

Miontuairiscí/ Meeting Minutes

Ordinary Meeting

Ratoath Municipal District

9:30 a.m., 5th July 2023, Dunshaughlin Civic Offices

Cathaoirleach, **Councillor Damien O'Reilly**, presided.

Councillors Present: Nick Killian, Gerry O'Connor, Brian Fitzgerald, Gillian Toole

Councillors Present via Zoom: Maria Murphy

Absent/Apologies: Deirdre Geraghty-Smith.

Officials in Attendance:

Director of Service: Dara McGowan

Executive Engineer: Philip Traynor

Meetings Administrator: Áine Bird

Staff Officer: Triona Keating

1 Confirmation of Minutes

- 1.1 Confirmation of minutes of Annual Meeting held on the 14th of June 2023.

The minutes of the Annual Meeting held on 14th June 2023 were confirmed on the proposal of **Councillor Gillian Toole** and **Councillor Nick Killian**.

- 1.2 Confirmation of minutes of Ordinary Meeting held on 14th June 2023.

The minutes of the ordinary meeting held on 14th June 2023 were confirmed on the proposal of **Councillor Gerry O'Connor** and seconded by **Councillor Brian Fitzgerald**.

2 Matters arising from the Minutes.

Dara McGowan advised that the schedule of meetings 2023/2024 was brought forward to the Protocol meeting where the committee agreed to leave all MD meeting schedules as is.

On the proposal of **Councillor Gillian Toole** and seconded by **Councillor Nick Killian** the Ratoath meetings schedule 2023/2024 was agreed.

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The members raised the following items:

- Request a meeting with the DAA.
- Request a meeting with Uisce Eireann following correspondence submitted to the Commission on Utililites regarding the recent water outages.
- Seeking a response from planning regarding the footpath on the Ongar Road.
- To arrange a site visit to Windmill Hill reservoir.
- To organise a visit to the council owned lands at Drumree.

3 Expressions of Sympathy and Congratulations

Sympathy was extended:

- To the family of the late Denis Kealy, Dunshaughlin.
- To the family of the late Paddy Kennedy, Dunshaughlin
- To the family of the late Jerry O’Sullivan, Bonestown, Dunshaughlin

Congratulations were extended to:

- Meath Special Olympics participant Emma Costello, Dunboyne
- Able Fest on a successful event in Causey Farm
- Commend the works to St Johns Well

4 To receive a presentation from Dunshaughlin & Royal Gaels CLG

The following representatives gave a presentation on behalf of Dunshaughlin & Royal CLG; Pauric McGovern, Treasurer, Frank Galloghy, Chairperson and Mary O’Regan, Secretary.

They gave the background to their club and how it has grown over the years. They advised that the current facilities can’t cope with the growth in playing numbers with the current pitches deteriorating due to overuse. They said they are seeking the members support in acquiring additional lands for playing pitches.

The members raised the following:

- Zoned lands are currently landlocked, should a development get planning permission it will allow access to the lands.
- Working with other landowners to free up lands for community use.
- Has the club approached the local developer to seek lands for leasing out.
- Possibility of getting a pitch when Colaiste Rioga moves.
- Look at getting a pitch at the Willows, which is other side of town.
- Has any discussions taken place with Castlethorn developers and the LMETB.



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- Lands might be available at the back of the Pastrol church and St Seachnails, also council owned lands at Drumree.
- Thanked the club for their presentation and all the work carried especially during covid.
- Members stated that they will support the club in securing land to progress the club.
- Club thanked the members and their suggestions, and advised they will follow up on other lands as suggested and are happy to share any acquired lands with the community.

5 Statutory Business

5.1 Community

- 5.1.1 To consider the draft Meath Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP).

Fiona Fallon SEO gave a presentation on the LECP where she outlined the objectives and actions that will support the economic development and the local and community development of County Meath over the next six years. She said that the economic elements will guide and support the economic development role of the local authority and is developed by the Economic Development SPC with the Community elements developed by the LCDC. She advised that the next steps are the consideration of the draft LECP by each MD and the Eastern Midland Regional Assembly with the integrated LECP to be adopted by Full Council in Quarter 4.

Members raised the following.

