



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

### ***Ashbourne Municipal District***

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

***10:00 a.m., 12<sup>th</sup> July 2022, Ashbourne Civic Offices***

An Cathaoirleach, **Councillor Amanda Smith**, presided.

**Councillors Present:** Joe Bonner, Suzanne Jamal, Aisling O'Neill, Alan Tobin and Conor Tormey.

**Officials in Attendance:**

**Director of Service:** Fiona Lawless

**Meetings Administrator:** Claire King

**Staff Officer:** Triona Keating

**Apologies:** Mel Cronin, Executive Engineer

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

##### **1.1 Confirmation of minutes of Annual Meeting held on 27<sup>th</sup> June 2022.**

The minutes of the Annual Meeting held on 27<sup>th</sup> June 2022 were confirmed on the proposal of **Councillor Conor Tormey** and seconded by **Councillor Amanda Smith**.

##### **1.2 Confirmation of minutes of Ordinary Meeting held on 27<sup>th</sup> June 2022.**

The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 27<sup>th</sup> June 2022 were confirmed on the proposal of **Councillor Suzanne Jamal** and seconded by **Councillor Conor Tormey**.

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

There were no matters arising from the minutes.



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### 3 Expressions of Sympathy and Congratulations

Sympathy was extended to:

- Councillor Conor Tormey on the death of his father – Councillor Tormey thanked councillors and officials for their support.

### 4 Disposal of land pursuant to the provisions of Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001.

- 4.1 Agreement in principle to dispose of land 0.0986 Ha in folio MH52127F (Part of) at Tara Na Rí, Garlow Cross, Navan Co. Meath in the Ashbourne Municipal District.

This was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Conor Tormey and seconded by Councillor Aisling O'Neill.

### 5 Statutory Business

#### 5.1 Planning

- 5.1.1 To pass the following resolution to vary the recommendation of the Chief Executives Report dated 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2022 on the Part 8 Planning reference P8/22007 - To omit the section of footpath and riverside boardwalk, 87.8m in length, from the eastern side of the proposed new bridge over the Broadmeadow River and which connects into Churchfield Park. The area is marked A-B on the map.

It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Joe Bonner and seconded by Councillor Conor Tormey to proceed with a roll call vote on the proposed variation, with the following result:

Councillor	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
BONNER, Joseph	✓			
JAMAL, Suzanne	✓			
O'NEILL, Aisling	✓			
SMITH, Amanda	✓			



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TOBIN, Alan	✓			
TORMEY, Conor	✓			
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6</b>			

The resolution to vary the recommendation of the Chief Executives Report was unanimously agreed.

### 5.2 Environment

#### 5.2.1 To receive an update on the Ashbourne Flood Alleviation Works.

David Keyes, Senior Executive Engineer, Environment provided an update on the scheme to date, including the extent of works completed on the main culvert and garden reinstatement. The infrastructure to alleviate flooding will be functional by the end of August and the ancillary works and reinstatements will be completed by the end of the year. The cost of the scheme, when complete, will be €8.5 million, funded by the OPW. The scheme was designed to protect all local areas in the event of a 100 year event but will in fact provide higher protection, i.e. a 1,000 year event. A flood map will be produced to indicate this increased protection and letters will issue to residents outlining the flood mitigation measures.

Matters raised by councillors included:

Welcomed the progress made.

- Queried if flood models were prepared for areas downstream from the works location – the channel downstream of Hunter’s Lane will be cleaned out and maintained. Flood risk in the immediate area downstream will be reduced. There is still an element of flood risk further downstream where culverts have not been altered.
- Queried if planning applications can be made for areas where work has been completed, e.g. Racehill – a number of contacts have been received regarding planning applications and it has been related that updated flood mapping, which will facilitate planning applications, will be available in a number of



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months. Contact will then be made with applicants when flood risk information should be more favourable for their applications.

- Requested that the Eir cable hanging off a pole in Racehill be removed – efforts are ongoing to address this as Eir have been paid to complete works.
- Queried if letters of comfort will issue to residents who are having difficulty obtaining insurance – letters will issue when the scheme is complete but there is no guarantee that insurance companies will provide insurance.
- Referred to the gabions falling into the river on the lands at the end of the scheme, with overgrowth and debris, and the need to reassure those downstream that the works upstream won't adversely impact them with a suggestion that surveys be carried out – the OPW usually do a maintenance run over the entire stream, i.e. to Broadmeadow at Milltown, once the scheme is complete. Whilst no further works are planned downstream of the scheme, the channel will be maintained and blockages removed by the OPW.

