comhairle chontae na mí
meath county council

Teach Buvinda, Bóthar Átha Cliath, An Uaimh, Contae na Mí. C15 Y291
Buvinda House, Dublin Rd., Navan, Co.Meath, C15 Y291

Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

Ordinary Meeting

Laytown-Bettystown Municipal District

10.00 a.m., 10th September 2026, Duleek Civic Offices

Cathaoirleach, **Councillor Maria White** presided.

Councillors Present: Sharon Tolan, Carol Lennon, Wayne Harding, Paddy Meade, Stephen McKee and Geraldine Keogan.

Councillors Present via Zoom:

Apologies/Absent: n/a

Officials in Attendance:

Director of Service: Gareth McMahon

Executive Engineer: Paul Tumelty

Meetings Administrator: Alison Condra

Staff Officer: Kate Lomza

1.0 Confirmation of Minutes from the Ordinary Meeting of 9th of July 2026

The minutes of the meeting held on 9th July 2026 were confirmed on the proposal of **Councillor Carol Lennon** and seconded by **Councillor Wayne Harding.**

2.0 Matters arising from the Minutes

There were none.

3.0 Expressions of Sympathy and Congratulations

The Members extended a vote of sympathy to the following:

- The family of Kevin Carroll, Millrace, Duleek
- The family of Ann Cudden
- The family of Sergeant Brendan Cooney, Donore
- The family of Tom Dowdall, Julianstown

The Members wished to send a note of congratulations to the following:

- Cathaoirleach, Councillor Maria White, on her birthday
- Kate Taylor on her retirement from her boxing career
- Charlie Cummins, Duleek on his selection for the U16 Soccer Team
- The lifeguards and beach wardens along the Meath coastline for their excellent service during the season.

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4.0 Statutory Business

4.1 Transportation

4.1.1 To receive an update on Urban Special Speed Limits after completion of Public Consultation

Stephen Shotrall, Executive Engineer, presented an update to the Elected Members on the feedback received from the public consultation and the fourteen locations in the Municipal District where changes were proposed. The new Special Speed Limit Bye Laws will be presented to the Plenary Council in October. Subject to this approval, the implementation date will be 31 March 2027.

4.1.2 To receive an update on proposed Traffic Calming at Northlands, Bettystown, in the Laytown - Bettystown Municipal District.

Gillian Mangan, Executive Engineer, presented the proposed traffic calming measures at Northlands, in the form of speed cushions.

The matter was proposed by Councillor Stephen McKee and seconded by Councillor Sharon Tolan.

4.1.3 To receive a Progress Report on works undertaken/planned for Laytown- Bettystown Municipal District.

The report was circulated in advance and noted by the Elected Members.

Following contributions from the Members, the following issues were raised:

- Hedge and verge cutting on the Pilltown and Sneeogue roads;
- Enforcement in relation to non-compliant landowners regarding overgrown hedges;
- Road sweeping at Donacarney, Slane Credit Union and Eastham Road;
- Inclusive equipment at Laytown playground, additional equipment and a zipline at Lobinstown playground;
- Ponding on footpaths in Laytown and accessibility issues at The Maples;
- Access at Ben Head public right of way;
- Line painting on the Slane to Woodtown road, Lobinstown to Collon road and Tullyallen to Grangeeth road.

4.2 Community

4.2.1 To provide an update on the Slane Community Fund and to seek nominations to sit on the Fund Liaison Committee.

Francis Regan, Administrative Officer, Community Department, outlined the role and responsibilities of the Liaison Body and requested two nominations from the Elected Members. Following discussion, Members felt that additional time was required to consider the terms of reference/scoping documents in advance of the next meeting.

The Members gave their views on what the terms should include, such as rotating representatives, relevant boundaries and the nomination process.

Councillor Harding suggested deferring the item to the October meeting. The proposal to defer was proposed by Councillor Carol Lennon and seconded by Councillor Geraldine Keogan.

4.3 Planning

4.3.1 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 2001-2026, on the proposed development which will consist of: Bettystown Community Building and Amenity Park at Tara Road, Bettystown, Co. Meath. Planning Reference (PT8MH316).

The item was proposed by **Councillor Paddy Meade** and seconded by **Councillor Sharon Tolan**.

The proposal was welcomed by all Members, who agreed that the community infrastructure was needed in East Meath.

4.3.2 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 2001-2026, on the proposed development which will consist of: Mosney Road Footpath Scheme in the townlands of Briarleas & Keenoge, Julianstown, Co. Meath. Planning Reference (PT8MH390).

The item was proposed by **Councillor Sharon Tolan** and seconded by **Councillor Carol Lennon.**

4.3.3 To agree time for the Consultation Workshop regarding the Variation No 7 of the County Development Plan 2021-2027.

The Members noted the date and time of the workshop which will take place after the October monthly meeting.

