

AGENDA / CLÁR OIBRE

1. **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

Monthly Meeting held on 21st October 2013

(Enclosed/Iniata)

2. **MINUTES – For Information**

(Enclosed/Iniata)

- CPG 11/10/2013
- Dundalk Carlingford/Dundalk Sth Area Committee 09/10/2013
- Ardee Area Committee Meeting 10/10/2013
- Drogheda East & West Area Committee 07/10/2013
- Economic Development & Forward Planning SPC 20/06/2013
- Traveller Accommodation Consultative Committee 05/09/2013

3. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- CPG
- Environment SPC

4. **SECTION 183 NOTICE**

PROPOSED DISPOSAL OF LANDS AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS

That the members consider the Section 183 Notices as circulated on 25th October 2013 and confirm the transfer of said lands.

***(a) Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001
Proposed disposal of land – 92 Sliabh Breagh, Ardee***

***(b) Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001
Proposed disposal of land – 20 Orchard Villas, Termonfeckin***

***(c) Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001
Proposed disposal of land – 56 Gort na Glaise, Blackrock***

(Enclosed/Iniata)

To be dealt with by Mr. J. McGuinness, Director of Services

5. **REQUEST FOR APPROVAL FROM THE MEMBERS FOR THE EXTENSION OF OUR OVERDRAFT FACILITY OF €5 MILLION TO COVER THE PERIOD UP TO 31ST DECEMBER 2014**

(Enclosed/Iniata)

To be dealt with by Ms. B. Woods, Head of Finance

6. **TRANSPORTATION & MARINE PROGRESS REPORT**

(Enclosed/Iniata)

To be dealt with by Ms. J. Martin, Director of Services

7. **PLANNING PROGRESS REPORT**

(Enclosed/Iniata)

To be dealt with by Mr. G. Kelly, Senior Engineer

8. **HOUSING PROGRESS REPORT**

(Enclosed/Iniata)

To be dealt with by Mr. J. McGuinness, Director of Services

9. **ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRESS REPORT**

(Enclosed/Iniata)

To be dealt with by Mr. F. Pentony, Director of Services

10. **ALLOCATION OF MEMBERS COMMUNITY GRANTS**

(Enclosed/Iniata)

To be dealt with by Mr. P. Donnelly, Senior Executive Officer

11. **CONFERENCES / EVENTS**

To approve members' attendance at the enclosed conferences endorsed by the Corporate Policy Group on 8th November 2013.

To be dealt with by Mr. P. Donnelly, Senior Executive Officer

12. **NOTICES OF MOTION**

(i) Cllr. I. Munster

"That this Council values quality education as a means to promoting personal social, intellectual, cultural and economic development.

This Council is concerned that many young students in Louth are in over sized classes, and many more have more than 30 students.

Louth County Council calls on the Minister for Education and the Department of Education to appoint enough teachers to ensure this situation ends.

We also call in the dept of education and skills to implement a new system that establishes the numbers of new students entering school 6 months before the start of each school year”.

Reply

This is a matter for the members

(ii) Cllr. C. Markey

That LCC draft an appendix to the annual budget document that outlines in greater detail the programme expenditure

Reply

The format of the budget document is set out by department regulations and local amendments to the document are not permitted. However Members will be provided with supplementary information which will provide background to the budget document

(iii) Cllr. E. Corrigan & I. Munster

'As the commitment given by government that 80 percent of money received from local property tax would be spent locally to provide local services has been reneged on by government, we once again ask, that this council now call on government to axe the Property Tax'

Reply

This is a matter for the members

(iv) Cllr. M. Murnaghan

That Louth County Council recognise the fact that broadband and mobile phone coverage are critical elements to the future development of our county. In particular, I am calling on this authority to recognise the fact that North Louth is suffering when it comes to these fundamental pieces of the “new infrastructure” that will drive this region forward. North Louth has a vast number of “black spots” when it comes to broadband and mobile phone coverage. This is hindering business, business start-ups and education in the area, as large pockets of the community have little or no access to either. In order to progress the entrepreneurial spirit that undoubtedly exists within this district, North Louth needs this infrastructure to be put in place. And that this Authority write to the Minister for Communications, Energy and Natural Resources together with the Broadband Service Providers expressing our concern regarding the service coverage.

