillor Edward Fennessy.

5 Statutory Business

5.1 Transportation

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



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

Matters raised by councillors included:

- Referred to the lights not working at the new crossing on the Round O junction – a formal application cannot be made to the ESB until a RECI certificate is provided. The council is liaising with the ESB to expedite connections across the county.
- Requested that markings be added to the crossing at the top of Beaufort Road, also at the Round O junction – the pedestrian crossings on the N51 are being assessed by the national roads team.
- Requested that the road sweeper go to Claremont Avenue – this was agreed.
- Queried when footpath works would commence in Silverlawns – works will commence in 1-2 weeks and will take 8-10 weeks to complete.
- Requested that the crews collect bags of leaves collected by residents' associations in estates – this was agreed.
- Referred to potholes at Páirc Tailteann/Navan hospital and on the Navan side of Dunderry village – the road surface at Páirc Tailteann will be checked to see what level of works are required; other locations will be added to the pothole register.
- Queried when the tree maintenance report would be ready – one arborist is dealing with the whole county and, whilst dealing with dangerous trees cannot commence until the report is received, crews have been visiting estates to undertake low pruning.
- Requested that the hedges at the crossroads on the Athboy Road, on the Delvin side of the junction onto the N51, be cut back to prevent overgrowth during the summer – it was agreed to follow this up.

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- Requested the programme of works for footpaths in estates – the programme of works is to be finalised, includes 3/4 estates per annum and is currently being assessed.
- Requested that the wheelchair accessible footpath access in Abbeygrove be completed – this requires proper assessment to ensure the safety of users.
- Referred to pooling outside the Montessori at The Grove, Athlumney – the council is aware of this issue.
- Queried whether the planters on Convent Road would be returned to their original location – it was agreed to check that the planters were returned to their original locations but these may need to be reviewed by the Sustainable Transport team.

6 Notice of Question

6.1 Submitted by Councillor Francis Deane

“Does Meath County Council have plans to introduce a shop front paint scheme for Navan in 2022 and, if so, how will business owners be informed about the application process?”

Response:

It is intended that Meath County Council will run its own Shop Front Improvement Scheme again in 2022 – details of the scheme for 2022 will be prepared in the coming months and will be advised to the Councillors.

The response was noted.

6.2 Submitted by Councillor Alan Lawes

“How many houses in the Boyne View Priory Millbrook and Spireview estates in Johnstown does the Council own and how many houses do Approved Housing Bodies own?”

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Response:

	<u>Meath County Council</u>	<u>Approved Housing Bodies</u>
Boyne View	6	1
Priory	5	2
Millbrook and	3	1
Spireview	9	0

The response was noted.

6.3 Submitted by Councillor Edward Fennessy

"To ask the Executive for a breakdown of long term leasing and long term leased Part V approvals in Navan for 2019, 2020; the annual cost of each lease; the lease review period in each case; the length of each lease; and if the property remains in private ownership at the end of the lease term or ownership transfers to the local authority or AHB in tabular form."

Response:

	54 units at Dunville	Flowerville, Flower Hill, Navan
Annual Cost of each Lease	€734,400	€144,840
Lease review period	36 mths	36 mths
Length of each lease	25 yrs	25 yrs
Ownership after lease expires	<i>This is a matter between Tuath and the developer. Meath Co Co are not privy to the</i>	<i>This is a matter between Tuath and the developer. Meath Co Co are not privy to the terms agreed post lease period.</i>



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	terms agreed post lease period.	
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The response was noted. Councillor Fennessy sought clarification as to who pays the maintenance for these units.

6.4 Submitted by Councillor Emer Tóibín

"To ask Meath County Council to provide Navan Municipal District councillors with a progress report regarding the inclusion of the site at Moathill as part of Navan points of pride walking tour and map as suggested by a member of the public back in May 2020 and to update us on the possible creation of a viewing point from which the Hill of Slane, Tara and Skyrne and much much more can be clearly seen."

Response:

Navan Motte is an extremely important site in the context of the historical development of Navan. It is a recorded monument on the Record of Monuments and Places (RMP) ME025-023001 protected under the National Monuments Acts 1930-2014. Navan Motte is also on the Record of Protected Structures NT025-166 and was classified as having national importance in the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage (NIAH) Reg. No. 14008044 undertaken by the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.

