

Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

Ordinary Meeting

Navan Municipal District

11:00am, 13th December 2023, Navan Civic Offices

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

Councillors Present: Councillors Francis Deane, Padraig Fitzsimons, Tommy Reilly, Emer Tóibín, Alan Lawes and Yemi Adenuga

Councillors Present via Zoom:

Absent/apologies:

Officials in Attendance:

Director of Service: Martin Murray

Executive Engineer: Shane Durcan

Meetings Administrator: Áine Bird

Staff Officer: Ann Monaghan

1 Confirmation of Minutes

1.1 Confirmation of minutes of Ordinary Meeting held on 15th November 2023

The minutes of the Ordinary meeting held on the 15th of November 2023 were proposed by **Councillor Tommy Reilly** and seconded by **Councillor Padraig Fitzsimons**.

1.2 Confirmation of Minutes of Special Finance Meeting held on 8th November 2023

The minutes of the Special Finance meeting held on the 8th of November 2023 were proposed by **Councillor Francis Deane** and seconded by **Councillor Tommy Reilly**.

2 Matters arising from the Minutes.

There was none.

3 Expressions of Sympathy and Congratulations

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Sympathy was extended to:

- The family of the late Fiona McGuirk, Navan
- The family of the late Kevin Gavin, Navan
- The family of the late Mary Cregan, Navan
- The family of the late Catherine (Cathy) Gavin, Navan
- The family of the late Hughie Friel, Navan

Congratulations were extended to Kilmessan U21 and O'Mahony's U21 teams who won in their respective hurling final's.

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

4.1 Agreement in principle to disposal of 0.219Ha of land at Ferganstown and Ballymacon. 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 of 0.219Ha of land at Ferganstown and Ballymacon.

5 Statutory Business

5.1 Planning

5.1.1 To receive an update on public realm/projects in Navan Town

Wendy Bagnall SEE Planner gave an update on progress on the Navan MD URDF projects:

- Redevelopment of Spicers Bakery and the Andy Brennan Park part 10 application is with An Bord Pleanála for consideration since Dec 2022.
- The Railway Street/County Archive in which the part 8 process is complete for the County Archive aspect.
- Flowerhill Regeneration has URDF funding approved to complete.
 - streetscape enhancement scheme,
 - building frontage scheme,
 - develop a river park and to explore options for a community area.
- Johnstown Village scheme has two elements which includes the preparation of the public realm/regeneration plan and the redevelopment of a key vacant site.

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She advised that a pre-survey would issue this week for public feedback on ideas for the redevelopment of the vacant site and the public realm. Application for funding of Site under URDF call 3 is with the Department.

The members welcomed the progress and had the following questions:

- The vacant site redevelopment in Johnstown should blend into the village and be low density – advised that the design will look at a plaza and circa 25 housing units, detailed design will be brought to the MD in Q2/Q3, 2024.
- Johnstown - What are the next steps for Johnstown – advised that consultants are appointed and will prepare a Part 8 application by Q3, 2024. A pre-draft survey will issue before Christmas.
- Flowerhill - How does a property get involved in the building frontage scheme – Funding is available, and the council will liaise with property owners and management companies.
- Is there an auditorium included in the St Pats scheme- an outdoor auditorium is included.
- Is there funding available for Spicers project once approved – no funds available for Spicers or St Pats projects however applications must be ready for when the funding call.
- When will the Flowerhill streetscape commence- LDR4 is key to the implementation of Flowerhill streetscape, the delivery of the enhanced streetscape will be determined by the completion date of LDR4.

