

Clár / Meeting Agenda

Ordinary Meeting

4th December 2023 @ 1.30p.m.

Buvinda House, Navan (and online via zoom)

Hybrid Meeting

This meeting is a hybrid meeting, Elected Members may attend in-person or online. These meetings are regulated by the Council's Standing Orders.

Public Health Guidance

This meeting is being held in line with the *Transitional Protocol – Good Practice Guidance for Continuing to Prevent the Spread of COVID-19*, which outlines advice and best practice guidance to maintain infection prevention and control and other measures for the safe operating of workplaces.

Please note the following:

- Attendance at Buvinda House is open to Elected Members, designated Council officials and members of the press and public;
- The wearing of a face-mask is not required but may be worn.

Meeting attendees are requested to:

- Adhere to public health best practice in relation to cough and sneeze etiquette and hand hygiene and sanitation;
- Adhere to meeting and venue housekeeping arrangements including fire safety arrangements as briefed at the start of the meeting;
- Refrain from bringing food or drink, except bottled water, into the meeting room;
- Adhere to information displayed on signage and to the advice of meeting staff.

Online Attendance – Please Note:

		
<p>Turn on your camera</p>	<p>Ensure your microphone is on mute</p>	<p>Use the 'Hand Function' to ask for the floor and for voting</p>

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For Members:

- If you wish to speak you should use the Hand function – you'll be given the floor by the Cathaoirleach.
- This Hand function will also be used for voting, unless a roll call vote is used.

For All Participants:

- All participants must have their camera on during the meeting and you should have your microphone on mute at all times, unless called upon by the Cathaoirleach to speak
- It is the personal responsibility of all participants to ensure that there are no other persons present who are not entitled to be present for this meeting
- Recording of the meeting or any part thereof is not permitted.

1 Confirmation of Minutes

- 1.1 Confirmation of minutes of Ordinary meeting held on 6th November 2023.
- 1.2 Confirmation of minutes of Preliminary Budget meeting held on 27th November 2023.
- 1.3 Confirmation of minutes of Statutory Budget meeting held on 27th November 2023.

2 Matters arising from the Minutes

3 Expressions of Sympathy and Congratulations (Standing Order 11.5 – Expressions of Congratulations to be submitted in writing by 10am, December 4)

4 Disposal of Land in accordance with Statutory Notices circulated pursuant to the provisions of Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001

- 4.1 Disposal of 0.0113 Ha of land at Piercetown, Dunboyne, Co. Meath, in accordance with Section 211 of Planning & Development Act 2000 and subject to the provisions of Section 183 of the Local Government Act 2001. The lands are not affected by the provisions of the Land Development Agency Act 2021.
- 4.2 Disposal of 0.1548 Ha of land at Kilmessan Co. Meath, in accordance with Section 211 of Planning & Development Act 2000 and subject to the provisions of Section 183 of the Local Government Act 2001. The lands are not affected by the provisions of the Land Development Agency Act 2021.

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- 4.3 Disposal of 2.9546 Ha of land at Slane Castle Demesne, Slane, Co. Meath, in accordance with Section 211 of Planning & Development Act 2000 and subject to the provisions of Section 183 of the Local Government Act 2001. The lands are not affected by the provisions of the Land Development Agency Act 2021.
- 4.4 Disposal of 0.0064 Ha of land at Woodlands, Navan, Co. Meath, in accordance with Section 211 of Planning & Development Act 2000 and subject to the provisions of Section 183 of the Local Government Act 2001. The lands come within the provisions of the Land Development Agency Act 2021 however the LDA has indicated that it does not wish to acquire them.

5 Statutory Business

5.1 Corporate Affairs and Governance

- 5.1.1 To fill the casual vacancy (1 No.), in the Membership of Meath County Council, to replace the late Councillor Damien O'Reilly RIP (Ratoath Municipal District), in accordance with Section 19 of the Local Government Act 2001, as amended.
- 5.1.2 To appoint a Councillor to the Eastern and Midlands Regional Assembly.
- 5.1.3 To appoint a Councillor to the Louth Meath Education Training Board (LMETB).
- 5.1.4 To appoint a Councillor to the Association of Irish Local Government (AILG).
- 5.1.5 To appoint a Councillor to the Housing, Community and Cultural Development SPC.
- 5.1.6 To agree revised dates for the February Municipal District Meetings.
- 5.1.7 To agree the Municipal District Allocation Scheme 2024.

