

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

### ***Ordinary Meeting***

### ***Navan Municipal District***

***10:00 a.m., 13<sup>th</sup> September 2023, Navan Civic Offices***

An Meára, **Councillor Edward Fennessy**, presided.

**Councillors Present:** Councillors Francis Deane, Pdraig Fitzsimons, Alan Lawes, Tommy Reilly and Emer Tóibín

**Councillors Present via Zoom:** Yemi Adenuga

**Absent/apologies:**

**Officials in Attendance:**

**Director of Service:** Martin Murray

**Executive Engineer:** Shane Durcan

**Meetings Administrator:** Áine Bird

**Staff Officer:** Triona Keating and Ann Monaghan

### **Confirmation of Minutes**

#### **1.1 Confirmation of minutes of Ordinary Meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> July.**

The minutes of the meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> July 2023 were proposed by **Councillor Tommy Reilly** and seconded by **Councillor Francis Deane**.

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

There were none.

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

- Sympathy was extended to the family of the late Máirín Lydon, Boyne Road, Navan

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- Sympathy was extended to the family of the late Sheila Snow, Kilcarn Court, Navan
- Sympathy was extended to the family of the late Nahyan Javed, Blackcastle Lodge, Navan
- Sympathy was extended to the family of the late Matt Lundy (formally Belfast), Navan
- Sympathy was extended to the family of the late Pauline Lallaway (Longford) formally Railway Road, Navan.

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

- 4.1 Agreement in principal to disposal of lands zoned rural(plot A and B – 0.011Ha) at Kennastown (Cannistown) Navan Co, Meath. The lands are not affected by the provisions of the Land Development Agency Act 2021.

On the proposal of **Councillor Tommy Reilly** and seconded by **Councillor Pdraig Fitzsimons**, the members agreed in principle to the disposal.

- 4.2 Agreement in principle to dispose by way of a transfer licence for 25 years of 0.025 Ha of land at Moatlands, Abbeyland South, Navan to the Board of Management of St. Patricks Classical School. The lands are not affected by the provisions of the Land Development Agency Act 2021.

On the proposal of **Councillor Tommy Reilly** and seconded by **Councillor Francis Deane**, the members agreed in principle to the disposal.

### **5 Statutory Business**

#### **5.1 Transportation**

- 5.1.1 To receive a Progress Report on works undertaken/planned for Navan Municipal District.

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

- Tree fallen in Aylesbury Lodge – advised that it's on the list to remove.
- Preston Place laneway needs a clean-up – advised that this is on the list and that the lane is part of phase 4 for upgrading.
- Enquired on the works being out at the bus stops beside Supervalu and Bothar Sion, Johnstown – advised that bike racks are under construction here.
- Would like to see bike racks rolled out in housing estates. – advised that data is being collated for areas that have high usage of the bikes. Can bring data on the

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- number of users to the next meeting.
- Referred to repairs to footpath on Simonstown/Proudstown road area – advised that contractor is due back to complete these works.

### **5.2 Corporate Services**

- 5.2.1 To note Municipal District Allocations submitted by Councillors on behalf of Navan Municipal District.

The allocations circulated in advance were noted. Members were reminded to submit completed applications by the end of September.

## **6 Notice of Question**

### **6.1 Submitted by Councillor Edward Fennessy**

*"Can the Executive confirm that the Blackcastle Demense and Emmet Terrace estate are scheduled for road resurface works in 2024 and list the other estates included on next year's list."*

#### **Response:**

Blackcastle Demesne is a relatively new Estate and on inspection does not warrant a full resurface in 2024, localised repairs are required and can be completed by the Navan MD crew as part of the ongoing Works Programme.

Proposed roads in Estates for 2024, which are subject to further assessment by the central roads programme team, are Boyne View, Slane Rd., Troytown Heights, The Grove Athlumney, Belcourt, Abbeylands, Blackcastle & Emmet Terrace.

Depending on the deterioration of the road surfaces in these Estates since the 1<sup>st</sup> draft of this 3 yr. programme in 2021, works will be prioritised in order of most needed and subject to funding availability.

The response was noted.