5.2 Transportation

5.2.1 To receive a Progress Report on works undertaken/planned for Navan Municipal District

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

- Enquired if the Arborist had submitted their report – advised currently reviewing the report and to tender out to have a Tree Surgeon in place in Q1, 2024.
- Referred to a sewerage issue at Alexander Reid and Johnstown – advised that this is a matter for Uisce Eireann.
- Enquired when the yellow lines will be completed in Aylesbury lodge, Navan- advised that Kelly's lining are due to return to complete works.
- Referred to a drainage issue at O'Growney Terrace, Navan –on the list, to do.
- Enquired if the railings at O'Growney Terrace can be painted – Advised will look at this in 2024.
- Referred to Graffiti on private property and if the council will remove this – advised that the council remove from public property only.

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- Referred to Balreask cross, Trim Road where there is a road safety issue and if temporary works can be carried out – To review the junction under the pathfinder project in 2024.
- Asked that the Gullies at Blackcastle Lodge be jetted – to include on list.
- Enquired if bins can be installed at the roundabout to schools at Johnstown- will include for Q1.
- Enquired on update for public lighting on Slane Road opposite Round O – advised it's in the system and will be completed.
- Enquired on the length of time it takes for pothole repairs once reported – advised it depends on crews and hotbox being available, try to repair within the week.

5.3 Corporate Affairs & Governance

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

The allocations were noted.

6 Notice of Question

6.1 Submitted by Councillor Yemi Adenuga

Can Meath County council please give an update on the progress so far with the community centre planned for the Johnstown area.

RESPONSE

The Council is continuing to engage with the developer on the transfer of lands for the development of the Johnstown Community Facility. Initial details of the land area have been provided by the developer with the Council seeking further information which will allow the appointed architect to begin their survey and design work.

The response was noted.

6.2 Submitted by Councillor Francis Deane

What is the timescale for the CCTV to be fully operational in the Navan area?"

RESPONSE

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The application to the Garda Commissioner is being finalised and expected to be submitted to An Garda Síochána (Navan Station) in January 2024. It is likely that, once reviewed, it will be forwarded to the CCTV sub-committee of An Garda Síochána for consideration.

Subject to approval by the Garda Commissioner, there are areas within Navan town where the CCTV system can be made operational very quickly however there are other areas, e.g., Johnstown where it will take longer as a procurement process must take place. Once a contractor is appointed, the ducting, poles and cameras can be installed and linked to the existing CCTV scheme and made operational.

The response was noted.

6.3 Submitted by Councillor Alan Lawes

Can Meath County Council put double yellow lines along the bend of Maple Crescent as cars from outside the area are parking here daily causing an obstruction. There have been incidents where pedestrians have nearly been knocked down and the children are particularly at risk.

RESPONSE

The road will be assessed for the necessity of double yellow lines and a request sent to An Garda Síochána if lines are required.”

The response was noted.

6.4 Submitted by Councillor Edward Fennessy

To ask the Executive to provide an update on plans to carry out a repair programme on footpaths at Woodview Estate.

RESPONSE

Woodview Estate is on the 2024 programme of works for footpath repairs under the Central Footpath Rehabilitation Programme.

The response was noted.

6.5 Submitted by Councillor Pdraig Fitzsimons

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Can I get a breakdown of how many Meath County Council local authority houses are in the Navan area and how many houses are owned by housing agencies which house local authority tenants?

RESPONSE

The table below shows the number of Local Authority and AHB units in the Navan MD.

MD	AHB	MCC
Navan	473	1122

The response was noted.

6.6 Submitted by Councillor Emer Toibin

To ask Meath County Council what role it can play in bringing together the relevant stakeholders to devise and implement a plan to successfully develop the naturally occurring beauty spot at the confluence of the Boyne and the Blackwater into a great amenity in the middle of the town, including opening out visibility of and access to the 2 rivers by the removal of briars and scrubby vegetation along the rivers' edges.

RESPONSE

The removal of vegetation along the banks of the Boyne and Blackwater Rivers are under the remit of Waterways Ireland and the OPW. Several years ago, Meath County Council enhanced this area to provide an amenity and viewing spot at the confluence of the two rivers at Poolboy Bridge.

The response was noted.

