



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

Trim Municipal District

Ordinary Meeting

2:00 p.m., 17th February 2023, Trim Civic Offices

An Cathaoirleach, Councillor Joe Fox, presided.

Councillors Present: Aisling Dempsey, Noel French, Trevor Golden and Ronan Moore.

Councillors Present via Zoom: Councillor Niamh Souhan.

Officials in Attendance:

Director of Service: Martin Murray

Meetings Administrator: Claire King

Staff Officer: Triona Keating

Apologies: Des Foley, Director of Service and Maura Daly, Executive Engineer.

1 Confirmation of Minutes

1.1 Confirmation of minutes of Ordinary Meeting held on 20th January 2023.

The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 20th January 2023 were confirmed on the proposal of Councillor Noel French and seconded by Councillor Aisling Dempsey.

2 Matters arising from the Minutes

Councillor Trevor Golden referred to the response that issued in relation to Item 8.2.1 and the request that consideration be given to providing a pedestrian crossing on Loman Street near the entrance to the new theatre. Whilst the response stated that the pedestrian crossing was not needed at the rear access on Loman Street, he asked that this be reconsidered, e.g. a courtesy crossing, due to the speed of traffic approaching the ramp. Councillor Noel French spoke in support of this request.



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Councillor Trevor Golden also referred to a previous request made that a review of junctions in Trim be undertaken.

3 Expressions of Sympathy and Congratulations

There were no expressions of sympathy or congratulations.

4 Disposal of Land pursuant to the provisions of Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001.

4.1 The agreement in principle to dispose of 0.0019Ha in Folio MH14420F at Site 15, Eamonn Duggan Industrial Estate, Athboy Road, Trim, Co. Meath.

This was agreed on the proposal of **Councillor Noel French** and seconded by **Councillor Trevor Golden**.

5 Statutory Business

5.1 Transportation

5.1.1 To receive an update on works completed/ planned within Trim Municipal District.

The report, circulated in advance, was noted.

Matters raised by councillors included:

- Referred to the delay by the ESB in connecting the lights at the pedestrian crossing at Lackanash.
- Requested an update on the Millennium Bridge – it is hoped to award the contract soon to a consultant in relation to a permanent solution.
- Queried if the playground in Ballivor had reopened and the reasons for its closure – it is hoped to reopen the playground next week. It was



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closed due to an issue with vermin, caused by food waste, and the equipment and area had to be deep cleaned. It is intended to increase awareness of the problems caused by food waste.

- Queried if a contractor had been appointed for Newtown Bridge – contractors have been appointed.
- Queried if works on the Dublin Road were related to the pedestrian crossing or Irish Water – the works are associated with the pedestrian crossing, which is due to be completed next week.
- Enquired as to the consequences for causing damage to a protected structure, such as Newtown Bridge and underlined the need for measures, such as lighting, to protect the bridge with the possibility of bringing in specialists in protected structures to advise on how lighting can be provided.
- Requested that road markings be provided on Newtown Bridge to keep traffic on the right hand side of the bridge for the safety of pedestrians or that available funding be explored to provide safe pedestrian access by means of a pedestrian bridge to tie in with the walkway - it was agreed to consider the options in what is a confined space.
- Requested that the embankment outside Boyne School be looked at to see if it would be possible to continue the footpath and allow pedestrians to stay on the one side of the road, rather than having to cross – there is resistance from the landowner.

5.1.2 To receive an update on Active Travel Initiatives in Trim Municipal District.

Martin Murray delivered a presentation on NTA funded schemes, footpath improvement and rehabilitation works in 2023 and other relevant schemes.

Matters raised by councillors included:



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- Welcomed the various initiatives being implemented and acknowledged their positive impacts, including the Newtown Road footpath and the Pathfinder R161 Navan to Trim Cycleway.
- Queried whether the Pathfinder project – R161 Navan to Trim Cycleway would comprise a pedestrian way and cycleway – where possible, this will be a shared facility.
- Suggested that local communities and schools be consulted to obtain their information, e.g. school transport surveys – under the Safe Routes to School Programme, schools take the lead in making applications.
- Requested that consideration be given to installing speed activated traffic lights, which turn red when traffic approaches at a speed in excess of the speed limit.

5.2 To consider and adopt the 2023 Schedule of Municipal District Works.

Corrina Elder, Senior Engineer, Housing Department delivered a presentation, which included examples of improvement works carried out, sources of funding including centralised budgets and the funding allocated to the various categories and the planned programme of works for the year.

