



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

Navan Municipal District

Ordinary Meeting

10:00 a.m., 19th October 2016, Navan Civic Offices

An Meára, **Councillor Francis Deane**, presided.

Councillors Present: Sinéad Burke, Wayne Forde, Joe Reilly.

Apologies: Councillors Pdraig Fitzsimons, Jim Holloway, Tommy Reilly.

Officials in Attendance:

Director of Service: Kevin Stewart

Meetings Administrator: Claire King

Senior Executive Engineer: Fiona Beers

Executive Engineer: Noel Finnegan

Staff Officer: Triona Keating

1 Confirmation of Minutes

1.1 Confirmation of minutes of Ordinary Meeting held on 21st September, 2016.

The Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 21st September 2016 were adopted on the proposal of **Councillor Wayne Forde** and seconded by **Councillor Sinéad Burke**.

2 Matters arising from the Minutes

There were no matters arising.

3 Expressions of Sympathy and Congratulations

Sympathy was extended to:



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

- The family of the late Brendan Cahill, former Sub-Station Officer at Navan Fire Station and Meath GAA Captain;
- The family of the late Paddy Clarke, St. Brigid's Villas, Navan.

Congratulations were extended to:

- Dr. Kate McGarry on becoming President of the Irish Heart Foundation;
- Eilis Sheehy, LMFM on her recent PPI Radio Award.

4 To receive an update on the SIRO project in Navan.

Stephen O'Connor, Director of Corporate Affairs, SIRO delivered a presentation to the meeting, which included the background to the launch of SIRO in 2015 and the objectives and benefits in terms of high speed broadband provision. It was pointed out that surveys would commence in Navan before the end of the year, with construction works due to commence in Q2 2017 for an estimated 6-8 months, with approximately 10,000 homes to be given access to fibre optic broadband, representing an investment of approximately €10 million. Whilst some inconvenience was likely, SIRO would work closely with the Council and other relevant bodies to minimise any disruption. The business model was also outlined, in terms of the role of ISPs in retailing the service to householders. The presentation concluded with reference to the objectives contained in the National Broadband Plan and a commitment to return early in 2017 to provide an update.

Matters raised by Councillors included:

- The impact of high speed broadband on employment creation and the plans for establishing a digital hub in the Meath Enterprise Centre – the levels of online expenditure in Ireland was highlighted, much of which is spent abroad, as was the importance of SMEs increasing and improving their online presence. The contribution of broadband availability in regional towns to balanced regional employment was underlined. It was confirmed that SIRO works in partnership with key national, regional and local economic development agencies, including the LEOs.
- The use of the MAN system – it was pointed out that the MAN system may be used if appropriate.



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

- The retail price to customers and the availability of the service – it was pointed out that SIRO would not set the price but it was likely that it would be similar to current prices but for an improved service in order to increase market penetration and due to the wholesale price being similar to the current offering. It was also confirmed that once the infrastructure is made available in an area, retailers can serve individual homes with no physical works being required on their part.
- The need to coordinate any associated infrastructural works with other planned works.
- The lifespan of the infrastructure being introduced – it was pointed out that, whilst the electrical units at either end of the fibre optic cable may need to be updated in time, the cable itself is unlikely to become obsolete.

The Mayor and Councillors thanked Stephen for the update and welcomed this project to Navan.

5 Disposal of Land pursuant to the provisions of Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001

- 5.1 This was agreed on the proposal of **Councillor Sinéad Burke** and seconded by **Councillor Wayne Forde**.

6 Statutory Business

6.1 Corporate Services

- 6.1.1 To receive an update on the Navan Christmas Market.

Dara McGowan, Senior Executive Officer, Corporate Services provided a verbal update to the meeting, which included the following points:

- The necessary road closure for Cornmarket will be advertised in this week's Meath Chronicle, the marquee and lights are ordered, and agreement has been reached with the Chamber of Commerce and businesses in the Cornmarket.



