**DUNDALK TOWN COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF MONTHLY MEETING OF DUNDALK TOWN COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, TOWN HALL, DUNDALK ON TUESDAY 22ND JANUARY 2013**

**PRESENT**

Cathaoirleach, Councillor J Green, presided.

**ALSO PRESENT**

Councillor M Bellew, Councillor S Bellew, Councillor M Butler, Councillor M Dearey, Councillor M Doyle, Councillor C Keelan, Councillor K Meenan, Councillor O Morgan, Councillor E O’Boyle, Councillor J Ryan and Councillor H Todd

**IN ATTENDANCE**

J Martin, County Manager

F Pentony, Director of Services and Town Clerk

J Lawrence, Administrative Officer

C Duff, Town Engineer

S Mullen, Executive Planner

The Meeting commenced with Prayers at 7pm

**005/13** **PLANNING AND RELATED MATTERS**

12/125 McManus Tyres Permission for a free standing

advertising totem, Portway Yard, Coe’s Road, Dundalk

There was no comment from the Members on this application.

12/126 John Durnin Permission for revisions to house

type & alterations at 92 Point Road, Dundalk

There was no comment from the Members on this application.

12/127 Joe Traynor Retention of an extension &

alterations to existing dwelling at 80 Woodbury Gardens, Dundalk

John Lawrence advised the Members that this application was incomplete and

therefore invalid.

12/128 Women’s Aid Permission for development that will

consist of change of use and all associated site development works at Monastery House, De La Salle Terrace, Dundalk

Councillor E O’Boyle welcomed this application.

12/129 Railway Preservation Society Outline permission for visitor centre

of Ireland and associated site works at Freight

Handling Depot, Ardee Road, Dundalk.

John Lawrence advised the Members that this application was incomplete and

therefore invalid.

12/130 Peter Neary Retention permission for the insertion

of 1 No ground floor window to the eastern elevation 236 Coast Guards, Lower Point Road, Dundalk

There was no comment from the Members on this application.

12/131 Earl Street Jewellers Retention of new shop front and

associated works at Mint, 2A Earl Street, Dundalk

There was no comment from the Members on this application.

12/132 Parkdale Fashions Ltd Permission for alterations to existing

building at The Long Walk, Dundalk

There was no comment from the Members on this application.

12/133 The Board of Governors of Permission for development and all

Dundalk Grammar School associated site development works and landscaping at Dundalk Grammar School, The Crescent, Ardee Road,

Dundalk

There was no comment from the Members on this application.

12/134 The Board of Management of Permission for demolition of an

Colaiste Ris existing single storey study hall etc at Colaiste Ris, Chapel Street/York Street, Dundalk

There was no comment from the Members on this application.

12/135 Paul Duffy Permission for development etc at

19/20 Park Street, Dundalk

John Lawrence advised the Members that this application was incomplete and

therefore invalid.

12/136 Railway Preservation Society Outline permission for visitors centre of Ireland and associated site works at Freight

Handling Depot, Ardee Road, Dundalk

S Mullen confirmed for Councillor M Deary that a grant of outline permission was an indication of acceptance in principle of a development.

12/137 Dundalk Town Council Permission to carry out developments

etc at Dundalk Town Council Sports Centre, Muirhevnamor, Dundalk

J Lawrence confirmed that the Part VIII report will be on the February agenda.

**006/13** **PLANNING PROGRESS REPORT**

The report was noted by the Members

**007/13** **CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES**

On the proposition of Councillor E O’Boyle and seconded by Councillor S Bellew the Members agreed to adopt the Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the 11th December 2012.

On the proposition of Councillor E O’Boyle and seconded by Councillor O Morgan the Members agreed to adopt the Minutes of the Budget Meeting of the 18th December 2012.

**008/13** **MATTERS ARISING**

Councillor O Morgan referred to Minute No 335/12 and was advised by F Pentony that no date has been selected for the Civic Reception. Councillor M Bellew referred to Minute No 336/12 and F Pentony advised that the Council were actively involved in a tender process relating to the Civic Amenity site and that until this process was concluded an approach regarding bulky waste disposal costs could not occur.

**009/13** **HOUSING PROGRESS REPORT**

J Lawrence presented the report to the Members.

Councillor H Todd queried the Council’s policy with regard to repair requests from tenants who were in arrears of rent. J Lawrence confirmed that in such instances only emergency repairs such as electrical or gas faults were undertaken.

If, however, a tenant was making genuine efforts to clear arrears the Council would consider favourably a request for repairs.

J Lawrence further confirmed that when repairs are necessitated due to tenant negligence that the cost of the repair will be charged to the tenant. Ordinary wear and tear damage will incur a lesser charge.

Councillor K Meenan sought an update on the remedial works scheme for Glenmore and J Lawrence advised that he would come back to Councillor Meenan on this issue. Councillor E O’Boyle welcomed the number of Disability Adaption works that have been carried out in Dundalk. J Lawrence agreed to come back to Councillor E O’Boyle with further information on the Mobility Aid Grants.

**010/13** **CAPITAL PROJECTS REPORT**

The report was noted by the Members.

**011/13 PRESS RELEASE IBAL SURVEY**

The report was noted by the Members. Councillor J Ryan queried the Members views on the report and whether a letter of protest should be sent to IBAL. Town Engineer, C Duff advised that there have been issues of late with the street cleaning contractor’s consistency of performance and that Dundalk had dis-improved from our own high standards.