4.4 Meath Local Sports Partnership

4.4.1 To receive an update on SportUile — a Meath County Council co-funded project delivered in the East Meath/Drogheda area.

MSLP CEO Mary Murphy and Uile Co-ordinator Paddy O'Reilly delivered a presentation on their five-year plan. The programme harnesses the power of sport and physical activity to drive positive change for young people at risk of disadvantage.

All Councillors gave their support to the project and congratulated those involved on their initiatives to date. Contributions from Councillors Harding, White and Lennon referenced the need to include disability-friendly sports, bridge the gap in activities for the 9–13-year age group and provide Gardaí and multi-agency support to reach out to hard-to-reach children and engage those who require intervention.

4.5 Corporate Services

4.5.1 To approve the Arts, Festivals, Festive Lighting Allocation 2026 for Laytown-Bettystown MD

- Slane Tidy Towns - €1,500
- Bettystown Tidy Towns - €1,500
- Duleek Development Association - €1,500
- Laytown Christmas Lights - €1,500
- Lobinstown Tidy Towns - €1,000
- Julianstown & District Community Association - €1,000

The allocations were proposed by **Councillor Wayne Harding** and seconded by **Councillor Sharon Tolan.**

4.5.2 To note the Municipal District Allocations submitted by Councillors on behalf of Laytown-Bettystown Municipal District.

This was noted by the Members.

5.0 Notice of Questions

5.1 Submitted by Councillor Stephen McKee

"Can Meath County Council please provide me with an update on a proposed Pedestrian Crossing on the R152 road outside the Wolfe Tones GAA Grounds, Drogheda to improve road safety and to facilitate safe access to and from the grounds for local families and children."

Response:

Planning permission was granted to Wolfe Tones GAA Club under application 21590 and an appeal was upheld by An Bord Pleanála (reference ABP 310535). Condition No.2 of the grant of permission stated the following:

"Prior to commencement of development, the developer shall submit to, and agree in writing with, the planning authority the following:

1. Details of the proposed pedestrian crossing point on the R152, and
2. Details of the entrance to the proposed development in compliance with the Design Manual for Urban Roads and Streets.

Reason: In the interests of traffic safety and orderly development."

Meath County Council has been liaising with the Engineer for Wolfe Tones GAA Club in relation to the design of the pedestrian crossing and is currently reviewing a revised design, which was received on Monday 10 August. A response to the Engineer in relation to this proposed design will be issued shortly.

6.0 Notice of Motions

6.1 Submitted by Councillor Stephen McKee

"That Meath County Council, in light of significant concerns regarding the four Julianstown Traffic Relief Scheme options currently presented, revisit and widen the option selection process before any preferred option is selected, including renewed public engagement and reassessment of the wider alternatives previously considered; publish the appraisal and evidential basis for the progression or elimination of all options; and, in the meantime, deliver the already approved traffic-calming scheme for Julianstown village."

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

The current County Development Plan includes the following objective (JUL OBJ 11) – "*To examine the feasibility and progress the design and delivery of a preferred option for the Julianstown Bypass in conjunction with relevant stakeholders*." The Julianstown Traffic Relief Scheme, as developed following numerous motions and questions from the Laytown-Bettystown MD Members, is currently at Phase 2 Option Selection. The recently completed non-statutory public consultation forms one part of a structured, evidence-based process to help identify an emerging preferred option. All submissions received will be considered alongside technical assessments, environmental studies and traffic modelling in accordance with the Department of Transport *Appraisal Framework* and the Transport Infrastructure Ireland *Project Appraisal Guidelines*. No final decision has been made at this stage. It is expected that a further non-statutory consultation on an emerging preferred option, which is expected to include active travel/public transport and traffic calming upgrades within Julianstown Village, will take place later this year. The final Option Selection Report will set out the rationale for decisions made during this phase.

Progression to any subsequent phase will be subject to Department of Transport approvals and, if the scheme proceeds, a statutory public consultation as part of the formal planning process.

The motion, together with supporting information, was proposed by **Councillor Stephen**

McKee and seconded by **Councillor Carol Lennon.**

Following discussion between the Elected Members, **Councillor McKee** requested that a vote be taken on the matter. The vote was as follows:

For the Motion: Councillors McKee, Keoghan, Lennon, White.

Against the Motion: Councillors Tolan and Meade.

Absent : Councillor Harding.

7.0 Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

8.0 Any Other Business

Meeting regarding the Drogheda Settlement Plan.

A meeting between the Laytown-Bettystown and Drogheda Municipal District Members has been provisionally arranged for Wednesday 23 September. Once finalised, the details and agenda will be circulated to the Members.

Councillor Lennon sought information as to why the bus stops in Donacarney were repositioned and the rationale for these changes.

Councillor Paddy Meade raised the issue of water outages in Lobinstown.

The meeting concluded at 12.39 p.m.

Signed:

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Cathaoirleach