

Borough District of Drogheda – December 2022

Minutes of the Meeting of the Borough District of Drogheda held in Governors House, Millmount, Drogheda, on Monday 5th December 2022 at 4.15 p.m.

In attendance:

Cathaoirleach: Mayor Cllr Michelle Hall

Members: Councillor(s) James Byrne, Joanna Byrne, Kevin Callan, Tom Cunningham, Fiachra MacRaghnaill Paddy McQuillan, Declan Power, Pio Smith

Apologies: Councillor(s) Eileen Tully

Officials: Gráinne Tuomey, Meetings Administrator
Paddy Donnelly, Director of Services
Mark Johnson, Senior Engineer
John O'Hagan, Senior Engineer

Minute No. 111/22

Confirmation of Minutes Ordinary Meeting

The minutes of the monthly meeting held on Monday 7th November 2022 were confirmed on the **Proposal of Cllr Pio Smith**
Seconded by Cllr Joanna Byrne
And approved.

Minute No.112/22

Matters Arising

Paddy Donnelly Director of Services referring to **Minute no. 101/22** advised Members that 80% of new tenants are now requesting pre-paid meters and these are provided on request. No data is held on whether they change back thereafter.

Minute No.113/22

Adoption of the Borough District of Drogheda Parking Control (Pay Parking) (Parking Fee Amendment) Bye-Laws 2022 under Section 36 of the Road Traffic Act 1994

Adoption of the Bye-laws as set out before Members was
Proposed by: Cllr Kevin Callan
Seconded by: Cllr Declan Power
But objected to by Cllr James Byrne
An indepth discussion then followed.

Paddy Donnelly, Director of Services on questioning, confirmed to Members that they were ratifying onstreet parking to balance the revenue budget.

A roll call vote was held as follows:

COUNCILLOR	FOR	AGAINST	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
James Byrne		1		
Joanna Byrne		1		
Kevin Callan	1			
Tom Cunningham		1		
Michelle Hall	1			
Fiachra Mac Raghnaill	1			
Paddy McQuillan	1			
Declan Power	1			
Pio Smith	1			
Eileen Tully				1
TOTAL	6	3	0	1

And the **Borough District of Drogheda Parking Control (Pay Parking) (Parking Fee Amendment) Bye-Laws 2022** as presented to Members on the 5th December were adopted in accordance with Section 36 of the Road Traffic Act 1994

Minute No.114/22

Drogheda Allocation of Members Community Grants

In accordance with Section 66 of the Local Government Act 2001 as amended, approval of Allocation of Members Community Grants as notified to the Elected Members was

Proposed by: Cllr James Byrne

Seconded by: Cllr Pio Smith

And agreed

Minute No.115/22

Agree Date for January Borough District Meeting

It was agreed that the January Meeting would be held on the 9th January 2022.

Minute No.116/22

Housing Progress Report

Members noted the report as circulated at the meeting. Director of Services, Paddy Donnelly addressed all matters raised by the Members.

The following items were highlighted:

- It was considered that a satisfactory plan was in place to assist Homeless persons during the Winter months
- It was accepted that HAP application waiting times currently exceed statutory guidelines, this was due to recent housing needs assessment, volume of applications

and quantity of suitable properties. Those who have clear accommodation identified are processed quicker. Efforts are being made to address delays.

- Evicted persons cannot skip housing waiting lists.
- No budget remains for housing adaptation/mobility grants. Circa 500 applications await determination.

Minute No.117/22

Roads and Local Services Report

Members discussed the report as circulated at the meeting. Mark Johnson, Senior Engineer addressed matters raised.

Along with potholes, footpath repair, traffic calming, road safety and signage requests, sign relocation & sign cleaning, road resurfacing, road lines and yellow box repair & painting, painting of parking, lighting of bus shelters, the following items were highlighted:

- On questioning, Members were advised works to Newfoundwell road were a form of road narrowing called horizontal deflection designed to force vehicles to slow down. Works will not be removed but will be monitored. 27no. such works have been installed county wide
- Works to Mell carpark will be completed once ownership established on transfer from OPW
- Ramp at Lourdes church adheres to guideline gradient. Drainage due to go in at ramp to alleviate flooding
- Low Cost Safety requests on Tracker do not all get on list, narrowed down to circa 15 and those are then provisional on funding etc.
- Missing and damaged Ring buoys will be reported to the Water Safety Officer Mark Kimmins as will suggestion that Termonfeckin and Ganderstown buoy checking is not taking place
- Pay parking reductions for Christmas period are not reflected in that taken by card payment
- Retender required for contractor footpath works at Termonfeckin
- Mark O'Neill is following up with ESB on certification for public lights at Baltray
- Uplighting request at Old Abbey – unsure of who this falls to

Minute No.118/22

Placemaking Report – Physical Development

Members discussed the report as circulated at the meeting. John O'Hagan, Senior Engineer addressed matters raised. The following items were highlighted:

- Officials have met the Department on proposed works to the Obelisk Bridge, and hope to proceed to tender once funding is approved
- Limited ability to do anything about Traffic diversions during Port access northern cross works
- Talks are ongoing with the owner of lands at Boyne Enterprise Park, 75% of lands are in LCC ownership and progressing. Option is there to take CPO on other lands but prefer to coordinate with owner

Minute No.119/22

Deputation from TASC on Participatory Budgeting of District Discretionary funds

As TASC reps were unavoidably unable to attend due to illness, Members agreed to attend a non-statutory workshop with TASC online. Sufficient notice was requested by Members.

Minute No.120/22

Deputation from Drogheda Port

Members expressed extreme dissatisfaction with correspondence that issued from Drogheda Port and with their nonattendance at the meeting.

Minute No.121/22

Congratulations

Congratulations were issued by Members to:

The Nugent family on winning Irelands Fittest Family

Cllr Joanna Byrne on being the first Irish female elected to the chair of Drogheda United FC.

Minute No.122/22

Notice of Motion: Cllr James Byrne

Seconded by: Cllr Kevin Callan

"That Louth County Council install a pedestrian crossing at the junction of the Bryanstown crossroute and Blackbush Lane adjacent to Calvary cemetery and Meadowview to provide safer access to schools for the hundreds of children who travel this route daily".

Reply from C. Duff, Director of Services, Placemaking and Physical Development

"The application for Low Cost Safety schemes has already been sent to the Dept of Transport. It does not include a crossing on Black blush Lane at its Junction with Meadowview. However it has now been added as a candidate scheme for evaluation for 2024 LCS"

Speaking on the motion Cllr James Byrne expressed frustration that this was not on the 2023 list, but he advised he was grateful it was being considered for 2024 works, as he thought the junction needed a controlled crossing due to the volume of pedestrian traffic.

Minute No.123/22


AOB

Paddy Donnelly, Director, advised Members that legal proofing was not finished on the Strategic Issues Paper on the joint Local Area Plan with East Meath. It had been expected that this had been due to go for public consultation this week for 8 weeks but would now be delayed.

Cllr Hall suggested that there was no harm in any delay due to a volume of public consultations ongoing at this time.

There being no other business, the meeting concluded.

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

Date: 9 Jan 2023
Mayor:  Michelle Hall
Meeting Administrator: Ara Quamey