5.2 Planning

- 5.2.1 Having considered the Planning Report in relation to planning application 23/861, to resolve to grant permission for a development which will consist of:

Construction of a two and three storey 57-bedroom nursing home; Provision of private open space amenities for the proposed development; Construction of vehicular access from the link road connecting Hunters Lane with Cedar Road; Provision of internal access road, footpaths including necessary car parking facilities; Connection to the adjoining public watermains and

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foul sewer; Installation of a storm water network including the installation of an attenuation tank and Petrol interceptor; Drainage improvements within site to include widening of stream channel on southern boundary and drainage ditch on eastern boundary; Provision of on-site public lighting to serve the proposed development; Provision of associates signage to the facade of proposed building; Natura Impact Statement is included with this planning application and is available for inspection; all associated boundary treatments, landscaping and ancillary site development works at Hunters Lane, Dunreagh, Ashbourne, Co. Meath,

The development would contravene materially the following objectives of the Meath County Development Plan 2021-2027:

The site of the proposed development is zoned F1 - Open Space with the definitive land use zoning objective 'To provide for and improve open spaces for active and passive recreational amenities.' The proposed development is not listed as a 'permitted' or 'open for consideration' land use under the F1 zoning objective. The proposal therefore does not conform with the land use zoning of the County Development Plan and would materially contravene the said zoning objective, and associated policies.

Please Note: Section 34(6) Planning and Development Act 2000 – 2022 as amended provides that a development may materially contravene the Development Plan subject to certain procedures being complied with. A decision to grant planning permission requires the vote of not less than three quarters of the members of the Council in favour. (to follow)

- 5.2.2 In accordance with Section 15(2) of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, to receive a presentation on the Two-Year Progress Report of the Meath County Development Plan 2021-2027 which details the progress achieved in securing the objectives of the Plan.
- 5.2.3 To adopt the Meath County Council Development Contribution Scheme following consideration of the Chief Executive's Report on the submissions, pursuant to Section 48 of the Planning and Development Acts 2000 – 2022.

5.3 Finance

- 5.3.1 To note the Quarterly Financial Statement as at 30th September 2023.

5.4 Community

- 5.4.1 To approve a replacement member of the Meath LCDC & LAG, representing the HSE.

6 Reports

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- 6.1 Chief Executive's Report
- 6.2 Report from the Corporate Policy Group
- 6.3 Report from the Protocol Committee

7 Correspondence

- 7.1 Correspondence from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage re. Notice of intention to classify the North-west Irish Sea 004236 as a Special Protection Area.
- 7.2 Correspondence from Senator Victor Boyhan re. Commencement Matter Local Community Safety Partnerships.
- 7.3 Correspondence from Minister of State for the Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications in response of Notice of Motion 10.2 adopted at the December 2022 meeting of the full Council.

“Meath County Council calls on the Government to amend the Electricity Regulation Act and associated legislation to allow for the consideration and possible implementation of nuclear power generation in Ireland.”

- 7.4 Correspondence from Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment in response to Notice of Motion 10.1 adopted at the May 2023 meeting of the full Council.

“That Meath County Council rejects the findings of the independent review of the North South Interconnector, which was recently published, on the basis that the review was a desktop study of previous reports and studies and also on the basis that the terms of reference for the review did not allow for a comprehensive cost benefit analysis on a site-specific route which would have taken all of the relevant issues into account.”

8 Notice of Question

8.1 Submitted by Councillor Geraldine Keogan

“Could Meath County Council outline the number of sites in Meath with planning permissions that have not commenced and the length of time these sites have been unactivated?”



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8.2 Submitted by Councillor Edward Fennessy

"To ask the Executive to publish, in tabular format, the number of social housing applicants in each Municipal District, who qualify for HAP, on the 1, 2, 3 & 4 bed lists in Meath."

