

Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

Ordinary Meeting

Trim Municipal District

2.00pm, 21st March 2025, Trim Civic Offices

An Cathaoirleach, **Councillor Ronan Moore**, presided.

Councillors Present: Dave Boyne, Noel French, Pádraig Coffey, Joe Fox, Paul O'Rourke

Councillors Present via Zoom:

Apologies/absent:

Officials in Attendance:

Director of Service: Des Foley

Meetings Administrator: Francis Regan

Executive Engineer: Donna Pringle

Assistant Engineer: Michael Jordan

Staff Officer: Kate Lomza

Assistant Staff Officer: Stephen Carey

1.0 Confirmation of Minutes

1.1 Confirmation of Minutes from the Special Meeting of 29th January 2025

The minutes of the Special Meeting held on 29th January 2025 were confirmed on the proposal of **Councillor Joe Fox** and seconded by **Councillor Pádraig Coffey**.

1.2 Confirmation of Minutes from the Ordinary Meeting of 14th February 2025

The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 14th February 2025 were confirmed on the proposal of **Councillor Joe Fox** and seconded by **Councillor Paul O'Rourke**.

2.0 Matters arising from the Minutes

There no were matters arising from the minutes.

3.0 Expressions of Sympathy and Congratulations

Members congratulated Pat Comey on his recent award as Sports Volunteer of the Year.

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4.0 Statutory Business

4.1 Transportation

4.1.1 To receive an update on the 'Proposed R161 Navan to Trim Pathfinder Scheme'

Paul O'Brien, Senior Executive Engineer from Active Travel, updated the Members on the R161 Navan to Trim Pathfinder Scheme. Interventions raised by Members were answered directly by the Senior Executive Engineer.

4.1.2 To receive a Progress Report on works undertaken/planned for Trim Municipal District.

The report circulated in advance was noted. Interventions raised by Members were answered directly by the MD Engineers present including:

- Road surfacing on the Dublin Road, Trim still needs attention.
- The footpath on the Dublin Road needs repair.
- Can a pedestrian crossing on Emmet Street, Trim be considered?
- Can road markings on the Summerhill to Trim Road be repainted.
- Potholes in Derrylangan and Kilbride require attention.
- Update on the new traffic light system for Wellington Monument.
- Completion of the new roundabout in Enfield.
- Sequencing of the traffic light in Enfield to be reviewed.

4.2 Rural Regeneration

4.2.1 To consider the Chief Executives Report on the Part 8 application (PT/MH193) in relation to the proposed playground on the Green, Longwood

Pat Shore Senior Executive Engineer presented the Report to the Members. Interventions from Members included:

- Concerns regarding environmental compliance and impact of the proposed playground.
- Some Members raised concerns regarding the location of the playground.
- Concerns regarding the potential for anti-social behavior.
- Some Members believed that the full support of the community was required for the project to progress.

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- Some Members suggested redesigning the playground or possibly relocating it.

On the proposal of **Cllr. Ronan Moore**, and seconded by **Cllr. Joe Fox**, a vote was taken to defer the consideration of the Chief Executive's report to the next statutory meeting of Trim MD, which was carried on the casting vote of the Cathaoirleach.

4.3 Economic Development

4.3.1 To receive an update on the Enfield Town Centre First Plan

The Cathaoirleach provided a brief update on the meeting which was noted.

The Member also welcomed the update that the Enfield Community Hall project will be commenced shortly.

Questions were raised about the traffic management plan for Enfield. It was confirmed that it will happen in 2025.

Concerns were raised about how noise reductions methods could be implemented to protect local homes against the noise of the park, i.e. some kind of screening.

4.4 Corporate Affairs & Governance

4.4.1 To note the Municipal District Allocations submitted by Councillors on behalf of Trim Municipal District

This report was noted by the Members.

5.0 Notice of Questions

5.1 Submitted by Councillor Paul O'Rourke

"Can the Council provide an update on the motion presented in 2023 regarding the installation of a dog park in Trim? Specifically, what progress has been made, what challenges (if any) have been identified, and is there a projected timeline for the delivery of this amenity?"

