



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

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

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

***10:00 a.m., 15<sup>th</sup> November 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

**Executive Engineer:** Mel Cronin

**Meetings Administrator:** Claire King

**Staff Officer:** Triona Keating

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

##### **1.1 Confirmation of minutes of Ordinary Meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> October 2022.**

The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> October 2022 were confirmed on the proposal of Councillor Alan Tobin and seconded by Councillor Aisling O'Neill.

##### **1.2 Confirmation of minutes of Special Finance Meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> November 2022.**

The minutes of the Special Finance Meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> November 2022 were confirmed on the proposal of Councillor Suzanne Jamal and seconded by Councillor Amanda Smith.

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

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

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



## *Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes*

Sympathy was extended to:

- The family of the late Vicky Phelan, to whom tributes were paid;
- The families of those lost and injured in the tragic incident in Creeslough, County Donegal, including those in Ashbourne and Stamullen who had been directly affected.

Congratulations were extended to:

- Councillor Alan Tobin and his wife Michelle on the birth of their baby daughter;
- The retailers in Ashbourne for reaching the top 5 in Ireland's Friendliest Town competition.

#### **4 To consider the election, appointment or nomination of Councillors to Local Bodies & Committees**

- 4.1 Appointment of one councillor to the Local Traveller Accommodation Consultative Committee following the resignation of Councillor Aisling O'Neill.

There were no nominations and it was agreed to seek information on the criteria for membership of/representation on the committee.

#### **5 Statutory Business**

##### **5.1 Community**

- 5.1.1 To receive detail of the recommended grant offer by the Knockharley Community Liaison Committee under the Knockharley Environmental Projects Grant Scheme and if in agreement to forward to the Full Council of Meath County Council for approval.

Fiona Fallon, Senior Executive Officer, Community Department outlined the report circulated in advance of the meeting, including the recommended grant offer.



## *Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes*

Councillors Suzanne Jamal, Amanda Smith and Aisling O'Neill declared an interest as they all sit on the committee of the recipient group. This was noted.

The recommended grant offer was endorsed on the proposal of Councillor Joe Bonner and seconded by Councillor Alan Tobin.

### 5.2 Transportation

- 5.2.1 To advise the members of the Municipal District that Meath County Council Transportation Department propose to put the draft Road Traffic (Special Speed Limits) (30km/h Housing Estates) County of Meath Bye-Laws (No.1) 2022 on public display as required by Section 9 of the Road Traffic Acts, 2004 (No.44 of 2004)

Paul McKown, Executive Engineer, Transportation Department outlined the contents of the letter circulated in advance.

Matters raised by councillors included:

- The timeframe for the process – the process, which is very prescriptive, includes consultation with the Gardaí and TII and the public display period. The byelaw will take effect in summer 2023 at the earliest.
- Referred to incorrect signs at certain locations – further information on these locations was requested, following which the byelaws will be checked and signage amended, if required.
- Requested an update on the county speed limit review and queried if councillors can make changes to the recommendations – this is a separate process and is a reserved function. It is intended that councillors and officials would work together to agree any changes made. There are mandatory guidelines in place and it is in progress. There were approximately 300 submissions, with each location reviewed, a speed survey carried out, accident history reviewed, etc. It is hoped to bring this back to the December municipal district meetings.



## *Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes*

It was agreed, on the proposal of **Councillor Conor Tormey** and seconded by **Councillor Aisling O'Neill**, to proceed to public display.

- 5.2.2 To receive a Progress Report on works undertaken/planned for Ashbourne Municipal District.

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

The Cathaoirleach and councillors commended and thanked Mel and his team for the work carried out throughout the municipal district.

Matters raised by councillors included:

- Referred to the footpath on Frederick Street, outside The Track Bookmakers and 50/50, which has no dropped kerb to facilitate wheelchair access – it was agreed to check this.
- Requested an update on the provision of the double yellow lines – this is weather dependent and a list of locations has been sent to the contractor.
- Referred to issues experienced by residents in Milltown and requested that double yellow lines be reinstated to prevent parking outside houses – parallel parking had been provided at the green space and bollards installed to prevent parking. If lines are needed, a process must be followed, including consultation with the Gardaí to ensure follow-up enforcement.
- Referred to the need for additional sand and bark in the playground, as well as cleaning the graffiti from the equipment.
- Requested that consideration be given to improving the footpath surface outside the houses at the entrance to Tudor when road works are being undertaken – it was agreed to check this.



