

Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

Ordinary Meeting

Navan Municipal District

10.00 am, 16th April 2025, Navan Civic Offices

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

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

Councillors Present via Zoom:

Absent/apologies:

Officials in Attendance:

Director of Service: Senior Engineer Nicholas Whyatt deputised for Director of Service Martin Murray.

Executive Engineer: Shane Durcan

Meetings Administrator: Francis Regan

Assistant Staff Officer: Stephen Carey

1.0 Confirmation of Minutes from the Ordinary Meeting of 12th March 2025

The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 12th March 2025 were confirmed on the proposal of **Councillor Francis Deane** and seconded by **Councillor Padraig Fitzsimons**

Newly elected **Councillor John Duffy**, and Kate Lomza from Meetings Admin team, were welcomed by An Meára, Edward Fennessy and Members. **Councillor Duffy** stated that he is looking forward to working with the team to make Navan a better place over the next four years.

2.0 Matters arising from the Minutes

Members were disappointed that an update on Johnstown Community Centre was not on the agenda. For the May MD meeting, Members requested an update on all proposed community facilities for Johnstown, Farganstown and Dunville. If this was not possible, at the next meeting at a minimum a firm date when relevant updates could be provided should be given to the Councillors so that they can advise local residents and community organisations. The Senior Engineer stated that from his enquiries, the Council is likely to be in a position to present an update of proposals for Dunville within 2 months. However, given the nature of the Farganstown application it would be unlikely that the Council would be in a position to make definitive statements regarding timescale and details of the proposal.

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3.0 Expressions of Sympathy and Congratulations

Sympathies were extended to:

- The family of John V. Farrelly, former Councillor, on the passing of his daughter, Emma.
- To Pat Shore and Family on the passing of his father Robert Shore.
- The Hosie family on the passing of Imelda Hosie.
- To the Rogers family, on the passing of Patrick Rogers.

Congratulations were extended to:

- Nicola Sheridan, on winning the Dublin Half marathon 2025.
- Kevin McGrath on his success at the 400 metres.

4.0 Statutory Business

4.1 Planning

1. Taking in Charge

To consider the taking in charge of Dunville Navan 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 2000-2023.

The above statutory process was confirmed on the proposal of **Councillor Yemi Adenuga** and seconded by **Councillor Emer Tóibín**.

To consider the taking in charge of Metges Place, Navan 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 2000-2023.

The above statutory process was confirmed on the proposal of **Councillor Pdraig Fitzsimons** and seconded by **Councillor Francis Deane**

To consider the taking in charge of Rowleys Lock, Navan 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 2000-2023.

The above statutory process was confirmed on the proposal of **Councillor Eddie Fennessy** and seconded by **Councillor Emer Tóibín**

Members also raised the following points:

- Now that an estate is taken in charge, can Road Safety measures be raised by members?
- Is there now an obligation to install footpaths and lighting from the town to Rowleys Lock?
-

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The Executive Engineer reiterated that there should be no need at all for additional road safety measures as these are modern estates and such measures would have been considered at the design stage. As a requirement of the planning application for the estate, a footpath will follow.

4.2 Transportation

4.2.1 To consider the Chief Executives Report on the Part 8 application - PT8MH179

To receive the Chief Executive's Report in accordance with Part XI of the Planning & Development Act 2000–2023 and Part 8 of the Planning & Development Regulations 2001–2025 on the proposed development of 'New and improved Walking and Cycling facilities and traffic calming measures under the Safe Routes to School Scheme for St.Stephen's National School, Navan, Co. Meath' which will consist of traffic calming measures, new and upgraded active travel facilities including pedestrian crossings and paths, new gated non-vehicular access to Johnstown Education Campus and new footpaths within the campus and associated landscaping, traffic signals, road markings, signage, public lighting, drainage and ancillary works.

Development Location: Johnstown Wood (townlands of Bailis and Alexander Reid), Navan, Co. Meath. Reference PT8MH179.

