

Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

Ordinary Meeting

Laytown-Bettystown Municipal District

10.00a.m, 16th January 2025, Duleek Civic Offices

Cathaoirleach, **Councillor Paddy Meade** presided.

Councillors Present: Geraldine Keogan, Carol Lennon, Wayne Harding, Maria White

Councillors Present via Zoom: Stephen McKee, Sharon Tolan

Apologies/Absent:

Officials in Attendance:

Director of Service: Fiona Lawless

Executive Engineer: Paul Tumelty

Meetings Administrator: Francis Regan

Assistant Staff Officer: Stephen Carey

1.0 Confirmation of minutes of Ordinary meeting held on 05th December 2024

The minutes of the meeting held on 05th December 2024 were confirmed on the proposal of **Councillor Geraldine Keogan and Councillor Maria White**

2.0 Matters arising from the Minutes

There were none.

3.0 Expressions of Sympathy and Congratulations

Sympathies were extended to:

The family of Marian Hickey, Meath

The family of Jim McHugh, London

Congratulations were extended to:

Georgia Ryan & the Under 16's Ireland basketball Team

The recent Safe Rules to School opening event

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4.0 Statutory Business

4.1 Heritage

- 4.1.1** To nominate an Elected Member to sit on the Steering Group to provide oversight on the implementation of the Brú na Bóinne Management Plan

On the proposal of **Councillor Wayne Harding** and seconded by **Councillor Carol Lennon, Councillor Paddy Meade** was nominated and accepted the above position starting immediately for the next two years.

On the proposal of **Councillor Geraldine Keogan** and seconded by **Councillor Maria White, Councillor Wayne Harding** was nominated and accepted the above position taking over from **Councillor Paddy Meade** starting January 2027.

- 4.1.2** To receive a report on the submissions received as a result of the display of the Draft Duleek Heritage Led Regeneration Plan

Orla O'Brien, Senior Executive planner presented the Draft Duleek Heritage Led Regeneration Plan. The plan was warmly welcomed with interventions from all the elected members present which included:

- Are the existing derelict buildings being considered in the plan?
- Will traffic calming measures be considered, especially with regards to entry roads into Duleek?

Orla confirmed that points 1 & 2 are being considered in the plan.

Pat Shore, Town regeneration officer also working on the above introduced to the members that a 'Town Team Committee' will need to be established to help in the coordination of funding for the regeneration plan. The Town Team will be led by Pat Shore and consist of two elected members. Expressions of interest to attract others stake holders from the existing PPN to join the Town Team committee will follow shortly.

Funding will be available to help the Town Team Committee, and a Chair & Secretary will need to be appointed. Having a strong committee will prove crucial to the success of funding the plan. This will continue to be an agenda item over the coming months. Councillors Maria White and Geraldine Keogan mentioned how they would like to join the 'Town Team Committee' when it is established.

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4.2 Environment

4.2.1 To receive an update on flood relief measures in Bettystown

Gerry Boyle, Senior Engineer, & David Keyes, Senior Executive Engineer, Environment Management, presented the update on flood relief measures in Bettystown.

Interventions from all members included:

- Disappointment that the report has taken so long as it was more than 18 months ago since the floods.
- Will the report be broken down to short-, medium- and long-term objectives?
- Members asked can the OPW report on the coastal flooding be given to members?
- Would like to see quicker actions and solutions to protect the coastline and houses in Bettystown.
- Can local groups in the community be consulted as they know the area best?
- How can a pumping station be built in the Dunes if board walk could not be built?
- What drains are Meath County Council or OPW responsible for? Is there a list? Do they communicate and work with one another? Drains need to be cleared more than once a year.
- Gabion walls along the coastline are collapsing and becoming an issue of Health & Safety.
- Areas along the east coast that are zoned for housing, should these areas be re-evaluated given the impact global warming has had on the area?

Gerry Boyle responded to the above points, and stated whilst everyone would like to see the above points implemented quicker it is potentially a multi-million-euro project that needs to go through detailed planning and environmental legislation. With regards to the OPW report, Gerry will consult with the OPW regarding its availability. Gerry also responded to Cllr Tolan's comment that the proposed pumping station would be within the Dunes housing estate, not within the sand dunes.

