

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

### ***Ordinary Meeting***

#### ***Laytown Bettystown Municipal District***

***10:00am, 7<sup>th</sup> March 2024, Duleek Civic Offices***

An Cathaoirleach, **Councillor Stephen McKee** presided.

**Councillors Present:** Wayne Harding, Paddy Meade, Elaine McGinty, Sharon Tolan

**Councillors Present via Zoom:** Tom Behan, Geraldine Keogan,

**Apologies/Absent:**

**Officials in Attendance:**

**Director of Service:** Dara McGowan

**Executive Engineer:** Eoin McNally

**Meetings Administrator:** Elaine Daly

**Environmental Education Officer:** Bernadine Carry

**Senior Executive Engineer:** Bernard Cooney

**Senior Executive Engineer:** David Keyes

**Staff Officer:** Ann Monaghan.

**Apologies:** Fiona Lawless Director of Service, Áine Bird, Meetings Administrator.

#### **1 Confirmation of Minutes**

##### **1.1 Confirmation of Minutes of Ordinary meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> February 2024.**

**Councillor Paddy Meade** noted that the minutes did not accurately reflect the adoption of the Schedule of Municipal District Works for Transportation. In addition, **Councillor Sharon Tolan** noted that her position in relation to the installation of chicanes had not been recorded under Item 6.2.2.

The minutes, with the amendments as outlined, were agreed on the proposal of **Councillor Sharon Tolan** and seconded by **Councillor Elaine McGinty**.

The Meetings Administrator noted that the minutes of the meeting would be updated to reflect the changes as outlined and the amended minutes would be published.

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

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There were none.

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

Expressions of congratulations were extended to:

Meath Rings League on winning the All-Ireland Championship.

Mr. Simon Halpenny on his individual success at the All-Ireland Rings Championship.

All those involved in the organisation of the Beach Park Run, Laytown.

Meath Hill GFC, on the success of their recent Oscarz 2024 event.

All the winners in the LMETB Inter Schools Art and Photography Competition.

St. Colmcille's GFC on the success of their recent Lip-Sync Event.

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

None.

### **5 Statutory Business**

#### **5.1 Transportation**

- 5.1.1 To receive a Presentation on the proposed upgrade of the Station Road to the R150 Duleek Main Street Junction.

Mr. Bernard Cooney, Senior Executive Engineer provided an overview of the proposed upgrade to the of the Station Road to the R150 Duleek Main Street Junction including details of the non-statutory public consultation process, proposed layouts and improvements and the timeline for delivery.

There were interventions and queries from **Councillors Geraldine Keogan; Elaine McGinty; Paddy Meade; Sharon Tolan; Tom Behan** and **Stephen McKee**. The Elected Members broadly welcomed the scheme and queried the loss of car parking spaces, proposals for cycle lanes, bus-stop bays, pedestrian crossings, signalised junctions and a HGV ban in Duleek Village. Responses to queries raised were provided by Mr. Bernard Cooney. On the proposal of **Councillor Stephen McKee** and seconded by **Councillor Sharon Tolan** it was agreed to support the progression of the Scheme.

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- 5.1.2 To receive a Progress Report on works undertaken/planned for Laytown/Bettystown Municipal District

The report circulated in advance was noted. There were interventions and queries from **Councillors Sharon Tolan; Paddy Meade; Elaine McGinty; Stephen McKee** and **Wayne Harding**. Matters raised included provision of new litter bins, facilities for the Beach Park Run, maintenance of playgrounds, hedge-cutting, clearing of gulleys, road marking reinstatement works, replacement of bollards and provision of school wardens. Responses to queries raised were provided by Mr. Eoin McNally.

### **5.2 Environment**

- 5.2.1 To receive a presentation in relation to the Blue Flag Application for Bettystown Beach.

Ms. Bernadine Carry, Environmental Education Officer gave an overview of the requirements to attain a Blue Flag for Bettystown Beach, in particular the dog restrictions that would apply. Ms. Carry noted that it was not proposed to amend the Bye-Laws, but enforcement would be dealt with by way of a publicity campaign, appropriate signage and engagement with beach wardens.

There were interventions of support from **Councillors Tom Behan; Sharon Tolan; Elaine McGinty** and **Stephen McKee**. On the proposal of **Councillor Stephen McKee** and seconded by **Councillor Sharon Tolan** the Elected Members unanimously agreed to support the Blue Flag Application for Bettystown Beach.

