



Clár / Meeting Agenda

Ordinary Meeting

29th January 2024 @ 1.30p.m.

European Commission Offices, Grange, Co. Meath

Public Health Guidance

This meeting is being held in line with the *Transitional Protocol – Good Practice Guidance for Continuing to Prevent the Spread of COVID-19*, which outlines advice and best practice guidance to maintain infection prevention and control and other measures for the safe operating of workplaces.

Please note the following:

- Attendance at the European Commission Offices in Grange is open to Elected Members, designated Council officials and members of the press and public;
- The wearing of a face-mask is not required but may be worn.

Meeting attendees are requested to:

- Adhere to public health best practice in relation to cough and sneeze etiquette and hand hygiene and sanitation;
- Adhere to meeting and venue housekeeping arrangements including fire safety arrangements as briefed at the start of the meeting;
- Refrain from bringing food or drink, except bottled water, into the meeting room;
- Adhere to information displayed on signage and to the advice of meeting staff.

1 Confirmation of Minutes

1.1 Confirmation of minutes of Ordinary meeting held on 4th December 2023.

2 Matters arising from the Minutes

3 Expressions of Sympathy and Congratulations (Standing Order 11.5 – Expressions of Congratulations to be submitted in writing by 10am, January 29)

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

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- 4.1 Disposal of 0.219 Ha of land at Ferganstown and Ballymacon, Co. Meath, in accordance with Section 211 of Planning & Development Act 2000 and subject to the provisions of Section 183 of the Local Government Act 2001. The lands are not affected by the provisions of the Land Development Agency Act 2021.

5 Statutory Business

5.1 Corporate Affairs and Governance

- 5.1.1 In accordance with Section 134A of the Local Government Act 2001, as amended, to adopt the Meath County Council Annual Service Delivery Plan 2024.
- 5.1.2 To nominate and approve new member of Boyne Valley Tourism, following the resignation of Councillor Tom Behan.

5.2 Planning

- 5.2.1 To approve the County Meath Heritage Strategy 2024-2030.
- 5.2.2 To receive a presentation on proposed Variations No. 1, 2, 3 and 4 of the Meath County Development Plan 2021 – 2027.
- Variation No. 1 Text Based Changes
 - Variation No. 2 Mapping Corrections
 - Variation No. 3 South Drogheda
 - Variation No. 4 Core Strategy and Zoning

5.3 Climate Action and Environment

- 5.3.1 In accordance with Section 6 of the Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Act 2021, to approve Meath County Council's Climate Action Plan 2024 – 2029.

5.4 Transportation

- 5.4.1 To enter into an agreement with Louth County Council pursuant to Section 85 of the Local Government Act, 2001, whereby Louth County Council will exercise the statutory powers, functions and duties of Meath County Council to deliver an extension of the current Active Travel measures on the R132, further south along the R132 towards Southgate Roundabout (=600m in length) which is displayed in the Schedule to the Agreement.

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6 Reports

- 6.1 Chief Executive's Report
- 6.2 Report from the Corporate Policy Group
- 6.3 Report from the Protocol Committee

7 Correspondence

- 7.1 Correspondence from Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage in response to Notice of Motion 10.5 adopted at the September 2023 meeting of the full Council.

“That Meath County Council write to Darragh O'Brien TD, Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to request that he increase the maximum grant payable for homes older than 12 months, under the Housing Adaptation Grant for people with disabilities from €30,000 to €40,000 and to increase the central funding of €83 million for Housing Adaptation Grants for people with a disability to €150 million in 2024.”

- 7.2 Correspondence from Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment in response to Notice of Motion 10.6 adopted at the November 2023 meeting of the full Council.

“That Meath County Council writes to Eirgrid and Minister Eamon Ryan TD, Minister for Environment, Climate, Communications and Transport outlining our opposition to the construction of the over ground North South Interconnector.”

- 7.3 Correspondence from Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage in response to Notice of Motion 10.2 adopted at the October 2023 meeting of the full Council.