The Motte itself is in private ownership and has constraints from a public access/heritage point of view. Notwithstanding that in order to highlight its historical and heritage significance a brochure could be produced which would detail its history and importance in the context of the development of the town. Such a publication would serve to raise awareness and understanding of this key heritage asset.

*In 2020 Meath County Council supported the publication of *The Town in Medieval Ireland* in light of recent archaeological excavations (edited by Michael Potterton and Chris Corlett) and published by Wordwell. The book contains a major article by Navan archaeologist Dr Clare Ryan on the archaeology and history of medieval Navan, Co. Meath. Copies of the publication are available through the Meath Library Service.*

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In 2021 Meath County Council, through support from the Creative Ireland Programme, engaged with Dr Ryan to produce a Heritage Guide on Medieval Navan – this guide will be published in the Spring 2022 edition of Archaeology Ireland magazine and copies will be distributed to schools in Navan, through the Meath Library Service and Navan and District Historical Society.

The response was noted. Councillor Tóibín sought clarification as to whether the council had approached the landowner regarding the erection of a sign at or near the site.

6.5 Submitted by Councillor Yemi Adenuga

“Can Meath County Council kindly confirm:

1. What Kennedy Plaza was originally designed for?
2. If the original design was changed, when and why that change happened?
3. What is required to revert to the original design?”

Response:

1. *The Kennedy Plaza development consists of a Civic Space at Kennedy Road, Navan Town. It was designed to facilitate and promote the creation of a major civic space inclusive of an element of car parking at Kennedy Road in place of existing surface car parking; to ensure that the design of the civic space improves the degree of pedestrian permeability linking the shopping centre to Trimgate Street and Cannon Row; and to improve the urban form and definition along Abbey Road so as to create a streetscape more appropriate for a town centre location.*
2. *The original design has not changed. There were previous options considered, which included the removal of all surface car parking in this area, however these were not advanced for a number of reasons including, but not solely on, the reliance of some of the local businesses on the car parking availability for their customers in the plaza area.*



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3. *The original design has not changed. Assuming this relates to the removal of all parking, there is no such proposal currently under consideration. It is noted that as part of the next phase of the Navan 2030 works, expected to commence later this year, a relatively small number of car parking spaces are to be displaced in the plaza area and additional area rededicated to the public realm.*

The response was noted.

7 Notice of Motion

7.1 Submitted by Councillor Francis Deane

"Following lengthy discussions with several residents from Cois Glaiseann, I call on Meath County Council to install a traffic calming ramp on the Kilcarn Road outside the Cois Glaiseann Estate."

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

The Transportation Section proposes to carry out a survey to ascertain the extent of speeding, and, driver behaviour in the area. When the findings are available, any traffic management measures deemed necessary will be put forward for consideration in a future programme of works.

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

7.2 Submitted by Councillor Francis Deane

"I propose that Meath County Council would identify key locations throughout Navan Town (Trimgate Street/Kennedy Road/Watergate Street/Cannon Row) with a view to placing therein Street Art or Murals on buildings in celebration of cultural/historic events/famous people from Navan (e.g. Sir Francis Beaufort)."

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

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It is acknowledged that the use of Street Art or Murals on buildings in urban areas has become increasingly popular throughout the Covid pandemic. Meath County Council Cultural services will explore the possibility of providing such Street Art or Murals in the context of the provisions set out in the existing arts, cultural, infrastructure and heritage plans adopted by the local authority. On completion of this internal review, it will then be possible to consider the future feasibility of such a project, by engaging with all the relevant external stakeholders.

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

7.3 Submitted by Councillor Alan Lawes

"As a result of numerous serious trip and fall accidents particularly in the Priory Millbrook and Spireview estates in Johnstown recently, I am calling on Meath County Council to speed up "the taking in charge process" to reflect the immediate need to keep local residents safe."

