



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

Ratoath Municipal District

Ordinary Meeting

9:30 a.m., 11th May 2022, Dunshaughlin Civic Offices

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

Executive Engineer: Philip Traynor

Meetings Administrator: Claire King

Staff Officer: Triona Keating

1 Confirmation of Minutes

1.1 Confirmation of minutes of Ordinary Meeting held on 6th April 2022.

The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 6th April 2022 were confirmed on the proposal of Councillor Gerry O'Connor and seconded by Councillor Maria Murphy.

2 Matters arising from the Minutes

Councillor Gillian Toole requested an update on the proposal to invite the HSE to discuss Primary and Community Health Services in the municipal district – it was confirmed that whilst the Head of Service Primary Care was unavailable to attend the June or July meetings, arrangements could be made for a separate meeting. This was agreed.

A short discussion took place on the challenges being faced within communities with regard to the arrival of refugees from the Ukraine, including school and healthcare capacity. It was



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requested that the NTA be asked to expedite the provision of the Ashbourne - Ratoath - Dunshaughlin - M3 Parkway bus service to facilitate students accessing secondary schools. It was agreed to forward the request to the NTA.

3 Expressions of Sympathy and Congratulations

Sympathy was extended to:

- The family of the late former councillor John Fanning, to whom tributes were paid;
- The family of the late Tom Murray, Drumree, whose work in the disability sector was acknowledged.

Congratulations were extended to:

- Dermot McLoughlin, trainer of the Grand National winner;
- Paddy O'Hanlon, Dunshaughlin, winning jockey in the 2022 Irish Grand National;
- Brian Peters, manager of Katie Taylor;
- Robert (Robbie) Power, on retiring as a National Hunt jockey;
- The Meath Minor Hurling team, including all local players.

4 Statutory Business

4.1 Transportation

- 4.1.1 To receive an update on the Proposed Traffic Calming Scheme at Kilcloon, Co. Meath.

David O'Reilly, Senior Executive Engineer, Transportation outlined the proposed scheme.



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Matters raised by councillors included:

- Requested that a consistent approach be taken across municipal districts with regard to the red markings on ramps in Ashbourne Municipal District, which are more effective – black and white markings are standard but it was agreed to check this.
- Referred to a high bank at an estate past the church towards Maynooth, which is creating a blind bend and queried if this could be addressed to improve visibility.
- Referred to speeding on the road from Blackhall – ramps, signage and public lighting are to be provided.
- Referred to concerns expressed by the school principal with regard to children crossing the road.
- Referred to the need to extend the footpath to the Summerhill Road, where a lot of new houses have been built and speed is an issue.
- Referred to the need to prioritise safety from Blackhall to Maynooth – it was agreed that additional measures can be considered.

It was agreed on the proposal of **Councillor Maria Murphy** and seconded by **Councillor Brian Fitzgerald** to proceed as outlined.

It was pointed out that the closing date for submissions in relation to the Part 8 in Ratoath was yesterday and a report would be brought to the July meeting.

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

The report, circulated in advance, was noted.

Matters raised by councillors included:



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- Welcomed the works undertaken on Johnstown Lane.
- Requested that the 'Cattle Crossing' signs on the Summerhill Road roundabout be replaced – these have been ordered.
- Requested that the Summerhill Road roundabout be resurfaced on the approaches and road markings renewed – this has been referred to the central team.
- Queried whether a new road sweeping contract had issued and referred to previous years where contact had been made to schedule cleaning to coincide with the Tidy Towns judging – this commenced on 1st May. Councillors were requested to submit preferred dates and these will be facilitated, if possible.
- Queried if the bins in Dunboyne can be upgraded or painted.
- Referred to the surface of the Drumree Road roundabout, which can be slippery following rain or temperature changes - three roundabouts per year are scheduled for road overlay as part of the three year programme of works.
- Referred to the plan to introduce double yellow lines at the entrance to Supple Park due to school traffic and the impact these will have on businesses in terms of customers and deliveries. It was suggested that the Department of Education and Skills fund an alternative drop-off facility and that businesses be consulted prior to double yellow lines being introduced.
- Queried the timeframe for the provision of the footpath by Castlethorn.
- Requested that progress be made in relation to the road at Newtownmygahy, to improve road safety.
- Referred to the unauthorised development at Bracetown.



