

Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

Ordinary Meeting

Navan Municipal District

10.00am, 17th July 2024, Navan Civic Offices

An Meára, **Councillor Eddie Fennessy**, presided.

Councillors Present: Yemi Adenuga, Linda Nelson Murray, Emer Tóibín, Francis Deane, Alan Lawes, Padraig Fitzsimons

Councillors Present via Zoom:

Apologies/absent:

Officials in Attendance:

Director of Service: Martin Murray

Executive Engineer: Shane Durcan

Meetings Administrator: Áine Bird

Assistant Staff Officer: Stephen Carey

1.0 Confirmation of Minutes

1.1 Confirmation of minutes of Ordinary Meeting held on 22nd May 2024

The minutes of the meeting held on 22nd May 2024 were confirmed on the proposal of **Councillor Francis Deane** and seconded by **Councillor Alan Lawes**.

1.2 Confirmation of minutes of Annual Meeting held on 26th June 2024

The minutes of the annual meeting held on 26th June 2024 were confirmed on the proposal of **Councillor Alan Lawes** and seconded by **Councillor Francis Deane**

2.0 Matters arising from the Minutes

There was none.

3.0 Expressions of Sympathy and Congratulations

Sympathy was extended to Brian Murphy and his family, Transportation section on the tragic passing of his daughter Zara Murphy.

4.0 Disposal of land pursuant to the provisions of Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001

4.1 Agreement in principle to disposal of 0.168Ha of property at Ardsallagh, Navan, County Meath.

The members agreed in principle to the disposal on the proposal of **Councillor Yemi Adenuga** and

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seconded by **Councillor Francis Deane**.

5.0 Statutory Business

5.1 Transportation

- 5.1.1 To receive a Progress Report on works undertaken/planned for Navan Municipal District

The report circulated in advance was noted and the members thanked the area engineer and the outdoor crew for all the works completed. An update was sought on the taking in charge of the Priory estate, Navan.

The director and area engineer responded accordingly.

- 5.1.2 To receive an update on the following Active Travel schemes

- Trim Road Cycle/Pedestrian Scheme - Solstice to Beechmount Shopping Centre
- NA7 Trim Road, Beechmount to Balreask Manor Scheme Part 8 update
- NA7 Trim Road, Balreask Manor to Balreask X Roads update to include Balreask X Roads junction
- Pathfinder project, R161 Navan to Trim.
- Update Navan 2030 – Contract 5 construction works.

Paul O'Brien Engineer, Active Travel section gave an update on the various schemes. He said that Solstice to Beechmount SC is the first phase of the Trim Road scheme and is near completion. Works included 1km of segregated cycle lanes and footpaths on both sides of road, upgrade to signalized junction at Trim Road/Dan Shaw Road, CCTV, drainage works, with the ESB to commission the traffic lights before opening to two-way traffic.

The engineer updated on the Beechmount to Balreask Manor phase and said that the preliminary design on the emerging preferred option is now complete and that a Part 8 application is currently being prepared.

The next phase is from Balreask Manor to Balreask crossroads where a consultant has been appointed. The members were advised that an assessment of the Balreask junction for safe travel is part of the scope.

The Pathfinder scheme is a rural cycleway linking Navan to Trim along the R161. Members were told that consultants are currently completing the preliminary design process.

The engineer updated on the next phase of the Navan 2030 public realm upgrades which include Fairgreen, Old Cornmarket, Churchill, Bakery Lane and Preston Place. The works include undergrounding of services, drainage, ducting, paving, resurfacing, public lighting upgrades and CCTV. Engagement with businesses has been ongoing with construction to commence in August subject to NTA approval to proceed.

The members welcomed the updates and commended the works completed to date. The following queries were raised:

- Is this CCTV part of the overall scheme.
- Concerns from businesses regarding the reduction in parking spaces
- Referred to the two-way cycle lanes and will there be safety issues.
- Enquired if the ESB pole located on the footpath opposite Fairgreen will be removed.



