



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

Laytown-Bettystown Municipal District

Ordinary Meeting

10.00 am, 8th September 2022, Duleek Civic Offices

An Cathaoirleach, **Councillor Wayne Harding**, presided.

Councillors Present: Tom Behan, Elaine McGinty, Geraldine Keogan, Paddy Meade, Sharon Tolan.

Councillors Present via Zoom: Councillor Stephen McKee.

Officials in Attendance:

Director of Service: Fiona Lawless

Executive Engineer: Christy Clarke

Meetings Administrator: Claire King

Staff Officer: Triona Keating

1 Confirmation of Minutes

1.1 Confirmation of minutes of Ordinary Meeting held on 7th July 2022.

The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 7th July 2022 were confirmed on the proposal of **Councillor Tom Behan** and seconded by **Councillor Elaine McGinty**.

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 Bilal Tunkara, formerly of Mosey, following his tragic death in Laytown;



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

- The family of the late John Joe Halpin, Killeary, Lobinstown.

Congratulations were extended to:

- The Laytown Race Committee on their full capacity event;
- Nuala O'Reilly, who recently celebrated 65 years in business in Laytown;
- Bettystown Tidy Towns on the installation of Linda Brunker's art piece at the end of Tara Road.

4 Statutory Business

4.1 Asset Management

4.1.1 To receive an update on the Bettystown Library Project.

Enda Weldon, Executive Engineer, Asset Management provided an update on the project, with the contractor currently carrying out preliminary works, including site clearance, with demolition works to commence next week. A road closure at Seaview Terrace will be required on 12th September. The estimated timeline, which is weather dependent, for the completion of the project is 16 months, i.e. to January 2024. The facilities to be provided include toilets, outdoor showers, meeting and sensory rooms, lifeguard facilities in addition to the library. It is intended to minimise disruption in the area.

Matters raised by councillors included:

- Thanked everyone involved in progressing the project, particularly Fiona Lawless.
- Welcomed the extent of facilities to be provided and how concerns have been addressed.



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

- Queried whether it will be built to minimise disruption/damage associated with climate change and rising tides – the ground floor is designed in such a way so as to avoid any damage even if flooding does occur. In addition, a Wave Action Plan and modelling has been carried out and the building will be adequately robust.
- Referred to the possibility of leasing land to increase nearby parking facilities – a traffic study was carried out as part of the Part 8 application. A limited number of staff parking spaces will be provided and there is public parking available in Bettystown, including at the schools and on Tara Road. Schools are within walking distance and there are a number of public transport options.

4.1.2 To receive an update on the lands acquired for a Community Facility.

Enda Weldon provided an update for the lands, with a very initial feasibility study having been carried out pre-purchase. The project is at the preliminary stages and will be dependent on securing URDF funding. Fiona Lawless confirmed that consultation will be undertaken with a view to developing proposals based on local needs. However, it is not intended to provide facilities which are already provided by other organisations, who have access to alternative funding.

Matters raised by councillors included:

- The need to provide a clear message to the community on what is planned for the lands – the initial feasibility study allowed for a building and parking.
- Commended the local schools who have made their facilities available to sporting organisations.
- Referred to the audit of sporting facilities being carried out by MLSP.
- Referred to the increased popularity of walking and running, with Drogheda Running Track frequently booked out.



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

- Underlined the need for facilities for teenagers.
- The need to ensure that land remains available for community use.
- Thanked Fiona Lawless, the Management Team and council staff for securing the lands and working towards their development.

4.2 Community

- 4.2.1 To receive details of the proposed grant allocations under the Community Amenity Project Scheme 2022 and, if deemed appropriate, forward to the Full Council of Meath County Council for approval.

Prior to this item being discussed, Councillor Sharon Tolan wished to have it noted that a family member was a volunteer with one of the groups and Councillor Paddy Meade wished to have it noted that he played with one of the clubs – this was noted.

Fiona Fallon, Senior Executive Officer, Community Department outlined the assessment criteria, the number of applications received and eligible, and the requirement that the funding be drawn down by 31st December 2023. The recommended grant allocations, totalling the available €100,000 budget, and the rationale for these, were outlined. The recommended grant allocations, once agreed, will be brought to the October meeting of Meath County Council for approval.

