

Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

Ordinary Meeting

Kells Municipal District

4:00pm, 9th October 2023, Kells Civic Offices

An Cathaoirleach, **Councillor Paul McCabe**, presided.

Councillors Present: Mike Bray, David Gilroy and Eugene Cassidy

Councillors Present via Zoom: Sean Drew and Sarah Reilly

Apologies/absent: Cllr Michael Gallagher

Officials in Attendance:

Director of Service: Dara McGowan

Executive Engineer: Aaron Smith

Meetings Administrator: Áine Bird

Staff Officer: Ann Monaghan

Apologies:

1 Confirmation of Minutes

1.1 Confirmation of minutes of Ordinary Meeting held on 11th September 2023.

The minutes of the ordinary meeting held on 11th September 2023 were confirmed on the proposal of **Councillor David Gilroy** and seconded by **Councillor Mike Bray**

2 Matters arising from the Minutes.

Cllr McCabe referred to the OPW and if there was any response from concerns raised regarding Colmcille's house and the round tower, Kells. Dara McGowan advised that he had written to them and awaiting a reply. Aaron Smith updated on the round tower works and said that a contractor had been appointed.

3 Expressions of Sympathy and Congratulations

Sympathy was extended to Aaron Smith and family, Kells MD office on the passing of his father Thomas (Tommy) Smith.

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Congratulations were extended to:

- all the local clubs on their performances
- Athboy Tidy Towns

4 Statutory Business

4.1 Corporate Affairs and Governance

4.1.1 To note Municipal District Allocations submitted by Councillors on behalf of Kells District.

Members were advised that their applications submitted are being processed.

4.2 Transportation

4.2.1 To receive a Progress Report on works undertaken/planned for Kells Municipal District.

The report circulated in advance was noted.

5 Notice of Motion

5.1 Submitted by Councillor Sean Drew

This council will endeavour to establish an outdoor exercise park for adults in Kells town with specific emphasis on gym equipment for older people. The objective being to improve joint mobility, muscle strength and to increase the overall activity levels of older people.

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

The Community Section will work with the Elected Members and other stakeholders to identify a suitable location to install outdoor exercise equipment. Applications for funding can then be made to deliver the project.

The supporting information and motion were agreed on the proposal of **Councillor Sean Drew** and seconded by **Councillor Mike Bray**.

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Councillor Sarah Reilly proposed amending the motion to include a “Teen zone” like the one in Dunboyne. This was agreed by **Councillor Drew**, and he said that they can be two distinct projects.

5.2 Submitted by Councillor Mike Bray

That Meath County Council calls on the TII to address councillors and officials in relation to the spate of car accidents this year on the N51 in the Athboy and Rathmore area and that they outline what actions they are taking to address this and improve road safety on the N51.

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

Meath County Council liaise with TII on a regular basis covering the safety of the National Primary and National Secondary network, pavement improvement schemes, public lighting, and traffic assets. Several pavement schemes have been delivered on N51 in recent years, including a section between Mullaghmore to Irishtown. The section of the N51 across the bog ramparts which is subject to settlement is at preliminary stage with options being explored as to a permanent solution negating the requirement for overlays.

In relation to the specific areas around Rathmore and Athboy this has been discussed with TII and collision data, traffic counts and other data will be examined to assess if specific safety requirements are needed. Where specific safety improvements are required an application for funding is made to TII. Additionally, the aforementioned areas are on the agenda for the upcoming Collision Prevention Programme meeting with An Gardaí Síochána.

The supporting information and motion were agreed on the proposal of **Councillor Mike Bray** and seconded by **Councillor David Gilroy**.

Councillor Bray proposed an amendment to his motion and to include the N52, this was seconded by **Councillor David Gilroy**.

Cllr Bray requested that the TII be invited to the next meeting to discuss improvement works to the N52 and N51 as there has been a number of incidents on these roads.

The members sought an update to the footpath for the Balrath walk/cycleway.

Dara McGowan advised that the part 8 is completed for the footpath however TII has not given any commitment to funding the scheme. He referred to the TII and said an invite

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can issue inviting them. He said that he would ask officials from the Transportation section to come to the next meeting and give an update on the various projects.

5.3 Submitted by Councillor Michael Gallagher

That Meath County Council construct a footpath from Gibbstown School to Gibbstown Hall in the interest of pupil safety at Gibbstown school.

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

This will be added to the list of requested works and reviewed as part of the footpath programme.

This has been deferred to the November meeting in the absence of Councillor Gallagher.

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

6.1 To note the Corporate Policy Group Meeting Minutes of 1st September 2023.

The minutes were noted.

7 Any Other Business

The members raised the following:

- Suggested having an MD meeting in the Digital hub in Athboy or Cormeen.
- Referred to the access lane to property to the rear of Kenlis carpark and if the council would consider acquiring this for an access route to the carpark- advised will refer to Transportation section to consider.
- Issue with cars parking on the footpath in Headfort Park estate and blocking the footpath – to refer to the Gardaí to monitor.
- Similar issue with cars parking on footpath outside Eureka School, Cavan Road – to refer to the Gardaí to monitor.
- Referred to Carnaross and Kilmainham bus stops which need to be included for TII funding as funding is announced in January for the various projects.

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The meeting concluded at 4.50pm

Signed:

Cathaoirleach