Response:

Research and information gathering on other similar facilities has been ongoing and this information is being reviewed in the context of the identification of a suitable location, management and oversight requirements and the potential for ongoing operational costs that may be incurred. A further update will be provided when this review has been completed.

The response was noted.

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6.0 Notice of Motions

6.1 Submitted by Councillor Dave Boyne

"I call on Meath County Council to agree to allowing Loading Bays to be used as Taxi-ranks after 6pm in the Trim MD area."

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

Parking byelaws are enforced from 9.00 a.m. to 6.00 p.m., Monday to Saturday, in Trim. Parking bays and loading bays are available to all Members of the public after those hours. There are no current plans to create a **time specific** designation for Taxi Ranks as this approach will lead to confusion.

The Motion and response were noted and agreed on the proposal of **Councillor Dave Boyne** and seconded by **Councillor Noel French**. The Director of Services will come back to Members with information.

6.2 Submitted by Councillor Dave Boyne

"I call on Meath County Council to commit to putting speed bumps on the approach roads to all towns, villages, schools, and Churches, in the Trim MD area."

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

Section 38 of the Road Traffic Act, 1994 states a local authority may, in the interest of safety and convenience of road users, provide such traffic calming measures as they consider desirable in respect of public roads in their charge. The Traffic Management Guidelines sets out criteria and recommendations for selection of traffic calming measures. It should be noted this document also outlines the potential draw-backs of traffic calming measures such as impediment of emergency vehicles and increased noise and vehicle emissions. The Design Manual for Urban Roads and Streets (DMURS) complements the recommendations given in the Traffic Management Guidelines, promoting a holistic, sustainable approach to multi-modal travel.

The aforementioned guidance document states that ramps should only be chosen if no other suitable measures can be used, there is also a requirement for public lighting in close proximity to ramps.

Traffic calming measures must be bespoke and with consideration to the local environment and how all road users travel through the environment, decisions on the most appropriate measures are informed by site specific data such as traffic counts, speed surveys, road geometry, etc. Likewise the decision on whether traffic calming is required or not is informed by data such as collision data and speed surveys, additionally the Department of Transport through their 'Locations of Interest' analysis may recommend traffic calming measures as part of low cost safety

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schemes, TII may do similar on national routes.

Traffic calming schemes (including schemes at schools) are delivered on an ongoing basis, subject to available funding. Schemes are typically initiated where the Council consider intervention is warranted and through representation from An Garda Síochána, the local community or Elected Members; schemes are then assessed and prioritised based on the data.

The Motion and response were noted on the proposal of **Councillor Dave Boyne** and seconded by **Councillor Noel French**. On the proposal of **Cllr. Noel French** and seconded by **Cllr. Pádraig Coffey**, an amendment to include the phrase “Traffic Calming Measures” instead of speed bumps to the wording of the Motion, was agreed.

7.0 Correspondence

There was none.

8.0 Any Other Business

Brian Murray Executive Engineer, Active Travel gave an update on the Bus Stop Enhancement Programme.

Interventions raised by Members were answered by the Executive Engineer including:

- The Members welcomed the proposed location of the Enfield Bus Stop.
- The Members welcomed the Rathmolyon and Summerhill bus stop infrastructure.
- Bus stops need to be placed within walking distance to discourage members of the public from parking their cars randomly.

Other issues raised under AOB included:

- Members raised concerns regarding parking enforcement in Trim and the limited availability of “tap to pay” on ticket machines.
- Members suggested a review of loading bays in Trim town to see if it is feasible to convert them to parking spaces.
- Cllr. Pádraig Coffey congratulated the Enfield St. Patrick’s Parade Committee, Meath County Council, An Garda Síochána and the stewards on the success of the St. Patrick’s Day parade.
- Cllr. Pádraig Coffey raised concerns about the location of the park, near the Coachyard.
- The meeting welcomed Staff Officer, Kate Lomza, to the Meeting Administration Team.

The meeting concluded at 16.03pm

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Cathaoirleach