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- Commended the landscaping done on Connolly Avenue.
- More buses required for town center with the reduction in parking spaces.
- Enquired when works will commence at Balreask and MDL junctions.
- Update on parking spaces in Cornmarket when completed.
- Referred to Trimgate lane and if this can be included in works.
- Enquired on the engagement with the Businesses.
- Where will the Fairgreen traders be located during the works.
- Is public lighting included along route to the Balreask junction.
- Will the works have an impact on businesses on Preston Place Lane.
- Enquired if the Council will promote Active Travel.

The Director and Engineer responded accordingly and advised that CCTV is part of the overall scheme. That parking bye laws are being reviewed to maximise turnaround of spaces to boost retail sector. Bus routes are being reviewed with the NTA and expansion of existing routes are under consideration. The upgrading of the Balreask junction is being prioritized and will link into the pathfinder scheme with public lighting being provided along the route to the junction. The two-way cycle lanes are in accordance with current guidelines. Parking is not being provided in Cornmarket and Trimgate lane is in private ownership. Engagement with the businesses has been extensive and will continue as works progress. Promotion of Active Travel initiatives is part of the National campaign but can look at leading out on a more locational basis.

5.2 Corporate Affairs & Governance

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

The report circulated in advance was noted.

6.0 Notice of Questions

6.1 Submitted by Councillor Eddie Fennessy

To ask the Executive to provide a provide an update on commencement of council housing projects at Ratholdron Court, Abbeylands and at Clonmaggaden.

Response:

Rathaldron Court – Tender process has been completed and successful contractor identified. Checks to ensure that the necessary insurances and legal obligations are in place are in process and we expect construction on-site to commence at the end of August.

Abbeylands – Tender documentation is ready, and we are awaiting approval from Dept to proceed.

Clonmaggaden – Issues with both overhead and underground services are causing delays and may result in a redesign.

The response was noted.

6.2 Submitted by Councillor Francis Deane

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Taking into consideration the many recent house burglaries and thefts in Old Johnstown Village, residents have asked for an update on when the 64 CCTV cameras will be installed throughout the Navan area.

Response:

The application for approval of the extension to the Navan CCTV scheme has been submitted to An Garda Síochána for consideration and a decision will issue from the Garda Commissioner in due course. Subject to approval of the scheme, delivery of the project will then move through the following stages:

1. preparation of procurement documentation,
2. procurement process,
3. award of contract, and
4. commencement of the installation of CCTV cameras and associated works.

The response was noted.

6.3 Submitted by Councillor Padraig Fitzsimons

With regard to the ongoing and proposed works on the Trim Road, can Meath Co Council give an update on the following:

When will work at the junction at Teach na Teamhrach / Borallion start, will it include traffic lights at this junction for the duration of works. Are there plans to put in place safety measures at the entrance to the MDL at Philpotstown?

Response:

A verbal response will be given at the meeting as part of Item 5.1.2 on this agenda.

The response was noted.

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7.0 Notice of Motions

7.1 Submitted by Councillor Eddie Fennessy

To ask the Executive to carry out a traffic impact survey on the Boreen Keel area. With particular emphasis on introducing a one-way traffic system and a pedestrian safe walking space on the Emmett Terrace Estate.

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

The Transportation department will undertake an analysis of movement through and around Boreen Keel and Emmet Terrace in the context of the wider transport studies that are being undertaken in Navan.

The motion and response were noted on the proposal of **Councillor Eddie Fennessy** and seconded by **Councillor Padraig Fitzsimons**.

7.2 Submitted by Councillor Eddie Fennessy

To ask the Executive to install a slipway adjacent to the new bridge over the River Blackwater. And to engage with the Meath River Rescue, the Civil Defence and the Fire Service to agree the most suitable location for a slipway at that section of the river.

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

The Council in 2019/2020 engaged specialist Contractors to construct 4 Slipways on the River Boyne between Navan and Stackallen and 1 Slipway on the River Blackwater in Navan and following extensive consultation with various stakeholders. Planning permission was obtained from An Bord Pleanála following detailed environmental assessments as both river bodies are designated Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) & Special Protection Areas (SPAs).

