



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

Navan Municipal District

Ordinary Meeting

10:00 a.m., 13th July 2022, Navan Civic Offices

An Meára, Councillor Edward Fennessy, presided.

Councillors Present: Yemi Adenuga, Francis Deane, Padraig Fitzsimons, Alan Lawes, Tommy Reilly, Emer Tóibín.

Officials in Attendance:

Director of Service: Martin Murray

Senior Executive Engineer: Fiona Beers

Meetings Administrator: Claire King

Staff Officer: Triona Keating

Apologies: Shane Durcan, Executive Engineer

1 Confirmation of Minutes

1.1 Confirmation of minutes of Ordinary Meeting held on 22nd June 2022.

The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 22nd June 2022 were confirmed on the proposal of Councillor Tommy Reilly and seconded by Councillor Francis Deane.

2 Matters arising from the Minutes

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

3 Expressions of Sympathy and Congratulations

Sympathy was extended to:

- The family of the late Allie Murphy, Oaklands, Clogherboy;

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- The family of the late Rose Nelson, Parnell Park;
- The family of the late Jimmy Lynch, Bettystown and formerly Kentstown.

4 Statutory Business

4.1 Transportation

- 4.1.1 To receive a presentation on the emerging preferred route for the 'Navan Cycle/Pedestrian Scheme - Circular Road to Martha's Bridge'.

Martin Murray provided the background to the scheme and introduced Shane Tobin, Atkins, who delivered a presentation on the scheme overview, location, design process, with phases one and two complete and phase 3, the preliminary design phase, ongoing. Phase 4 includes the Part 8 process. The preferred option and junction arrangements were outlined, as were the benefits and impacts of the scheme. The next steps include the Part 8 going on public display in early to mid-August and the six week consideration period in early to mid-October.

Matters raised by councillors included:

- Referred to the existing and proposed building development in the area and the need to take these into account – this has been considered with the design forming part of pre-planning consultations and integrated with planning conditions.
- Referred to the need for Academy Square to be dealt with – this won't impact on the potential development of the site.
- Queried how cycle lanes and footpaths can be facilitated where houses are being developed up to the road front, e.g. Trim Road.
- Requested an update on the plans for Limekiln to the Trim Road, where traffic congestion remains an issue in the area.

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- Queried if there were any safety issues associated with dual cycle lanes – these are standard and are of sufficient width, with no safety concerns.
- Queried whether plastic bollards could be installed between the cycle lane and Dublin Road for additional safety – whilst bollards may be required at some locations, the standard kerbing to differentiate between the cycle lane and road will be mostly sufficient. Safety audits will be carried out and any issues addressed. The narrowing of the carriage width will also serve to slow traffic.
- Queried if the footpath is to be extended on the left hand side of the Dublin Road – a new footpath is planned from the garage to Circular Road. There may be a couple of pinch points in providing a 1.8m minimum width.
- Queried if there were plans to remove the right turn into the petrol station – traffic will still be able to turn right.
- Queried the impact on traffic if traffic lights are installed at the Fifth Province – traffic signals are required on Academy Street for pedestrian and cyclist safety.
- Queried if Martha's Bridge is to be widened – there are no plans to widen the bridge with the plans not involving any proposed works on the river, which is a SAC. There is already a wide turning area, with some junction realignment possibly required.
- Queried if the plans take into account all new road infrastructure associated with proposed SHDs – the development is being coordinated with any other permitted development and, whilst a stand alone scheme, will take account of other developments.
- Queried if the path on the right hand side outbound from the Fifth Province will be narrowed – it will either remain the same or be widened; the carriageway will be narrowed and the wide hard shoulder will be redesigned for cycling.

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4.1.2 To receive information on 'Statutory Process for Convent Road Filtered Permeability Scheme'.

Paul O'Brien, Executive Engineer, Transportation delivered a presentation, with reference to the scheme background, scheme outline, the user sentiment survey carried out in May 2022 and the estimated timeline for the Part 8 process, including the public display period commencing in late August/early September and the six week consideration period in December. The scheme is to continue, meeting the scheme on the Metges Road. Reference was also made to CCTV scheme, which is well advanced but delayed.

