



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

### ***Ratoath Municipal District***

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

***9:30 a.m., 12<sup>th</sup> January 2022, Via Zoom***

An Cathaoirleach, **Councillor Nick Killian**, presided.

**Councillors Present:** Brian Fitzgerald, Maria Murphy, Gerry O'Connor, Damien O'Reilly, Gillian Toole.

**Apologies:** Councillor Deirdre Geraghty-Smith.

#### **Officials in Attendance:**

**Director of Service:** Dara McGowan

**Meetings Administrator:** Claire King

**Executive Engineer:** Philip Traynor

**Staff Officer:** Triona Keating

### **1 Confirmation of Minutes**

#### **1.1 Confirmation of minutes of Ordinary Meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> December 2021.**

The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> December 2021 were confirmed on the proposal of **Councillor Gerry O'Connor** and seconded by **Councillor Gillian Toole**.

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

Councillor Gillian Toole referred to a number of items from the December meeting and it was confirmed that these would be dealt with under Items 5.1.1 and 5.1.2.

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

Sympathy was extended to:

- Mary Bergin, former councillor, on the death of her husband, Hugh.



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Congratulations were extended to:

- Councillor Damien O'Reilly on the birth of his daughter, Carly;
- Des Foley, Dara McGowan and the community on the recent funding announcement for Dunshaughlin courthouse and the public realm;
- Meath County Council on the installation of ramps in Batterstown, which has resulted in a significant reduction in speed approaching the village.

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

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

Councillor Brian Fitzgerald was appointed on the proposal of Councillor Damien O'Reilly and seconded by Councillor Nick Killian.

### **5 Statutory Business**

#### **5.1 Transportation**

5.1.1 To receive an update on transportation issues in the municipal district.

Paul Phelan, Senior Executive Engineer provided an update on a number of transportation projects in the municipal district, including the following:

- Dunboyne link road to the R157 – consultants have been appointed, with the Part 8 due to be ready Q2 2022;
- Eastern Distributor Road, Dunboyne – discussions are ongoing with the private developers and Irish Rail regarding the other section of the Eastern Distributor Road and the bridge over the rail line.



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- Ratoath Town Part 8 – a meeting is scheduled with the Planning Department this week, following which, if no issues are identified, the Part 8 will be sent to the municipal district Members in the coming weeks and prior to going on statutory public display.
- Ratoath Outer Relief Road – the LMETB has not yet appointed a contractor for the college entrance but it is hoped that this will proceed in Q1/Q2 2022. Once the new college entrance is open and the school will use this access, the road should be opened.
- Bus stop at Donnelly's – the in-house NTA team is looking at this and a new bus stop is to be constructed this year and is likely to be closer to the graveyard, following a location assessment.
- Speed limit at Kiltale – this location will be included in the county wide speed limit review to commence this year.
- Moulden Bridge – some additional planting is to be provided outside one residence and all other landscaping works have been completed, with the exception of the green area, which will be done weather permitting. The contractor is to complete a number of snagging issues.

### **Matters raised by councillors included:**

- Underlined the need to deliver the Eastern Distributor Road to facilitate the development of zoned lands – the council is liaising with both the private developers and Irish Rail to facilitate the delivery of the road.
- Underlined the need to consider the implications and consequences of the planned road changes in Dunboyne to avoid creating bottlenecks – a traffic management plan, based on the road opening timeframe, will be brought to the municipal district.
- The need to ensure that that the junction on Station Road is considered as part of the development of the Eastern Distributor Road, e.g. the installation of traffic lights – it was agreed to check this.



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- Referred to previous plans to connect the old Navan Road to the village centre and requested that, if a road is not to be delivered, that pedestrian access is provided – it was agreed to check this.
- Requested that the Dublin Road into Dunshaughlin be included in the county wide speed limit review with a view to extending the lower speed limit beyond The Willows – councillors will be invited to submit locations to be included in the review.
- Referred to a request by the principal of Coláiste Ríoga for a pedestrian crossing at the school entrance on the R147 and suggested that the correct location for such a crossing be selected to facilitate access to the bus stops.
- Requested that consideration be given to the relocation of the bus stop at Donnelly's to avoid the removal of parking spaces and that the selected location be brought for approval to the municipal district.