- Was there a review of the previous plan and actions achieved- advised the process involved a review of the last plan and actions delivered.
- Big issue with connectivity within the county.
- Was the plan disability proofed – proofed against the public sector duty which covers the 9 grounds for equality & discrimination.
- Attended a consultation session and good to see the outcome of this.
- Facilities will be critical and to drive economic growth in the county.
- Will a variation to development plan slot in – advised that the LECP will align to the Co-Development Plan and will cater for any variations to this.
- Members were advised that every two years a review of the LECP must take place as set out by the department. The plan must also be assessed by EMRA to ensure that it's aligned to the county and regional plans. The plan and actions are flexible to adapt to any new planning guidelines.



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On the proposal of **Councillor Gillian Toole** and seconded by **Councillor Gerry O'Connor** the members agreed to proceed to the next stage of the process.

5.2 Transportation

5.2.1 To receive an update on the proposed Housing Estate Special Speed Limit Bye-Laws statutory process.

Fergal McCabe EE gave an update on the proposed Special Speed Limit for Housing estates byelaws which were on public display until 7th June 2023. He advised that no objections were received in relation to the proposed byelaws and therefore will proceed to full council for approval.

On the proposal of **Cllr Maria Murphy** and seconded by **Cllr Gillian Toole** the members agreed to proceed as outlined.

The members referred to speeding in estates especially Dunboyne Castle and if any analysis from data to see if signs are working to reduce speed.

An update was given on the Batterstown Traffic Calming scheme whereby the documentation is being collated for the Part 8 consultation during July/August. The members were advised that an extra five parking spaces and a disability space has been included. The footpath along the Maynooth road may need a flood risk assessment due to historical flood issues. Members enquired about a traffic calming measure island outside Church view estate.

5.2.2 To receive a Progress Report on works undertaken/planned for Ratoath Municipal District.

The report circulated in advance was noted with the following raised:

- Update on entrance to the Willows, Dunshaughlin.
- Commended the crew on all the works completed and the distribution of water.
- Chicane installed in the Old Mill estate to deter speeding. Residents want it removed. – advised chicane should remain for road safety reasons.
- Chicane area in Mill farm needs maintenance as overgrown with weeds.
- A Chicane in Maelduin estate is working as there's a 50kph speed limit here.
- Write to the OPW to request that the Broadmeadow River be cleaned.
- Referred to the grassy area to the entrance of St Olivers estate, Ratoath and can

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this be mowed to encourage the residents to maintain it thereafter.

- 5.2.3 To consider pursuant to Section 11 of the Roads Act 1993 that Meath County Council make a declaration that a section of the road in the townlands of Peacockstown & Loughlinstown at Loughlinstown, Kilbride Road, Kilbride Co Meath to be a Public Road.

Brian Murphy AO, Transportation updated the members and advised that the residents and landowners have requested the lane be taken in charge. He said the lane is in poor condition with the last 20m a dirt track and has no PSCI rating.

On the proposal **Councillor Nick Killian** and seconded by **Councillor Gillian Toole** the members agreed to commence the making a road a public road process.

5.3 Corporate Affairs & Governance

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

The report circulated in advance was noted. The members were requested to submit their discretionary fund applications in before the cut off period by the end of September and these will be processed once all details have been assessed.

6 Notice of Question

There were none.

7 Notice of Motion

There were none.

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

- 8.1 To note the Corporate Policy Group Meeting Minutes of 9th June 2023.

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The minutes were noted.

8.2 To note the Protocol Committee minutes of 9th June 2023.

The minutes were noted.

8.3 To note the Draft Transportation Strategic Policy Committee Meeting Minutes of 15th June 2023.

The draft minutes were noted.

9 Correspondence

There was none.

10 Any Other Business

- Members were advised to submit nominations to sit on the Economic Forum- Cllr Toole nominated herself as she has 40 years business experience, but then suggested another name and was told to forward all suggestions to the Ratoath MD meeting email before the 14th July.
- Requested the correspondence to the Department of Education regarding a school for Dunboyne be re-submitted.
- Referred to Solar Farms and the criteria used to allocate the funding to communities.
- Referred to the condition of some roads where solar panels have been installed at farms.
- Advised that some solar panels have been installed too low to the ground.
- Enquired about access to Rathbeggan cemetery as there is no key available for visitors.
- Referred to the light standard at Culmullen and when will lights turn on – advised to tender out for ramps to be installed and then the lights can be turned on.
- A deficit in community lands in Dunshaughlin, a need to include lands as part of the variation to the County Development Plan.

The meeting concluded at 11.30am

Signed:

Cathaoirleach