



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

### ***Laytown-Bettystown Municipal District***

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

***10.00 am, 17<sup>th</sup> November 2022, Duleek Civic Offices***

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

**Councillors Present:** Councillors Paddy Meade and Sharon Tolan.

**Councillors Present via Zoom:** Councillors Tom Behan, Geraldine Keogan and Stephen McKee.

**Apologies:** Councillor Elaine McGinty

**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 6<sup>th</sup> October 2022.**

The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> October 2022 were confirmed on the proposal of **Councillor Paddy Meade** and seconded by **Councillor Tom Behan**.

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

The minutes of the Special Finance Meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> November 2022 were confirmed on the proposal of **Councillor Wayne Harding** and seconded by **Councillor Geraldine Keogan**.

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



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There were no matters arising from the minutes.

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

Sympathy was extended to:

- Councillor Tom Behan on his recent bereavement.

Congratulations were extended to:

- All the participants in the Municipal District Pride of Place Awards and best wishes were extended to the local winners who will take part in the County Pride of Place Awards;
- St. Brigid's Drama Group on their sell out performances in Drogheda.

### **4 Statutory Business**

#### **4.1 Planning**

- 4.1.1 To receive the Chief Executive's Report (Reference P822012) in accordance with Part XI of the Planning and Development Act 2000-2021 and Part VIII of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001-2022 in relation to the proposed development consisting of the construction of 1nr. single storey residential dwelling at Newtown, Creevagh, Co. Meath.

Claire Hughes, Executive Engineer, Housing Department outlined the Chief Executive's Report, circulated in advance, including the recommendations. The Part 8 process was outlined, including the six week period for councillors to consider the report from the date of its receipt. Following the planning process and receipt of departmental approval, it is hoped to go to tender in early 2023.

Matters raised by councillors included welcoming the report and recommendation, which would meet an important need, and querying whether additional houses or affordable sites could be provided on the site, to maximise its potential.



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The proposed development was agreed on the proposal of **Councillor Wayne Harding** and seconded by **Councillor Paddy Meade**.

### **4.2 Transportation**

- 4.2.1 To consider pursuant to Section 11 of the Roads Act 1993 that Meath County Council make a declaration that a section of the road at Townland of Siddan and Barony of Lower Slane and known as Woodtown, Drumconrath, in the County of Meath, be a Public Road.

Christy Clarke, Executive Engineer, provided a brief overview of the proposal, which follows receipt of a number of requests.

This was approved on the proposal of **Councillor Paddy Meade** and seconded by **Councillor Wayne Harding**.

- 4.2.2 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.

It was agreed on the proposal of **Councillor Paddy Meade** and seconded by **Councillor Tom Behan** to proceed as outlined.

- 4.2.1 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 was provided at the meeting.

Matters raised by councillors included:



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- Thanked Christy and his team for works undertaken including the footpath extension to the community facility in Duleek , the works at Rathbran junction and the dropped kerbs provided.
- Requested that the lane at Fr. Ryan's Park be resurfaced and cleared of weeds – roads and footpaths remain the priority, with back lanes generally maintained by householders.
- Requested that playgrounds are maintained regularly and that an audit be carried out to identify equipment that needs to be replaced – playgrounds are inspected on a weekly basis, with an annual inspection of equipment to identify any defects and any equipment rated as being severe/bad is replaced immediately.
- Requested an update on the installation of CCTV in playgrounds to deter anti-social behaviour – the process involved in this is lengthy, due to the data protection requirements involved. Alternative means of dealing with the issue are being implemented, with security measures in the evening appearing effective and this will continue to be monitored.
- Queried whether the road in Ardrea is to be fully completed – the road is surveyed based on the PCSI rating and not all sections are assessed as being in need of work. Based on progress made and funding available, estates will be reviewed to see if additional works are required.
- Queried the timeframe for the extinguishment of the right of way on the road at Platin – the process involved is similar to a planning application, with the site notice providing the relevant dates.
- Queried the process to extinguish the right of way, including whether residents can make submissions and if this is a reserved function – limited funding has been secured from the department for a Low Cost Safety Scheme, i.e. junction improvements, in an effort to reduce the number of accidents. The wider solution involves major capital works on the Beamore Road, for which there is no funding. The decision is a reserved function.