### **6.2 Submitted by Councillor Francis Deane**

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*“Are there plans in place to install a right turn lane and widen the road on the N51 phase 2 Dunmoe road number L74164, which leads to Dunmoe Castle”.*

Traffic counts were carried out during the detailed design phase and the results of which confirmed the L-74164 did not have the required AADT volumes for a ghost island Junction. For this reason, a ghost island junction was not included in the approved Part VIII Plans. The new road scheme is being constructed in accordance with the approved plans.

The response was noted.

### **6.3 Submitted by Councillor Pádraig Fitzsimons**

*“Can Meath County Council consider painting the railings at O’Growney Terrace and update the drainage on the terrace. This is a major artery into Navan and with minimal investment it can be transformed and will improve the aesthetics of the town.”*

Meath County Council will measure and quantify the railings/handrails to obtain a costing on the rejuvenation of the paint work along O’Growney Terrace. A survey of the drainage on the Upper Terrace areas outside the houses will be taken to assess the condition of the system and identify if works are required. Subject to the findings and if funding is available, it can then be added to a future programme of works.

The response was noted.

## **7 Notice of Motion**

### **7.1 Submitted by Councillor Edward Fennessy**

*“I call on Meath County Council to install speed ramps or other such traffic calming measures, on the link road connecting the Blackcastle Demense, Fitzherbert Wood, Fitzherbert Court, Bru na hAbhainn and Ruxton Oaks estates with the Slane Road”*

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

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Transportation Technical Team will assess the road and determine if traffic calming measures are required, if suitable the Estate Road can be reviewed for addition to the 30 kph Housing Estate Special Speed Limit Byelaw.

The supporting information and motion were agreed on the proposal of **Councillor Eddie Fennessy** and seconded by **Councillor Tommy Reilly**.

Cllr Fennessy stated that this area is very busy with speeding traffic. Cllr Reilly requested that a bus stop be installed here as residents must cross the road for the local bus.

### **7.2 Submitted by Councillor Edward Fennessy**

*"I call on Meath County Council to carry out a traffic safety assessment on the Beechmount and Beechmount Vale estates with a view to installing speed ramps and bollards or a chicane to deter motorists from using the estate as a rat run. And to resurface the last remaining section of road on the estate at Beechmount Avenue."*

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

There are ramps and signage in place at present in Beechmount Estate on the main route. From inspection of this estate there are 'Children at Play' signs erected at appropriate locations which should aid in alerting drivers to proceed with caution. There is a County wide review of Estates for the 30 kph Housing Estate Special Speed Limit Bye-Law which was formally adopted in December 2021 and came into effect in April 2022 (a further review is before the full Council Meeting on Sept 4<sup>th</sup>). Repairs as required on the localised potholed sections will take place as the crews work through the ongoing programme of works.

The supporting information and motion were agreed on the proposal of **Councillor Eddie Fennessy** and seconded by **Councillor Pdraig Fitzsimons**.

Cllr Fennessy enquired if bollards could be an option. Cllr Fitzsimons referred to the works on the Trim Road where there is a one-way system to Lidl and asked if the access could be extended to Beaufort School and the Enterprise Centre.

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The members were advised that there is a traffic management plan in place by the contractor which has been agreed with the school. Can re-examine and review the access to the school.

### **7.3 Submitted by Councillor Francis Deane**

*“I propose that Meath County Council will erect park benches to accommodate rest periods for walkers, and also to plant wildflower seeds along the greenway from Ratholdron Road to Kilberry.”*

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

Amenities and enhanced landscaping will be considered in due course and will be in accordance with the Greenway and Cycle Routes Ancillary Infrastructure Guidelines.

The supporting information and motion were agreed on the proposal of **Councillor Francis Deane** and seconded by **Councillor Pdraig Fitzsimons**.

Clr Deane referred to other areas and blackspots where wildflowers were planted to enhance these areas.

Clr Fitzsimons referred to car parking at the start of the greenway and asked that more land be acquired to provide more spaces.

The members were advised that an ORIS application has been submitted for funding to enhance the greenway. Car parking spaces will be looked at as part of the tender process for the new Local Distributor Road to Abbeylands.

### **7.4 Submitted by Councillor Francis Deane**

*“I call on Meath County Council to put in place a pilot scheme, in early spring, **whereby bird boxes will be erected, at Buvinda House and at the town Hall Navan**, to accommodate Swifts, an endangered bird species. Both areas, being close in proximity to the rivers Blackwater and Boyne, could be instrumental in halting their declining population. I propose the Heritage office take this project in their charge.”*

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

There are 2 x swift boxes installed in Buvinda House, 2 x swift boxes installed on Town Hall, Navan and 3 x swift boxes installed in Navan Library.