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- Requested a timeline for works at Donnolly's Cross – efforts are being made to get the contractor on site.
- Requested that the street sweeping on the R125 Ratoath be monitored.
- Queried when the next stages of the school safety programme would be implemented, including Rathbeggan – works are planned for Dunsany, Culmullen, including public lighting and a ramp, and Rathbeggan, two ramps on either side of the pedestrian crossing. Tender documents are being prepared.
- Requested that the fence at the car park in Kilmessan, before the bridge, be made safe – this is a boundary with private property and efforts have been made to contact the private landowner. It was agreed to check this again.

4.2 Corporate Affairs & Governance

4.2.1 To note Municipal District Allocations submitted by Councillors on behalf of Ratoath Municipal District.

The list of allocations, circulated in advance, was noted.

5 Notice of Question

There were no Notices of Question.

6 Notice of Motion

There were no Notices of Motion.

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

7.1 To note the report from the Transportation SPC of 31st March 2022.



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The report was noted. Councillor Gerry O'Connor noted that his remote attendance at the meeting had not been recorded. Councillor Nick Killian also requested that consultation be undertaken with the municipal districts in advance of the winter gritting programme being finalised.

- 7.2 To note the Corporate Policy Group Meeting Minutes of 1st April 2022.

The minutes were noted.

- 7.3 To note the report from the Housing, Community and Cultural Development SPC of 11th April 2022.

The report was noted.

8 Correspondence

- 8.1 Correspondence received from IW in response to the invitation to attend the Full Council Meeting.

The correspondence was noted. It was suggested that Irish Water be requested to meet the full council in person twice per year. It was requested that a site visit be arranged to Staleen Water Treatment Plant and clarification be sought from Irish Water regarding the correct contact telephone numbers for local representatives.

9 Any Other Business

- 9.1 Councillor Damien O'Reilly raised the following issues:

- 9.1.1 Requested that the Garda Superintendent be invited to meet with councillors to discuss local issues including the disruption to local residents caused by cars rallying in the M3 Parkway car park and the need to travel to Ashbourne Garda Station to have passport forms signed.
- 9.1.2 Requested that a site visit to the EC Food & Veterinary Office in Kiltale be arranged.



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9.2 Councillor Nick Killian raised the following issue:

- 9.2.1 Referred to the commitment given by the Garda Superintendent to set up a Community Garda section but there is only one Community Garda currently available.

9.3 Councillor Gillian Toole raised the following issues:

- 9.3.1 Queried when the bus stops would be installed.
- 9.3.2 Welcomed the additional funding for the watermain works on Main Street, Dunshaughlin and queried if all works, including reinstatement, resurfacing, car parking, footpaths and bus stops, would be carried out during the summer months and requested that monitoring take place during the settlement period – it was confirmed that all works were planned for the summer.
- 9.3.3 Thanked the meeting administration team for their work on the meetings and the MD Allocation Scheme.
- 9.3.4 Requested an update on the completion of snags at Moulden Bridge.

9.4 Dara McGowan raised the following issues:

- 9.4.1 Referred to the public consultation commencing in relation to the Eirgrid undergrounding project.
- 9.4.2 Queried the preferred arrangements for the June Annual Meeting – it was agreed to meet in person only.

Councillor Nick Killian thanked all councillors for their courtesy and cooperation over his term as Cathaoirleach and thanked all the officials for their help and support. Dara thanked the Cathaoirleach and commended him on his term.

This concluded the business of the meeting.



comhairle chontae na mí
meath county council



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Signed:

Gillian Toole

Cathaoirleach