Matters raised by councillors included:

- Suggested that the selection of houses for retrofitting be selected to ensure value for money, e.g. the targeting of houses in close proximity, even if occupied – energy and BER assessments indicate the extent of works required and approximately 250 BER assessments are on hand to plan a work programme. As voids become available, energy retrofits are undertaken if required and, as this can involve significant work, it is easier to do this when a property is unoccupied. In the future, it is planned to identify the works required in 10-15 houses in an estate and carry out these works over a number of years and as funding becomes available. If occupied, some tenants can refuse to have works undertaken when contacted in advance. All houses will eventually have to be brought up to a B2 rating. The average retrofit costs €30,000 - €40,000.



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- Queried if works are required, can tenants be relocated whilst these are being carried out – these are assessed on a case by case basis and can be considered, if necessary.
- Suggested that the Sustainable Energy Community be contacted if undertaking works in a relevant area.
- Queried the average timeframe for undertaking pre-let repairs – these can take 10-12 weeks unless deep energy retrofit works are required. Difficulties in securing contractors can also cause delays.
- Suggested that a dedicated Property Management Unit be established and resourced in each local authority.

The Cathaoirleach and councillors thanked Corrina and her team for the excellent work being carried out.

Caroline Corrigan delivered a presentation which included information on an overview of 2022, sustainability and the circular economy, data led SMDW development, pre-2018 versus 2022 PSCI ratings, Meath's performance in comparison to the national average, an overview of the 2023 SMDW programme, challenges for 2023, sources of funding, how increased investment in the road network has led to network improvements and reactive, planned and strategic services.

Matters raised by councillors, and responses provided, included:

- Acknowledged the significant progress made in recent years, particularly on county roads, the quality of works being carried out, the increased efficiencies achieved through central tendering, the progress made on CIS and LIS and the increase in funding.
- Referred to the need for additional funding for regional roads to take account of traffic volumes.



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- Queried how green procurement will work – this can be taken into account during the tendering process, e.g. the use of energy efficient plant and machinery, and be built up over time.
- Suggested that the public awareness of criteria used to select roads for repair and maintenance is increased, e.g. through videos.

Martin Murray thanked Caroline and her team for the work undertaken in putting the schedule together and thanked the councillors for their support in securing the increased resources.

The 2023 Schedule of Municipal District Works for Trim Municipal District was adopted on the proposal of Councillor Trevor Golden and seconded by Councillor Ronan Moore.

5.3 Corporate Affairs & Governance

- 5.3.1 To note Municipal District Allocations submitted by Councillors on behalf of Trim Municipal District.

The list of allocations, circulated in advance, was noted.

6 Notice of Question

There were no Notices of Question.

7 Notice of Motion

There were no Notices of Motion.

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

- 8.1 To note the Corporate Policy Group Meeting Minutes of 2nd December 2022.

The minutes were noted.



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- 8.2 To note the report from the Climate Action, Environment and Emergency Services SPC meeting of 20th December 2022.

The report was noted.

- 8.3 To note the report from the Housing, Community and Cultural Development SPC of 8th December 2022.

The report was noted.

- 8.4 To note the report from the Transportation Strategic Policy Committee of 15th December 2022.

The report was noted.

9 Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

10 Any Other Business

- 10.1 Councillor Trevor Golden raised the following issues:

10.1.1 Referred to the noise emitted by the new mast and telecommunications box at Haggard Street car park, which is located close to residential units, and requested that the noise levels be monitored, particularly at night.

10.1.2 Requested that an audit be undertaken in relation to the possible extension of the car park at Jonathon Swift Street, as it is operating at capacity at most times and there is land available to the rear.

10.1.3 Requested that the signs on the approach roads to Trim be updated to reflect the Tidy Towns win.

10.1.4 Requested that the gate at Eamonn Duggan Industrial Estate, which is currently

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locked, be reopened.

10.1.5 Requested an update on the nomination process for Enfield Town Team.

10.1.6 Requested that consideration be given to providing a lit island and signage on the approach to Kiltale on the Trim side.

10.1.7 Thanked the staff for erecting the illegal dumping signs at the graveyard.

10.2 Councillor Noel French raised the following issues:

10.2.1 Referred to the concerns of residents in Kiltale regarding speeding.

10.2.2 Referred to the presentation a number of years ago by Kilbride N.S. regarding speeding.

10.3 Councillor Aisling Dempsey raised the following issues:

10.3.1 Referred to the queries raised at the meeting in Summerhill and it was suggested that the list of queries be submitted to the Transportation Department and that Councillor Dempsey would relay the responses to the group in Summerhill.

10.3.2 Requested an update on the countywide speed limit review – it was agreed to check the timeframe.

10.4 Councillor Ronan Moore raised the following issues:

10.4.1 Requested that a speed survey be undertaken in Killyon.

10.4.2 Referred to a report being prepared by Trim Tidy Towns in relation to the area to the rear of Jonathon Swift Street, which is to be submitted to the council.

This concluded the business of the meeting.



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Signed:



Cathaoirleach