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

- The initial plan was for 20/30 stalls available free of charge for local food and arts/crafts businesses and contact has since been made with all relevant groups but the response had indicated a minimum take-up.
- The services of an event manager, with experience in similar events in places such as Mullingar, has now been engaged to assist in ensuring that stalls would be occupied for a fee of €40 per day, thereby covering the costs of the service.
- The timeframe for the market has also been reduced in response to feedback received and will now be open the weekend before Christmas, i.e. 16th – 18th December inclusive.
- The crib and tree will be located on Kennedy Road.

Matters raised by Councillors included;

- The appropriateness of the timeframe – it was suggested that the dates selected may not be long enough and/or not close enough to Christmas but it was also pointed out that it should not be on too long either if footfall was not ideal and that other retailers would be available during the run up to Christmas.
- The improvements that have been made to the Navan Christmas Campaign, the role of the local authority in achieving these improvements and the length of time it takes for such a festival to become well established.

The Mayor and Councillors thanked Dara for the update.

6.1.2 To note Municipal District Allocations submitted by Councillors on behalf of Navan Municipal District.

The list of allocations, circulated in advance, was noted.

6.2 Transportation



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

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

The report had been circulated in advance and matters raised by Councillors included:

- The possibility of having the road cleaned at the entrance to Canterbrook – it was agreed to check this.
- Welcomed the works undertaken at Clusker Park, Blackcastle, Aisling Place and Woodlands.

7 Notice of Question

7.1 Submitted by Councillor Wayne Forde

“Can the concerns of the residents of Dunmoe in relation to the realignment of the N51 be addressed, these concerns being:

1. Where the boundary fence has been marked on people's property, i.e. it exceeds the 2.5 metre hard shoulder and 3 metres grass verge that the planning application says will be under the CPO and also exceeds the 8 metre clear zone, which residents were not told about until 3 to 4 weeks ago, by up to 5 or 6 metres into their property and the residents are not happy
2. Safety issues of residents being confined to a cul de sac who want access directly onto the main road?”

Response:

It is intended to bring a related item to the November Navan Municipal District meeting and these issues will be dealt with at that time.

The response was noted.

7.2 Submitted by Councillor Francis Deane



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

“What is the up-to-date position regarding work commencement dates for the housing estates that have been taken in charge by Meath County Council, in particular Ferndale, Blackwater Abbey and Blackwater Drive and will tree pruning in Ferndale be included in the works programme?”

Response:

Following the submission of valid residential taking in charge applications and a subsequent tendering process, Meath County Council will appoint PD Contractors Ltd., on the 13th October 2016, to carry out remedial works to bring Ferndale Estate, Blackwater Abbey and Blackwater Drive, Navan up to the standard of Meath County Council. It is the Council's intention to have these works complete before the end of this year. Please find attached the report for the Taking in Charge of Ferndale Estate, including the list of remedial works, as presented to the Navan Municipal District January 2016 meeting.

The response was noted.

8 Notice of Motion

8.1 Submitted by Councillor Wayne Forde

"Can I ask the Executive to review existing public lighting in Ferndale estate with a view to enhancing and improving public lighting in Ferndale for public safety."

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

The public lighting in Ferndale estate in Navan was installed in accordance with the relevant British Standards for housing estates at the time of its construction. The Public Lighting Section has requested, as part of the remedial works to take place in this estate, for all trees which currently impinge the existing public lighting units to be removed and cut back. This measure will improve the overall lighting levels in this estate. There are no plans at present to upgrade the lighting in this estate, due to lack of funding availability.

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Wayne Forde** and seconded by **Councillor Sinéad Burke**.



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

It was requested that communication with residents in all affected areas take place prior to any trees being removed or cut back.

The motion was adopted.

8.2 Submitted by Councillor Wayne Forde

"Can I call on the Executive to construct a footpath from between Numbers 10 and 11, Silverlawns through the 4 houses in Abbeylands for public safety."

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

The request for the installation of a footpath in front of four houses on the Rathaldron Road, whose boundaries abut the carriageway, will be added to the list of new works requests, from which a programme of works will be drawn up based on the prioritisation of schemes following an engineering screening/evaluation assessment.