Reply

The Director of Services for Economic and Cross Border Development is currently chairing a Task group on the Subject of Broadband services. The group is a sub committee of the Louth Economic Forum. The Director will present the draft action plan to SPC and to Council at their December meeting. As is practice the draft action plan will also be presented to the County Development Board at their next meeting.

(v) Cllr. M. Murnaghan

That this authority allocate funding in the forthcoming budget to the Louth Community Men's Sheds. I am making this proposal as the funding for these facilities currently comes from the International Fund for Ireland, which is due to expire at the end of this calendar year. The "sheds" are run by the Netwell Centre, who are devoted to promoting positive ageing within our communities. Currently in Louth there are three sheds, located in Drogheda, Dundalk and in Cooley. These facilities are used by retired/semi retired men, whom come together and share their skills with each other. Retirement can be a sentence to those whom receive it, a sentence to loneliness and isolation. As this authority was a pioneer in promoting age friendly, this is an ideal project for this county to promote and support financially

Reply

Louth County Council recognises that the Men's Shed facility is an excellent service provided in a number of communities across the county. The Council will in conjunction with the facility provider explore opportunities of drawing in funding.

(vi) Cllr. P. Bell

"That this Council endorses the principle of the right to water and sanitation as a fundamental core value within Irish society and this should be reflected as a central pillar in national water policy. As citizens of the EU we believe in the right of all inhabitants to enjoy this right and we oppose any attempt to include water in legislation aimed at market liberalisation. This Council supports the call for the full national political commitment to ensuring that water and sanitation are publicly owned, democratically run and that all in the sector are fully accountable".

Reply

This is a matter for the members

13. NOTICES OF QUESTION

(i) Cllr. M. O'Dowd

What is the insurance position for community and resident groups that maintain the green area in estates where the said green area has not been taken in charge by the Council?

Reply

'Louth County Council cannot insure a property that we have no interest in, and therefore would not have insurance cover for any residential or community groups that carry out works or activities in estates that are not taken in charge. The advice received from our insurers suggests that all resident or community groups should carry their own insurance for any activities they are carrying out in any estate including ones where the estate has been taken in charge.'

(ii) Cllr. O. Tully

"How much income was collected for berthing charges at Port Oriel Harbour Clogherhead for the last 5 years and how much of this was reinvested in maintenance of the harbour over the same period".

Reply

The income collected for berthing charges at Port Oriel, Clogherhead during the period 2008 to 2012 inclusive amounted to €238,259.

The expenditure incurred during the same period was €216,150. In addition, during this period, the Council paid €986,959.71 in Loan Interest and Capital Repayments in respect of the Loan for the improvements and extension to the Harbour.

(iii) Cllr. T. Sharkey

"In relation to the house in Tullagee Knockbridge bought by this council in 2010/2011, how much funding was received from SEAI for energy efficiency works on this house and what works were carried out on this house in the last year and what was the cost of these works? Also, when did council staff decide that this house was in need of energy conservation works, was an independent survey carried out on this house, by which engineer and what were the findings of that survey?"

Reply

“Members will be aware there has been some media coverage in relation to the Council’s Social Housing Investment Programme for 2010. You will also be aware that I directed a review to be conducted by the Council’s Internal Auditors Deloitte. That report has been received and I have now instigated a full investigation into matters surrounding the purchase of the two particular properties involved. All of the appropriate steps and procedures have been put in place to facilitate this investigation.

This will be a de novo investigation – therefore the investigation team will start from scratch. The Deloitte report will not be made available to the Investigation Team, to the individuals involved or indeed to any third party and I have emphatic legal advice to that effect.

This investigation will be carried out in a timely manner however until it is fully concluded the Council will not engage or comment on any matter which in any way surrounds it in order to ensure that the outcome is not prejudiced for the individuals involved or for the organisation.”

