

## **Borough District of Drogheda – April 2018**

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Minutes of the Meeting of the Borough District of Drogheda held on Monday, 9<sup>th</sup> April 2018 at Barlow House, West Street, Drogheda.

### **In attendance:**

- Mayor:** Cllr. P. Smith
- Members:** Cllrs: P. Bell, J. Byrne, T. Byrne, K. Callan, K. Flood, F. Godfrey, O. Tully
- Officials:** Catherine Duff, Acting Director of Services  
Aoife Lawler, Senior Executive Officer  
Martina Sheeran, Acting Senior Engineer  
Alan Sherry, Meetings Administrator
- Apologies:** Cllr. D. Saurin

### **Minute No. 40/18**

#### **Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> February 2018 were confirmed on the proposal of Cllr. P. Bell and seconded by Cllr. O. Tully.

The minutes of the special meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> April 2018 were confirmed on the proposal of Cllr. T. Byrne and seconded by Cllr. P. Bell.

### **Minute No. 41/18**

#### **Matters arising**

- There were no matters arising.

### **Minute No. 42/18**

#### **Votes of Sympathy were extended to the family and friends of:**

Former Councillor Raymond Dempsey  
The mayor's late father Jacko Smith  
Willie Halpen  
Jar Clark  
Tom Tallon

### **Minute No. 43/18**

#### **Housing and Communities Progress Report**

Members noted the reply as circulated.

## Minute No. 44/18

### Operations, Marine and Infrastructure Report

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

- It was agreed to revert back to the members with timeframes for the repair of the walls on Termonfeckin Bridge and Beaulieu.
- A water pollution notice has been issued in relation to the issue of sewage coming through the road surface on the Termonfeckin Road was given. Discussions ongoing with owner to find solution.
- Members were requested to submit their draft submissions in relation to the port to the meetings administrator so that they could be collated and circulated.
- It was agreed to provide a report in relation to the issue of graffiti in the town.
- The issue of parking in the area surrounding the Lourdes hospital was raised as something to be addressed urgently by the Council and the HSE.
- Frustration was expressed at the failure to provide a full audit report on road markings and timescales for addressing the areas identified. While resources for an audit of the entire town are not available, commitment was given to carry out an audit of line markings for pay parking
- It was requested to revert back to members in relation to alleged derelict or potentially dangerous buildings highlighted at the meeting.
- It was agreed to take action in relation to Chord Road residents leaving their wheel bins on the footpath and causing an obstruction.
- It was agreed to have a meeting between the members and staff from the Operations Department to discuss parking and traffic issues in the town in Barlow House on Monday, 23<sup>rd</sup> April at 6.00 pm.
- It was agreed to examine an alternative route for HGV's on the Platin road.
- It was agreed to update the members on CFRAM.
- It was agreed to investigate whether or not Brookville is in a flood plain on foot of reports from householders unable to get insurance due to a possible issue with at a culvert.
- It was undertaken to investigate the problem at Beechmount where a road repair has been carried out at least 3 times.
- The need for line marking on Termonfeckin Bridge was raised.
- A status update was requested on LIS & CIS.
- It was agreed to consider traffic calming at Termonfeckin Newfoundwell Road as part of the budget received for 2018.
- It was agreed to consider traffic calming at Ballymackenny Road traffic travelling from Monasterboice drive through junction when carrying out road works in 2018 65k in budget.
- A report in relation to Park & Ride was requested.

### **Minute No. 45/18**

#### **Declaration of Roads to be Public Roads – The Beeches & Woodford, Wheaton Hall**

The Declaration of Roads to be Public Roads for Woodford, Wheaton Hall was proposed by Cllr. K. Callan, seconded by O. Tully and agreed by the members.  
(The Beeches not included as not in administrative area)

### **Minute No. 46/18**

#### **Drogheda Allocation of Members Community Grants**

Members were informed that the list had an error in that it did not include the amount being proposed by Cllr. Tully for Balsanter Community Text Alert which was €500

This was proposed by Cllr. K. Callan, seconded by P. Bell and agreed by the members.