Senior Executive Engineer Paul McKown presented PT8MH179 to Members. Interventions included and answer by the SEE included:

- Have all submissions from the public been carefully considered?
- What is the estimated cost of the project?
- It is great to see children being directed away from the roads on the way to school. The introduction of the new gate is welcome.
- When will work begin and what are the hours of the working day? Is it envisaged that out-of-hour works will be needed?
- If the scheme is not on schedule when schools return, will there be a traffic management plan?
- Can it be confirmed if the ramps will be removed or not?

It was reiterated that the road works will begin during the summer school holiday period. The paths will start in September with planting of shrubs etc. to follow. The Senior Executive Engineer will confirm the final point in the coming days.

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4.2.2 To receive an Active Travel Update on:

- The Proposed Flowerhill Cycling and Pedestrian Scheme.
- The Proposed Trimgate Street Pedestrianisation Scheme.

The Senior Executive Engineer for Active Travel updated members on the above. Priority will begin with from the 'Round O' to the 'Fire Station' and 'Cantilever bridge' to 'Poolboy Quay'. A presentation with an information pack will be made later this year to update Members on any changes to the plan. If timelines were to be favorable, the scheme should be ready for ratification by September 2025.

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

The report had been circulated in advance of the meeting. Matters raised by the Members and answered by the Executive Engineer included:

- Can the gullies in Beechmount be cleared?
- Can the new pothole be filled at the Mercy Roundabout?
- Can CCTV be an option to discourage people placing household waste in the Big Belly bins?
- What are the opening times of Blackwater toilets?
- Can the traffic lights at Boreen Keel be adjusted as it's believed they are causing congestion in the town?
- Can the dip on the road at the 'Round O' and the wall on the Proudstown Road be fixed?
- Was a traffic survey completed at the Cannistown, Willows junction in relation to March's Motion?
- SYSTRA report – when will this be ready for consultation?
- Is there an update for the Section 38 project at the Circle K/Aisling Place?

4.3 Corporate Affairs & Governance

4.3.1 To appoint a replacement Councillor to the Meath Heritage Forum following the election of former Cllr Linda Nelson Murray to Seanad Éireann

On the proposal of **Councillor Yemi Adenuga** and seconded by **Councillor Francis Deane, Councillor John Duffy** was nominated and appointed to the Meath Heritage Forum.

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- 4.3.2** To appoint a replacement Councillor to the Navan Enterprise Centre Company Ltd following the election of former Cllr Linda Nelson Murray to Seanad Éireann

On the proposal of **Councillor Yemi Adenuga** and seconded by **Councillor Francis Deane, Councillor John Duffy** was nominated and appointed to the Navan Enterprise Centre Company Ltd.

- 4.3.3** To note the Municipal District Allocations submitted by Councillors on behalf of Navan Municipal District

This was noted.

5.0 Notices of Question

5.1 Submitted by Councillor Eddie Fennessy

"To ask the Executive to list the estates included on the road resurfacing schedule for 2025"

Response:

A list of Estates has not been finalised for Navan MD, but a comprehensive list is been graded and shortlisted at present and will be available for the next meeting.

This was noted.

5.2 Submitted by Councillor Francis Deane

"With reference to the proposed Navan Town paint initiative for traders in the town and the regeneration plan for Flowerhill, when will traders be able to avail of and make an application for inclusion in the scheme?"

Response:

Funding has been provided via the Urban Regeneration Development Fund to improve the building frontage along the length of Flower Hill, commencing at Pollboy Bridge and ending at the Round O roundabout. Meath County Council have procured an urban design consultant to prepare a schedule of proposed improvement works to building frontages. When the consultants complete this work, the property owners/management companies etc., will be invited to participate in scheme.

Meath County Council are awaiting approval from the Department and when received, we will then provide an update to the Navan MD Members closer to the time of contacting the property owners, which is now expected to be in Q2 2025.

