



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

### ***Trim Municipal District***

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

***2:15 p.m., 17<sup>th</sup> June 2022, Trim Civic Offices***

An Cathaoirleach, Councillor Joe Fox, presided.

**Councillors Present:** Aisling Dempsey, Noel French, Trevor Golden, Ronan Moore, Niamh Souhan.

**Officials in Attendance:**

**Director of Service:** Des Foley

**Executive Engineer:** Maura Daly

**Meetings Administrator:** Claire King

**Staff Officer:** Triona Keating

#### **1 Confirmation of Minutes**

##### **1.1 Confirmation of minutes of Ordinary Meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> May 2022.**

The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> May 2022 were confirmed on the proposal of **Councillor Noel French** and seconded by **Councillor Ronan Moore**.

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

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

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

Sympathy was extended to:

- Ciarán Mangan, County Librarian, on the death of his sister, Máire.



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### 4 Statutory Business

#### 4.1 Planning

- 4.1.1 To receive the Chief Executive's Report in accordance with Part XI of the Planning & Development Act 2000–2021 and Part VIII of the Planning & Development Regulations 2001–2022 on the proposed development which will consist of - the construction of 22 housing units in total, including all site development works with access through the existing Churchview estate. The proposed housing units will comprise: 1 no. single-storey 2-bedroom bungalow, 10 no. 2 bed 2 storey houses, 3 no. 3 bed 2 storey houses, 4 no. 2 bed ground floor duplex units, 4 no. 3 bed 1st & 2nd floor duplex units. The Development has been subject to an Appropriate Assessment screening in accordance with Article 6 (3) of the EU Habitats Directive (Directive 92/43/EEC) and the Planning and Development Acts 2000-2021. In accordance with Article 81 of the Planning & Development Regulations 2001-2021, Meath County Council has concluded from a preliminary examination, that there is no real likelihood of significant effects on the environment arising from the proposed development and that an Environmental Impact Assessment is not required. Location: Churchview, Rathmolyon, Co. Meath. (P822004)

Paul Barrell, Senior Executive Engineer, Housing Department outlined the proposed scheme as detailed in the Chief Executive's Report. He also outlined the Part 8 process and confirmed that, once the planning permission is in place, departmental approval will be sought to proceed to tender.

Matters raised by councillors included:

- Acknowledged this as a positive development and welcomed the single storey units.
- Queried whether the proposed units will meet the demand in the area – the proposed typology was outlined.
- Queried whether the design specification will meet the needs of those with additional needs – units are not designed for specific needs but will be suitable for various needs and five units will be wheelchair accessible.



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- Queried the access into Churchview estate to ensure permeability – access will be provided.
  - Queried whether a footpath is proposed from the village – adjacent developments will incorporate an upgraded footpath.
  - Referred to the number of enquiries relating to right sizing, whereby larger homes can be freed up by those who move into smaller units and becoming local authority tenants.
  - Referred to the ongoing need for smaller housing units to suit single people and units that are age friendly and, with a scarcity of land, the need to encourage private developers to meet this demand – land is scarce and the council is constantly seeking to identify appropriate lands for development. A Part 8 is due to be prepared before the end of the year in relation to the design for two derelict units in Trim with smaller units planned for a site, also in Trim. Securing land in the right area is important.
  - Referred to the need to ensure Traveller accommodation is provided and not concentrated in one location – three new sites are being developed in the county and over concentration is avoided. However, finding suitable land in the right location remains the challenge.
  - Queried the planned energy retrofits for existing housing stock – programmes are being implemented in different areas to improve standards. Phase II works, involving deep retrofits, are to follow Phase I works.
- 4.1.2 To receive an update on the commencement of the preparation of the Town Centre First Plan for Enfield. This update will include a brief introductory presentation from Consultants, 'The Paul Hogarth Company', who have been appointed to prepare the Plan.

Des Foley outlined the background to the plan, with Enfield having been selected as part of the national pilot scheme, and Orla O'Brien, Executive Planner provided the context, which includes the plan to address issues such as derelict buildings and vacant sites. A grant of €100,000 had been for the plan and the Paul Hogarth



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Company, who have been involved in the preparation of other public realm plans, have been appointed to develop the plan.

James Hennessy, Paul Hogarth Company, delivered an introductory presentation which highlighted previous projects the company has worked on, the Town Centre First policy, the brief, example locations within the town currently, linkages and connectivity and the methodology to be followed.