Matters raised by councillors included:

- Queried when the CCTV scheme will become operational – formal approval from the Garda Commissioner is awaited for the overall scheme in Navan, with the signs alerting people of the scheme being put up. An update will be provided, when available.
- Queried how the user sentiment survey was conducted – a specialist company carried out the survey of those using the facility over two days, including school students. The survey indicated that most supported the scheme and the introduction of additional active travel measures.
- Commended the recent cleaning schedule of the area and queried if there were plans to consistently monitor and clean the area and deal with graffiti – regular inspections and cleaning are carried out. The sweeper is sent out and an additional bin has been provided. Graffiti is a widespread issue and has been raised with the Gardaí. It is cleaned up where possible.
- Referred to concerns of residents in Athlumney Castle regarding the impact on the estate exit – a yellow junction box was put in and no complaints have been received.
- Queried if the survey carried out included motorists – other traffic surveys were carried out. During the public consultation, the two main

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issues raised were traffic and anti-social behaviour. There have not been any adverse impacts on traffic and the CCTV scheme, when it becomes operational, should deter anti-social behaviour.

- Referred to the need to address access to the cemetery, particularly for elderly people.
- Requested that the wooden planters be replaced with appropriate trees.
- Queried whether residents in The Green at Athlumney Castle and Riverside were consulted as these are most affected – whilst no direct formal consultation was undertaken, the Part 8 process does include public consultation and, in dealing with the scheme, most residents seem happy.

4.1.3 To receive an update on the LDR1B road and proposals for Balreask Cross.

Paul Phelan, Senior Executive Engineer, Transportation provided an update which included the issues identified, an accident history, speed surveys, the proposed near term measures, including vehicle activated signage, the existing and proposed layouts and the medium and longer term options.

Matters raised by councillors included:

- Referred to the need to consider a staggered junction or roundabout – this would require land take and the statutory process would take some years. The proposed signage is a short term measure and these have proven to be effective elsewhere.
- Referred to the number of serious accidents at this location, many due to speeding, and queried whether the accident and speed statistics used reflect the current situation – accident statistics can take a number of years to validate.
- Requested that the Navan town bus service route be changed to improve access from the Borallion.



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It was agreed to consider further measures that do not require land and can be implemented quickly, e.g. additional road markings, rumble strips, etc. The LDR1B remains the longer term solution.

4.1.4 To receive a Progress Report on works undertaken/planned for Navan Municipal District.

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

- Queried what procedure is followed when the council becomes aware that a local authority house has become vacant – councillors were advised to let the Housing Department know if they become aware of a unit becoming vacant and it will be secured as soon as possible.
- Commended the outdoor staff for their work in Johnstown in advance of the Tidy Towns judging.
- Queried whether bins can be provided at bus stops – whilst providing bins can lead to increased litter and illegal dumping in some cases, suitable locations will be identified.
- Queried when works will be completed on the Commons Road and Dan Shaw Road – these night works are due to be completed in the coming days.

4.2 Planning

- ### **4.2.1 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 conservation, restoration and change of use of the original building, a Protected Structure for use as the Meath County Archive as well as ancillary site development works. The proposed works above will take place in the Townland of Dillonsland (ED Navan), Co. Meath. Location: Former St. Finian Seminary Study Hall and former St. Patricks Classical School, St. Finians Terrace, Dillonsland,**



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Navan, Co. Meath. (P822008). (See below)

Wendy Bagnall, Senior Executive Planner outlined the Part 8 process and underlined that the restoration of the building remains the priority and is complemented by the public realm element.

Matters raised by councillors included querying whether a site visit could be facilitated – this was agreed, subject to compliance with health and safety requirements.

4.3 Corporate Affairs and Governance

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

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

5 Notice of Question

5.1 Submitted by Councillor Francis Deane

"With reference to the regeneration plans for the Spicers Bakery site on the R153 and the derelict buildings at the Andy Brennan Park, what is the status of the tendering process for commencement of the proposed works?"

Response:

Paul Hogarth and Company have been appointed to prepare a single planning application for the redevelopment/reimagining of the Athlumney lands comprising of the Spicers site, derelict building, Cllr Andy Brennan Park.

The redevelopment will accord with the concept plan which has been presented to the Navan Municipal District.



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Work is ongoing in this regard. It is intended that a planning application will be lodged with An Bord Pleanála in Q4 2022.

The response was noted.

6 Notice of Motion

6.1 Submitted by Councillor Francis Deane

"I propose that Meath County Council will erect a wheelchair swing for disabled children to use and enjoy in the playground at Blackwater Park."

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

There are limited funding schemes available for the development or refurbishment of playgrounds. The Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth provide limited funding (maximum available grant is €18,000 and restricted to one location) for playground development or refurbishment under the Capital Grant Scheme for Play and Recreation. The playground in Blackwater Park will be assessed to determine whether there is sufficient space to install a wheelchair swing and, if there is, the proposal will be considered for the 2023 Capital Grant Scheme for Play and Recreation.

