

AGENDA / CLÁR OIBRE

1. **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

(Enclosed/Iniata)

Monthly Meeting held on 15th July 2013

2. **MINUTES – For Information**

(Enclosed/Iniata)

- CPG 05/07/2013
- Dundalk Carlingford/Dundalk Sth Area Committee 03/07/2013
- Ardee Area Committee Meeting 04/07/2013
- Drogheda East & West Area Committee 01/07/2013
- Traveller Accommodation Consultative Committee 10/04/2013

3. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- CPG

4. **TO CONSIDER THE RAISING OF A LOAN IN THE SUM OF €2 MILLION IN RESPECT OF NARROW WATER BRIDGE IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 106 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2001**

(Enclosed/Iniata)

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

5. **DECLARATION OF ROADS TO BE PUBLIC ROADS IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 11, ROADS ACT 1993, SECTION 180, PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT ACT, 2000 AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS**

- (a) The Spires Termonfeckin, County Louth**
- (b) Tierney Street, Ardee, County Louth**
- (c) Rockabill Cove, Termonfeckin, County Louth**

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

6. **DRAFT PUBLIC LIBRARIES STRATEGY 2013-2017**

(Enclosed/Iniata)

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

7. **NOMINATION OF MEMBER TO THE BOARD OF LOUTH LEADER PARTNERSHIP DUE TO THE COMPLETION OF THE TERM OF OFFICE OF CLLR. T. BYRNE – CLLR. BYRNE IS AVAILABLE FOR RE-SELECTION**

(Enclosed/Iniata)

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

8. **TRANSPORTATION & MARINE PROGRESS REPORT**

(Enclosed/Iniata)

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

9. **PLANNING PROGRESS REPORT**

(Enclosed/Iniata)

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

10. **HOUSING PROGRESS REPORT**

(Enclosed/Iniata)

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

11. **ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRESS REPORT**

(Enclosed/Iniata)

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

12. **LIBRARY & ARCHIVES QUARTERLY REPORT**

(Enclosed/Iniata)

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

13. **ARTS QUARTERLY REPORT**

(Enclosed/Iniata)

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

14. **ALLOCATION OF MEMBERS COMMUNITY GRANTS**

(Enclosed/Iniata)

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

15. **CONFERENCES / EVENTS**

To approve members' attendance at the enclosed conferences endorsed by the Corporate Policy Group on 6th September 2013.

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

16. **NOTICES OF MOTION**

(i) Cllr. P. Smith

“Calling on Louth County Council to ensure that in their negotiation with the Dept of Transport in relation to the future of Drogheda Port, the Council demand that any future arrangement in which the Council has responsibility for the Port be such that Drogheda Port is debt free and that monetary provision is provided by the government for the construction of training walls at the site of the sand bar”

Reply

Discussions in relation to the future of Drogheda Port have not yet commenced. Clearly the best interests of the Council and County along with the minimisation of any future liabilities to fall on the Council will be key elements for us in any such discussions.

(ii) Cllr. F. Godfrey

That Louth Local Authorities begin a programme of building one bedroom extensions with bathroom facilities onto Local Authority houses to accommodate sick or infirm elderly people. With an ageing population and Louth being a designated Age Friendly County, we should lead the way in making the choice for older people to remain living at home a reality. Those houses built mainly in the 1950's with only one reception room downstairs, should be fitted with another room that could be used as a bedroom for those unable to get up and down the stairs.

This would benefit the whole community in creating employment through the building programme itself.

Reply

"Louth County Council continually review both our stock and tenant needs within the available financial resources, in this case Internal Capital Receipts from the sale of other stock. On that basis identified need is addressed on an individual basis to ensure best investment of limited resources."

(iii) Cllr. F. Godfrey

That Louth Local Authorities urgently address the serious issues of unoccupied/derelict houses/closed or boarded up houses and properties in the County.

There are thousands of unoccupied houses/buildings/properties in County Louth being vandalised, damaged and set on fire which is costing thousands of euro in

fire fighting chargers and other costs annually. These premises are unsightly and an eyesore in many towns in the County.

The Local Authority must become pro-active and tackle this problem head on - make the property owners responsible for maintaining their property, or pay up or forfeit their property to the Local Authority if the said property is not maintained or charges build up against them within a timeframe.

How many Enforcement Orders have been issued in the past 10 years? How many prosecutions have ensued?

Reply

The Planning Enforcement Unit do not issue enforcement notices in respect of Derelict Sites Act, 1990, instead they issue Section 11 Notices. This notice generally refers to the dilapidated condition of the derelict property and orders the scheduled works to be carried out within the timescale specified in the notice.

