



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

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

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

***10.00 am, 12<sup>th</sup> January 2023, Duleek Civic Offices***

An Cathaoirleach, Councillor Wayne Harding, presided.

**Councillors Present:** Councillors Elaine McGinty, Paddy Meade and Sharon Tolan.

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

#### **Officials in Attendance:**

**Senior Executive Officer:** Larry Whelan

**Executive Engineer:** Christy Clarke

**Meetings Administrator:** Claire King

**Staff Officer:** Triona Keating

**Apologies:** Fiona Lawless, Director of Service

### **1 Confirmation of Minutes**

#### **1.1 Confirmation of minutes of Ordinary Meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> December 2022.**

The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> December 2022 were confirmed on the proposal of **Councillor Paddy Meade** and seconded by **Councillor Geraldine Keogan**.

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

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

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

Sympathy was extended to:



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- The family of the late Francie McKenna, retired Overseer with Meath County Council;
- The family of the late Seanie Lane, Churchview, Duleek.

Congratulations were extended to:

- The Sheehy and Geraghty families on the Centenary Commemoration held in St. Mary's Cemetery, Navan in honour of Laurence Sheehy, Terence Brady and Thomas Murray, who were executed in January 1923;
- Aidan Young, manager of Castletown football club, on their recent successes.

#### **4 Statutory Business**

##### **4.1 Transportation & Planning**

- 4.1.1 To provide update on the N2 Slane Bypass and Public Realm Enhancement Scheme.

John McGrath, Senior Engineer, and Enda Weldon, Executive Engineer, Transportation attended the meeting with Michael Noonan, RPS Consultants, and Una Mullen, National Roads Office.

A presentation was delivered, which included information on the scheme scope including the N2 Slane Bypass, the N51 Route Improvements and the Slane Village Public Realm Enhancement Scheme. Information was also provided on the Boyne Bridge crossing detail, the scope of the public realm scheme, the reconfiguration of the N2/N51 junction, the proposed car park and active travel links and the next steps, including the preparation of the statutory documents and the review of the preliminary business case by TII and the Department of Transport. A public information evening will take place on 19<sup>th</sup> January. There is currently no timeline for the publication of the scheme as government approval is first required to proceed.

Matters raised by councillors included:



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- Queried why a Type 2 dual carriageway was selected over a Type 1 dual carriageway – this represents a design call based on traffic demand, etc. and a balance between a single and dual carriageway in terms of meeting needs.
- Queried if a path and cycleway were being proposed for both sides of the bypass – they will be on the west/village side only.
- Proposed that, due to the likely significant traffic turning to Navan, that the filter lanes onto the N2 would still be required – the junction redesign will still allow for traffic to and from Navan but will not include HGVs.
- Queried if consultation had taken place with local businesses regarding the impacts of the HGV ban, whether heavy vehicles would be diverted to Stackallen Bridge and whether the ban would affect future economic development in the area – an online survey for businesses received some feedback but access will not be prevented to any destinations. Local deliveries will still be allowed through, e.g. a permit scheme. It is not thought that traffic will divert to Stackallen Bridge or other local bridges. Heavy vehicles will still have required access and the scheme will create a lot of economic opportunities.
- Queried whether the car park was dependent on land ownership – the scheme includes CPO requirements. Consultation has taken place with the landowner.
- Queried if an alternative location for the bus stop could be provided to take pressure off the bus stop on the Main Street – the bus stop will be maintained at its current location and alternative locations have not yet been considered. With the reduced traffic on the N2, there is scope for business companies to increase their services.
- Queried whether TII are currently reviewing the preliminary business case – TII are undertaking a peer review of the preliminary business case and feedback is expected shortly.



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- Underlined the need to get a government commitment to have the funding ringfenced – the scheme is at paperwork stage, in a bid to convince the department that is worth funding, i.e. that the scheme benefits outweigh the costs. It is hoped to have the allocations information for the February meeting.
- Referred to similar schemes proposed elsewhere that were refused due to environmental issues – steps are being taken to address relevant issues and taking account of the previous refusal and the outcome for similar schemes.
- Referred to the need to consider the realignment of the N51 to the roundabout on the bypass due to the bad bends – it is hoped to divert heavy and commuter traffic to the bypass. A review of road safety and capacity for additional traffic will be undertaken, including visibility, landscaping, signage and speed limit.