The supporting information and motion, proposed by Councillor Francis Deane and seconded by Councillor Edward Fennessy, was agreed.

6.2 Submitted by Councillor Francis Deane

"I call on Meath County Council to install 'no dumping' signage on the lane behind McDermott Villas and Parnell Park and also a sign on Carriage Road."

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



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Meath County Council will arrange for "No Dumping" signage to be erected at suitable positions as required, following inspection of the lanes/locations named.

The supporting information and motion, proposed by **Councillor Francis Deane** and seconded by **Councillor Edward Fennessy**, was agreed.

6.3 Submitted by Councillor Tommy Reilly

"I call on Meath County Council to install a pedestrian crossing at Abbeylands South near the Kells road roundabout to facilitate students of St. Patrick's Classical School."

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

Pedestrian crossing facilities at this location will be considered as part of the LDR4 Abbeyland Navan project which is currently at the detailed design stage.

Councillor Tommy Reilly introduced the motion by referring to the number of school children crossing the road and queried if a temporary pedestrian crossing could be provided. In response, it was pointed out that the detailed design stage, referred to in the supporting information provided, would identify a preferred location for a permanent crossing and that element of the project can be advanced.

The supporting information and motion, proposed by **Councillor Tommy Reilly** and seconded by **Councillor Padraig Fitzsimons**, was agreed.

6.4 Submitted by Councillor Edward Fennessy

"To ask the Executive to include the Blackcastle Demense Estate on this year's list for road resurfacing works."

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

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Navan Municipal District has a 3 year proposed programme in place for the resurfacing of roads in Housing Estates. Blackcastle Demesne will be added to the list of estates needing works.

Councillor Edward Fennessy welcomed the information provided and queried who is responsible for providing signage indicating house numbers in estates and it was agreed to check this.

The supporting information and motion, proposed by Councillor Edward Fennessy and seconded by Councillor Alan Lawes, was agreed.

6.5 Submitted by Councillor Edward Fennessy

"To ask the Executive to for an update on the development of a Strategic Employment Zone on council owned lands at Farganstown"

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

The Council continues to promote these lands which were designated as a Strategic Employment Zone (E1) suitable for High technology uses/warehousing/distribution.

The supporting information and motion, proposed by Councillor Edward Fennessy and seconded by Councillor Alan Lawes, was noted.

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

- 7.1 To note the report from the Climate Action, Environment and Emergency Services SPC of 13th May 2022.

The report was noted.

- 7.2 To note the Corporate Policy Group Meeting Minutes of 10th June 2022.

The minutes were noted.



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- 7.3 To note the report from the Housing, Community and Cultural Development SPC of 28th June 2022.

The report was noted.

8 Correspondence

- 8.1 Correspondence received from Maureen O'Neill and family.

The correspondence was noted.

9 Any Other Business

- 9.1 Councillor Emer Tóibín raised the following issue:

9.1.1 Referred to a local business survey undertaken on Watergate Street which suggested that the majority of businesses were in favour of the removal of the parklets – the council is liaising with the Meath Chamber and surveys are being carried out and information gathered to inform a decision on the parklets from October. The matter will be brought back to the municipal district in September/October.

- 9.2 Councillor Francis Deane raised the following issues:

9.2.1 Referred to bad holes on the Fisherman's Bridge on the Boyne Road at the Ramparts.

9.2.2 Referred to potholes on Farganstown Lane.

9.2.3 Referred to anti-social behaviour in Ardmulchen Graveyard as it is now open all the time.

9.2.4 Referred to the need for OPW consent to trim the grass in Old Athlumney Graveyard.



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9.2.5 Requested an update on the two bus stops in Old Johnstown Village.

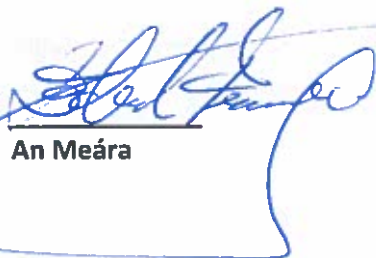
9.2.6 Queried whether works are planned for the footpaths on the right hand side in Silverlawns – the sections in poorer condition are being done.

9.3 Councillor Padraig Fitzsimons raised the following issue:

9.3.1 Queried who is responsible for the maintenance of the large green area in Abbeygrove – this generally is the responsibility of residents, with grants available to assist groups.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed:



An Meára