7 Notice of Motion

7.1 Submitted by Councillor Yemi Adenuga

I call on Meath County Council, to engage with the relevant authorities to remove the large pole in the middle of the footpath, beside the pedestrian crossing, at the Fair green, opposite St. Anne's, Loreto Primary School, in order to facilitate safer movement for users of the footpath and avoid accidents.

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

As part of contract 5 for the Navan 2030 works, currently in detailed design stage, it is intended to engage with the ESB with the view of undergrounding overhead powerlines in this area, subject to ESB acceptance of the same.

The response and motion were agreed on the **proposal Councillor Yemi Adenuga and seconded by Eddie Fennessy.**

7.2 Submitted by Councillor Yemi Adenuga

I call on Meath County Council to carry repair works on the pothole on Dean Hill Rd, just left of the water pump station.

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

Pothole was repaired in mid-November, works undertaken by Uisce Eireann at the site on the road need to be permanently reinstated to prevent further potholes occurring.

The response and motion were agreed on the **proposal Councillor Yemi Adenuga and seconded by Eddie Fennessy.**

7.3 Submitted by Councillor Francis Deane

I call on Meath County Council to carry out a survey on speeding in Athlumney Village estate with a view to installing cushion ramps, where the residents have concerns for the safety of people living in this area.”

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

Athlumney Village was included in Meath County Council’s 30 km/h Housing Estate Special Speed Limit Byelaw in 2017. Speed surveys carried out at that time indicated that vehicles were travelling at an average speed of 28 km/h. Following on from this Notice of Motion the Transport Section will repeat speed surveys within Athlumney Village to gauge the level of compliance with the 30 km/h speed limit. It should be noted that the provision of traffic calming to 30 km/h housing areas is assessed / prioritised based on a

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number of factors including the recorded speed of vehicles within the estate and proposed traffic calming will have regard to the Department of Transport Traffic Management Guidelines, which currently note that ramps should only be chosen if no other suitable measures can be used.

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

7.4 Submitted by Councillor Francis Deane

I propose that Meath County Council write to Bus Éireann asking that the Navan Town bus service be extended to Newgate Junction, Kells Road, Navan and in addition to extending the service to Robinstown Village.

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

The responsibility for the provision of the bus stop infrastructure is a matter for the relevant bus operators and the National Transport Authority (the Authority) in the first instance. It is noted that Section 44A of the Dublin Transport Authority Act 2008 (the “2008 Act” -please see relevant extract below) provides that the Authority has the function to secure or provide public transport and cycling infrastructure in the State in relation to, among other things, bus stops, bus shelters, bus stations, stands and bus fleets.

Meath County Council provides assistance to the National Transport Authority in respect of the delivery of the sustainable infrastructure, such as the project management of the construction works relating to bus stops and those necessary to facilitate the erection of the bus shelters by the Authority’s bus shelter installation contractor.

All requests for new bus stops at locations in County Meath should therefore be directed to the National Transport Authority. Public representatives can send queries via email to oireachtasliaison@nationaltransport.ie

Alternatively, written communications can be made to:

National Transport Authority, Dún Scéine, Harcourt Lane, Dublin 2, D02 WT20.

Meath County Council understands that the National Transport Authority is currently reviewing the potential for adding new bus stops to this service.”

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

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7.5 Submitted by Councillor Alan Lawes

I call on Meath County Council to name the road from the roundabout in Johnstown beside Smiths Supervalu to the school campus “Johnstown Wood Avenue” as gaeilge ,“Ascaill Coill Bhaile Eoin”

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

The naming of public roads/roundabouts is the function of the Council’s Commemorative Committee, this proposal will be referred to the Committee for discussion and feedback.

The response and motion were agreed on the **proposal Councillor Alan Lawes** and **seconded by Eddie Fennessy**.

