



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

Ashbourne Municipal District

Ordinary Meeting

11:30 a.m., 6th December 2022, Ashbourne Civic Offices

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

Councillors Present: Joe Bonner, Suzanne Jamal, Alan Tobin and Conor Tormey.

Apologies: Councillor Aisling O'Neill.

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 15th November 2022.

The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 15th November 2022 were confirmed on the proposal of **Councillor Conor Tormey** and seconded by **Councillor Suzanne Jamal**.

2 Matters arising from the Minutes

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

3 Expressions of Sympathy and Congratulations

There were no expressions of sympathy or congratulations.

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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.

The Housing Department confirmed that the terms of the committee, as agreed by the full council, included that each municipal district would have a representative on the committee as its remit also includes standard local authority housing. There were no nominees for the position and it was agreed to refer this back to Housing.

5 Statutory Business

5.1 Planning

5.1.1 To receive an update on the Public Realm Plan for Ashbourne.

An update had been circulated in advance and the actions were outlined. It was confirmed that infrastructure would be prioritised in year one, e.g. progressing the connectivity between the two streets, signage, pedestrian and public spaces.

Matters raised by councillors included welcoming the action plan as presented and referring to previous efforts to secure the pedestrian linkage, which is an issue that needs to be resolved.

5.1.2 To receive an update on the taking In Charge of Archerstown Wood, Ashbourne.

Neville Carolan, Planning Enforcement provided a background to the taking in charge that was previously on public display and agreed by the municipal district. It was confirmed that, due to a mapping error at the time, it is proposed to put a revised map on public display, indicating the area not to be taken in charge as it is owned by a third party, and regularise the process. This would be on public display for 4 weeks, with a further 2 weeks for submissions, and then brought back to the municipal district. The roads and services remain as per the original taking in charge process.



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Matters raised by councillors included:

- Referred to the original plan to provide a creche on this site and queried whether it could now be changed to community infrastructure – the planning permission, which included the creche, has since expired but submissions can be made as part of any relevant planning application.
- Queried the total amount of green space to be provided for the estate.
- Referred to the damaged fence and whether this will be replaced – the fence complied with the planning conditions at the time but it was agreed to undertake an assessment.
- Requested further information on the area referred to – a technical report will be presented to the municipal district following the public display period. It was suggested that the statutory process can run in parallel with gathering this information.

It was agreed that the process, as outlined, would not proceed until additional information had been provided to councillors and it was agreed to defer this to the January meeting.

6.2 Transportation

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

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

Matters raised by councillors included:

- Congratulation Mel and his team on all the works undertaken, especially the works at Oberstown Cross and Baltrasna Road, Mountain View and Redwood, Stamullen as well as the bike repair stations, e.g. at Ardcath.



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- Queried if the footpath could be extended slightly around the corner at Baltrasna as trucks are mounting the grass.
- Queried if road markings are planned for Ardcath – a yellow box has been provided.
- Welcomed the pedestrian cross and ramps at Skryne N.S. but queried if pedestrian lights can be installed to allow children cross safely as traffic continues to drive through the lights.
- Queried if the Road Safety Officer had visited Rathfeigh N.S.
- Queried when the public lighting at Baltrasna would be switched on.
- Referred to the kerbs at the The Track and 50/50 – it was agreed to check this before Christmas.
- Referred to the need for double yellow lines at Milltown estate.
- Requested that the traffic light sequence at Deerpark be checked as currently only 2/3 cars are getting through the lights on the main road, north/south.
- Queried if the new water pipe at Stamullen is connected or is the old pipe still in use as residents in Kilbreck have been complaining about the water.

7 Notice of Question

There were no Notices of Question.

8 Notice of Motion

8.1 Submitted by Councillor Conor Tormey



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"I call on Meath County Council to provide a proper pedestrian crossing at the entrance to Garden City/Crestwood. A second pedestrian crossing is also needed in the vicinity of the shopping area of Garden City."

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

Meath County Council will carry out an inspection and survey of existing pedestrian crossing facilities at Garden City/Crestwood in Ashbourne. The results of this study may indicate suitable options that can be implemented by Meath County Council with a view to improving pedestrian facilities at these locations. Please note that although suitable options may be identified, constructing/implementing any measures will be subject to funding, resources and approvals as necessary.

Councillor Conor Tormey introduced the motion by referring to the issues caused by those who do not understand how courtesy crossings work and therefore a proper crossing is required.

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

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

9.1 To note the Corporate Policy Group Meeting Minutes of 11th November 2022.

The minutes were noted.

10 Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

11 Any Other Business

11.1 Councillor Conor Tormey raised the following issue:



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- 11.1.1 Congratulated all involved in the Christmas lights and queried where the additional funding for Christmas lights in Ashbourne was spent – it was confirmed that if all funding from this year's budget had not been expended, it can be carried over to next year.
- 11.1.2 Requested an update on the bus stop at Greenogue and whether a meeting had taken place with the landowner.
- 11.1.3 Referred to an issue with the parklet at Hunter's Moon – a review of the parklets is planned for early in the new year.

11.2 Fiona Lawless raised the following issue:

- 11.2.1 Confirmed that a meeting had taken place with the owners of High Street, who have ambitious plans for the street, including increasing the mix of retail offerings. Whilst councillors had expressed a preference to introduce restricted parking, there are few council owned spaces available and the only means of enforcing time limited parking would be through paid parking, which would require new byelaws, and may lead to the introduction of paid parking in other parking facilities. This may result in discouraging people from the town.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed:

Cathaoirleach