

Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

Ordinary Meeting

Navan Municipal District

11.00 am, 22nd January 2025, Navan Civic Offices

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

Councillors Present: Francis Deane, Linda Nelson Murray, Alan Lawes, Emer Tóibín, Pdraig Fitzsimons

Councillors Present via Zoom: Yemi Adenuga

Absent/apologies:

Officials in Attendance:

Director of Service: Martin Murray

Executive Engineer: Shane Durcan

Meetings Administrator: Francis Regan

Assistant Staff Officer: Stephen Carey

1.0 Confirmation of Minutes

The minutes of the ordinary meeting held on the 11th of December 2024 were proposed by **Councillor Pdraig Fitzsimons** and seconded by **Councillor Francis Deane**

2.0 Matters arising from the Minutes

Cllr Tóibín asked for a follow up with regards to the changing rooms in Blackwater Park. Martin Murray, Director replied stating 'Expressions of Interest' have issued and Human Resources are currently working on this. It should be finalised in quarter 1 2025.

3.0 Expressions of Sympathy and Congratulations

Sympathies were extended to the families of:

Hillary O'Brien, Navan

Thomas Clynch, Navan

Sr Valerie Malone, Franciscan Missionaries of Mary, Navan

Patsy Cantwell, Navan

Greg Lynch, Navan

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Congratulations were extended to:

Meath County Council on the nice festive job on the town and it looked great. Also, the Cornmarket was coming on and would look great when complete.

4.0 Statutory Business

4.1 Transportation

4.1.1 To receive an update on the proposed Housing Estate Special Speed Limit Bye-Laws Statutory Process

Gillian Mangan EE, Transportation updated on the proposed housing estate special speed limit Bye-laws. The speed limit Bye-laws were proposed by **Councillor Eddie Fennessy** and seconded by **Councillor Francis Deane**.

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

There were queries and interventions from Councillors Alan Lawes, Emer Tóibín, Linda Nelson Murray, Francis Deane, Padraig Fitzsimons, Edward Fennessy and Yemi Adenuga.

- Congratulated the outdoor crew their reaction to the recent cold snap in early January and in particular the gritting of paths around the schools in Navan.
- Can a map of where all yellow bins holding gritting salt be made available?
- Can the burnt-out caravan be removed and the area outside Saints Patrick's Park be tidied up? Is there communication between the residents and Meath County Council officials?
- When will the tree cutting and pruning happen in St. Brigid's Villas
- Can the pot holes in St. Paul's, Ferndale and Beaufort be addressed soon?
- Can a letter be written to NTA asking for the N51 dual carriage from the Andy Connolly roundabout to the motorway be resurfaced as it is starting to tear up.
- Can a road traffic warden be reinstated to at the Troytown Road to facilitate school children?

Martin Murray, Director confirmed that the entrance to St Patrick's Park will be tidied up and the area where illegal dumping is taking place will be rectified shortly by making physical changes to the open spaces to the entrance of St. Patrick's. A contractor is due to start shortly. Martin assured the members that there is open and continuous dialogue between residents of St. Patrick's Park and staff of Meath County Council. Furthermore, there is dialogue internally between the Housing, Transport and Environment

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departments to deal with the challenges of litter and illegal dumping at St Patrick's Park.

Additionally, Martin commented that an engineering solution would be more appropriate, rather than a road traffic warden, as a road safety measure for a children's school crossing on the Troytown Road. All other maintenance issues were noted.

4.2 Corporate Affairs & Governance

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

5.0 Notice of Questions

5.1 Submitted by Councillor Emer Tóibín

"To ask Meath County Council how many heat pumps, installed in social housing across Navan in the last 3 years, have to be replaced and at what cost?"

Response:

No heat pumps have been replaced in Navan in the last 3 years.

The response was noted.

5.2 Submitted by Councillor Francis Deane

"Has Meath County Council any proposals or plans for upgrades, improvements or completion at the derelict portion of Academy Square Apartments on the N2/R147 approach road to Navan?"

Response:

There is a planning application currently with An Bord Pleanála for the site, with a decision on the proposed development awaiting. In the interim, we will ask if Planning Enforcement/Derelict Sites can take any action or make a request for the land owner to improve the visual appearance of the site.

The response was noted.

