

***Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes***  
***Ordinary Meeting***  
***Laytown-Bettystown Municipal District***  
***10.00a.m, 10<sup>th</sup> October, Duleek Civic Offices***

Leas Cathaoirleach, **Councillor Wayne Harding** presided.

**Councillors Present:** Geraldine Keogan, Carol Lennon, Maria White

**Councillors Present via Zoom:** Paddy Meade, Stephen McKee, Sharon Tolan

**Apologies/Absent:**

**Officials in Attendance:**

**Director of Service:** Fiona Lawless

**Executive Engineer:** Eoin McNally

**Meetings Administrator:** Áine Bird

**Assistant Staff Officer:** Stephen Carey

**Clerical Officer:** Kathryn Fox

Cathaoirleach Paddy Meade advised that he had to attend another meeting and therefore the Leas Cathaoirleach was chairing the meeting.

**1.0 Confirmation of minutes of Ordinary meeting held on 05th September 2024**

The minutes of the meeting held on the 5<sup>th</sup> of September 2024 were confirmed on the proposal of **Councillor Carol Lennon** and seconded by **Councillor Geraldine Keogan**.

**2.0 Matters arising from the Minutes**

Councillor White enquired how the schools are chosen under the Safe Routes to School scheme.

**3.0 Expressions of Sympathy and Congratulations**

Sympathy was extended to the:

- Family of the late David Keelan, Duleek
- Family of the late John Naughten, Roscommon County Councillor.

Congratulations were extended to:

- Four-year-old Mila Lipscombe, donating 12 inches of her hair to the LauraLynn Princess Trust.
- County Meath Chamber on the hosting of the Meath Careers Expo
- Boyne Valley Tourism on the launch of the Boyne Valley Tourism strategy.

**4.0 Statutory Business**

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### 4.1 Transportation

- 4.1.1** To receive the proposed housing estates for inclusion in the 30km/h housing estates special Byelaws.

Gillian Mangan Engineer, updated on the Housing Estates proposed for inclusion in the 30km special Byelaws for housing estates. She said that these will be placed on public display and will revert with any submissions and proposed changes for approval.

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

The report had circulated in advance was noted.

### 5.0 Notice of Questions

#### 5.1 Submitted by Councillor Maria White

*"I ask Meath County Council for an update on the work which has been carried out since the motion was passed in this MD in October 2023 regarding road safety concerns, specifically traffic calming measures, a walking and cycling plan, and the installation of safe pedestrian crossings at Inse Bay Estate, Highfield Estate and the Laytown Car Park."*

#### Response:

Regarding the Motion referenced from the October 2023 Minutes; those works stated have all been addressed and executed since October 2023.

#### **Works completed/ongoing in 2024 in Laytown-Bettystown MD:**

- Mill Race Estate Duleek Footpath rehabilitation (ongoing).
- Donacarney - Safe Routes to School (Scoil Realt na Mara).
- Golf Links Road new section of footpath linking existing footpath to zebra crossing.
- Laytown Bus stops – footpath/kerb realignment and 2 x in line bus stops (pending commencement, works to be completed in 2024).

#### **Works In Design/Pending Tender:**

- Mill Road completed design of footpath/cyclepath from roundabout to Gaelscoil an Bhradain Feasa. Currently waiting on Eir to relocate their infrastructure and liaison is ongoing with the Drogheda Educate Together Schools developer regarding their scope of works to their boundary. Its intended works will be completed in 2025.
- Beamore Road – Commencement of design for new section of footpath linking Bryanstown Wood to the existing path outside The Oaks.
- Footpath rehab programme for housing estates 2025. This will go to tender later 2024/early 2025.
- Commence design of section of new footpath on the L5609 to Duleek Care Centre.
- Donacarney – new section of footpath/bus stop on the L5614 between the Old Community Centre and the cottages/Castle Glen.

**The response was noted.**

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Councillor White has sought clarification, as the response did not relate to the motion raised.

### **6.0 Notice of Motions**

#### **6.1 Submitted by Councillor Stephen McKee**

*"That Meath County Council take immediate measures to improve road safety at Beamore Cross and prioritise this junction for Government funding."*

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

Meath County Council made an application to the Department of Transport for funding for 2024 to look at realigning the R108/L-16111 junction at Bey More however this scheme was not included in the 2024 grant funding.

Meath County Council have had subsequent conversations with the Department of Transport in relation to issues at this junction and intend to apply for funding again for 2025.

Progression of the proposed scheme in 2025 will be subject to confirmation of grant funding from the Department, which is not expected to be confirmed until Q1 2025.

The notice and response were noted on the proposal of **Councillor Stephen McKee** and seconded by **Councillor Maria White**.