Councillor M Butler referred to the contrasting findings of the report in comparison with the Tidy Towns Reports.

Councillor S Bellew remarked that the report was scant in detail and lacked credibility. Councillor E O’Boyle queried whether the Council’s Litter Warden could visit with owners of the sites marked down in the report. Councillor M Dearey advised that as IBAL was sponsored by both Government and The Hotel Federation that the Council should advise the Department of Environment that the IBAL reports are not specific enough.

Councillor M Doyle noted that it was important that we have an outside agency auditing us and that we should write to IBAL querying why we were slipping down the ranking table.

**012/13** **PERSONAL ACCIDENT SCHEMES (A & B) – ELECTED MEMBERS**

It was confirmed for Councillor E O’Boyle that cover is provided for the Member but not provided, for example, for a meeting room used by a Member.

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**013/13** **WATER CONSERVATION WORKS**

C Duff advised the Members that works underway at present were investigation works and the main contract would commence in July/August 2013. F Pentony confirmed for Councillor J Ryan that approximately 40% of all water supplied was lost to leakage and that occasional flooding/ponding in Ard Easmuinn / Pearse Park was surface water and not caused by leakage.

Councillor M Butler welcomed the works and commended DTC staff on the recent burst repair on Hoey’s Lane. Councillor M Butler cautioned that road trench reinstatement works be carried out correctly. Councillor K Meenan queried the cause of the burst at Hoey’s Lane and C Duff responded that it was a 2/3 metre fracture of the pipe that was located approximately 2/3 metres underground. C Duff confirmed for Councillor M Bellew that trial holes were being dug to determine the condition of priority water distribution mains and that this project was not related to the lead replacement project. Councillor M Bellew remarked that the texting system for alerting Members could be clearer and identify the person sending the message.

Councillor J Ryan sought a report on the causes of flooding/ponding issues outside No.’s 1-4 and 5-11 Fr Murray Park as he had been advised that a burst main was the issue here.

**014/13** **ETHICS REGISTER**

F Pentony requested return of declarations within the timeframe specified with Peace Commissioner signature as required.

**015/13** **REPLY TO NOTICE OF MOTION – LANDFILL SITE – COUNCILLOR C KEELAN**

The report was noted by Councillor Keelan who expressed gratitude for same and for a presentation to the Members in due course.

C Duff responded that once the settlement survey has been completed P O’Hora can make a presentation to the Members. C Duff further advised that availability of funding for works at the landfill site is a key issue.

C Duff confirmed for Councillor J Ryan that the timeframes governing the aftercare stage were contained within the EPA Licence and Ms Duff would revert to the Members on soil standards.

**016/13** **LIST OF OUTSTANDING REPORTS FOR NOTICES OF MOTION 2012**

Councillor J Green queried a timeframe for commencement of works for Item 17 (Hoey’s Lane – crossing – speed ramps) and Councillor O Morgan queried similar for Item 18 (Greenwood Drive – resurfacing). C Duff responded that no start dates had been decided for these works.

Councillor M Dearey remarked on the Council’s motion of support for Item 13 (Greenway Racecourse).

Councillor M Bellew referred to Item 12 (Ponding at the Marshes) and advised that ponding at Stapleton Drive was also part of his request for report. He further advised of his uncertainty that works had been completed at the Marshes. Councillor M Bellew advised of areas where ponding occurs not included on the list from 2011 including outside Argus Office, Charlie Reillys, Parkes Hotel. Councillor M Bellew advised that the motion at Item 20 (Market Square, additional ambers and black and white lining for pedestrian crossings) also included the lower Clanbrassil Street crossing and he expressed his disappointment that the consultant’s report on Market Square crossings was still outstanding and he believes that there is something wrong with the pedestrian crossings at Market Square.

C Duff advised that the report on pedestrian crossings will be available for the February meeting.

Councillors K Meenan, M Doyle and E O’Boyle agreed with Councillor M Bellew’s sentiments on the Market Square crossings. Councillor J Ryan expressed the view that lack of motorist concern was a contributing factor to the difficulties experienced by pedestrians at this location.

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**017/13** **CONFERENCES / EVENTS – TO APPROVE MEMBERS’ ATTENDANCE AT THE ENCLOSED CONFERENCES**

On the proposition of Councillor E O’Boyle and seconded by Councillor M Doyle, the Members attendance at Conferences listed with the agenda and recorded in the Conference Register was approved.

**018/13** **RESOLUTIONS**

Councillor J Green referred to Resolution of Clones Town Council of 17th December 2012 and proposed that Dundalk Town Council support the motion. The proposal was seconded by Councillor M Doyle and agreed by the Members.

Councillor E O’Boyle referred to Resolution of Monaghan Town Council November 2012 Part (b) – boundary trees and proposed that Dundalk Town Council support the motion. The proposal was seconded by Councillor J Ryan and agreed by the Members.

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**019/13** **CORRESPONDENCE**

Noted

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**The meeting concluded with prayers @ 8.15pm**

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Minutes confirmed at Meeting

Held on the day of 2013

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**CATHAOIRLEACH**

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**CLEIREACH AN BHAILE**