

**Borough District of Drogheda – October 2015**

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Minutes of the Meeting of the Borough District of Drogheda held in Barlow House, West Street, Drogheda, on Monday, 5<sup>th</sup> October, 2015 at 6.00 p.m.

**In attendance:**

- Mayor:** Cllr. P. Bell
- Members:** Cllrs: T. Byrne, K. Callan, A. Cassidy, R. Culhane, K. Flood, F. Godfrey, I. Munster, P. Smith, O. Tully
- Officials:** Paddy Donnelly, Director of Services/Meetings Administrator  
Gerry Kelly, Senior Engineer  
David Storey, Senior Executive Officer  
Pat Finn, A/Director of Services
- Apologies:** none

**Also In Attendance:** Aibhlín McCrann, Communiqué International

**Minute No. 110/15**

**Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting of 7<sup>th</sup> September, 2015, were confirmed on the proposal of Cllr. R. Culhane and seconded by Cllr. O. Tully.

**Minute No. 111/15**

**Matters Arising**

**Municipal District Allocation 2015**

There followed a discussion in regard to the meeting held in committee at which the Municipal District Allocation was discussed.

**Proposed by Cllr. R. Culhane and seconded by Cllr. P. Smith.**

*“That the €50,000 allocation be assigned to an allocation of €5,000 per member for distribution on local projects as appropriate, and that this be managed in the same way as the current Members Allocation Scheme”.*

**Amendment to the motion was proposed by Cllr Munster and seconded by Cllr Byrne.**

*“That the €50,000 allocation would go towards the improvement of wheelchair access in Drogheda Town”.*

There followed a roll call vote on the matter.

**For the Amendment:**

Cllrs. Byrne, Cassidy, Flood, Munster

**Total four (4)**

**Against the Amendment:**

Cllrs. Bell, Callan, Culhane, Godfrey, Smith, Tully

**Total Six (6)**

The amendment failed.

**For the Motion:**

Cllrs. Bell, Callan, Culhane, Godfrey, Smith, Tully

**Total six (6)**

**Against the Motion:**

Cllrs. Byrne, Cassidy, Flood, Munster

**Total four (4)**

The Mayor confirmed that the motion of allocating to each individual member was approved.

**Minute No. 112/15**

**Request for a deputation from Drogheda Chamber of Commerce to meet the members in regard to the Boundary Review**

There followed a discussion in regard to correspondence received from the Drogheda Chamber of Commerce seeking the opportunity to discuss the Boundary Review with the members of the Borough District. It was agreed following a lengthy discussion on the matter, that the Meetings Administrator would respond to the Chamber of Commerce, outlining that as Standing Orders only permitted a 15 minute presentation at the meeting that it would be more appropriate that a separate meeting be held, to which the elected members would be invited and have the opportunity to discuss at length the Chambers view in regard to the Boundary Review. This was agreed by all.

**Minute No. 113/15**

**Local Economic and Community Plan Process**

The Mayor, Cllr. Bell, welcomed Ms. Aibhlín McCrann who outlined to the members the process ongoing in relation to the development of the Local Economic and Community Plan.

Ms. McCrann outlined to the members that as well as engaging with the elected members, she and her colleagues were engaging with development groups and communities in order to ensure a full and wholesome input into the development of the plan. Ms. McCrann reminded the members of the conference which would be held on 14<sup>th</sup> October, and looked forward to all their attendances at this important event which would lend itself as an ideal platform for members of the Council and community activists to engage in the development of the Local Economic and Community Plan.

The Mayor thanked Ms. McCrann for her attendance at the meeting and encouraged all the members to make themselves available for the conference on 14<sup>th</sup> October.

**Minute No. 114/15**

**Housing and Communities Progress Report**

Mr. David Storey, Senior Executive Officer presented the Housing and Communities progress report dated 21<sup>st</sup> September. Mr. Storey addressed the members' queries in relation to same.

**Minute No. 115/15**

**Infrastructure, Operations & Marine Progress Report**

Mr. Pat Finn, Acting Director of Services and Mr. Gerry Kelly, Senior Engineer jointly presented the September report in regard to Infrastructure, Operations and Marine. The engineers addressed the members' queries in relation to same.

Mr. Finn advised the members that speed limit changes in relation to the Monasterboice area would come before the November meeting of Council for approval.

In regard to the replacement of the North Quay watermain, members were advised that there were no further details from Irish Water in relation to this project and clarification as to when the works might start will be available for the next meeting.

The members raised the matter of the closing of the Abbey Car Park in Drogheda and the effect that it would have on parking facilities coming up to Christmas. The members were advised that the car park had been sold by Drogheda Borough Council to the O.P.W. some years back, and it was now required as a compound to commence work on the new Courthouse in October.

Cllr. Munster raised the matter of a tree which had been reported as being of little value and should be removed. Mr. Gerry Kelly agreed to revert in regard to same.

Cllr. Flood raised the matter of the possibility of writing again to the National Toll Roads in regard to the lifting of the toll during the installation of the watermain on the North Quay. This matter will be examined with the contractor when dates for the works are agreed.

Mr. Kelly advised the members that in regard to the special speed limits in housing estates, the date for receipt of applications had now been extended to 29<sup>th</sup> October. He encouraged the members to activate any communities they were aware of who wished to have such speed limits considered for their area, in order that they may be considered for the first tranche. After this date developments would be considered for future tranches of the speed limit introduction.

**Minute No. 116/15**

**Votes of Sympathy**

The Mayor and the members recorded votes of sympathy in respect of, and to the families of:

- The late Mr. John Duffy, former member of An Garda Síochána who served in Drogheda;
- The late Mr. John Thornton; and
- The late Mr. Derry Quinn.

A minutes silence was held in respect of the deceased.

**Minute No. 117/15**

**Notice of Motion**

**Proposed by Cllr. A. Cassidy**

**Seconded by Cllr. I. Munster**

"Due to the frequency of busses stopping on both sides of the Donore Road at the Thatch, coupled with motorists ignoring the yellow box outside Cedarfield, I am asking for this council to request an engineer to visit the location with a view to suggesting a solution which would prevent residents of Cedarfield being hemmed in."

**REPLY:**

**The location of the bus stops should not result in people stopping in the yellow box at the entrance to Cedarfield. The traffic may be stopping in the yellow box as a result of traffic backing up from the near-by traffic lights. The box is clearly marked and it is a matter for enforcement by the Garda to ensure that this does not occur.**

It was agreed that the Infrastructure department would write to the Department of Transport seeking funding for an offline bus stop facility to improve traffic movement in the area.

**Minute No. 118/15**

**Notice of Motion**

**Proposed by Cllr. I. Munster**

**Seconded by Cllr. K. Flood**

"Calling on the council following on from the vehicle and pedestrian assessment previously carried out at the busy Mell junction (Leonards Cross) to proceed with the recommendations for a staggered junction to be put in place and also a safe pedestrian crossing on this exceptionally wide and busy road by exploring all sources of funding available in order to have it included in the Roadwork's Programme as a road safety priority".

**REPLY:**

**This scheme will be put forward for inclusion under the Low Cost Safety Improvement Works for Regional and Local Roads 2016.**

The time being 8 o'clock the business of the meeting concluded.

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

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

Mayor: \_\_\_\_\_

Meeting Administrator: \_\_\_\_\_