



Comhairle Contae Lú
Louth County Council

Cruinniú Ceantar Buirge Dhroichead Átha - Borough District of Drogheda Meeting

Minutes of the Borough District of Drogheda Meeting held at Civic Offices, Fair Street, Drogheda
Monday, 8th January 2024 at 4:15pm

In attendance:

Cathaoirleach: Deputy Mayor Cllr Kevin Callan

Members: Councillor(s) James Byrne, Joanna Byrne, Tom Cunningham, Emma Cutlip, Michelle Hall, Declan Power, Pio Smith.

Apologies: Councillor(s) Paddy McQuillan, Eileen Tully

Officials: Joe McGuinness, Director of Services
Gráinne Tuomey, Meetings Administrator
Mark Johnson, Senior Engineer
Declan Grimes, Senior Engineer
Keith McArdle, Assistant Engineer

Minute No. 1/24

Minutes of Meeting held on Monday 4th December 2023

The minutes of the monthly meeting held on Monday 4th December 2023 were confirmed on the

Proposal of Cllr Joanna Byrne

Seconded by Cllr Pio Smith

And approved.

Minute No. 2/24

Matters Arising

It was proposed and agreed that Drogheda Tidy Town group be requested to attend the next meeting.

Minute No. 3/24

Housing Progress Report

Members noted the report as circulated at the meeting. Declan Grimes, Senior Engineer addressed all matters raised by the Members.

The following items were highlighted:

- A further breakdown of homeless presenter categories will be provided in future reports
- The Housing Team are happy to work with tenants seeking transfers
- The Vacant Property role is being looked at in conjunction with Public Realm and Urban Regeneration Teams
- The 2024 Boiler Service Plan is under review

Minute No. 4/24

Roads and Local Services Report

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

Along with road surfacing, potholes, footpath repair, traffic calming, traffic light resequencing, vegetation cut back on roadside, road signage requests, and Disabled parking bays and yellow box requests, the following items were highlighted:

- Various traffic light sequencing has been tested to try to ease congestion. It is hoped that completion of the new road will assist ease congestion
- A suggestion that a trial of no traffic lights be considered was made, while a €1m investment in traffic light infrastructure was mentioned
- Flexi bollards will be considered at Merrimount School to assist influence behavioural change
- The JCB Pro is soon to return to Drogheda
- Utility Companies are held to account for shoddy reinstatement works as part of the Road Opening Licence conditions
- Uisce Eireann have their own dedicated Councillor Hotline
- There is no permanent solution where heavy goods vehicles from Quarries to Port cause damage to roads
- The progression of Drogheda to "Clean to EU norms" in a recent IBAL report was widely welcomed with praise given to tidy town, voluntary and council workers for efforts made

Minute No. 5/24

Taking in Charge Report

Members considered the report as presented to them and Keith McArdle Assistant Engineer responded to questions raised.

The following estates were referenced:

- Gort Buí
- Rosehall
- Townley Manor

Minute No. 6/24

Notice of Motion: Cllrs Declan Power and Kevin Callan

Seconded by: Cllr Joanna Byrne

"Calling on this council to assess the line markings on roads from Beaulieu View to Mount Sandford and Bridge View at Newfoundwell, Drogheda.

That this council implement yellow boxes at the Road section at each estate on the through road at;

Bridge View

Mount Sandford

College Rise

Westcourt

Beaulieu View

Harmony Heights"

Reply from D. Jones, Director of Services, Placemaking and Physical Development

It is noted that there is already a yellow junction box on the inbound lane at Beaulieu View. The installation of yellow junction boxes on the inbound lane at the junctions of the remaining estates listed in the Notice of Motion will be included in the 2024 line marking programme.

Minute No. 7/24

Notice of Motion: Cllr Pio Smith

Seconded by: Cllr Kevin Callan

"Asking that the local authority apply a 30km speeding limit to Congress Avenue & Mount Saint Oliver and install a speed ramp at Mount Saint Oliver as was agreed in the 2023 Road Works Programme "

Reply from D. Jones, Director of Services, Placemaking and Physical Development

The process of reviewing County wide speed limits has already commenced, with a call for observations published on 15th August 2023. Closing date for receipt of observations was 12th September 2023. Only locations that had an observation submitted by the closing date can be considered under this review. No observations were received for Mount St. Oliver.

However, legislation and subsequent guidelines for Local Authorities are due to be published in 2024 in order to enact the Government's recent review of speed limits, which includes setting 30kmph as the default speed limit in urban areas. A speed ramp will be installed in Mount St Oliver in 2024 as originally agreed.

While the response from the Director was welcomed it was suggested that 2 speed ramps were required for Mount St. Oliver.

Minute No. 8/24

Notice of Motion: Cllr Michelle Hall

Seconded by: Cllr Kevin Callan

That this council create a mobility plan for Clogherhead to include active travel measures. There is a severe lack of footpaths in Clogherhead to main shopping areas on R166, Strand Hill and a need to adjoin both main routes to the village at Callystown. Clogherhead is an area of Outstanding Beauty, has a large primary school, shopping district and Blue flag beach that warrants segregated cycling lanes, bicycle parking and new/widened footpaths.

Reply from D. Jones, Director of Services, Placemaking and Physical Development

At this juncture (2023 / 2024) the Council have received funding from the National Transport Authority (NTA) to progress the Safe Routes to School programme at Callystown National School

in Clogherhead, which will provide new pedestrian footpaths and crossing points at the entrances on Callystown Road and from John Kirk Park. The Council have not received any funding from the NTA to progress further the additional provision of Active Travel measures within the village of Clogherhead to connect the Village Centre, Strand Hill and the Blue Flag Beaches, but expect to submit a funding application to NTA to seek funding to commence Phase 2 i.e. Option Development, for the provision of Active Travel measure within the Village.

Several Members spoke in support of this motion.

Minute No. 9/24

Notice of Motion: Cllr Michelle Hall

Seconded by: Cllr Kevin Callan

That this council include R166 from Termon Abbey to Newtown Cross for road resurfacing programme in 2024. This section of the road is badly deteriorated and in need of repair.

Reply from D. Jones, Director of Services, Placemaking and Physical Development

The Road Works Programme 2024 will be produced on evidence-based data including usage and traffic loading, and engineering surveys utilising Pavement Survey Conditions Index (PSCI) ranked surfaces, (scored from 1 to 10 by Roads Technical Team) and in the context of available budget. The R166 from Termon Abbey to Newtown Cross will be inspected to determine whether it should be considered for inclusion in the Road Works Programme 2024, within the context outlined above.

A suggestion was made that Members had been previously advised of reinstatement of a separate entrance to Newtown Woods under Planning Permission. Mark Johnston advised that he would check the planning file condition.

Minute No. 10/24

Notice of Question: Cllr Pio Smith – Noted without Debate

Asking for an update on what measures the local authority has taken to eliminate non resident motorists parking in the residents only section of the windmill road.

Reply from D. Jones, Director of Services, Placemaking and Physical Development

Line markings have been applied on the road adjacent to the residents only section of the windmill road stating “Residents only”. Traffic Wardens will continue to monitor the area and take any enforcement action as necessary.

Minute No. 11/24

Correspondence

Correspondence to Drogheda Port was noted and Members advised of a verbal response of inability to attend meetings was received. A request was made to give dates of all meetings up to June and request attendance again.

There being no other business, the meeting concluded.

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

Date: 12 Feb 2024
Mayor: Hein Colla Deputy Mayor.
Meeting Administrator: Anthony