Cllr McKee introduced the motion and said that this crossroads is very dangerous with numerous accidents here due to the increase in traffic. Cllr White supported the motion and said that interim measures are required. Cllr Tolan and Cllr Harding said that there is poor visibility and therefore the area needs to be lit up.

#### **6.2 Submitted by Councillor Maria White**

*"I call on Meath County Council Road Safety Officer and Engineers to assess traffic hazards at the school location in Laytown and provide solutions without delay."*

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

The recent delivery of the Tara Road has provided active travel infrastructure in the vicinity of the schools, raised zebra crossings (Belisha beacons) on the four arms of the roundabout and outside Colaiste na hInse, and a push button pedestrian crossing also located in front of Scoil An Spioraid Naoimh. Additionally, there are drop off zones and parking within the school grounds, school bus bays and drop off zone on the link road between the R150 & L5632. The junction of the Link Road and L5632 has 3 ramps, a zebra crossing and pushbutton crossing. The Tara Road carpark is available for school drop offs/collections and has courtesy crossings through the carpark. Advance school warning signs, including electronic signage, is in place at the schools, this can be checked to ensure signs are visible, in good condition, and in the case of the electronic signage, working correctly.

The Road Safety Officer can undertake an observational assessment at the schools during drop off and collection times, and following this, a specific awareness and educational talk to the schools.

The notice and response were noted on the proposal of **Councillor Maria White** and seconded by **Councillor Carol Lennon**.

Cllr White introduced the motion and stated that this is a very busy road due to the increase in traffic. She felt that an educational awareness talk would not be enough and said that safety measures are required to slow the traffic flow. Cllr Lennon and Cllr Tolan supported the motion and noted the increase in traffic and speeding and said that safety barriers are required here.

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### 6.3 Submitted by Councillor Maria White

*"I call on Meath County Council to write to the NTA to suggest the commencement of a new bus service, or adaption to an existing bus route, to access the Tara Road and continue on up the Narrowways Road."*

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

The responsibility for the provision of bus services is a matter for the relevant bus operators and the National Transport Authority (the Authority) in the first instance.

While Meath County Council periodically discusses representations received in relation to new services with the NTA, we recommend that these matters are raised with the NTA directly as they manage all contracts for public transport services, operate the licence regime for commercial bus operators; have responsibility for Rural transport services that are provided through a network of Local Link businesses; and, plan new and enhanced services including "Connecting Ireland". Given their statutory responsibilities in relation to public transport they are best placed to assess demand for enhanced and new bus services.

All requests for bus or amended services in County Meath should therefore be directed to the National Transport Authority. Public representatives can send queries via email to [oireachtasliaison@nationaltransport.ie](mailto:oireachtasliaison@nationaltransport.ie)

Alternatively, written communications can be made to:  
National Transport Authority, Dún Scéine, Harcourt Lane, Dublin 2, D02 WT20

The notice and response were noted on the proposal of **Councillor Maria White** and seconded by **Councillor Sharon Tolan**.

Cllr White introduced the motion and said that there is a lack of accessibility along the Tara Road with no bus service. Cllr Tolan and Cllr McKee supported the motion and said that other areas too need access to public transport.

### 7.0 Correspondence

There was none.

### 8.0 Any Other Business

There were interventions from Councillors Geraldine Keogan, Stephen McKee, Sharon Tolan, Paddy Meade, Maria White and Wayne Harding.

Matters raised included:

- Signage required at Platin cross due to the number of accidents.
- Signs needed, advising motorists of the playground on the Navan Road, Duleek.
- Referred to the traffic lights at the playground, Navan Road which are blocked by branches.
- Barriers needed at Southgate/Dublin Road where motorists are breaking the lights.
- Referred to Lagavooren Manor road which is being used by HGV's going to Boyne Valley foods.
- Enquired if the Laytown overflow carpark can be re-opened in an area not close to the SAC.
- Public toilets need to be upgraded in Laytown.
- Update on the low-cost scheme for Rosnaree.
- Enquired on road linings and when they will be completed.

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- Referred to traffic calming measure needed in Donore village.
  
- Sought an update on who maintains the stream flowing through Eastham Court.
- Referred to trees that need to be cut back in Slane village.
- A layby at Rossnaree needs signage.
- Asked that the traffic lights in Slane be looked at as causing delays.

The following responses were given by the Director and area engineer accordingly:

To revert to the Environment section and ask if areas of the Laytown carpark can be reopened.

Will seek clarification on who maintains the stream through Eastham Court.

Delay in road lining, only the stop markings have been completed.

Trees will be inspected in Slane village; boardwalk works due to be completed in the next month with overlay works currently being done in Seaview terrace.

The meeting concluded at 11am

Signed:

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Cathaoirleach