### **5.3 Transportation**

#### **5.3.1 To receive a Progress Report on works undertaken/planned for Ashbourne Municipal District.**

The report had been circulated in advance and matters raised by councillors included:

- Commended Pat Shore and his team for the works on the Ratoath Road, with many people acknowledging the work on the ground.
- Referred to stones along the side of the Ratoath Road, which were being spread onto the road.
- Complimented the municipal district staff for all works carried out.



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- Requested that a more prominent sign be erected to indicate that the Linear Park is closed at night and to address the issue of the lights coming on during the night.

### **5.4 Corporate Affairs & Governance**

- 5.4.1 To note Municipal District Allocations submitted by Councillors on behalf of Ashbourne Municipal District.

The list of allocations, circulated in advance, was noted and councillors were reminded of the deadline for the receipt of completed applications.

### **6 Notice of Question**

There were no Notices of Question.

### **7 Notice of Motion**

#### **7.1 Submitted by Councillor Aisling O'Neill**

"I am asking MCC to schedule talks with TII to progress the Stamullen slip road."

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

*The written Statement for Stamullen, contained within the current County Development Plan 2021-2027, includes the following objective (STA OBJ 09) :*

***To facilitate vehicular access to/from the town to commercial and employment uses on lands identified with an E2 "General Enterprise & Employment" and E3 "Warehousing & Distribution" land use zoning objective which would serve, inter alia, Stamullen town and access to the M1 Motorway interchange.***



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*The Council has discussed the provision of the link previously with TII following the decision by An Bord Pleanála, in January 2019 to refuse the proposal to provide the link road (ABP Reference PL 17.301284).*

*We note that the Board was 'not satisfied that the proposed development would not adversely affect the strategic role and function of the national road network. The proposed development would, therefore, conflict with policies to protect investment in national roads, as set out in the "Spatial Planning and National Roads Guidelines for Planning Authorities" issued by the Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government in January 2012'.*

*In the Inspector's Report, it states that the Inspector had read the applicant's Traffic Impact Assessment (TIA) and in general accepted the overall findings. However, it was also noted that the TIA assumed that the proposed link road will not alter volumes of traffic joining or leaving the motorway at Junction 7 and the Inspector considered that this scenario is unlikely. The Inspector went on to say that 'The assessment, therefore, has no regard for the likely indirect effects of the connection of Stamullen to the motorway i.e. how it would affect traffic movements in the area to the west of Stamullen and potentially other junctions and flow patterns on the M1. Given the strategic economic importance of the M1 linking the capital City to Belfast, the very clear policies at national and regional level which seek to safeguard the carrying capacity of the national road network, such an omission is significant. In addition to the above, in the absence of a wider assessment of the implications of the development for traffic flows in the region, the development could result in unforeseen traffic flows through the residential lands to the south of the site (including HGVs) and the junction of this estate road with Gormanstown Road, to the detriment of residential amenity and amenity of the village of Stamullen.'*

*It is now considered that the provision of the road network to link to the M1 would be by way of the development of the adjacent lands. The developer will have to take their own view of the Board's decision and the comments included in the Inspector's report and any future application will have to address the reasons for refusal of the link road, given by An Bord Pleanála.*

Councillor Aisling O'Neill introduced the motion by highlighting the impact on residents in Stamullen in terms of access to the M1 and the fact that the road is already partially completed. It was agreed to request Transportation to consider what measures they can undertake to deal with the refusal and to pursue completion of the road with TII.