On a proposal from **Councillor Stephen McKee** and seconded by **Councillor Sharon Tolan** it was agreed to take a 30-minute extension to 12.30pm.

- 5.2.2 To receive a presentation in respect of the inspection programme for septic tanks and other wastewater treatment systems.

Mr. David Keyes, Senior Executive Engineer, gave an overview of the National Inspection Plan for domestic wastewater treatment systems, including the EPA requirements that the Council are obliged to meet. He provided details of the risk-based approach to inspections in each of the three zones within the County.

There were interventions and queries from **Councillors Tom Behan, Paddy Meade, Sharon Tolan, Elaine McGinty** and **Stephen McKee**. Matters raised included details of the requirements for Domestic Wastewater Treatment System grants, allocation of Council resources, potential for out-

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sourcing, inspection failure rates and River Basin Management Plan. Responses to queries raised were provided by Mr. David Keyes and Mr. Dara McGowan.

### 5.3 Corporate Affairs & Governance

- 5.3.1 To note the Municipal District Allocations submitted by Councillors on behalf of Laytown Bettystown Municipal District

The allocations were noted.

- 5.3.2 To approve the Arts, Festivals, Festive Lighting Allocation 2024.

On the proposal of Councillor Sharon Tolan and seconded by Councillor Elaine McGinty the Arts, Festivals and Festive Lighting Allocation 2024 were approved as follows similar to 2023 allocations:

MD	2023 Allocations
Laytown-Bettystown	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Slane Tidy Towns - €1,500</li> <li>• Bettystown Tidy Towns - €1,500</li> <li>• Duleek Development Association - €1,500</li> <li>• Laytown Christmas Lights - €1,500</li> <li>• Lobinstown Tidy Towns - €750</li> <li>• Julianstown &amp; District Community Association - €750</li> </ul> <p><b>Total – €7,500</b></p>

### 5.4 Planning

- 5.4.1 To consider the taking in charge of Whitefield Hall Bettystown, and the making of a declaration that the roads within these developments shall be public roads in accordance with Section 11 Roads Act 1993 and the Planning & Development Acts 2000-2022.

On the proposal of **Councillor Sharon Tolan** and seconded by **Councillor Elaine McGinty** the members unanimously agreed to the taking in charge of Whitefield Hall, Bettystown as presented.

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### **6 Notice of Question**

There were none.

### **7 Notice of Motion**

#### **7.1 Submitted by Councillor Elaine McGinty**

To ask the Minister for Transport to consider the removal of the M1 Toll at Donore to help alleviate the chronic traffic congestion currently being experienced in South Drogheda and East Meath, pending the implementation of a joint transport plan for the area.

**Councillor Elaine McGinty** introduced the motion noting the significant impact of toll -avoidance by HGVs on the town of Drogheda and Julianstown Village and she called for further funding in infrastructure for South Meath. There were interventions of support from **Councillors Paddy Meade, Sharon Tolan** and **Stephen McKee**.

The motion proposed by **Councillor Elaine McGinty** and seconded by **Councillor Paddy Meade** was agreed.

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

8.1 To note the Corporate Policy Group Meeting Minutes of 26<sup>th</sup> January 2024.

The minutes were noted.

8.2 To note the Protocol Committee minutes of 26<sup>th</sup> January 2024.

The minutes were noted.

8.3 To note the Draft Report from the Planning, Economic Development, Enterprise, and European Affairs SPC of 9<sup>th</sup> February 2024

The minutes were noted.

8.4 To note the Draft Housing Community & Cultural Development SPC Meeting Minutes 24<sup>th</sup> January 2024

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The minutes were noted.

8.5 To note the Draft Transportation SPC Meeting Minutes of 14<sup>th</sup> December 2023.

The minutes were noted.

### **9 Correspondence**

There was none.

### **10 Any Other Business**

There were interventions from **Councillors Sharon Tolan; Geraldine Keogan; Tom Behan; Paddy Meade** and **Stephen McKee**. The following matters were raised:

Provision of public litter bins, pot-hole repairs, beach clean ups, electricity connections at pedestrian crossings, reinstatement works following road opening licences, bridge repairs, traffic calming and road safety measures, estate repairs, flooding, local road improvements, requirements by quarries to wash roads, reinstatement of road markings, provision of a roundabout and provision of new footpaths.

The meeting concluded at 12.30pm

Signed:

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Cathaoirleach