6.0 Notice of Motions

6.1 Submitted by Councillor Emer Tóibín

"I call on Meath County Council to install a bus shelter at Garlow Cross' bus stop to provide shelter from the elements to the many secondary students and bus-service users travelling into Navan."

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

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

Meath County Council provides assistance to the National Transport Authority in respect of the delivery of the sustainable infrastructure, such as the project management of the construction works relating to bus stops and those necessary to facilitate the erection of the bus shelters by the Authority's bus shelter installation contractor. The request for shelters on the R147 at the top of the Garlow Cross is noted. However, whilst Meath County Council periodically discusses representations received in relation to new stops and services with the NTA, we recommend that these matters such as the provision of bus shelters are raised directly with them given their statutory role in this regard.

All requests for new bus stops at locations in County Meath should therefore be directed to the National Transport Authority. Public representatives can send queries via email to oireachtasliaison@nationaltransport.ie

Alternatively, written communications can be made to:

National Transport Authority
Dún Scéine
Harcourt Lane
Dublin 2
D02 WT20

The motion proposed by **Councillor Emer Tóibín** and seconded by **Councillor Francis Deane** was agreed.

6.2 Submitted by Councillor Emer Tóibín

"I call on Meath County Council to trial-run the provision of a 'no turn right' sign on the Dublin Road at Kilcarn bridge, opposite the road coming from Cannistown/Borallion, to facilitate motorists descending the hill to exit onto the Dublin Road in a more timely manner."

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

Data will be acquired in relation to the traffic volumes and movements at the junction between the R147 and L-4009 (Boynehill), this will inform whether modifications are required to the junction to aid traffic through more efficiently. If appropriate, as informed by the data, a trial could be considered prior to any permanent change to the junction layout.

The motion proposed by **Councillor Emer Tóibín** and seconded by **Councillor Padraig Fitzsions** was agreed.

6.3 Submitted by Councillor Francis Deane

"I propose that Meath County Council go further in 2025 to promote our town for the Christmas period. I call for the Christmas Tree at the Townhall, Watergate St to be reinstated, a life size Nativity set, signage to welcome visitors and consumers on our approach roads, as well as extra Christmas lights and decorations throughout Navan, for

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example in Kennedy Road/Kennedy Plaza."

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

Meath County Council will continue collaborating with the Meath Chamber of Commerce and local Traders Associations to implement and enhance the 'Shop Local' Campaign in preparation for the Christmas period. Recent, specifically focused expansions of Christmas lighting infrastructure have taken place, the implications of any further expansions need to be evaluated, as there are considerable financial costs and carbon / energy (including specific power supply) implications associated to same. A specific focused location for the Christmas tree in the Navan Municipal District will be determined in advance of the Christmas season in 2025 to maximise its impact and reflect the recent public realm investments.

The Nativity Set has been donated to the Parish of Navan and its management is a matter for them.

The motion proposed by **Councillor Francis Deane** and seconded by **Councillor Eddie Fennessy** was agreed.

6.4 Submitted by Councillor Francis Deane

"I call on Meath County Council to include a Calisthenics area at or close to the outdoor exercise region in Blackwater Park to further enhance the park's exercise facilities and complement its existing outdoor gym."

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

There is currently no funding identified for a Calisthenics area in Blackwater Park. Should funding become available consideration will be given to developing a Calisthenics area in the context of the overall development of the park.

The motion proposed by **Councillor Francis Deane** and seconded by **Councillor Pdraig Fitzsimons** was agreed.

7.0 Correspondence

There was none

8.0 Any Other Business

Members raised the following issues:

- Members queried if there was any feedback on the 2 hour parking?
- Can an update be sought for the Black water foot bridge and the new cycling lanes between the Black Water Park and the Rathholdran as a result of the LDRF contract?
- Although welcomed, can the timing on the Rathholdran traffic lights be adjusted as they are causing long tail backs.
- Can the kerb in the Blackcastle estate that is acutely sticking out, causing traffic, please be cut out.
- Should road with less business units still have parking ticket machines?
- Congratulated the settlement staff on ensuring all homeless were accommodated during recent cold snap in early January. Can this please be continued in future weather warnings

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The Director responded to queries raised. The Director also confirmed Black water pedestrian bridge and cycling lanes should be open in March 2026. A review of Parking 1st and 2nd draft will be open for discussion. All other maintenance issues were noted.

The meeting concluded at 11.50am

Signed:

An Meára