



Clár / Meeting Agenda

Ordinary Meeting

5th September 2022 @ 1.30p.m.

Solstice Theatre, Navan (and online via zoom)

Hybrid Meeting

This meeting is a hybrid meeting, Elected Members may attend in-person or online. These meetings are regulated by the Council's Standing Orders.

COVID-19 Symptoms

Please adhere to the public health latest advice should you experience symptoms of Covid-19 or if you are a close contact of a confirmed Covid case.

Public Health Guidance - Covid 19

This meeting has been risk assessed and is being held in line with the *Transitional Protocol – Good Practice Guidance for Continuing to Prevent the Spread of COVID-19*, which outlines advice and best practice guidance to maintain infection prevention and control and other measures for the safe operating of workplaces.

Please note the following:

- Attendance at the Solstice Theatre is open to Elected Members, designated Council officials and members of the press and public;
- The seating arrangement for the meeting will maintain a physical distance, in line with best practice.
- The wearing of a face-mask is not required but may be worn in line with best practice.

Meeting attendees are requested to:

- Adhere to public health best practice in relation to cough and sneeze etiquette and hand hygiene and sanitation;
- Adhere to meeting and venue housekeeping arrangements including fire safety arrangements as briefed at the start of the meeting;
- Refrain from bringing food or drink, except bottled water, into the meeting room;
- Adhere to information displayed on signage and to the advice of meeting staff.

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Online Attendance – Please Note:



Turn on your **camera**



Ensure your **microphone** is on
mute



Use the '**Hand Function**' to ask for
the floor and for voting

For Members:

- If you wish to speak you should use the Hand function – you'll be given the floor by the Cathaoirleach.
- This Hand function will also be used for voting, unless a roll call vote is used.

For All Participants:

- All participants must have their camera on during the meeting and you should have your microphone on mute at all times, unless called upon by the Cathaoirleach to speak
- It is the personal responsibility of all participants to ensure that there are no other persons present who are not entitled to be present for this meeting
- Recording of the meeting or any part thereof is not permitted.

1 Confirmation of Minutes

- 1.1 Confirmation of minutes of Ordinary meeting held on 4th July 2022.

2 Matters arising from the Minutes

3 Expressions of Sympathy and Congratulations (Standing Order 11.5 – Expressions of Congratulations to be submitted in writing by 10am, September 5th)

4 Disposal of Land in accordance with Statutory Notices circulated pursuant to the provisions of Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001

- 4.1 Disposal of 0.0986 Ha of land at Garlow Cross, Navan, Co Meath, in accordance with Section 211 of Planning & Development Act 2000 and subject to the provisions of Section 183 of the Local Government Act 2001. (see below)



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- 4.2 Disposal of 0.4233 Ha of land at Bracetown, Dunboyne, Co Meath, in accordance with Section 211 of Planning & Development Act 2000 and subject to the provisions of Section 183 of the Local Government Act 2001.

5 Statutory Business

5.1 Finance

- 5.1.1 To consider the report of the Chief Executive prepared in accordance with the provisions of the Local Property Tax (Local Adjustment Factor) Regulations 2022

For the purpose of resolving as follows:

- a) Vary the basic rate and set a local adjustment factor that will apply for a period as specified by the resolution, or
- b) Not vary the basic rate

- 5.1.2 To note the Half Year Financial Statement as at 30th June 2022.

5.2 Community

- 5.2.1 To consider Arts Grants, Bursaries and Awards Summer 2022 recommendations.

- 5.2.2 To appoint a replacement Councillor to the Local Community Development Committee (LCDC) following the resignation of Cllr. Noel French.

5.3 Transportation

- 5.3.1 To enter into an agreement with Louth County Council pursuant to Section 85 of the Local Government Act, 2001, whereby Louth County Council will exercise the statutory powers, functions and duties of Meath County Council in relation to the FASTER Project which is displayed in the Schedule to the Agreement.

5.4 Housing

- 5.4.1 To approve Scheme of Priority for Affordable Purchase Arrangements pursuant to S11 (4) of the Affordable Housing Act 2021.



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6 Reports

- 6.1 Chief Executive's Report
- 6.2 Report from the Corporate Policy Group
- 6.3 Report from the Protocol Committee

7 Correspondence

- 7.1 Correspondence from Ms. Heather Humphreys T.D., Minister for Social Protection in response to Notice of Motion 10.1 adopted at the May 2022 meeting of the full Council re. Artists with Disabilities and the Basic Income for the Arts pilot scheme.
- 7.2 Correspondence from Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage in response to Notice of Motion 9.1 adopted at the June 2022 meeting of the full Council re. wastewater discharge licensing.
- 7.3 Correspondence from Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage in response to Notice of Motion 10.1 adopted at the June 2022 meeting of the full Council re. social housing income limits.
- 7.4 Correspondence from the Irish Dental Association in response to Notice of Motion 10.4 adopted at the June 2022 meeting of the full Council re. dental services to patients with Medical Cards.
- 7.5 Correspondence from Irish Rail in response to Notice of Motion 10.1 adopted at the July 2022 meeting of the full Council re. reinstatement of free parking at Dunboyne train station.
- 7.6 Correspondence from the National Transport Authority (NTA) in response to Notice of Motion 10.1 adopted at the July 2022 meeting of the full Council re. reinstatement of free parking at Dunboyne train station.
- 7.7 Correspondence from Mr. Simon Coveney TD, Minister for Foreign Affairs and Minister for Defence in response to Notice of Motion 10.5 adopted at the June 2022 meeting of the full Council re. the killing of Journalist Shireen Abu Akleh.