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

An inspection of this development has been carried out and a list of all outstanding works / defects has been issued to the developer (Triman Developments) for their attention. The letter required all works are to be completed by February 2nd 2022; this is standard procedure prior to taking-in-charge. Meath County Council does not hold a cash or bond deposit on this site, therefore the taking-in-charge and remedial works will be carried out with a bundle of similar estates to be taken in charge. It is hoped that the Council will be in a position in the 4th quarter 2022 to do this. The work schedule for the first 3 quarters of the year has already been agreed.

A short discussion followed, where it was requested that works in the estate be expedited. The taking in charge process was outlined. Reference was also made to the allocation of €600,000 in the 2022 budget for footpath works, which will be prioritised based on an assessment. The Schedule of Municipal District Works, to be presented at the February meeting, will include a detailed programme of footpath improvement works for the year. A list of estates that have applied to be taken in charge was requested.

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The supporting information and motion, proposed by Councillor Alan Lawes and seconded by Councillor Francis Deane, was noted.

7.4 Submitted by Councillor Edward Fennessy

"To ask the Executive to list, for consideration, roads on the Boyne Valley, Beechmount Lawns, Parnell Park, Ferndale, Abbeygrove and Troytown Estates for the housing estate remedial works and that they be included on the 2022 Schedule of Municipal District Works."

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

The roads in the Estates listed will be surveyed and considered for the Housing Estate Remedial Scheme, with priority given to the roads in most need of works/repair. An amount of Capital funding has been ring fenced for such schemes.

The Housing Estate repairs to be included as part of the Schedule of Municipal District Works, being funded from the Revenue Budget, will be discussed with the Members in the coming weeks, before the final programme is presented to the Navan MD Meeting.

The supporting information and motion, proposed by Councillor Edward Fennessy and seconded by Councillor Pádraig Fitzsimons, was agreed.

7.5 Submitted by Councillor Emer Tóibín

"To ask Meath County Council to roll out the public bike scheme across Navan town on a trial basis and if successful, broaden its availability to other towns across the county in a bid to underpin current active travel strategy and ease growing traffic congestion."

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

Public transport and active mobility is at the core of the Council's transport strategy for the County, active mobility modes such as walking and cycling are low-cost and zero-

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emission forms of mobility which can also bring about health co-benefits associated to more active lifestyles.

MCC is at various stages of rolling out cycling infrastructure in Navan, coupled with the works being undertaken as part of the Navan 2030 project. The presence of high-quality bicycle infrastructure is crucial to participation in cycling more generally and also for the operation of bike-sharing schemes. The Council believe that it is essential to create a quality system of bikes and bike infrastructure that provides a real alternative to other, more carbon-intensive modes. In light of the disruption which will result from the delivery of the ongoing projects in Navan, the Transportation Department believes it is premature to roll out a bike share pilot in the Town at this stage.

Shared mobility, including bike-sharing schemes, will play a vital role in Navan and the County, to reduce congestion on our roads, CO₂ emissions and the environmental impact of traveling, and to reduce financial costs when compared with individual private ownership of vehicles. It can provide a flexible alternative for households living in urban areas, individuals seeking first and last-mile connections to public transportation, and those without access to a private vehicle trying to reach jobs and essential services.

The Active Travel team has engaged with several micro-mobility sharing companies to date, including Bike Share companies and will continue to do so to identify suitable solutions and locations for a shared micro-mobility trial scheme when sufficient cycling infrastructure is in place to support a bike share scheme.

A short discussion followed, where it was suggested that such a scheme be rolled out on a pilot basis, e.g. in Johnstown. It was pointed out that the council and the NTA are actively encouraging students to cycle to school and such a scheme, in order to succeed, requires a sufficient infrastructure network. The completion of Phase 3 of the Navan 2030 scheme will maximise the potential of such a scheme.

The supporting information and motion, proposed by Councillor Emer Tóibín and seconded by Councillor Tommy Reilly, was noted.

8 Correspondence

There was no correspondence.



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9 Any Other Business

9.1 Councillor Edward Fennessy raised the following issue:

- 9.1.1 Requested an update on plans to improve safety at the Blackcastle/St. Oliver's N.S. junction on the Kingscourt Road, referring to a related Notice of Motion agreed at the December 2020 meeting.**

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed:


An Meára