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Wayne Forde** and seconded by **Councillor Francis Deane**.

The motion was adopted.

8.3 Submitted by Councillor Francis Deane

"That Navan Municipal District, while the Healthy Town initiative is ongoing, will introduce a 'NO SMOKING' ban in the children's playgrounds at Blackwater Park and Boreen Keel."

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

The Meath County Council Parks Bye-Laws 2014, which regulate the use and enjoyment of parks, playgrounds, playing pitches and multi-use games areas owned by, controlled by or in the charge of Meath County Council, came into force on 1st September 2014, and includes the following general regulation in relation to persons using a park, etc.:



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

- *No person shall smoke tobacco or tobacco related products including cigarettes, cigars or pipes in a playground area, or within close proximity to children's play equipment.*

Playground signs that include 'No Smoking' graphics have been erected in every Meath County Council playground. The Bye-Laws have been included on two additional large signs in Blackwater Park, both in Irish and English.

This issue will be raised at the next meeting of the Environment SPC on 28th October next with a view to considering whether additional signage is required.

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Francis Deane** and seconded by **Councillor Joe Reilly**.

The motion was adopted.

8.4 Submitted by Councillor Francis Deane

"I call on Meath County Council to upgrade the footpaths from St Paul's School to Blackwater Park to blend in with the proposed pedestrian lights due to be installed on the Ratholdron Road. The footpath in question services no fewer than five housing estates in this location which is en route to the town centre as well as several local schools for numerous pedestrians."

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

The upgrading of the footpaths on the Rathaldron Road from St. Paul's School to Blackwater Park is not included in this year's Schedule of Municipal District Works, but it will be added to the list of maintenance works required, and can be considered for future programmes of works, which will be dependent on available funding and based on the prioritisation of schemes following an engineering screening/evaluation assessment.

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Francis Deane** and seconded by **Councillor Wayne Forde**.

The motion was adopted.



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

9 Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

10 Any Other Business

10.1 Councillor Wayne Forde raised the following issues:

10.1.1 The possibility of applying for emergency funding to construct a pedestrian crossover on the N3 to access Abbey House Medical Centre/Navan Shopping Centre – it was pointed out that, notwithstanding recent events, the statistics indicated that there were relatively few incidents at this location but that investigations were underway into the recent incident and this would inform any future measures to be implemented.

10.1.2 The possibility of erecting bollards at the square in Navan to prevent parking on footpaths.

10.1.3 The views of residents in supporting the closure of the alleyways in Ferndale and Silverlawns – it was pointed out that a process had to be followed in terms of this matter and that there were other considerations, including the services that run along the alleyways. It was also confirmed that a proposed solution had been put to residents, if the other issues could be overcome, and that a response was awaited.

10.1.4 The opposition of residents to trees having been cut in Reask.

10.2 Councillor Joe Reilly raised the following issues:

10.2.1 The need to deliver strategic infrastructure in Navan, including the road over the Blackwater and the continuation of the road from Springfield Glen to the Trim Road, to facilitate the development of zoned lands for housing and to meet the needs of Navan in terms of traffic management.

10.2.2 The need for the Council to engage with the relevant stakeholders to provide a 5 star hotel in the town to ensure adequate accommodation, event and conference facilities – it was agreed that discussions would take place with the



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

Irish Hotels Federation but that, ultimately, this was a matter for a private sector operator.

10.2.3 That an update be provided on the Navan Public Realm Plan at the November meeting.

10.2.4 That a special meeting of Navan Municipal District be arranged for early 2017 to discuss the future of Navan and how it should be developed.

10.2.5 Expressed disappointment that only 4 houses are to be constructed in 2017 in Navan on an infill site despite the existence of other infill sites being owned by the Council in the town.

10.3 Councillor Francis Deane raised the following issues:

10.3.1 The derelict house at Abbeylands that had been burnt down last week.

10.3.2 Requested that a letter issue to Irish Rail requesting that the section of wall on the Rathaldron Road at the entrance to Tailteann Drive be removed and replaced.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed:

An Meára