### **Minute No. 47/18**

#### **Proposed Amenity Grants**

This was proposed by Cllr. K. Flood, seconded by K. Callan and agreed by the members.

### **Minute No. 48/18**

#### **Notice of Motion**

**Proposed by:** Cllr. P. Bell  
**Seconded by:** Cllr. K. Callan

"That this Council commence the appropriate procedure to enable the closure of the existing right of way from Donore Road to St Finian's Park located between number 1 Donore Road and number 4 St Finian's Park for the purpose stopping anti social and criminal behaviour in the immediate area."

#### **REPLY:**

**The Housing Section carried out a review of this and indicate that it is not feasible to close the above right of way on the following basis:**

- 1. The proposed extinguishment will remove a pedestrian route from St. Finian's Park to the Donore Road which will encourage more vehicular journeys and conflict with the sustainable transport principles in the Louth County Development Plan 2015 – 2021, Refer to Sections 4.6, 7.2.2 etc.**
- 2. The proposed extinguishment also conflicts with the Permeability Principle as outlined in Section 3.3 of the Design Manual for Urban Roads and Streets which promotes maximising the number of walkable/cycleable routes between destinations.**

**3. Public lighting maintenance will require provision of vehicular access to the existing public lighting within the Right of Way, (ROW).**

**4. An existing 375mm diameter surface water sewer is laid within the ROW, flowing in a North to South direction onto the Donore Road. There is also a 150mm watermain and a 375mm surface water pipeline to which access needs to be maintained.**

**5. Existing ESB underground infrastructure is also laid within the ROW. This was installed by ESB networks to service the newly built Old Peoples Dwellings in 2006/07 and, as it was installed along a public path, no wayleave was required by ESB. If this ROW is extinguished, ESB may require a wayleave. (See attached ESB Networks Map).**

Members noted the reply.

#### **Minute No. 49/18**

##### **Notice of Motion**

**Proposed by: Cllr. F. Godfrey**

**Seconded by: Cllr. K. Callan**

"That the Borough Engineers commence work immediately on the land at Newtown Stalaban to create the new municipal playing pitches. Plans have already been drawn up for these pitches and this land cannot continue to lie idle whilst the town is crying out for more pitches and playing facilities."

##### **REPLY:**

**Louth County Council is currently negotiating with the landowner to acquire the final piece of land which would allow the development proceed to planning.**

The need to address the infrastructural supports for the pitches was raised and detailed plans and costing for the project were also requested. The need to progress the land negotiations urgently was emphasised.

Members agreed the motion.

#### **Minute No. 50/18**

##### **Notice of Motion**

**Proposed by: Cllr. F. Godfrey**

**Seconded by: Cllr. K. Callan**

"That Louth County Council write to Coillte asking them to tackle anti-social activity in the Townley Hall woods and also to stop the activity of some mountain bikers who are damaging the forest by cutting bike tracks through the forest and damaging the forest floor with their high-speed activities."

**REPLY:**

**This is a matter for the members.**

Members agreed the motion.

**Minute No. 51/18**

**Notice of Motion**

**Proposed by: Cllr. J. Byrne**  
**Seconded by: Cllr. K. Flood**

"In the interest of public safety, this Local Authority will undertake to re-lay the road markings surrounding the Beechgrove roundabout, and the mini-roundabout itself. With the faded markings, and the roundabout now virtually non-existent , there are already cars driving directly over it rather than around it and it is only a matter of time before a serious incident occurs.

With this also being a main thorough fare of entry to the North Side of the town, and the amount of visitors expected to Drogheda for the Fleadh , it is imperative that these markings are present and visible for those who would not be familiar with the junction."

**REPLY:**

**Road markings at Beechgrove Roundabout will be added to our list of roadworks to do as part of Operations Roadworks Programme 2018. It should be noted that road markings will be carried out subject to priorities and dependent on resources and funding.**

Members noted the reply.