Number of Derelict sites on Register

2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
23	21	21	21	18	18	18	22	25	25

Number of Derelict Section 11 notices issued to owners of Derelict Sites

2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
8	0	0	0	0	1	4	6	1	2

(iv) Cllr. M. O'Dowd

That Louth County Council writes to the Office of the DPP to ask what further resources are required by that office to ensure the timely prosecution of those who may be guilty of offences following the planning and payments tribunals and the banking collapse.

Reply

This is a matter for the members

(v) Cllr. P. Bell

"That Louth County Council supports SIPTU's call for Minister Hogan to engage with Local Development Company (LDC) workers and their union to address their issues arising from the planned alignment of LDC's with local authorities"

Reply

This is a matter for the members

(vi) Cllr. F. McCoy , & Cllr. L. Reilly

“To propose that the Ardee Pay Parking revert back to the pilot scheme that was in place for the last number of months and that we adopt the first hour free parking and also the half day on a Saturday. In addition to this, we would put the second hour up from forty cent to one euro going forward”

Reply

Any change in the Pay Parking Scheme for Ardee requires the amendment of byelaws and has a number of statutory requirements including consultation and publication of drafts. The Council are at present reviewing the current scheme.

(vii) Cllr. J. Loughran

"That this Council supports the campaign on humanitarian grounds, to repatriate Michael Campbell from a Lithuanian prison to serve the remainder of his sentence at home in Ireland. With particular regard to the findings by Professor Rod Morgan (Professor of Criminal Justice in the Department of Law) University of Bristol, of the inhuman and degrading conditions in the prison and that this request is carried out with immediate effect."

Reply

This is a matter for the members

(viii) Cllr. P. McGeough

That this council supports the principle that landowners who are victims of illegal dumping should not be penalised the prime focus should always be on the polluter.

Reply

The Local Authority is restrained, and must abide by national legislation and regulations, namely the Waste Management Act 1996, as amended and all associated regulations.

The Waste Management Act 1996, as amended allows the local authority to take action against the holder (i.e. landowner) of a waste, where it appears to a local authority that environmental pollution is being caused, or is likely to be caused by the holding of waste on lands without a waste licence.

(ix) Cllr. O, Tully

"That Louth County Council supports the campaign of the Restaurants Association of Ireland to keep the VAT rate for tourism and hospitality at 9% for 2014".

Reply

This is a matter for the members

(x) Cllr. O, Tully

"That Louth County put in place a proper maintenance program for Port Oriel Harbour Clogherhead and implement same".

Reply

Louth County Council has a maintenance programme in place for Port Oriel Harbour, Clogherhead which is dependent on the funding available. Funding over the last few years, and 2013 in particular, has been severely restricted and many of the maintenance works required can only be carried out if grants are made available.

In 2013 repairs have been carried out on the harbour wall under a grant from the Department of Agriculture Food and the Marine. In addition repairs have been carried out to the crane and orders for repairs to the lights have been placed. The replacement of electrical power pillars is being progressed. Louth County Council will continue to maintain the facility within the budget available and will seek to have this budget supplemented by grant aid when possible.

(xi) Cllr. T. Sharkey

"That Louth County Council ends the current practice of assessing domiciliary allowance as a means when calculating rent in local authority homes in Louth."

Reply

This allowance has never been included in the exempted income, used in the assessment and calculation of rents in successive rent schemes. This is currently an executive function, which will become a reserved function in the near future and implementable from 1 Jan 2015.

(xii) Cllr. I. Munster

“Calling on this council to extend the Mobile Library Service to include Aston Village and Termon Abbey estates”

Reply

The Council's Mobile Library Service is currently being reviewed and a provision can be made to include Aston Village and Termon Abbey Estates in the timetable. The Schools Library van currently provides books to Aston Village Educate Together National School.

17. 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.

18. NOTICES OF MOTION FROM OTHER COUNCILS

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| • Monaghan Town Council | 11/07/2013 |
| • Monaghan County Council | 16/07/2013 |
| • Carrickmacross Town Council | 16/07/2013 |
| • Waterford City Council | 18/07/2013 |
| • Offaly County Council x 2 | 19/07/2013 |
| • Limerick City & County Council | 16/08/2013 |
| • Dundalk Town Council | 24/07/2013 |
| • Clones Town Council | 30/07/2013 |

19. CORRESPONDENCE

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| • Office of an Taoiseach x 2 | July/August |
| • Office of the Tánaiste | 13/08/2013 |
| • Department of Health x 5 | July/August |
| • Dept Of Education & Skills | 06/08/2013 |
| • Dept Jobs, Enterprise & Innovation | 06/08/2013 |
| • Dept Justice, Equality & Defence | 31/07/2013 |
| • Border Regional Authority | 30/07/2013 |
| • Dept of Social & Family Affairs | 23/07/2013 |
| • Dept of Education (N. Ireland) | 02/09/2013 |

20. COUNTY MANAGER'S REGISTER

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