

Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

Special Meeting

Kells Municipal District

4.00p.m, 1st April 2025, Kells Civic Offices

An Cathaoirleach, **Councillor Sarah Reilly**, presided.

Councillors Present: Michael Gallagher, Sean Drew, Mike Bray, Peter Caffrey, David Gilroy

Councillors Present via Zoom: Eugene Cassidy

Apologies/absent:

Officials in Attendance:

Director of Service: Dara McGowan

Meetings Administrator: Francis Regan

Staff Officer: Kate Lomza

Assistant Staff Officer: Stephen Carey

1.0 To consider the Chief Executives Report on the Part 8 application (PT/MH178) in relation to Athboy Fair Green Playground.

Dara McGowan opened the meeting and explained to members the procedure for leaving a meeting if a member had a 'pecuniary or beneficial interest' in the item being discussed as detailed in Standing Orders 36.1 to 36.4 Ethical framework. If it was discovered that a member did have a 'pecuniary or beneficial interest' that was not declared, this matter could then be referred to the ethics department for investigation.

Cllr David Gilroy informed the chamber that he was a trustee of the Fair Green. Cllr Gilroy then left the chamber.

The Cathaoirleach read out the letter received from the trustees of the Fair Green. The letter stated that it would not be the intention of the trustees to proceed with the development.

Dara McGowan then read out the three options available to the members which included:

1. If the Members want to proceed with the development, then no further action is required.
2. If the Members want to vary or modify the development as recommended in the Chief Executive Report, then the following wording should be used:

'To resolve to vary or modify the Part 8 application (PT/MH178) in relation to Athboy Fair Green Playground as requested by the Members'

If this option is chosen, then the specifics in relation to the modification will have to be identified and possibly assessed by the Project Team/Planners, so the decision may have to be deferred until that assessment has been completed, but the decision should still be made within the 6-week window that commenced when the Members received the CE report.

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3. If the Members do not want to proceed with the development, the following wording should be used:

‘To resolve not to proceed with the Part 8 application (PT/MH178) in relation to Athboy Fair Green Playground as requested by the Members’

The Cathaoirleach invited members for their opinions, which included:

- Knowing that we do not have the support of the trustees, there seems to be little point in proceeding.
- We must take account the petitions received. Also, parking is an issue. Are there other available sites?
- We should learn lessons from this process, i.e. if it is not our lands, we should enter written agreements with the landowners or trustees as part of the Part 8 process.

Director, Dara McGowan responded accordingly.

On the proposal of **Cllr. Eugene Cassidy** and seconded by **Cllr. Sean Drew**, the decision ‘To resolve not to proceed with the Part 8 application (PT/MH178) in relation to Athboy Fair Green” was passed.

The meeting concluded at 16.20 pm.

Signed:

Cathaoirleach