8.3 Submitted by Councillor Paul McCabe

"Can the Executive outline by MD, since the introduction of the Vacant Property Refurbishment Grant in May 2022, the number of:

- 1. applications received*
- 2. applications approved to date*
- 3. applications successfully awarded funding*

and to outline the current waiting time for a property to be inspected by Meath County Council staff after all required documentation has been submitted and an application is deemed valid."

8.4 Submitted by Councillor Helen Meyer

"Could Meath County Council please provide the number of tenants in each MD on transfer lists for 1, 2, 3 and 4 bedroom properties in 2021, 2022, and 2023 in tabular form to include the average wait time for transfers and the approved reasons for transfers?"

8.5 Submitted by Councillor Trevor Golden

"In the interests of representation and balance, will Meath County Council be revising the articles of association or current appointments for directors of Solstice Arts Centre to reflect the addition of the Swift Cultural Centre in the Trim Municipal District?"

9 Notice of Motion

9.1 Submitted by Councillor Maria Murphy



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"We call on the Council when engaging in pre-planning meetings with developers and assessing planning applications on the issue of playspace for children, to consider a range of play equipment to cater for all ages."

9.2 Submitted by Councillor Noel French

"That Meath County Council requests the Government to introduce legislation which will implement a speed limit of 30 kph on all urban roads including settlements, built up areas and school zones and if this is not forthcoming then Meath County Council should take the lead by introducing bye laws to implement such a speed limit."

9.3 Submitted by Councillor Paul McCabe

"That Meath County Council welcomes the recent increases for on-the-spot fines for offences under the Control of Dogs Act and that this Council would write to the recently established high-level stakeholder group to outline the need for serious reforms that would empower Dog Wardens to carry out their job more effectively to prevent further devastating and deeply disturbing dog attacks in local communities."

9.4 Submitted by Councillors Helen Meyer, Edward Fennessy and Michael Gallagher

"To ask Meath County Council to recognise the State of Palestine in accordance with the Programme for Government and to fly the Palestinian flag on council buildings as a show of support for the Palestinian people."

9.5 Submitted by Councillor Helen Meyer

"For Meath County Council to consider using a tried and tested online system such as homeswapper.ie that is used by other councils that allows tenants who are on the transfer list to use the online system to facilitate transfers between tenants".

9.6 Submitted by Councillor Emer Tóibín

"That Meath County Council speed up the delivery of the Boyne Green Way that is already 15 years in the discussion phase."

10 General Interest Motions

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10.1 Submitted by Cathaoirleach Tommy Reilly, Councillors Sean Drew, David Gilroy, Trevor Golden, Edward Fennessy and Michael Gallagher.

“Meath Co. Council notes the commitment in the Government’s recent budget to the introduction of pay-related job seekers benefit in December 2024. However, this council is supporting SIPTU’s Construction Sector campaign on behalf of the Tara Mines workers in calling upon Government to bring forward the implementation date of these proposals and supports the ICTU’s position for job seekers benefit to be increased to 70% of average earnings capped at €550 for a minimum of 9 months.”

10.2 Submitted by Councillor Suzanne Jamal

“That Meath County Council supports an immediate ceasefire in the ongoing conflict in Gaza.”

10.3 Submitted by Trevor Golden

“For greater transparency and to strengthen competition Meath County Council calls on the government to introduce a statutory fuel price register. The register would provide open-data access to live fuel prices and provide data necessary to better inform policy.”

10.4 Submitted by Councillor Gillian Toole

“A letter be written to the Minister for Health, Secretary General of the Department of Health and the Chief Executive of the HSE, requesting an immediate investigation of the excess mortality rates in Ireland. Whilst this investigation is taking place there will be a pause in the administration of mRNA Covid 19 vaccinations.”

11 Schedule of Chief Executive & Approved Orders (For Information Only)

11.1 Schedule of Chief Executive’s Orders – Transportation

11.2 Schedule of Chief Executive’s Orders – Environment

11.3 Schedule of Chief Executive’s Orders – Housing

11.4 Schedule of Chief Executive’s Orders – Community & Enterprise



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12 Any Other Business

NB Please ensure mobile phones are switched off during council meeting.