

Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

Ordinary Meeting

Kells Municipal District

4.00p.m, 19th May 2025, Kells Civic Offices

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

Councillors Present: Michael Gallagher, Eugene Cassidy, Sean Drew, Peter Caffrey, David Gilroy

Councillors Present via Zoom: Mike Bray

Apologies/absent:

Officials in Attendance:

Director of Service: Dara McGowan

Executive Engineer: Matthew Rafferty

Meetings Administrator: Francis Regan

Staff Officer: Kate Lomza

Assistant Staff Officer: Stephen Carey

1.0 Confirmation of Minutes

1.1 Confirmation of Minutes from the Special Meeting of 1st April 2025

The minutes of the meeting held on the 1st April 2025 were confirmed on the proposal of **Councillor David Gilroy** and seconded by **Councillor Michael Gallagher**.

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

The minutes of the meeting held on the 14th April 2025 were confirmed on the proposal of **Councillor David Gilroy** and seconded by **Councillor Michael Gallagher**.

2.0 Matters arising from the Minutes

There were none

3.0 Expressions of Sympathy and Congratulations

Sympathies were extended to:

- To the MacDonncha family on the passing of Seán MacDonncha

Congratulations were extended to:

- To the communication team hosting the Civic Awards and recipients who received them.
- CCE Tlachtga on the success of the Meath Fleadh

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4.0 Statutory Business

4.1 Planning

4.1.1 To receive an update on the Lloyd Project

The Senior Executive Planner updated members on the Lloyd Project. Comments from members included:

- The plans seem very ambitious. Where will the funding come from and what is the timeframe for completion?
- Good to see the roundabout located closer to the town, hopefully this will increase the parks use.
- Would like to see an area for kicking balls.
- Good to see a building within the park, however, it seems small for a Community Centre.
- Great to see that toilets have been included.
- When will the Public be able to comment again on the proposal?
- Would like a hard surface area for bouncing balls.
- Slightly disappointed as current plans look dull. Would like to see more vibrancy.
- Can a dog park and off the lead area be explored?

The project will go to public consultation and will be displayed at the Kells MD, Library and Buvinda House. Some aspects of the plan will be subject to the Part 8 process. The plan will be delivered in phases and various funding mechanisms such as ORIS, Town & Village and Community Centre funding will be explored.

4.2 Transportation

4.2.1 To receive a Progress Report on works undertaken/planned for Kells Municipal District.

The report circulated in advance and was taken as read.

4.3 Corporate Affairs & Governance

4.3.1 To note the Municipal District Allocations submitted by Councillors on behalf of Kells Municipal District

This was noted.

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5.0 Notice of Questions

5.1 Submitted by Councillor Peter Caffrey

"I wish to ask the Meath County Council for an up-to-date schedule for commencement of housing on the Mountnugent Road out of Oldcastle, how many are available as social/affordable housing and are there any "Site to builds" been offered?"

Response:

It is anticipated that the tender to appoint Consultants will be advertised by the end of May. The full site will be used to provide housing to be constructed by the local authority. The nature of the layout will be determined by the Consultants in conjunction with Meath County Council whilst complying with the County Development Plan. Further information will be provided in the monthly Chief Executives Report as the appointments are made and the scheme progresses.

This was noted.

6.0 Notice of Motions

6.1 Submitted by Councillor Sarah Reilly

"Given the historical treatment of Boggan lane (Eircode A82FH74) by Meath County Council, I call on it to be recognised as a public lane and that its time served on the CIS scheme be given due consideration."

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

The cul-de-sac at Boggan, known locally as Boggan Lane, is not on the Roads Schedule and therefore does not meet the criteria for Community Involvement Scheme funding. The Department of Rural and Community Development (DRCD) fund a similar initiative for private lanes known as Local Improvement Schemes, an application could be progressed under LIS for Boggan Lane and if successful it will be given consideration for the 2026 LIS list or if additional DRCD funding becomes available in 2025.

The motion proposed by **Councillor Sarah Reilly** and seconded by **Councillor Sean Drew** was agreed.

Members stated the current surface was put on by the Council and maintained until recently when Meath County Council stopped filling the potholes. This is a short laneway that was original serving one house and some farm buildings but now serves 3 houses and the sheds (one being a business). Members were not happy with the response as the residents cannot access the LIS scheme and requested that the Council make this lane public. Members gave previous examples where Members asked and made a laneway public, as an example of precedent.

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6.2 Submitted by Councillor Sean Drew and Councillor Eugene Cassidy

"We call on Meath County Council for the urgent delivery of additional Traffic Calming measures on the N52 as vehicles enter/exit Carlanstown and the installation of a Pedestrian Crossing on the N52 in the centre of Carlanstown."

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

Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) carry out analysis of collisions on the national road network in Ireland on a regular basis to identify high collision locations and carry out Road Safety Inspections as a proactive approach to improving safety on the existing national road network. Funding for safety improvement schemes on the national road network is generally prioritised based results of these assessments and on the Feasibility & Options Reports and the availability of funding. Meath County Council in conjunction with the NTA are also reviewing the feasibility and options for the provision/upgrading of bus stops in Carlanstown.

Meath County Council will discuss with Transport Infrastructure Ireland potential improvements to the N52 in Carlanstown pending the completion of a Feasibility & Options Report.

It should also be noted that Meath County Council made an application to TII in May last year for seed funding to look at active travel improvements within Carlanstown and a decision is still awaited in relation to this application.

The delivery of any of the above is subject to:

1. the relative priority of the required works
2. adequate resources being available
3. funding being made available from TII or from NTA or from MCC's own resources.

The motion proposed by **Councillor Sean Drew & Eugene Cassidy** and seconded by **Councillor Sarah Reilly** was agreed.

Members were not happy with the response and want the priority of this scheme increased beyond the generic response received and for the Council to deliver improvement works. They feel that if the TII won't fund this work, then MCC should fund this work as this request has been coming in since at least 2014 and possibly before that. The Cllrs are annoyed that the TII are being used as an excuse for not putting traffic calming or pedestrian crossings onto National routes, but other counties can have these things i.e. raised pedestrian crossing in Delvin on the N52, pedestrian crossing in Clonmellon at the shops/church. There is even a pedestrian crossing in

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Carlanstown for the school, but the centre of the village where all the housing estates converge to cross the road to the shop has no traffic calming measures in place.

7.0 Correspondence

There was none.

8.0 Any Other Business

- Balrath line marking. Members want an update as to why these markings were to be installed before Christmas 2024 but were delayed and are still not installed. Why are they delayed and when will they be installed?
- Kells Walkway and cycle path (Kells ring road extension). Members understand that there was a design completed/commenced and would like to see the update as they have not heard anything on this in a long time.
- Names of the walkways include:
 - Cannongate Walk
 - Carrickgate Walk
 - Maudlingate Walk
- Lloyd entrance fee increasing to €10 is deemed too expensive. Can this be reviewed? Also, can the opening times be extended?

The meeting concluded at 5pm.

Signed:

Cathaoirleach