The requests from the different groups for an additional slipway at this location is noted, as the Slipway on the River Blackwater, the entrance to which is from Blackwater Park, is located downstream of a fast-flowing weir and does not allow for easy access upstream of this weir.

As the Members will be aware the new LDR4 distributor road that spans the river Blackwater, from the N51/R147 Kells Road to the Ratholdron Road is at an advanced stage of development and while it is not possible to incorporate a new slipway as part of this development due to the strict planning requirements, the matter can be examined once the road and bridge construction is completed and a suitable location is identified in consultation with all the stakeholders.

The motion and response were noted on the proposal of **Councillor Eddie Fennessy** and seconded by **Councillor Francis Deane**.

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7.3 Submitted by Councillor Francis Deane

I propose that the Council extend the existing footpath on the right-hand side of the Boyne Road, from Glenveigh Estate/Boyne Wood Estate to the new Rowley's Lock development and include a pedestrian crossing to link up with the new footpath at Rowley's Lock.

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

The developer of 'Rowley's Lock' has been conditioned to pay a special levy for provision of footpaths in this area. Meath County Council intend to provide these footpaths once the levy is paid in full and will duly progress same as soon as is practicable.

The motion and response were noted on the proposal of **Councillor Francis Deane** and seconded by **Councillor Eddie Fennessy**.

7.4 Submitted by Councillor Francis Deane

I call on the Council to make safe the hazardous footpath at Chapel Brook Mews apartment complex, Old Johnstown Village. I suggest that installing a new footpath here could be incorporated into the regeneration plan of Mrs Butterly's site.

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

The Council will investigate this location and see if improvements can be incorporated into the plan for Old Johnstown Village.

The motion and response were noted on the proposal of **Councillor Francis Deane** and seconded by **Councillor Emer Toibin**.

7.5 Submitted by Councillor Padraig Fitzsimons

I propose the motion to begin work on the upkeep, maintenance and upgrading of the playground at Boreen Keel.

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

Following on from 2023 Playground inspections and reports, Programmed works for 2024 have commenced by a contractor on maintenance, repairs and cleaning of playgrounds in Navan MD.

The motion and response were noted on the proposal of **Councillor Padraig Fitzsimons** and seconded by **Councillor Eddie Fennessy**.

7.6 Submitted by Councillor Padraig Fitzsimons

In an effort to protect their new common garden area, prevent access to a steep incline down to the

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River Blackwater and stem antisocial behavior in the area, I propose the motion to install a wall or fencing at the back of Silverlawns, behind where residents have planted the common garden area.

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

This is not a matter for the council to install fencing and/or a wall to deter from anti-social behaviour in the area. The Community Section operate various grant schemes in which the residents may wish to explore sources of funding to assist with the installation of a fence for here.

The motion and response were noted on the proposal of **Councillor Pdraig Fitzsimons** and seconded by **Councillor Yemi Adenuga**.

As a fence had been installed previously by the council in this area, it was agreed to look at this again.

8.0 Correspondence

- Correspondence from TFI regarding a motion raised at the April MD Ordinary Meeting.

This was noted.

9.0 Any Other Business

The following items were raised:

- To write a letter to the Minister for Justice regarding the slow application process for CCTV and if this can be reviewed.
- Referred to the Blackwater Park changing facilities and if the caretaking position has been filled.
- Enquired when Dunville Road will open to the public.
- Requested a letter to issue to Ianroid Eireann asking for a review of the security measures on the Seven Arches freight bridge due to recent incidences of rock throwing from the bridge.
- Asked for an update on seeking a third member to sit on the Board of Meath Arts committee.

The Director provided the following responses and advised that the Developer has requested Dunville Road to be taken in charge, thus the Council is carrying out an audit prior to the official opening. He said that the caretaking position is being progressed and that he will refer the Arts Council nomination to the board for consideration.

The meeting concluded at 11.30am.

Signed:

An Meára