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- 7.8 Circular Fin 09/2022 – Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage re. 2023 Budget meeting and other budgetary matters.

8 Notice of Question

8.1 Submitted by Councillor Alan Tobin

*“Has Meath County Council any advice or be able to provide assistance to residents, resident associations or land owners on what to do with Ash trees that have signs of Ash dieback disease caused by the fungal pathogen *Hymenoscyphus fraxineus*?”*

8.2 Submitted by Councillor Alan Lawes

“How many homeless beds has Meath County Council available to them and are they all full?”

8.3 Submitted by Councillor Maria Murphy

“Can Meath County Council get access to the funding scheme for bicycle racks for schools similar to other Local Authorities such as Fingal?”

8.4 Submitted by Councillor Trevor Golden

“Can Meath County Council provide data, redacted as appropriate, in tabular form detailing the top 10 HAP Payments by cost. The data should include units provided, number of applicants housed and total cost for the year. This information is sought for each of the last 4 years (2018, 19, 20 & 21).”

9 Notice of Motion

9.1 Submitted by Councillor Tommy Reilly (Deferred from July Meeting)

“I call on Meath County Council to write to the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage, requesting that the Department extends the period of extension of time / duration, for previously granted, one off rural planning permissions for an additional 5 year extension of duration.”



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9.2 Submitted by Councillor Alan Lawes

"With homeless numbers approaching record levels standing at 10,492 in June, Meath County Council are calling on the Minister for Housing Darragh O'Brien to introduce emergency new initiatives similar to those for students and Ukrainian refugees".

9.3 Submitted by Councillor Gillian Toole

"Before Meath County Council accepts any further planning applications for the development of Solar Farms, an audit of all agricultural land within County Meath is carried out, in conjunction with the Department of Agriculture, Food & the Marine & Teagasc [The Agriculture & Food Development Authority]. This is necessary to establish a balance between Sustainable Development Goals 2 [Zero hunger], 3 [Good Health & well-being] & 7 [Affordable & clean energy]."

10 General Interest Motions

10.1 Submitted by Councillor Ronan Moore (Deferred from July Meeting)

"That Meath County Council writes to the Taoiseach, the Minister of State for Local Government, and the Minister of State for Electoral Reform requesting that legislated candidate gender quotas of 40% be introduced to apply to the local elections in 2024".

10.2 Submitted by Councillor Tom Behan

"That Meath County Council writes to the Minister for Justice Helen McEntee TD with responsibility for alcohol sales and request a change to the existing legislation to ban the sale of low alcohol drinks and 00 alcoholic drinks to all persons under the legal drinking age".

10.3 Submitted by Councillor Sharon Tolan

"To call on the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science, Simon Harris, to support the inclusion of all full-time participants of Apprenticeship Programmes in all Student Card Schemes."



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10.4 Submitted by Councillor Michael Gallagher

“That Meath County Council call on the Minister of Education to provide the adequate personnel for the early assessment of children with disabilities and to assist children with disabilities in our schools.”

10.5 Submitted by Councillor Emer Tóibín

“That Meath County Council calls on the HSE to broaden the Terms of Reference of the Review into the Future of Navan A&E to include the costs and benefits of retaining a safer and stronger A&E at Navan Hospital.”

10.6 Submitted by Councillor Edward Fennessy

“That Meath County Council, notes that workers from the Community and Voluntary Sectors are not entitled to pay awards equal to the public sector and have not received a pay increase since 2008, agree to write to An Taoiseach, the Minister for Health and the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform confirming the council’s support for the ‘Valuing Care – Recognising Work Campaign’ and the need for the government to implement the campaign proposals without delay.”

10.7 Submitted by Councillor Gillian Toole

“Meath County Council write to the Minister for Health, Stephen Donnelly to request that all Emergency SARS Cov 2 measures be paused until a full review and risk/benefit analysis of the health services, older persons’ experiences and SME sector is carried out and reported upon.”

10.8 Submitted by Councillor Michael Gallagher

“Meath County Council calls on the Minister for Justice to fast track the Duty of Care Bill, at present in the Dáil, to make it law as soon as possible. This legislation will help to reduce the cost of claims and the cost of insurance on community groups.”

11 Schedule of Chief Executive & Approved Orders (For Information Only)

11.1 Schedule of Chief Executive’s Orders – Transportation



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11.2 Schedule of Chief Executive's Orders – Environment

11.3 Schedule of Chief Executive's Orders – Housing

11.4 Schedule of Chief Executive's Orders – Community & Enterprise

12 Any Other Business

NB Please ensure mobile phones are switched off during council meeting.