7.6 Submitted by Councillor Alan Lawes and Councillor Edward Fennessy (Joint)

In order to develop a modern state of the art community facility in Johnstown, and to learn from best practice and design on similar facilities in Dublin, we call on Meath County Council to arrange a field trip for the Navan MD Councillor's and the relevant officials & Consultants to visit:

- F2 Centre Fatima
- Finglas Resource Centre
- Family Base Ballyfermot

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

Given the feedback from the public survey, the need identified was for a football pitch, community building/changing facilities and playground. Any design must incorporate all of the above and any site visit could help inform the design of the community element of the building.

The response and motion were agreed on the **proposal Councillor Alan Lawes** and **seconded by Eddie Fennessy**.

7.7 Submitted by Councillor Edward Fennessy

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To call on Meath County Council to include Ferndale and McDermott Villas Estates on the roads programme for immediate resurface works.

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

Ferndale and McDermott Villas will be assessed for resurfacing works, but a priority list of works based on a technical survey will determine the ranking of Estates requiring resurfacing.

The response and motion were agreed on the **proposal Councillor Eddie Fennessy and seconded by Alan Lawes.**

7.8 Submitted by Councillor Padraig Fitzsimons

I propose that while advancing the Navan 2030 project, that the council prioritise parking for the disabled and consider including Age Friendly parking spots where possible.

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

The Navan 2030 project is primarily focussed on increasing accessibility for all to Navan Town Centre by Active Travel means and Public Transport in accordance with current transport policy and the National Investment Framework for Transport in Ireland (NIFTI). The Active Travel section will liaise with the Navan Municipal District and Community section to confirm where Age Friendly Parking spaces close to essential services such as Post Office, Pharmacies etc. have been identified (as per Transportation Action 3 of the Meath Age Friendly Strategy 2023) and if there is an opportunity to include these in the remaining contracts on Navan 2030. The provision of disabled parking spaces will be considered in the proposed Part 8 for Trimgate Street and in the detailed design for Church Hill and the Fair Green.

The response and motion were agreed on the **proposal of Councillor Padraig Fitzsimons and seconded by Councillor Emer Toibín.**

7.9 Submitted by Councillor Emer Toibin

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To call on Meath County Council to make the inclusion of traffic calming measures on estate entrance roads mandatory, in all future planning applications for new estates in the Navan MD.

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

New residential estates are required to comply with DMURS (Design Manual for Urban Roads and Streets) standards. This is the principal national design standard for urban roads and streets in Ireland and it is mandatory for all road authorities to comply with same. DMURS aims to create attractive places for people to live and travel and provides a safe and comfortable street environment for pedestrians and cyclists of all ages. This is achieved by creating a self-regulating street environment in which the road geometry, road widths and active road frontages are designed to reduce vehicle speeds. In such circumstances, the mandatory inclusion of traffic calming measures for new residential estate entrance roads is not required.

The response and motion were agreed on the **proposal of Councillor Emer Toibín and seconded by Councillor Alan Lawes.**

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

1. To note the Corporate Policy Group Meeting Minutes of 3rd November 2023.

Noted.

2. To note the Protocol Committee minutes of 3rd November 2023.

Noted.

3. To note the Draft minutes from the Housing, Community, and Cultural Development SPC of 21st November 2023

Noted.

4. To note the Draft minutes from the Climate Action, Environment and Emergency Services SPC of 3rd November 2023.

Noted.

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9 Correspondence

There was none.

10 Any Other Business

The members raised the following:

- The Cathaoirleach proposed that the February MD meeting be held in the Bohermeen Community Centre – agreed by all
- Bus Eireann are replacing broken down fleet with large coaches around the town, which is creating circulation issues.
- Referred to a car parking space on Cannon Row which causes problems for other motorists.
- With the ongoing works, enquired if the Trim Road will have 2-way traffic at Lidl prior to Christmas. – No
- Referred to OMP club having water issues to their grounds. – this is a private issue between OMP and UE

Responses were provided by the Director and Area Engineer.

The meeting concluded at 12.30pm.

Signed:

An Meára