4.3 Transportation

4.3.1 Update on the proposed Housing Estate Special Speed Limit Bye-Laws Statutory Process

Gillian Mangan Executive Engineer, Transportation updated on the proposed traffic calming measures.

The measures were proposed by **Councillor Paddy Meade** and seconded by **Councillor Carol Lennon**.

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

Mr. Paul Tumelty, Executive Engineer, introduced himself to the Members as he will be taking over from Eoin McNally as Engineer for the MD. Members asked that a letter of thanks be issued to Eoin McNally to thank him for his work as Area Engineer.

The report was circulated in advance and noted. Interventions included:

- Thanked the area engineer and the team on the quick responses to members queries and their actions during the recent cold snap.
- Donore roundabout needs tidying
- Members asked that the area engineer work in collaboration with his counterpart in Louth County Council to make improvements to the appearance and functionality of the Dublin Road, as an important economic link between the counties.

4.4 Corporate Affairs & Governance

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

This was noted.

5.0 Notice of Questions

There were none.

6.0 Notice of Motions

6.1 Submitted by Councillor Maria White

"I call on Meath County Council to liaise with Louth County Council to develop and implement an improvement plan for the approach road to Drogheda on the Dublin Road side, to include, but not limited to a repair and maintenance plan for the barriers at the roundabouts."

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

The Eastern-Midland Regional Assembly's Regional Spatial Economic Strategy (RSES) identifies Drogheda as a Regional Growth Centre and is a key enabler for growth in the region. To realise this potential the RSES prescribes a number of regional planning policy objectives for Drogheda including the preparation of a Joint Urban Area Plan (JUAP) by both Meath and Louth County Councils. The JUAP will support the development of Drogheda as an attractive vibrant and highly accessible Regional Growth Centre and economic driver.

The next phase of the process is to prepare an Area Based Transport Assessment (ABTA) and Local Transport Plan which will inform the development of a Draft JUAP for consultation with the public.

It is intended that the "old N1" will be considered as part of this process. A definite timeline

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for public consultation on these documents has not yet been established, however, the public consultation process will be promoted and available on the Council's digital platforms in due course.

Meath County Council is currently considering options for the pedestrian barriers at the roundabouts. Any other necessary maintenance or improvements will also be carried out, including facilitating the installation of a sculpture on the southern roundabout.

The motion proposed by **Councillor Maria White** and seconded by **Councillor Paddy Meade** was agreed.

6.2 Submitted by Councillor Maria White

"I call on Meath County Council to remove the shrubbery and trees on the top of the roundabout at Whitefield during the winter, as it vastly reduces visibility in summer for oncoming traffic and pedestrians crossing at this area."

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

The location has been noted and will be inspected. Remedial measures will be completed where deemed necessary. The General Services Supervisor is aware and will direct a crew to the location when resources are available.

The motion proposed by **Councillor Maria White** and seconded by **Councillor Paddy Meade** was agreed.

7.0 Correspondence

There was none.

8.0 Any Other Business

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- Potholes are an issue on the Mornington Road.
- Now that the refurbishment is complete, when will the road be resurfaced in Alverno Estate?
- In Whitefield can a pedestrian crossing be considered as a lot of children are crossing the road there?
- The panels on the Swim shelters are popping out. Can they be fixed?
- East Meath United football pitch vandalized by cars. Can more boulders be added to stop vehicles getting on to the pitch.
- Can we have a list of proposed bus stops for the area?
- Residents in Beechgrove are finding it difficult to get in out of the estate as lorries are doing U turns. Would a continuous white line or double yellow lines help to resolve the issue.?
- Can additional bins be added in Slane on the Navan Road?
- Foot paths in Lobinstown – road sinking

CLlr Paddy Meade mentioned that the Church of Ireland via the 'friends of Collon' have meeting rooms available for statutory and community groups to use.

The meeting concluded at 10.45am

Signed:

Cathaoirleach