Councillor Tom Behan proposed an amendment to the allocations; however, it was pointed out that some of the proposed allocations were ineligible as they were less than the minimum amount.

A discussion followed, with Councillors Sharon Tolan, Paddy Meade and Elaine McGinty expressing support for the grant allocations recommended. It was proposed by Councillor Sharon Tolan and seconded by Councillor Elaine McGinty to accept the grant allocations as presented.



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

An amended list of allocations was proposed by Councillor Tom Behan and seconded by Councillor Geraldine Keogan, as follows:

- St. Colmcille's East Meath GAC - €65,000
- Bettystown Tidy Towns - €10,000
- Newtown Utd. Football Club - €14,000
- Duleek Revival Programme - €11,000

It was agreed to call a roll call vote on the amendment, as follows:

Councillor	For	Against	Abstain	Absent
BEHAN, Tom	✓			
HARDING, Wayne	✓			
KEOGAN, Geraldine	✓			
MCGINTY, Elaine		✓		
MCKEE, Stephen	✓			
MEADE, Paddy		✓		
TOLAN, Sharon		✓		

The result was four in favour and three against; the amendment therefore was carried.

4.3 Planning

- 4.3.1 To receive an update on the preparation of the Drogheda Joint Urban Area Plan and proposed timelines.

Pádraig Maguire, Senior Planner and Alan Russell, Senior Executive Planner attended the meeting to deliver a presentation on the role and purpose of a Local Area Plan, the statutory process and plan hierarchy, the policy context, the scope of works and envisaged timeline and the pre-draft public consultation exercise.

Matters raised by councillors included:



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

- Queried whether formal meetings between the municipal districts would take place.
- Queried what transportation projects are planned.
- Underlined the need to link active travel initiatives between Drogheda and East Meath.
- Referred to the importance of the port access.
- Referred to the need for a new bridge and loop road around Drogheda.
- Expressed disappointment that the Notices of Motion regarding green spaces, link roads, playgrounds, etc. in South Drogheda are not dealt with as part of the County Development Plan process and the need to ensure that adequate lands are secured for community purposes during the local area plan process.

It was pointed out that a lot of background work has taken place between Meath and Louth County Councils and that the Issues Paper is intended to give a broad overview of the main development issues in Drogheda and encourage engagement in the preparation of the Urban Area Plan (UAP). It was outlined that a Local Transport Plan was also being prepared for Drogheda which will assess the transportation requirements for the settlement as a whole. Workshops will take place with the councillors and a Memorandum of Understanding will be agreed with Louth County Council on how the UAP will operate between the two Councils. The Issues Paper will also go to the councillors for information purposes prior to going on public display.

4.3.2 To consider taking in charge of the following and the making of a declaration that the roads within the development shall be public roads in accordance with Section 11 Roads Act 1993 and the Planning & Development Acts 2000-2021:

- Paramadda Court, Duleek.



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

This was approved on the proposal of Councillor Paddy Meade and seconded by Councillor Stephen McKee.

4.4 Transportation

4.4.1 To receive a Progress Report on works undertaken/planned for Laytown-Bettystown Municipal District.

The report had been circulated in advance and a further update provided at the meeting.

Matters raised by councillors included:

- Requested an extra grass cut at Lobinstown playground – the contract allows for 14 cuts per year but, if additional cuts are required, this will be considered for next year's contract.
- Requested urgent road repairs on the L56025 – this will be considered for next year's roadworks programme. Due to increased costs, it is a challenge to complete the programme this year.
- Requested a yellow box on McEvoy's Lane to Beamore Road and also a plan to improve safety for pedestrians and cyclists and at the junction for the Beamore Road to Beamore Cross – works associated with a number of road opening licences are being completed. In order to tackle speeding, it is proposed to provide a raised pedestrian crossing, which will be monitored for tailbacks, and possibly a yellow box added.
- Requested improved access to Wolfe Tones in Donore – a pedestrian crossing is on the list of requested works.
- Requested that bus stops, with bus shelters, be provided on the Beamore and Donore Roads.
- Referred to the need for traffic calming measures at Colpe roundabout, particularly to improve safety for pedestrians accessing the shopping



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

centre – this is an ongoing issue. A Road Safety Audit recommended the replacement of the rails with reflective bollards and this is on the works list.