## *Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes*

- Referred to residents on Bodeen Lane, who want the road done. A query had been submitted to Transportation to see if this would be considered for CIS and no response was received – if an application is submitted, it is added to the list and a response should issue.
- Referred to the edging along the footpath at Tudor, with different edging undertaken by the contractor – it was agreed to review this when works are completed.
- Queried whether the fence at Archerstown, which had fallen down, had been removed – it was agreed to check this.
- Requested that the developers be asked to tidy up the pedestrian entrance to The Briars, as it had not been properly reinstated.
- Referred to ongoing issues with trucks parking on the cycleways at the retail park.
- Referred to the drainage works carried out on Hickey's Lane and the drainage issues on the opposite side, with leaves blocking the ditch.
- Specifically commended the works undertaken at Fleenstown; the footpath works and lighting at Mountain View, Stamullen; and the path from the Redwood Extended Care Facility, which has improved the quality of life for residents.

### **6 Notice of Question**

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

"In relation to the plan to provide a bus stop in Greenogue for the 197, can we have an update on the progress regarding same."

**Response:**



## **Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes**

*Since the last update, staff from the Transportation Department have met with the landowners on the south side of the R125 to discuss the extent of land required to accommodate the bus stop. Following this, the Council will now submit a funding application for the scheme for 2023.*

The response was noted.

### **7 Notice of Motion**

#### **7.1 Submitted by Councillor Conor Tormey**

"I call on Meath County Council to provide a footpath from Cherry Tree Drive up to Kilbride football pitch. This is for the safety of all the residents who use this road on a daily basis."

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

*Meath County Council had previously assessed this section of road with a view to providing a footway between Cherry Tree Estate and the existing footway in the Village. At the time, there were insufficient funds available, as there are significant enabling works that would be required prior to constructing any new proposed footway. These would include land acquisition, site/tree clearance, upgraded Public Lighting, earthworks and earth retaining structures. Also, due to the existing road geometry, there may be difficulties in providing a suitable crossing point for pedestrians within any proposed scheme.*

*Notwithstanding the above, the proposal will be reassessed and put forward as a candidate for Sustainable Transport Funding (2023 schemes).*

Councillor Conor Tormey introduced the motion by referring to the safety issues for students accessing the school. He referred to the hedge removed by a local farmer. Councillor Alan Tobin referred to the plans by the ESB to remove a tree at the pole.

The supporting information and motion, proposed by Councillor Conor Tormey and seconded by Councillor Joe Bonner, was agreed.



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

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

8.1 To note the Corporate Policy Group Meeting Minutes of 30<sup>th</sup> September 2022.

The minutes were noted.

8.2 To note the Climate Action, Environment and Emergency Services SPC Meeting Minutes of the 7<sup>th</sup> October 2022.

The minutes were noted.

8.3 To note the Transportation Strategic Policy Committee Meeting Minutes of 29<sup>th</sup> September 2022.

The minutes were noted.

### **9 Correspondence**

9.1 Correspondence received from Fingal County Council in relation to Item 4.2.1 from the September meeting of Ashbourne Municipal District regarding the new runway at Dublin Airport.

The correspondence was noted.

### **10 Any Other Business**

10.1 Councillor Joe Bonner raised the following issue:

10.1.1 Requested an update on the timeframe for works to commence on the skatepark – the Design & Build option is to be progressed and the tender process commenced, with the intention to identify a preferred contractor by the end of Q1 2023. Reference was made to a number of checks that must be carried out and possible restrictions in terms of when certain works can be carried out, e.g. relating to the river.



## *Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes*

10.2 Fiona Lawless raised the following issue:

10.2.1 Referred to the change of date agreed for the first meeting of Meath County Council in 2023, i.e. changed from Monday 13<sup>th</sup> February to Monday 30<sup>th</sup> January. It was subsequently agreed that the February meeting date for Ashbourne Municipal District would remain Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> February and the December meeting would commence at 11.30am.

10.3 Councillor Alan Tobin raised the following issue:

10.3.1 Requested that a letter issue to the Irish Aviation Authority regarding missed approaches and outlined the information that should be included. Following a short discussion, it was agreed, on the proposal of Councillor Alan Tobin and seconded by Councillor Suzanne Jamal, that a letter issue to the IAA, copied to the Minister, requesting that the missed approach be reviewed.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Amadeo Guiti".

Cathaoirleach