(iv) Cllr. M. O’Dowd

What strategy and plans are in place to ensure that Burton Hall Tullyallen does not have a repeat flooding incident as happened earlier this year and in particular what plans are in place to deal with the run off from the main road into the estate?

Reply:

The flooding incident that occurred at Burton Hall housing estate was caused by a blockage at the mouth of the culverted section of the stream that flows through the estate. Runoff from the estate itself and from the adjoining local primary road was not a significant contributory factor. As well as draining the developed areas of Tullyallen the stream drains a significant rural catchment resulting in vegetation and other debris being washed down in flood conditions. The strategy adopted to deal with this is to carry out regular checks on the culvert so as not to allow the build up of debris. The feasibility of providing an emergency overland flood route to bypass the section of culvert in the event of it becoming blocked will also be investigated. A level survey will need to be carried out to assess this.

(v) Cllr. P. McGeough

What efforts have Louth County Council made to force the Developer to provide proper fencing at the so called 2nd Phase of Oriel Heights in Collon in order to prevent this dangerous site from being used for Anti Social Activities

There are a number of unresolved issues in Phase 1 of the Oriel Heights Development could an update on progress to date to resolve these matters be provided.

Reply

Oriel Heights is listed as an unfinished housing development on the Department of Environment, Community and Local Governments National Housing Survey. It has been assessed as a category 3 unfinished development by Louth Co Council. The unfinished part of the development is fenced off with light weld-mesh steel fencing which is designed for and only suitable to short-term use. The developer has been requested to submit a site resolution plan and to date has not done so. No legislative powers have been given to the Councils to enforce the submission of a site resolution. The developer has responded to 3 requests to date, to repair breaches in the fencing, but has not improved the quality or standard of fencing to one suited for long term use.

In relation to the occupied part of the development, the Council has received a request for taking in charge on behalf of the house owners. Roads Section are currently organising a plebiscite under the provisions of Section 180 (2) of the Planning & Development Act 2000 (as amended) in order to proceed with the taking in charge process. Provision is made under Section 180 (2) of the Planning & Development Act 2000 (as amended) to permit the Council to utilise any cash security or bond to bring the development up to a condition suitable for taking in charge. Roads Section has been advised of the requirement to implement satisfactory long term security measures to isolate the unfinished part of the development from the occupied part in the interests of public safety. It is anticipated that such works will be included in the scheme of works that will be carried out to render the development suitable for taking in charge in a similar manner to those works currently being carried out by Planning Enforcement Section to the Woodlands / Rivervale Estate in Dunleer.

14. NOTICES OF MOTION FROM OTHER COUNCILS

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| • Monaghan Town Council | Sept Agenda |
| • Monaghan County Council | Sept Agenda |
| • Carrickmacross Town Council | Sept Agenda |
| • Waterford City Council | Sept Agenda |
| • Offaly County Council x 2 | Sept Agenda |

NOVEMBER 2013

- Limerick City & County Council Sept Agenda
- Dundalk Town Council Sept Agenda
- Clones Town Council Sept Agenda
- Limerick City & County Council Oct Agenda
- Ennis Town Council Oct Agenda
- Leitrim County Council Oct Agenda
- Cavan County council 04/11/2013
- Kildare County Council 04/11/2013

15. CORRESPONDENCE

- Office of an Taoiseach x 2 Sept Agenda
- Office of the Tánaiste Sept Agenda
- Department of Health x 5 Sept Agenda
- Dept Of Education & Skills Sept Agenda
- Dept Jobs, Enterprise & Innovation Sept Agenda
- Dept Justice, Equality & Defence Sept Agenda
- Border Regional Authority Sept Agenda
- Dept of Social & Family Affairs Sept Agenda
- Dept of Education (N. Ireland) Sept Agenda
- Dept of Health x 2 Oct Agenda
- Minister for Health & Social Services N.I. Oct Agenda
- Border Regional Authority Oct Agenda
- Mobile Library Service – Revised Routes October 2013

16. COUNTY MANAGER'S REGISTER

The County Manager will submit the Order Register to-date.