

Minutes of the Statutory Budget Meeting (reconvened) of Louth County Council held in County Hall, Dundalk on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> November, 2015 at 5.00 pm

**In attendance:**

**Cathaoirleach:** Cllr. P. Savage

**Members:** Councillors: P. Bell, D. Breathnach M. Butler, T. Byrne, K. Callan, A. Cassidy, E. Corrigan, R. Culhane, T. Cunningham, M. Dearey, M. Doyle, K. Flood, F. Godfrey, C. Keelan, J. Loughran, C. Markey, J. McGahon, P. McGeough, K. Meenan, D. Minogue, I. Munster, L. Reilly, T. Sharkey, P. Smith, J. Tenanty, O. Tully M. Yore

**Officials:** J. Martin, Chief Executive  
B. Woods, Head of Finance  
F. Pentony, Director of Services  
J. McGuinness, Director of Services  
E. O’Gorman, Director of Services.  
B. Lynch, Financial Accountant  
P. Finn, Senior Engineer  
P. Donnelly, Meetings Administrator

**Apologies:** Cllr. J. Green

**Minute No. 303/15**

**Budget Meeting (reconvened)**

The Cathaoirleach, Cllr. Peter Savage reconvened the Budget Meeting adjourned on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> November and he thanked the Chief Executive and Head of Finance for the information issued in the interim.

**Minute No. 304/15**

**Budget Programme queries**

The Chief Executive and the Head of Finance addressed the member’s questions and clarified a number of issues including the removal of the Library fee, the

increase in the Municipal District allocation from €50,000 to €65,000, the use of a debt collection agency in respect of fire charges.

In respect of the discussion in regard to the allocation of budget for the maintenance of tertiary roads members were advised that recommendation in regard to expenditure on roads came with an engineering recommendation should the members wish to amend allocations contrary to the engineering recommendation they may have to look at policy in regard to same. The matter can it was advised be revisited when the members would consider the annual road works programme.

The debt management and reporting system was set out for members and reference made to the Acendas management tool used by debt collection staff. The Chief Executive clarified that the debt management figures were included in the monthly Management report. It was agreed that the presentation of this data will be examined to see if further value can be added to its content.

#### **Minute No. 305/15**

### **Amendment – Conference Allocations**

**Proposed by: Cllr M. Butler**

**Seconded by: Cllr. P. Bell**

**And resolve**

That the budget be amended to reflect the transfer from Conference allocations the sum of €17,200 to the Members Community allocations.

The amendment was agreed by all and confirmed by the Cathaoirleach.

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#### **Minute No. 306/15**

### **Adoption of the Budget 2016**

**Proposed by: Cllr R. Culhane**

**Seconded by: Cllr. M. Dearey**

**And resolve**

That having considered the Draft Budget, and subject to the provisions of Section 103 of the Local Government Act, 2001 (as amended by the Local Government Reform Act 2014) resolve to adopt the Draft Budget for 2016 with amendment set out above and subject to section 10 of the Local Government (Financial Provisions) Act 1978, determine in accordance with the local authority

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budget as so adopted (as set out in Tables A to F), the annual rate on valuation to be levied and where appropriate, have regard to the base year adjustment determined in accordance with Section 29 of the Local Government Reform Act 2014.

**For:** Cllrs. P. Bell, D. Breathnach, M. Butler T. Byrne, K. Callan, R. Culhane, M. Dearey, M. Doyle, F. Godfrey, C. Keelan, C. Markey, J. McGahon, D. Minogue, L. Reilly, P. Savage, P. Smith, J. Tenanty, O. Tully, M. Yore –  
Total: **Nineteen (19)**

**Against:** Cllrs. A. Cassidy, T. Cunningham, J. Loughran, P. McGeough, I. Munster  
Total: **Five (5)**

**Abstain: None (0)**

**Absent:** Cllrs. E. Corrigan, K. Flood, J. Green, K. Meenan, T. Sharkey  
Total: **Five (5)**

The Cathaoirleach confirmed the Budget for 2016 as amended approved.

**Minute No. 307/15**

**Boundary Commission**

The members were updated on the progress in respect of the Boundary Commission by Frank Pentony, Director of Services. Members noted that an opportunity to meet the Commission members was available to the members on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2015 in the Boyne Valley Hotel at 2.00pm. A facilitator will be appointed to assist the members with the drafting of a submission; the closing date for receipt of same is 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2016. The Commission is to report on the matter by 30<sup>th</sup> March 2016.

That concluded the business of the meeting.

The Minutes were confirmed at a meeting of Council held on:-

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Cathaoirleach: \_\_\_\_\_

Meetings Administrator: \_\_\_\_\_