This was noted.

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6 Notice of Motion

6.2 Submitted by Councillor Emer Tóibín

"I call on MCC to name the newly constructed bridge over the Blackwater River, connecting Ratholdren Road to Kells Road, "Randles' Bridge" in honour of Dr. Paddy Randles(1924 – 2017)."

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

If the Motion is agreed, it will be referred to the Commemorative Committee for consideration.

The motion proposed by **Councillor Emer Tóibín** and seconded by **Councillor Yemi Adenuga** was agreed.

6.3 Submitted by Councillor Emer Tóibín

"I call on the minister of Transport to restore funding to the pathfinder project, Navan to Trim."

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

Meath County Council received an allocation from the NTA for 2024 for the design process for the Pathfinder Scheme. The actual construction phase was not covered in this original allocation. The NTA did not make any allocation to Meath County Council for the construction phase in 2025.

The motion proposed by **Councillor Emer Tóibín** and seconded by **Councillor Yemi Adenuga** was agreed.

Councillor Emer Tóibín asked that a robust letter is sent on behalf the of the members to the Minister asking that funding for the construction phase is reconsidered. The proposal was seconded by **Councillor Yemi Adenuga**.

6.4 Submitted by Councillor Eddie Fennessy & Councillor Francis Deane

"To ask the Executive to name the LDR4 Road after Derry Fitzgerald who lived nearby in Abbeylands and who was a founding member and former chairperson of the St. Mary's Navan Credit Union, The Meath Council of Trades Union, The Friends of Navan Hospital Group and many more local groups and organisations."

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

If the Motion is agreed, it will be referred to the Commemorative Committee for consideration.

The motion proposed by **Councillor Eddie Fennessy & Francis Deane** and seconded by **Councillor Alan Lawes** was agreed.

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6.5 Submitted by Councillor Eddie Fennessy

"To call on the Executive to carry out a traffic impact study on the 'Old Road Athlumney' with a view to restricting movement on the older and narrower section of the road to local access only."

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

Navan Town Area is been assessed as part of the Navan Area Based Transport Assessment (ABTA) by the Consultancy Systra. The delivery of the Navan ABTA is tied to the LAP process and timelines. This process will encompass the road requested and surrounding areas as part of the ongoing development of the Navan Area.

The motion proposed by **Councillor Eddie Fennessy** and seconded by **Councillor Francis Deane** was agreed.

6.6 Submitted by Councillor Francis Deane

"I call on Meath County Council to install yellow box markings outside the entrance to St Ultan's School Special School, Flowerhill."

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

Flower Hill upper section is on the Road Works Programme for 2025, including the area outside St. Ultan's School. Road markings will be all assessed and renewed as required.

The motion proposed by **Councillor Eddie Fennessy** and seconded by **Councillor Francis Deane** was agreed

7 Correspondence

Whilst there was no correspondence, **Cllr Emer Tóibín** asked if there was any correspondence back from Dublin City Council or the NTA regarding the March motion relating to trail red light camera technology. It was agreed that this would be followed up.

8 Any Other Business

- Queried if a pilot CCTV scheme could be put in place to catch illegal dumping. Fingal County Council have a scheme in place.
- The Priory Estate in Johnstown, when will this be taken in charge?
- **Cllr Padraig Fitzsimons** highlighted to members the Columban Way. It is similar to the principles of the Camino. It is 530km walk from Carlow to Bangor, passing through Meath. Cllr Fitzsimons believes Meath County Council and the Tourism Department should be more involved as it an easy buy in that would attract religious tourists and the like. To make Meath more attractive, paths and roads should be invested in to make it more attractive to walkers. For example, walking from Clonard to Navan is extremely difficult to navigate. The construction of the Trim to Navan pathfinder project would certainly help to promote such a walk.



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The meeting concluded at 11.30am

Signed:

An Méara