Each swift box provides 3 x nests. The three locations provide a total of 21 nests overall.

The supporting information and motion were agreed on the proposal of **Councillor Francis Deane** and seconded by **Councillor Eddie Fennessy**.

### **7.5 Submitted by Councillor Padraig Fitzsimons**

*“I call on Navan Municipal District to repurpose the council yard on Abbey Road and transform it into a heritage pocket park, in order to fully utilize the refurbished town wall of Navan so that our local community and visitors can access our own national monument in an accessible and safe area.”*

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

The development of a pocket park and outdoor interpretation to present the conserved section of Navan Town Walls at the Council Yard in Abbey Road is a potential future project identified in the Navan Town Walls Conservation and Management Plan published in 2022. This would present a significant opportunity for a new cultural attraction and public realm project for Navan celebrating its medieval heritage that can be enjoyed by locals and visitors to the town. It is noted that the yard is currently utilised for operational purposes by Navan MD therefore an alternative suitable site would have to be secured before any project could be advanced. Meath County Council will commit to exploring the feasibility of alternative locations for this operation.

The supporting information and motion were agreed on the proposal of **Councillor Padraig Fitzsimons** and seconded by **Councillor Eddie Fennessy**

Cllr Fitzsimons referred to the old town wall located in the council yard and suggested that this area be used as a small-town park to enhance and bring more visitors to the area. He said that funding could be sourced from the walled towns of Ireland fund.

Cllr Fennessy referred to the Meath Conservation plan which includes this area.

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### **7.6 Submitted by Councillor Padraig Fitzsimons**

*“In the interest of road safety, I propose the motion to place safety measures in Philpotstown; on the Trim Road (R131) at the turn off for the MDL.”*

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

The Transportation Technical Team will assess and audit the junction in question and revert in due course with the findings. If traffic calming measures are required and funding is available these works will be added to a future programme of works.

The supporting information and motion were agreed on the proposal of **Councillor Padraig Fitzsimons** and seconded by **Councillor Tommy Reilly**.

CLlr Fitzsimons stated that a lot of families use this road at the weekends. He said that there is no turn off sign to the MDL and asked that some safety measures be put in place to inform motorists coming from either side to the turn off.

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

8.1 To note the Corporate Policy Group Meeting Minutes of 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2023.

The minutes were noted.

8.2 To note the Protocol Committee minutes of 30<sup>th</sup> June 2023.

The minutes were noted.

8.3 To note the Draft minutes from the Planning, Economic Development, Enterprise and European Affairs SPC of 6<sup>th</sup> July 2023

The minutes were noted.

8.4 To note the Draft minutes of the Climate Action, Environment and Emergency Services SPC of 7<sup>th</sup> July.



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The minutes were noted.

### **9 Correspondence**

- 9.1 Correspondence received from the Department of Social Protection in response to letter from Navan Municipal District on the 25<sup>th</sup> of July, 2023 regarding Tara Mines.

This was noted.

- 9.2 Correspondence received from the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage in response to letter from Navan Municipal District on the 26<sup>th</sup> of July regarding retained firefighters.

This was noted and now resolved.

### **10 Any Other Business**

The following were raised:

- Update on bus stop for Dunmoe.
- Write to the Minister of Justice requesting an action plan be put in place for the policing of Navan due to the increase in Anti-social behaviour.
- Referred to the byelaws in place for drinking in public places and who enforces these.
- Trees need pruning at 96a Abbeygrove, Navan as blocking out light.
- Tree over house and lifting footpath and wall at 90 Kilcarn Court, Navan
- Beechmount park has evergreen trees that need to be removed.
- Trees need pruning in Blackcastle Domain.
- Potholes in Belcourt – advised that resurfacing required here.
- Speeding on the laneway in Woodview to Beaufort school – can ramps be installed.
- To upgrade the white line on the main road at Simmonstown.
- Jetting required in Clusker Park to Hillvie.
- Sweeper needed on footpath from Old Kilcarn road to Johnstown village.
- Members thanked Triona for her assistance over the years and wished her well in her new role.

The meeting concluded at 11.05am

Signed:

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Cathaoirleach