The Cathaoirleach and councillors thanked the team for the work on the scheme and the information provided.

### **4.2 Transportation**

#### **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 matters raised by councillors included:

- Welcomed the new solar compacting bins and requested that these be provided on walking routes in Mornington, such as the Golf Links Road, and Donacarney, along with dog bag dispensers – the increased number of compacting bins reduces the number of collections required and will allow additional bins to be provided as required.
- Queried what alternative options are being considered to improve road safety from Colpe to Platin, as the road closure at Mount Hanover is not



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to proceed – a number of locations throughout the county are being reviewed by Transportation for suitability for safety schemes, including this location. A lot of submissions have been received regarding the Beamore Road and the two junctions, with the issue being the traffic volumes on the Beamore Road. A scheme is being considered to incorporate the two junctions.

### **5 Notice of Question**

There were no Notices of Question.

### **6 Notice of Motion**

There were no Notices of Motion.

### **7 Correspondence**

There was no correspondence.

### **8 Any Other Business**

8.1 Councillor Paddy Meade raised the following issues:

- 8.1.1 Requested that correspondence issue to the relevant Director of Service to request that all lands, as originally proposed, be included in the long term lease to Drogheda Town F.C. to enable the club to pursue their original plans – it was pointed out that the revised terms will not affect the playing pitches or car park, with the land to be excluded potentially needed in the future for a road proposal. It was suggested that the club respond to the council, as requested. It was agreed that correspondence would issue on behalf of councillors.
- 8.1.2 Requested that a letter issue to the Gardaí notifying them that the Rathbran junction is now a four way all stop junction and that any monitoring of the junction would be welcomed.



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- 8.2 Councillor Sharon Tolan raised the following issues:
- 8.2.1 Queried when the full Northlands estate will be taken in charge – it was agreed to refer this to Planning. It was also confirmed that, in respect of the flood relief scheme, the upgrade of the culvert on the Eastham Road would take place after Easter and during school holidays.
  - 8.2.2 Referred to ongoing issues for pedestrians trying to cross the Eastham Road, with traffic increasing, partially due to the opening of the Tara Road, and no complete footpath on one side of the road – this location is on the list of request for works under Active Travel.
  - 8.2.3 Requested that a barrier be provided at the end of the boardwalk coming from the beach dunes onto the road and also that consideration be given to providing a pedestrian crossing – it was agreed to check if funding might be available for a crossing facility and safety barrier.
  - 8.2.4 Requested that an audit of signage, highlighting funding for infrastructural projects, be undertaken throughout the municipal district, and that any signs that can be removed, be removed – this was raised a number of years ago and it was agreed to raise this again.
- 8.3 Councillor Stephen McKee raised the following issues:
- 8.3.1 Welcomed the new signage around Duleek.
  - 8.3.2 Referred to the ramp at Donacarney that does not extend to the full width of the road, leading to cars avoiding it – this is an additional safety measure and does not extend to the full width of the road as a neighbourhood centre, with parking spaces, has been proposed.
  - 8.3.3 Requested an update on when works will commence at Lower Main Street and the bottom of Station Road, Duleek – the design phase, which is being undertaken in-house, is due to be completed by the end of Q1.
  - 8.3.4 Queried if a ramp can be provided on the Donacarney to Mornington Road.



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- 8.4 Councillor Elaine McGinty raised the following issues:
- 8.4.1 Requested an update on the timeframe for the provision of the walkway from the Bryanstown Road to Drogheda.
  - 8.4.2 Requested an update on the taking in charge of Lagavoreen Manor.
  - 8.4.3 Requested that a road safety survey be undertaken on the Beamore Road – the Transportation Department are looking at a scheme to incorporate the two junctions.
  - 8.4.4 Requested an update on the pedestrian crossing at Wolfe Tones club - this location is on the list of request for works under Active Travel.
  - 8.4.5 Referred to the announcement of new bus routes and the need for additional bus services on the outskirts of Drogheda, particularly for students and those needing to access the hospital.
  - 8.4.6 Requested that another letter issue in relation to the toll booths on the M1.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Wayne Harding".

Cathaoirleach