Councillor Gillian Toole, Leas-Chathaoirleach, assumed the chair.

- 5.1.2 To receive a Progress Report on works undertaken/planned for Ratoath Municipal District.

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

Matters raised by councillors included:

- Thanked Philip and his team for the works undertaken throughout the municipal district.
- Requested that the road markings at the pedestrian crossing at the Gaelscoil be prioritised.



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- Underlined the need to provide the footpath on the Drumree Road and requested that consideration also be given to providing a pedestrian crossing to facilitate students crossing.
- Welcomed the solar compacting bins at Castleview and acknowledged the success of the Christmas tree in Dunboyne.
- Referred to the request made for ramps in Culmullen, similar to those in Batterstown.
- Requested an update on the correspondence received regarding Dunsany Pride of Place and the actions to be undertaken at municipal district level.

### 6 Notice of Question

#### 6.1 Submitted by Councillor Gillian Toole

“What compliance inspections have taken place to ensure that planning permission granted to RA 170127 is in accordance with the conditions attached to the said grant of permission? (In particular in relation to noise, dust & tonnage & content of infill materials).”

**Response:**

*As compliance is submitted as part of a planning condition, it is referred to the relevant section. No compliance has been submitted as yet relating to Condition 11 of RA170127.*

Councillor Gillian Toole sought clarification on the response provided, i.e. is compliance being monitored.

#### 6.2 Submitted by Councillor Damien O'Reilly

“I call on Meath County Council to provide an update on the vacant site levy / derelict site levy applied to MH29697F?”



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### **Response:**

*Meath County Council has carried out an assessment of the site and is preparing a report in line with the criteria set out to be on the vacant site register.*

The response was noted.

## 7 Notice of Motion

### 7.1 Submitted by Councillor Gillian Toole

"That all appropriate safety measures will be undertaken at Dunsany National School as a matter of urgency."

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

*Safety measures at Dunsany National School, probably in the form of a pedestrian crossing, are being considered for future works programmes.*

The supporting information and motion, proposed by Councillor Gillian Toole and seconded by Councillor Damien O'Reilly, was agreed.

### 7.2 Submitted by Councillor Gillian Toole

"That Donnelly's Cross/ Junction of the R125 & L5017 northern side, will be assessed for low-cost safety remediation, as a matter of urgency."

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

*The closing date for the application for Safety Improvement Schemes for 2022 was 14<sup>th</sup> October 2021. This site will be added to the New Works List and a decision made later in 2022 on which schemes to prioritise for the 2023 funding application.*



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*In the meantime, the Ratoath MD may be able to carry out some interim safety measures i.e. additional signage, road markings, etc.*

The supporting information and motion, proposed by Councillor Gillian Toole and seconded by Councillor Damien O'Reilly, was agreed.

### **8 Correspondence**

- 8.1 Correspondence received from Ms Eimer Ni Mhaoldomhnaigh re traffic on Summerhill Road, Dunboyne.

The correspondence was noted. It was agreed that the Transportation Department would issue a response, which would be copied to councillors.

### **9 Any Other Business**

- 9.1 Councillor Maria Murphy raised the following issue:

9.1.1 Requested an update on the bridge over Castle Stream – contractors have been tendered for all works and, once this has been signed off by the relevant government department, the contractors can be appointed for an immediate start.

- 9.2 Councillor Gerry O'Connor raised the following issues:

9.2.1 Requested an update on the footpath on the Drumree Road – if the footpath can be built by the developers, providing a footpath to the estate, works can take place on the pinch points.

9.2.2 Thanked Philip for the pencil bollards at the Gaelscoil.

- 9.3 Councillor Nick Killian raised the following issue:

9.3.1 Referred to the poor road surface on the Curragha Road following works undertaken by contractors working on behalf of Irish Water and queried if the



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council monitors works as part of the road opening licence process – there are a large number of road opening licences and as many inspections as possible are undertaken during works. A final inspection also takes place and the contractor remains responsible for two years afterwards.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'A. C.', written over a horizontal line.

Cathaoirleach