- Referred to Japanese Knotweed on the Minnistown Road, which was cut back during broadband works and which has now spread across the road – location details were requested as this is sprayed twice per year.
- Queried the timeline for resurfacing works to commence in St. Benildus Villas.
- Requested that the condition of roads and footpaths in Highfield, Laytown be assessed – this will be considered for the next programme of works.
- Requested that, when works are completed on the Pilltown Road, the collapsed wall be removed to widen the roadway.
- Referred to complaints received regarding traffic management and the temporary traffic lights at Colpe Cross being red in the evenings and requested that the contractor implement a different traffic management scheme in the evenings – traffic is being maintained at all times on the four lane roundabout, with only lane affected at any one time.
- Requested that consideration be given to installing ramps at the entrance to St. Cianan's Villas to slow traffic – kerbs are being realigned to reduce speed.
- Requested that the tree near the pedestrian crossing at Millmount Abbey/Rosevale be cut back to improve visibility.
- Referred to overgrowth on the footpath between Julianstown school and the Ballygarth Road – the hedge cutting season has just started and reminders regarding responsibility are being issued.



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

- Queried the extent of and timeline for planned works in Laytown playground and referred to the need for ongoing maintenance checks on the equipment in playgrounds, e.g. Duleek – the tender for equipment maintenance and replacement will issue next week.
- Requested that consideration be given to inviting Water Safety Ireland to provide water safety classes during the summer.
- Queried whether the road closure arising from the works on Phase II of the N51 works at Dunmoe is to be replaced with traffic lights at the end of September.

4.5 Corporate Affairs & Governance

- 4.5.1 To note Municipal District Allocations submitted by Councillors on behalf of Laytown-Bettystown Municipal District.

The list of allocations, circulated in advance, were noted and councillors were reminded of the deadline for the receipt of completed application and deferral forms.

Councillors expressed their thanks to Triona Keating for her work on processing the applications.

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



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

- 7.1 To note the report from the Transportation SPC of 30th June 2022.

The report was noted.

- 7.2 To note the Corporate Policy Group Meeting Minutes of 4th July 2022.

The minutes were noted.

- 7.3 To note the report from the Planning, Economic Development, Enterprise and European Affairs SPC of 13th July 2022.

The report was noted.

- 7.4 To note the report from the Housing, Community and Cultural Development SPC of 23rd August 2022.

The report was noted.

8 Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

9 Any Other Business

- 9.1 Councillor Sharon Tolan raised the following issues:

9.1.1 Requested that temporary measures be provided to assist people crossing the road and accessing schools and buses at Northlands and Eastham Road until such time as a cycleway and footpath is provided – reference was made to the number of requests received for pedestrian crossings but this will be referred to the Active Transport Unit.

9.1.2 Queried whether the EV charging point would be out of use during works on the Bettystown community facility and asked that pressure be put on the contractor to get the point on Tara Road operational.



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

9.2 Councillor Elaine McGinty raised the following issues:

9.2.1 Requested that the Municipal District Cathaoirleach and councillors be invited to the community funding announcement by Indaver / Indaver Community Liaison Committee and requested that the minutes of meetings, where funding decisions are taken, be published.

9.3 Councillor Paddy Meade raised the following issue:

9.3.1 Referred to the ongoing issues with the footpath from Lobinstown to Heronstown N.S.

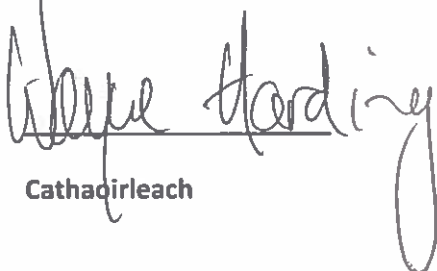
9.4 Councillor Stephen McKee raised the following issues:

9.4.1 Requested that the Duleek name signs be replaced – this is on the list of works.

9.4.2 Requested that bins be provided at the bus shelter opposite Deepforde – this will be installed, when received.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed:


Cathaoirleach

