

## ***Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes***

### ***Ordinary Meeting***

***9<sup>th</sup> June 2025 @ 2.30p.m.***

***Buvinda House, Navan (and online via zoom)***

**Presiding:** An Cathaoirleach, Councillor Wayne Harding

**Councillors Present:**

Councillors Yemi Adenuga, Fionnán Blake, Dave Boyne, Mike Bray, Peter Caffrey, Eugene Cassidy, Padraig Coffey, Francis Deane, Sean Drew, John Duffy, Yvonne Everard, Eddie Fennessy, Brian Fitzgerald, Padraig Fitzsimons, Joe Fox, Noel French, Michael Gallagher, David Gilroy, Suzanne Jamal, Geraldine Keogan, Nick Killian, Alan Lawes, Stephen McKee, Paddy Meade, Helen Meyer, Ronan Moore, Maria Murphy, Gerry O'Connor, Caroline O'Reilly, Paul O'Rourke, Sarah Reilly, Amanda Smith, Alan Tobin, Emer Tóibín, Sharon Tolan, Conor Tormey and Maria White.

**Apologies:**

Councillors Joe Bonner and Carol Lennon

**Officials in attendance:**

**Chief Executive:** Kieran Kehoe

**Directors of Service:** Des Foley, Fiona Lawless, Dara McGowan, Martin Murray, Fiona Fallon, Pádraig Maguire.

**Senior Executive Officer:** Brian Hora

**Meetings Administrator:** Elaine Daly

**Apologies:** Barry Lynch, Director of Service

### **1.0 Confirmation of Minutes**

#### **1.1 Confirmation of minutes of ordinary meeting held on May 12, 2025**

The minutes of the Ordinary meeting held on May 12, 2025 were confirmed on the proposal of **Councillor Nick Killian** and seconded by **Councillor Joe Fox**.

### **2.0 Matters arising from the Minutes**

There were none.

### **3.0 Expressions of Sympathy and Congratulations**

#### **3.1 Expressions of Sympathy:**

Expressions of sympathy were extended to:

The family of the late Martin Phillip (Phil) Cantwell, former Councillor.

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Noel Leonard, former Councillor, on the death of his son, Barry Leonard.

The family of the late Bernard Jnr Power.

Amy Jordan, Corporate Affairs and Governance, on the death of her father, David (Dave) Jordan.

### **3.2 Expressions of Congratulations:**

Expressions of congratulations were extended to:

Councillor Brian Fitzgerald, who celebrates 40 years' service with Meath County Council.

Hailey Twomey from Eureka Secondary School, Kells, named Girls' Under-15 Schools International Player of the Year.

### **4.0 Disposal of Land in accordance with Statutory Notices circulated pursuant to the provisions of Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001**

There were none.

## **5.0 Statutory Business**

### **5.1 Corporate Affairs and Governance**

#### **5.1.1 To adopt the Annual Report 2024**

The Chief Executive outlined the salient details of the report. The Annual Report 2024 was adopted on the proposal of **Councillor Gerry O'Connor**, seconded by **Councillor Nick Killian** and unanimously agreed.

#### **5.1.2 Appointment of Councillor to Meath Comhairle na nÓg Steering Committee following the resignation of Cllr Stephen McKee**

On the proposal of **Councillor Paddy Meade** and seconded by **Councillor Sharon Tolan**, it was agreed to defer this matter to the July Council meeting.

### **5.2 Finance**

#### **5.2.1 To note the Quarterly Financial Statement as at 31st March 2025**

The Elected Members noted the report.

### **5.3 Community**

#### **5.3.1 To approve the nomination of Michael Gunn from Coastwatch to fill the vacant PPN Environment Pillar position on the Meath LCDC.**

On the proposal of **Councillor Sarah Reilly** and seconded by **Councillor Michael Gallagher**, the nomination of Michael Gunn from Coastwatch to fill the vacant PPN Environment Pillar position on the Meath LCDC was unanimously agreed.

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### **6.0 Reports**

#### **6.1 Management Report**

There were interventions from **Councillors Nick Killian, Maria Murphy, Sharon Tolan, Alan Lawes, Helen Meyer and David Gilroy**. Matters raised included:

**Housing:** Housing needs assessment and strategy, social housing stock, processing social housing applications, independent living units, homeless accommodation, tenant purchase scheme,

**Transport:** Funding for Active Travel projects,

**Planning:** Section 5 applications, public realm plans, temporary dwellings (cabins)

Responses were provided by Fiona Fallon, Padraig Maguire and Martin Murray.

#### **6.2 Report from Corporate Policy Group**

The Meetings Administrator noted that the CPG met on Tuesday June 3 2025, to consider the draft agenda and arrangements for the Annual Meeting and the June Council Meeting.

