

## East Meath – North Dublin Grid Upgrade

### Community Forum

7pm, 28<sup>th</sup> March 2023, by Zoom

<b>Attending (members):</b>	Brendan McNamee (St. Peter’s GAA Club, Dunboyne), Helena Merriman (St. Margaret’s Parish Hall Committee), Siobhan Moore (Fingal Chamber of Commerce), Walter Moran (Dunboyne AFC), Sheelagh Morris (St Margarets Action Committee), Liam O Gradaigh (St. Margaret’s GAA), Denis O’Leary (Kilbride Tidy Towns), Cllr Damien O’Reilly (Meath Co. Co), Pearse Sutton (St. Margaret’s The Ward), Rob Webb (Tyrrelstown Residents Community Council)
<b>Apologies:</b>	Philip McCormack (Batterstown Village Enhancement Assoc.), Tom O’Mahony (Dunboyne Community Centre)  Eoghan O’Sullivan (Community Liaison Officer, EirGrid)
<b>Attending (EirGrid):</b>	Grainne Duffy (Community Liaison Officer), Christie Elliott (Project Management Office), Dara McGowan (Project Management Office)
<b>Facilitation:</b>	Harriet Emerson

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### Welcome & Agenda

Everyone was thanked for attending and it was agreed to proceed with the draft agenda as pre-circulated.

### Minutes of Meeting 13<sup>th</sup> February 2023

Those present were asked whether the previously circulated draft minutes of the last meeting, held on the 13<sup>th</sup> February 2023, were an accurate record of the discussions on that evening. This was agreed and the minutes were adopted.

### Matters Arising from the Minutes

There were no matters arising from the previous minutes not addresses elsewhere on the agenda.

### Presentation from EirGrid on Emerging Best Performing Route Option

Christie presented the Emerging Best Performing Route Option identified through the analysis conducted to date and informed by community consultation inputs. This will be officially published tomorrow (29<sup>th</sup> March 2023).

The Emerging Best Performing Route Option is the Red Route. Where there are “bubbles” along the route, these indicate an off-road section of the route or a section requiring more investigation. It is intended that the refined off-road options will be clarified by the summer for the identification of the Best Performing Route Option.

It was clarified that the slides presented by the staff will be circulated to all Forum Members following the meeting. Interactive map resources and the full report explaining the selection of this route will be available on the EirGrid website from tomorrow. A non-technical summary of the report will also be available.

Grainne outlined that there will be further public consultation on this route selection. There will be intensive media and communications work, with leafleting of all homes along the route itself. There are a number of Open Days and Community Clinics planned:

11 <sup>th</sup> April	Scoil Bhríde, Priest town, Kilbride
12 <sup>th</sup> April	Clayton Hotel Dublin airport, Stockhole Lane, Dublin
26 <sup>th</sup> April	The Hatchet Inn, Barstown
27 <sup>th</sup> April	St. Margaret’s GAA Club, Ballystrahan, St. Margaret’s

In addition, there will be four mobile information sessions:

2 <sup>nd</sup> May	Dunboyne AFC, Summerhill Road, 10am-1pm
2 <sup>nd</sup> May	Caffreys of Batterstown, 1.30pm-4.30pm
3 <sup>rd</sup> May	The Coachman's Inn, Cloughran, 10am-1.30pm
3 <sup>rd</sup> May	Sweeneys of Kilbride, Priest Town, 1.30pm-4.30pm

and two webinars

13 <sup>th</sup> April	from 7-8pm
2 <sup>nd</sup> May	from 7-8pm

for which registration can be found on the project website ([What's Happening Now? \(eirgridgroup.com\)](http://eirgridgroup.com) )

Forum members expressed their appreciation to EirGrid staff for the proactive nature of their consultation with the community and the regular information provided throughout. The ability to contact staff, ask questions and be confident of receiving a response is seen as very positive and a welcome change from previous experiences of infrastructure developments.

It was stressed that provision of a non-technical summary report on the reasons for the selection of the Emerging Best Performing Route is very important to make this information accessible to as many people as possible.

There was a query about the issues referred to where the route is adjacent to the airport and how this will be resolved. Christie confirmed that EirGrid have met with the Dublin Airport Authority and that these issues will be addressed in the refined route.

The EirGrid staff were asked whether they were aware of an issue on the L1057 between Meath County Council and a developer in relation to the making good of a road after works, potentially involving the cashing in of the bond held relating to the works as the road is not currently fit for the speed limits. The staff present were unaware of this situation and appreciated the information. They will bring this up in their engagement with the Council.

Grainne indicated that poster advertising the information days (in A3 or A4 size) can be supplied to community groups if these would be useful. Any Forum member interested is invited to contact Grainne directly. Similarly, it is hoped that Forum members will re-tweet and share social media posts to help ensure maximum reach of information to the communities along the Emerging Best Performing Route.

### **Any other business**

No additional items of business were raised for discussion.

### **Next meeting**

It was agreed that the Forum will next meet in person, mid-way through the consultation phase. Forum members were invited to suggest or offer venues that might be suitable. The details will be circulated once they are confirmed. It was agreed that putting back the start time to 7.30pm might mean less pressure for those whose journeys involve heavy traffic. There will be refreshments provided from 7pm.

As there was no further business, everyone was thanked for their attendance and the meeting ended at 8.00pm.