**Minute No. 52/18**

**Notice of Motion**

**Proposed by: Cllr. O. Tully**  
**Seconded by: Cllr. K. Callan**

"That Louth County Council apply for funding / install additional traffic calming measures at Ballymakenny Cross Roads."

**REPLY:**

**Operations will review this location and carry out an assessment.**

Members noted the reply.

**Minute No. 53/18**

**Notice of Motion**

**Proposed by: Cllr. O. Tully**

"That Louth County Council allocate one Car Parking Permit to each rate payer with a premises in Drogheda town centre."

**REPLY:**

**It would be an objective of the parking management system to encourage a good turnover of parking space usage to encourage high footfall in the area to support local businesses. When we are reviewing the byelaws we will take this issue into consideration and consider how it is addressed by other local authorities.**

Cllr. Tully withdrew the motion.

**Minute No. 54/18**

**Notice of Motion**

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

"Calling on this Borough District to examine the possibility of building one or two homes on the vacant land beside 127 Moneymore. This site is subject to anti social behaviour and illegal dumping."

**REPLY:**

**Louth County Council will carry out a desktop feasibility of the site for social housing and if suitable will progress.**

Members noted the reply.

**Minute No. 55/18**

**Notice of Motion**

**Proposed by: Cllr. P. Smith  
Seconded by: Cllr. K. Flood**

"Calling on this Borough District to carry out speed tests on the Newfoundwell/Termonfeckin Road to determine the need, if any for the installation of traffic calming measures."

**REPLY:**

**Operations will review has there been any recent speed survey at this location and if not it will be added to our list for assessment and the traffic counter will be placed in this vicinity in turn.**

Members noted the reply.

**Minute No. 56/18**

**Notice of Motion**

**Proposed by: Cllr. T. Byrne  
Seconded by: Cllr. F. Godfrey**

“That Louth County Council implement as a matter of urgency, with the bright evenings now in, a major environmental scheme in the neglected areas of St. Dominic's Bridge/ Bridge of Peace and The Ramparts Walkway, to include painting of both bridges, cleaning out blocked gullies there, the use of a heavy roller on the ramparts to level and gravel it, in required locations. This is to make it easier to access for those in wheelchairs, parents with prams, the elderly, the hundreds of walkers/ joggers/cyclists using this most scenic amenity and generally for the enjoyment of the people of Drogheda and the thousands of visitors to the town and Oldbridge House during the year.”

**REPLY:**

**Painting of the railings at St. Dominic's Bridge is being investigated and subject to funding will be completed for the Fleadh. Cleaning of the Bridge of Peace is also being considered as part of the preparation for the Fleadh . The scope of works necessary in order to improve the walkway at the Ramparts will need to be assessed. However, the recently announced allocation of funding under the Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme provides for improvements to railings and pathway at the Ramparts, a cycleway on St Dominick's Bridge and along Wellington Quay. Costings will be prepared and any works are subject to the allocation of funding. Gully cleaning is carried out as part of routine maintenance works.**

Members emphasised the need to address the whole route and not just the bridge and noted the reply.

**Minute No. 57/18**

**Notice of Question**

**From: Cllr. T. Byrne**

“In relation to Ref No. 12/510041 – All Weather Pitches at Drogheda Institute of Further Education, Twenties Lane, Moneymore, Drogheda, was Planning Permission required

and obtained, as a number of local residents are seriously concerned at the noise level, height of lights, height of fencing, hours of play, which is greatly impinging on their quality of life and wish this issue be brought to public attention, to try and address their genuine concerns."

**REPLY:**

**Planning permission for the proposed playing pitch, including floodlighting was granted on 26/11/2012 subject to conditions.**

**It should be noted that there no submissions made to the planning authority during the statutory period.**

**The permission granted included the playing pitch, floodlighting, changing room facilities, car parking and associated site works.**

**A formal complaint is being investigated and a warning letter has been issued requesting regularization of aspects of the development not in compliance with the permission granted.**

Members noted the reply.

The meeting then concluded.

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

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

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

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