She noted that the CPG members reviewed the Meath County Council Annual Report 2024. In addition, she noted that the CPG had approved the ICT Acceptable Usage Policy for Elected Members and implemented the Council's retention policy for Elected Members' emails, details of which were circulated to the Elected Members.

She further outlined that the reports of the Housing and Integration SPC meeting held on 17th April 2025 and the Transportation & Urban Regeneration SPC meeting held on 27th May 2025 were noted. In addition, the work programmes of the Climate Action, Environment and Emergency Services SPC and the Forward Planning and Development Management SPC were approved and have been uploaded to the Resources Section of Decision Time.

Finally, it was noted that the Conference and Training Schedules were approved and circulated.

### **7.0 Correspondence**

Noted by the Elected Members.

### **8.0 Notice of Question**

#### **8.1 Submitted by Councillor Peter Caffrey**

*"To ask the executive to please give an update regarding the availability of grants to upgrade and repair septic tanks to all households that cannot avail of a public sewage scheme, for repairs and upgrade to improve our water quality across Co Meath?"*

**Response:**







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All Cllr's receive an email with the "roadworks Programme for Week Commencing / / " each Friday in advance of the proposed works.

For Road Closures all Councillors are notified by email at both Intention to Close & Closure stages.

For Road Opening Licences (ROL), we do not notify Councillors when a ROL is granted as the volume of granted licences in 2024 was 2,399. If we were to notify the Cllrs of every Road opening licence, there would be a huge amount of additional work for both the MD Engineers and the Admin staff.

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Helen Meyer** and seconded by **Councillor Fionnan Blake**. **Councillor Helen Meyer** introduced the motion and provided clarification that the motion referred to roadworks that require traffic management. There were interventions from **Councillors Gerry O'Connor, Mike Bray, and Nick Killian**, each expressing concern about the large volume of communications that would be generated. Councillor Meyer withdrew the motion and agreed to revert to the Director of Services for Transport to agree on a suitable process going forward.

### **9.4 Submitted by Councillor Yvonne Everard**

*"To write to the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine to contribute to the 15% contribution required under the LIS scheme for improvements to non-public roads, over which this department has a right of way."*

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

Meath County Council complies with the requirements set out in the current Scheme. If the motion is agreed, the Council will write to the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine.

**Councillor Yvonne Everard** withdrew the motion.

### **10.0 General Interest Motions**

#### **10.1 Submitted by Councillor Fionnan Blake**

*"That Meath County Council writes to the Minister for Transport and the N.T.A. requesting extra buses and trains are added to their timetables for large crowd events in Dublin City."*

**Councillor Fionnan Blake** introduced the motion. He outlined his experience in using public transport during the recent Leinster SFC Final. The motion was unanimously agreed on the proposal of **Councillor Fionnan Blake** and seconded by **Councillor Michael Gallagher**.

#### **10.2 Submitted by Councillor Yvonne Everard**

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*"To write to the Minister for Justice to address the issue of private companies operating traffic management on public roads without the necessary permits in place."*

**Councillor Yvonne Everard** introduced the motion. She provided details of the statutory requirements as outlined by the HSA and noted recent experiences with long traffic delays. There were interventions from **Councillors Pdraig Fitzsimons** and **Emer Tóibín**, with clarification being sought in relation to the impact on hedge cutting, etc. Councillor Everard agreed to amend the motion to reference traffic management on regional and secondary roads, which was agreed by Councillor Tóibín, as follows:

*"To write to the Minister for Justice to address the issue of private companies operating traffic management on regional and secondary roads without the necessary permits in place."*

The motion, as amended, was unanimously agreed on the proposal of **Councillor Yvonne Everard** and seconded by **Councillor Emer Tóibín**.

### **11.0 Schedule of Chief Executive & Approved Orders (For Information Only)**

11.1 Schedule of Chief Executive's Orders – Transportation  
Noted by the Elected Members.

11.2 Schedule of Chief Executive's Orders – Environment  
Noted by the Elected Members.

11.3 Schedule of Chief Executive's Orders – Housing  
Noted by the Elected Members.

11.4 Schedule of Chief Executive's Orders – Community  
Noted by the Elected Members.

### **12.0 Any Other Business**

There were interventions from **Councillors Sarah Reilly, Sean Drew, Michael Gallagher, Brian Fitzgerald** and **Emer Tóibín** regarding the recent announcement by Wellman International to place its operation in Mullagh into examinership. It was agreed that the matter would be considered at the forthcoming meeting of the Economic Development SPC.

There were interventions from **Councillors Dave Boyne** and **Nick Killian** regarding water services in Trim and social housing in Ashbourne.

The meeting concluded at 4.40pm