Matters raised by councillors included:

- Welcomed the selection of Enfield as part of the pilot scheme and the learning that could be applied to other locations in the future.
- Requested that efforts be made to identify funding streams to implement actions identified.
- Queried whether learning is available from other towns where similar plans are being developed – other local authorities are at various stages of the process.
- Referred to the support of Enfield Development Group and suggested that relevant information may be available from the group arising from previous funding applications made.
- Referred to the need to focus on active travel and the absence of cycle lanes on the main street, which is wide enough to accommodate these.
- Referred to the need to identify suitable facilities and amenities for children and younger people.
- Queried whether the proposed park & ride facility plan can be revisited if the Town Centre First Plan suggests changes are needed.
- Referred to the need to encourage greater use of public transport, e.g. the reduction of train fares.



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- The need to ensure people feel safe when using local amenities and the related need to increase Garda resources – the issues of safety and security have been raised and this will be addressed, following consultation with the Gardaí.
- Referred to the backlands off the main street and their potential use to improve traffic flow and connectivity – the backlands and dereliction are central to the policy, as are housing needs.

### **4.1.3 To receive a brief update on the 'Streetscape Enhancement Scheme 2022'.**

Des Foley referred to the funding stream announced as part of the 2022 Town & Village Renewal Scheme, with €100,000 available. A submission, nominating Market Street, had been made but the scheme has been put on hold, with clarity awaited. If the scheme proceeds, it will involve painting, lighting, planting, shopfronts, etc. on Market Street, with up to 80% funding available for eligible works. In the meantime, council funding is being made available for a shopfront scheme. Orla O'Brien, Executive Planner confirmed that a good response had been received from business owners, with the Conservation Officer having been actively involved. Properties have been identified and assessed and the work to date can be used as part of the implementation of the Public Realm Plan. It was agreed to provide an update at the July meeting.

Matters raised by councilors included:

- Queried why the other end of Market Street and Market Square had been excluded – the intention was to maximise the impact of the available funding and, if possible, the area can be extended next year.
- Queried the colour scheme to be used as part of the council's shopfront scheme – under the terms of the scheme, businesses should align with the colours identified.
- Queried whether the council's scheme can be extended to include, for example, shop signs – the Conservation Officer has recommended painting in some cases and signage in others.



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### **4.2 Transportation**

- 4.2.1 To receive an update on works completed/ planned within Trim Municipal District.

The report, circulated in advance, was noted.

Matters raised by councillors included:

- Queried if the frequency of the street sweeping schedule in Enfield could be increased, to reflect the increased population.
- Queried why Irish Water will only send out contractors to carry out repair works when a certain number of leakages occur.

### **4.3 Corporate Affairs and Governance**

- 4.3.1 To note Municipal District Allocations submitted by Councillors on behalf of Trim Municipal District.

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

## **5 Notice of Question**

### **5.1 Submitted by Councillor Noel French**

“How many houses have been offered from the Choice Based Letting system from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2022 to 30<sup>th</sup> April 2022? Could the answer be broken down by unit type per village in the Trim MD area.”

#### **Response:**

Choice Based lettings Jan to April 2022



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Municipal District TRIM	2 bedroom	3 Bedroom	4 Bedroom	TOTAL
Clonard	1	0	0	1
Enfield	9	10	0	19
Longwood	0	1	0	1
Trim	1	1	0	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>23</b>

#### Refusals

Municipal District	2 bedroom	3 Bedroom	4 Bedroom	TOTAL
Clonard	0	0	0	0
Enfield	1	1	0	2
Longwood	0	0	0	0
Trim	0	3	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>

The response was noted.

#### 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 Corporate Policy Group Meeting Minutes of 6<sup>th</sup> May 2022.



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The minutes were noted.

### **8 Correspondence**

There was no correspondence.

### **9 Any Other Business**

9.1 Councillor Aisling Dempsey raised the following issue:

9.1.1 Queried if a deputation from Summerhill can present at a municipal district meeting – it was confirmed that a response had issued to the group in response to the issues raised.

9.2 Councillor Ronan Moore raised the following issues:

9.2.1 Referred to the public launch of Trim's Sustainable Energy Community's Energy Master Plan on 28<sup>th</sup> June, with expert advice to be made available at the event.

9.2.2 Referred to the challenges being faced by students cycling to school due to motorist behaviour and requested that the kerb be dropped between Hamilton Place and the traffic lights to facilitate access to the cycle lane.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed:

Cathaoirleach