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- Queried whether adequate outdoor staffing is available in the municipal district – staffing is an executive function with any vacancies filled immediately.
- Referred to difficulties being experienced by the Red Cross in accessing a residence due to the poor road condition – it was pointed out that access is available from the opposite side of the road. This road is not in the current roadworks programme and will be reviewed in terms of the next programme.
- Requested that the hedges and verges on the Gormanston Interchange be cut back to facilitate cyclists – this is being approached jointly with Ashbourne Municipal District.
- Requested an update on the roll-out of EV public charging points – there will be a presentation on this at the full council meeting.
- Queried when footpath works will start in Duleek – these works have commenced and are due to be completed by the end of November.

## **5 Notice of Question**

### **5.1 Submitted by Councillor Elaine McGinty**

“To ask Meath County Council to outline its plans to address the increasing traffic congestion in Drogheda town and surrounding areas of Beamore that fall within its county boundary given the large number of houses being completed in Avourwen, Kestral Manor, Bryanstown Wood and Oldbridge Manor. We are seeing hundreds of houses coming on stream but the smart/active transport solutions need to be delivered at the same time.”

#### **Response:**

*The Meath County Development Plan 2021-2027 describes a development strategy for the South Environs of Drogheda. The strategic objectives therein support the preparation of a joint Urban Area Plan between Meath County Council and Louth County Council , as*



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*required by Regional Policy Objective 4.11 of the Regional Spatial Economic Strategy (RSES).*

*The objective of the joint UAP is to provide a coordinated planning framework by the local authorities and other agencies, to identify and deliver strategic development and regeneration areas to achieve compact growth targets, and to prioritise infrastructure investment. It was agreed to carry out an Area Based Transport Assessment (ABTA) for Drogheda to ensure that movement and accessibility of all forms, across all modes of transport, is considered as a key component in the development of areas at a local level and work on this is currently ongoing.*

*The EMRA RSES outlines the need to invest in the requisite infrastructure to enable Drogheda to develop as a sustainable Regional Growth Centre. Drogheda will benefit from the proposed DART expansion programme identified in Project Ireland 2040, which will provide for a fast, high-frequency electrified rail service to the town to enhance the existing heavy rail service. Work is progressing on the planning and design of the DART+ expansion programme.*

*In the short term, and with regard to the specific areas referred to in the Notice of Question, Meath County Council proposes to carry out footpath works to connect Bryanstown Woods to the existing footpath on the Beamore Road in 2023.*

The response was noted.

### **6 Notice of Motion**

There were no Notices of Motion.

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

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

The minutes were noted.

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



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The minutes were noted.

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

The minutes were noted.

### **8 Correspondence**

There was no correspondence.

### **9 Any Other Business**

- 9.1 Councillor Paddy Meade raised the following issue:

9.1.1 Expressed concern at the news that TII will increase the M1 toll charges from 1<sup>st</sup> January, which will have an adverse impact on rural roads and the N2 as well as local businesses. It was agreed on the proposal of **Councillor Sharon Tolan** and seconded by **Councillor Paddy Meade** to write to TII objecting to this decision, citing the negative impact it will have on local communities.

- 9.2 Fiona Lawless raised the following issues:

9.2.1 Referred to the scheduled February 2023 meeting date and requested that that it be moved to 2<sup>nd</sup> February and that the December meeting commence at 11.00am – this was agreed on the proposal of **Councillor Paddy Meade** and seconded by **Councillor Sharon Tolan**.

9.2.2 Reminded councillors of the joint meeting with Drogheda Borough Council, taking place in Drogheda on 24<sup>th</sup> November, and of the dates of the budget meetings.

This concluded the business of the meeting.



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Signed:

*Wayne Harding*

Cathaoirleach