



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

Laytown-Bettystown Municipal District

Ordinary Meeting

11.00 am, 8th December 2022, Duleek Civic Offices

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

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

Councillors Present via Zoom: Councillors Stephen McKee and Sharon Tolan.

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 17th November 2022.

The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 17th November 2022 were confirmed on the proposal of **Councillor Tom Behan** and seconded by **Councillor Geraldine Keogan**.

2 Matters arising from the Minutes

Councillor Elaine McGinty referred to the letter received from TII with regard to toll booths, Item 8.1, and expressed dissatisfaction at the response, referring again to the lack of a physical staff presence at the booths, resulting in a poor service for those using the toll booths and impacting negatively on those living on local roads. She also referred to the suggestion that HGVs be exempted from toll charges for a six month trial period. Councillor Wayne Harding agreed, noting that payments by mobile phone cannot be facilitated and the impact this is having, particularly at peak times. Councillor Paddy Meade also agreed, referring to the congestion at the Donore roundabout and the Duleek exit. It was agreed that a response be



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issued, underlining the need for the toll booths to be staffed and the services upgraded to facilitate mobile phone payments.

3 Expressions of Sympathy and Congratulations

Congratulations were extended to:

- Slane Community Centre on securing funding for the upgrade of the facility, particularly the volunteers with thanks also to the Planning and Community departments;
- All the local groups involved in the Christmas decorations;
- Bettystown Tidy Towns, and Liam Keane, on winning the Climate Action Project award at the Pride of Place Awards;
- Aidan Young, Manager, Castletown Football Club, on winning Meath Club of the Year;
- Slane and Red Door, Drogheda on securing funding for drug rehabilitation services.

4 Statutory Business

4.1 Community

4.1.1 To receive details of the Laytown Park design.

Fiona Fallon, Senior Executive Officer, Community Department confirmed that ORIS funding of €40,000 had been secured to progress the design and planning application, for which BDP had been appointed. It is hoped to submit the planning application to An Bord Pleanála early in the new year. The design will be as definite as possible to facilitate the planning application but will also be as flexible as possible. Councillors were reminded that the Nanny Estuary represents a constraint. There is no timeframe for a decision on the planning application. Funding applications will follow a planning decision.



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Mehron Kirk, BDP delivered a presentation, which included information on the existing site and context, the existing areas and landscape, the concept including the zones, the design structure and proposed site design areas and outlined a number of elements being considered.

Matters raised by councillors included:

- Welcomed the project and progress being made.
- Asked that consultation take place with relevant local groups.
- Referred to the need for public lighting and CCTV to ensure a safe environment and deter anti-social behaviour – consultation is taking place with an ecologies regarding lighting and it is intended that the active areas will be well lit and provision can be made for CCTV.
- Queried what type of bins would be provided and where would they be located.
- Suggested that a larger performance area would be preferable to maximise the type of event that could be accommodated and queried if a power supply would be provided – a power supply can be included.
- Requested that facilities be provided for teenagers as well as children, e.g. a skatepark – it is intended to take a flexible approach and to cater for teenagers, e.g. by providing meeting spaces, and consultation will take place in advance of the detailed design.
- Suggested that a larger mown grass area would be better utilised.
- Suggested that this would be an ideal location for an outdoor pool, similar to the baths in Dun Laoghaire and Clontarf – this is a restricted site, due to the Nanny Estuary being a SPA, and while the site will be developed, it must also be protected and enhanced/



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- Queried if it was intended to provide a café.
- Expressed a preference that the area be as low maintenance as possible – the design will include materials, plants, etc. that are intended as low maintenance
- Queried if public toilets will be provided for events – the public toilets, which have been refurbished, are a short distance away and signage, indicating their location, can be enhanced. Mobile facilities can be brought in, if necessary, for events.
- Requested that consideration be given to including a garden of remembrance – there is scope within the design for the garden to include areas of reflection and it will be a matter for councillors to designate such areas.
- Referred to an objective in the County Development Plan regarding a link to the area west of the bridge, e.g. an underpass, allowing access to that area to facilitate bird watching, walking, etc. – the feasibility of an underpass will be considered as a link to the bridge.
- Requested that account be taken of the Fingal Coastal Path and East Coast Trail – this is noted.
- It was pointed out that some of the points raised would be dealt with as part of the detailed design. The park can be developed incrementally, over a number of years, starting with the pathways, and based on available funding.

The Cathaoirleach commended Fiona on the work to date and wished her well with the project.

4.2 Transportation

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



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

- Requested that the street sweeper be deployed to the Dublin Road areas, especially at Colpe and at the bus stops and asked that bins be installed at the bus stops – additional areas have been included in the street sweeping programme, including the R132 at Drogheda.
- Referred to the barriers at Colpe, which are regularly damaged – a road safety audit recommended that these be removed and replaced with high visibility bollards and this will be done in January/February.
- Requested an update on signage for Duleek, e.g. Carronstown and entry signs, which need to be replaced – signs have been received and will be erected as soon as possible.
- Welcomed works undertaken, including at Rathbran junction.
- Referred to the poor condition of the L56025 and L56027, which are not on the three year roadworks programme – these will be checked and added to the programme, if possible.
- Requested that the older bins in Slane be replaced with solar compacting bins – the older bins will be replaced.
- Commended the standard of works undertaken.
- Queried if works will be undertaken in St. Patrick's Terrace, Slane before Christmas – these will be undertaken by the end of the year or early in the new year.

5 Notice of Question

5.1 Submitted by Councillor Elaine McGinty



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“Can you please provide an update on the repair works of Greenway at Oldbridge which was damaged by fire in 2018?”

Response:

We are not in a position to give an exact date for the commencement of the works until the contractor is appointed and coordinated with other proposed third-party works in the area, but we expect the works to be completed by the end of the year or early 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 11th November 2022.

The minutes were noted.

8 Correspondence

8.1 Correspondence received from TII re Item 9.5.1 - April Meeting and Item 5.2.2 – October meeting regarding the M1 toll booths.

The correspondence was discussed under Item 2.

8.2 Correspondence received from TII re Item 9.1.1 – November meeting regarding toll charges.

The correspondence was noted.

9 Any Other Business



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9.1 Councillor Tom Behan raised the following issue:

9.1.1 Referred to the need for pothole repairs at the entrance to Preston Park, Julianstown and pothole repairs and ramps in Inse Bay.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Wayne Hedin", written over a horizontal line.

Cathaoirleach

