

Borough District of Drogheda – July 2018

Minutes of the Meeting of the Borough District of Drogheda held on Monday, 2nd July 2018 at Barlow House, West Street, Drogheda.

In attendance:

Mayor: Cllr. Frank Godfrey

Members: Cllrs: P. Bell, J. Byrne, T. Byrne, R. Culhane, K. Flood, D. Saurin, P. Smith, O. Tully

Officials: Catherine Duff, Acting Director of Services
Aoife Lawler, Acting Director of Services
Willie Walsh, Acting Director of Services
Mark Johnston, Senior Engineer
Paddy Connolly, Senior Executive Engineer
Alan Sherry, Meetings Administrator

Apologies: Cllr. K. Callan

Minute No. 77/18

The minutes of the annual meeting held on 11th June 2018 were confirmed on the proposal of Cllr. P. Bell and seconded by Cllr. P. Smith.

The minutes of the monthly meeting held on 11th June 2018 were confirmed on the proposal of Cllr. P. Smith and seconded by Cllr. T. Byrne.

The minutes of the special meeting held on 18th June 2018 were confirmed on the proposal of Cllr. P. Smith and seconded by Cllr. J. Byrne.

Minute No. 78/18

Matters arising

- It was proposed by Cllr. J. Byrne, seconded by K. Flood and agreed by the members to include the words “short term” in front of the words “housing rather than emergency accommodation” in minute no. 70/18.

Minute No. 79/18

Fair St Offices Presentation

Gareth Maguire from BDP Architects gave a presentation and answered questions from the members.

Councillors queried whether a historical partnership with Educational Institutions was still in place. Cllr O Tully outlined a previous partnership proposal.

Councillors were supportive of investigating future partnerships.

It was noted that the project would be advancing to Part VIII Planning as the next stage.

Minute No. 80/18

Housing Progress Report

- The need to ensure HAP tenants understood that they could remain on the housing list was emphasised.

Minute No. 81/18

Operations, Marine and Infrastructure Report

Members discussed the report as circulated at the meeting and the following points were addressed:

- It was agreed to contact the relevant bodies in relation to clothing bring banks that are not being serviced adequately, resulting in a rubbish problem.
- It was agreed to write to the relevant Minister seeking the cessation of tolls at Junction 9 of the M1 during the Fleadh Cheoil na hEireann in order to prevent congestion.
- It was agreed to look into the maintenance of the green area at Balls Grove Hill.
- It was undertaken to look into the taking down of the wooden rails at the junction of the Obelisk Bridge, which were then left on the roadside.
- The request for the graffiti plan was repeated.
- The architectural impact study in relation to the Butter Gate was requested to be circulated to the members.

Minute No. 82/18

Sympathies were extended to the family and friends of Noel Hughes and a minutes silence was observed.

Congratulations were extended to David Madden on his retirement as principal of St. Joseph's School.

Minute No. 83/18

Taking in Charge Quarterly Report

It was pointed out that a number of estates were missing from the report and members were asked to e-mail details of missing estates so that the matter could be resolved.

Minute No. 84/18

Drogheda Allocation of Members Community Grants

This was proposed by Cllr. P. Smith, seconded by Cllr. D. Saurin, and agreed by the members.

Minute No. 84/18

Notice of Motion

Proposed by: Cllr. F. Godfrey
Seconded by: Cllr. D. Saurin

"That Louth County Council address the deteriorating state of the Obelisk bridge at Oldbridge, which is in a dreadful state of disrepair currently."

REPLY:

Consulting Engineers, acting for LCC carried out a Structural Assessment of the Obelisk Bridge in 2015 and their Structural Assessment & Refurbishment Report was received in January 2016. The report noted that the bridge is a protected structure, and replacing it is not an option unless it is assessed to be unsafe which is not the case here. The report also identified varying degrees of deterioration on different elements of the Bridge. It was therefore recommended that a rehabilitation strategy be created with an aim to extend the service life of the bridge. The costs were in the order of €570,000 to €770,000 (January 2016 figures). As the bridge links counties Louth and Meath, remediation works on it is a matter for both counties. Accordingly progression of these remedial works awaits agreement and availability of funding.

The members agreed the motion.

Minute No. 85/18

Notice of Question

Proposed by: Cllr. P. Bell

"Can this Council further update the elected members on progress to date regarding the necessary refurbishment of the Aura Leisure Centre in Drogheda?"

REPLY:

On 8th June 2018 Louth County Council issued a Request for Tender for the services of an Architectural Design Team to oversee the refurbishment/replacement of wet area changing villages and upgrade of facilities catering for people with disabilities in both Drogheda and Dundalk Swimming pools with a closing date for responses of 29/6/18.

The members noted the reply.

The meeting then concluded.

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

Date: _____

Mayor: _____

Meeting Administrator: _____