“That Meath County Council write to the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage, Darragh O'Brien TD, to request that, due to a shortage in availability of GPs, that he amends the requirements of the HMD – Form 1 so that one healthcare professional can complete the form instead of the current arrangement that requires completion by two healthcare professionals.”

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- 7.4 Correspondence from Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine in response to Notice of Motion 10.3 adopted at the March 2023 meeting of the full Council.

“That Meath County Council writes to the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine, calling on them to develop a grant assistance programme to help landowners identify, and responsibly manage roadside trees that pose a threat to road users and associated infrastructure in light of the growing risk of Ash Dieback and the ever-increasing severity of winter storms.”

- 7.5 LG 07/2023 – Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage re. Domestic subsistence rates for elected members of local authorities.
- 7.6 Correspondence from Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage re. Allowances and Expenses of Elected Members.
- 7.7 Circular Letter: F.01/24 – Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage re. 31 January 2024 deadline for the reporting of political donations by elected members.
- 7.8 LG 02/2024 – Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage re. Annual Declarations and Public Registers.
- 7.9 Correspondence from Waterways Ireland re. Phase 2 Public Consultation on draft Shannon Navigation Bye-laws and Canal Bye-laws.
- 7.10 Correspondence from Senator Victor Boyhan re. Government Legislation Programme Spring 2024.
- 7.11 Circular L1/24 – Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage re. Multi-annual Rural Water Programme 2024-2026 – Applications for Funding.

8 Notice of Question

8.1 Submitted by Councillor Michael Gallagher

“When granting planning permission for multiple units, does Meath County Council include a planning condition that residential units cannot be sold in bulk to investors?”

8.2 Submitted by Councillor Helen Meyer

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“What steps has Meath County Council taken to satisfy themselves that the DAA is not in breach of planning conditions, particularly in relation to aircraft noise, in the operation of Dublin Airport as it relates to County Meath?”

8.3 Submitted by Councillor Nick Killian

“Can the planning section please provide the number of Solar Farms granted permission in Ratoath and Ashbourne Municipal Districts to include the acreage of each Solar Farm granted and the number of commencement notices received to end of 2023?”

8.4 Submitted by Councillor Trevor Golden

“How many houses were voluntarily surrendered back to the Council over the last 10 years?”

9 Notice of Motion

9.1 Submitted by Councillor Michael Gallagher

“To call on Meath County Council to build social and affordable homes and to supply affordable sites in rural villages in the county, where there is little or no private residential development taking place.”

9.2 Submitted by Councillor Helen Meyer

“To call on Meath County Council to conduct an independent noise assessment of aircraft noise in County Meath, related to Dublin Airport.”

9.3 Submitted by Councillor Sharon Tolan

“In light of the recent long-awaited publication of the National Cycle Network by the Minister for Transport, I call on Meath County Council to seek approval and funding from TII to begin planning for the East Coast Trail to link with the Fingal Coastal Way and the Boyne Greenway Oldbridge to Navan Schemes.”

9.4 Submitted by Councillor Aisling Dempsey

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“That Meath County Council supply at least one salt bin and one salt fill per year to every housing estate, place of worship and public building in the county”.

9.5 Submitted by Councillor Trevor Golden

“We call on Meath County Council to examine the feasibility of introducing Free Parking for Meath residents, who qualify for the Free Travel Scheme.”

10 General Interest Motions

10.1 Submitted by Councillor Edward Fennessy

“That this Council endorses the recent Amnesty International report entitled 'Israel's Apartheid against Palestinians: A Cruel System of Domination and a Crime against Humanity' and calls on the Irish government to implement the recommendations set out in the report without delay.”

10.2 Submitted by Councillor Edward Fennessy

“To call on the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to introduce measures to remove the practice of assessing Carer's Allowance in the calculation of differential rent.”

11 Schedule of Chief Executive & Approved Orders (For Information Only)

11.1 Schedule of Chief Executive's Orders – Transportation

11.2 Schedule of Chief Executive's Orders – Environment

11.3 Schedule of Chief Executive's Orders – Housing

11.4 Schedule of Chief Executive's Orders – Community & Enterprise

12 Any Other Business

NB Please ensure mobile phones are switched off during council meeting.