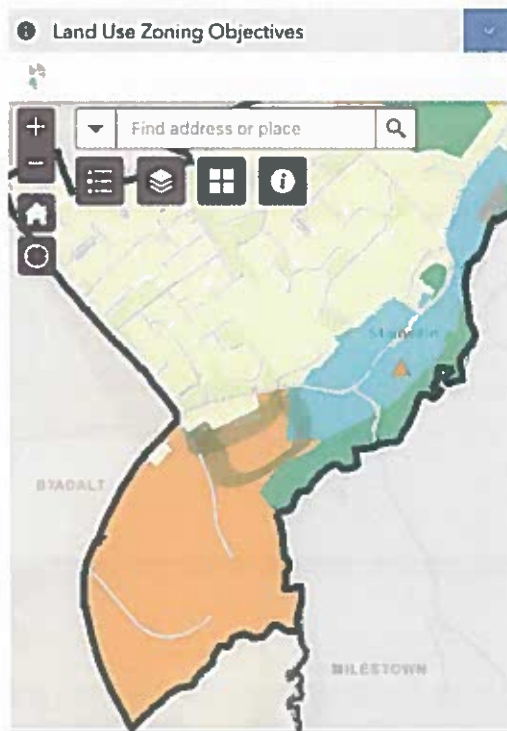


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The supporting information and motion, proposed by Councillor Aisling O'Neill and seconded by Councillor Joe Bonner, was agreed.

### 7.2 Submitted by Councillor Alan Tobin

"I call on Meath County Council to initiate a Compulsory Purchase Order for 10 acres of land in Stadalt, Stamullen, Co. Meath currently zoned Community Infrastructure for the purposes of new community pitches/playground and community building to facilitate a serious ongoing amenity deficit.



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

*The initiation of a CPO process in normal circumstances is only evoked following the unsuccessful advancement of negotiated / agreed process. Initially an Authority must establish the specific need/s associated to the objective. To date the provision of a playground is the only requirement emanating from previous discussion within the*



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*community and provision of this objective requires substantial less land than that proposed.*

Councillor Alan Tobin introduced the motion by referring to the lack of amenities in Stamullen. It was pointed out that provision has been made in the capital programme for a graveyard and playground in Stamullen. A site has been identified for the graveyard and this is being progressed whilst the playground may be accommodated within the Linear Park. In terms of developing amenities such as football pitches, generally, community groups come together to access funding. Councillor Amanda Smith referred to the state lands available at Gormanston, the most of which is leased out for agricultural purposes. She also pointed out that the Local Area Plan process will be key to identifying suitable lands. Councillors requested that another submission be made to the department requesting additional funding for community facilities.

The supporting information and motion, proposed by Councillor Alan Tobin and seconded by Councillor Aisling O'Neill, was noted.

### **7.3 Submitted by Councillor Alan Tobin**

*"I call on Meath and Fingal County Councils to progress the cycle infrastructure first noted in 2013 Greater Dublin Area Cycle Network Plan and seek funding from the NTA for completion."*

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

*Meath County Council are currently in conjunction with the NTA/TII advancing the identified cycle routes in the county. Specific tender documentation has been prepared to appoint a consultant which will be published on e-tenders by end of July 2022 to advance the design of these routes. In addition, subsequent to the updating of the New National Cycle Network programme additional applications for funding will be aligned to the identified priority projects within same.*





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Councillor Alan Tobin introduced the motion by stating that the R135 is ideal as a cycle route, with appropriate speed limits and already being used by cyclists. He also referred to the absence of a footpath or cycleway from Ashbourne to Ratoath. Councillor Joe Bonner requested that Transportation write to Fingal County Council requesting their support and agreement to pursue this.

The supporting information and motion, proposed by Councillor Alan Tobin and seconded by Councillor Suzanne Jamal, was agreed.

### **8 Strategic Policy Committee & Corporate Policy Group Reports – For Information Purposes**

8.1 To note the report from the Climate Action, Environment and Emergency Services SPC of 13<sup>th</sup> May 2022.

The report was noted.

8.2 To note the Corporate Policy Group Meeting Minutes of 10<sup>th</sup> June 2022.

The minutes were noted.

8.3 To note the report from the Housing, Community and Cultural Development SPC of 28<sup>th</sup> June 2022.

The report was noted.

### **9 Correspondence**

There was no correspondence.

### **10 Any Other Business**

10.1 Councillor Joe Bonner raised the following issue:

10.1.1 Referred to the proposed closure of the A&E Department in Navan Hospital and its impact on the community and despite the population increases.



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10.2 Councillor Alan Tobin raised the following issue:

- 10.2.1 Requested that Environment be asked what measures can be taken to deal with cigarette litter, particularly outside businesses and around street furniture, e.g. an awareness campaign.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed:

**Cathaoirleach**