

Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

Ordinary Meeting

Laytown-Bettystown Municipal District

10.00a.m, 06th March 2025, Duleek Civic Offices

Cathaoirleach, **Councillor Paddy Meade** presided.

Councillors Present: Geraldine Keogan, Carol Lennon, Maria White & Wayne Harding

Councillors Present via Zoom: Stephen McKee, Sharon Tolan

Apologies/Absent:

Officials in Attendance:

Director of Service: Martin Murray

Executive Engineer: Paul Tumelty

Meetings Administrator: Francis Regan

Assistant Staff Officer: Stephen Carey

1.0 Confirmation of Minutes from the Ordinary Meeting of 06th February 2025

The minutes of the meeting held on the 6th February 2025 were confirmed on the proposal of **Councillor Maria White** and seconded by **Councillor Sharon Tolan**

2.0 Matters arising from the Minutes

Cllr Maria White confirmed it was Cllr Sharon Tolan and not her who made the comment 'disingenuous' when referring to motion 6.4. The minutes will be amended to reflect this.

3.0 Expressions of Sympathy and Congratulations

Sympathy was extended to:

- The family of Dame Brigid Weir

Congratulations were extended to:

- To the Management Team of Meath County Council on the opening of the impressive East Meath Civic Centre. Membership exceeded 1300 in the first 48 hours of opening.

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4.0 Statutory Business

4.1 Transportation

4.1.1 To receive a list of proposed bus infrastructure works for the Laytown- Bettystown Municipal District

Executive Engineer, Active Travel presented to the members a list of proposed bus infrastructure works for the Laytown- Bettystown Municipal District. It was explained that this was just for noting and informing the members. The proposed works are in conjunction with 'Connecting Ireland rural mobility plan' issued by the National Transport Authority (NTA). It was also explained to members how Meath County Council act as an agent for the NTA and the list of bus stops discussed here today is a priority list given by the NTA for Meath County Council to implement.

Interventions raised by members that were answered by Executive Engineer included:

- There are no recognised bus stops or shelters on the N2. Will this be addressed?
Yes, this will be for the remit of National Transport Authority (NTA)
- What is the timeline for the proposed works presented today? *We will have a better idea when a consultant and contractor are appointed in April 2025.*
- What will the design of the bus stop be in Laytown? *We are looking to modify the bus stop within its current footprint as space is limited and not take it away.*
- What are the designs for the two bus stops in Bettystown? *We aim to formalize them, make them safer and modern for everyone's use*
- Who is responsible for very old 'Pole' bus stops? *This would be the bus stop renewal plan by Bus Éireann and the NTA.*
- There is no Pole at the South Laytown bus stop? *We have asked for one and have been assured one is on the way.*
- Will the accessible bus stops mentioned include shelters? *This is currently under review, but where there is a space and if it is feasible, then we would like to install shelters.*
- Can Meath County Council please ensure all infrastructure is complete when a bus stop is installed i.e. services, paths, concrete floors etc. *This was noted.*

Members also commented that they should lobby the NTA directly as they believe the funding available to this programme is not sufficient.

The Executive Engineer also mentioned to the members that his team are always cognisant that other planning applications and funding streams maybe adding bus stops in their plan. Avoiding duplication to ensure funding is allocated wisely is paramount.

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

This was circulated in advance and noted. Cllr Carol Lennon queried if the supplier consultant was the same for the beach huts? The Executive Engineer confirmed that the supplier was different and that the huts are now concrete made with very little maintenance.

4.2 Corporate Affairs & Governance

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

5.0 Notice of Questions

There were none.

6.0 Notice of Motions

There were none.

7.0 Correspondence

There were none.

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8.0 Any Other Business

Meath County Council Acting on behalf of National Roads Authority (NRA)/ Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) under Section 85 agreement for the purchase of lands to facilitate the M1 Northern Motorway Scheme are currently in the process of formalising those transfers related to this project.

A CPO was made in November 1995 as part of the Northern Motorway (Gormanstown - Monasterboice) Scheme in conjunction with Louth County Council under a Section 85 agreement. As part of the Accommodation works, on completion of construction work the land no longer required should be offered back at an agreed price.

Having considered the request, the Executive agreed to seek approval from Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) and sought an independent valuation and Meath County Council legal costs will be paid by those acquiring the lands. The Executive have agreed to put this \$183 before the members for their consideration.

However, as these lands are outside of the functional area of the Municipal District and therefore it will go directly to the Full Council Meeting for their consideration.

Cllr Sharon Tolan asked if any of the original landowners were owed compensation or land back. Martin Murray, Director, confirmed that lands will go back directly to Louth County without monetary gain to either local authority, and that no landowner needs compensating.

Other matters raised included:

- Duleek graveyard is closed on Sundays and early on the evening during the week. Can these times be reevaluated?
- When will the resurfacing to Laytown bridge happen. Also there appears to be issues regarding the time of the lights on the bridge i.e. lights on during the day and off at night.
- Can we find out why a 17-year-old was not allowed to join the library?
- There are very little Irish books the 18-year-old upwards. Can this be increased?
- Why is the housing section refusing an affidavit that is signed by a peace commissioner?
- The first section of the cycling lane at Seafeld is collapsed and has been like this for 12 months. When will the repairs be complete.
- The junction at the graveyard turning left on to the N2 seems very gravelly underneath. Can this be made safe?
- Can a members rep relating to blue badge holders be expedited as he still waiting for an answer.

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- No water and low pressure in Duleek and maybe related to works from Commons. Can contact be made to Uisce Eireann on our behalf?
- Frustration that there is no broadband since storm Eowyn and the council are not sending out agendas by post.
- How can other primary schools get bollards like Donore national school?

The Director, Executive Engineer responded to some of the queries and will follow up on any outstanding matters via the meeting administrator.

The meeting concluded at 10.45

Signed:

Cathaoirleach