

Borough District of Drogheda – December 2014

Minutes of the Meeting of the Borough District of Drogheda held in Barlow House, West Street, Drogheda, on Monday, 1st December, 2014 at 6.00 p.m.

In attendance:

Mayor: Cllr. K. Callan

Members: Cllrs: P. Bell, T. Byrne, K. Callan, A Cassidy, K. Flood, F. Godfrey, I. Munster, P. Smith, O. Tully

Officials: Mary T. Daly, Acting Director of Services
Gerry Kelly, Senior Engineer
David Storey, Senior Executive Officer
Liz Duff, Meetings Administrator

Apologies: Paddy Donnelly, Meeting Administrator

Minute No. 51/14

Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 3rd November, 2014, were confirmed on the proposal of Cllr. P. Bell and seconded by Cllr. F. Godfrey.

Minute No. 52/14

Matters Arising

Cllr. I. Muster raised the matter of Leonard Cross Junction at Mell and advised that she had asked for it to be included in the Minutes. She asked that these works be included in the Capital Programme. Mary T. Daly, Acting Director of Services advised that the works would be included in the Road Works Programme or the Capital Programme for consideration in 2015.

With regard to Minute No. 46/14 Cllr. P. Smith asked if Cllr. K. Callan had received any response from Irish Water with regard to securing a meeting with them in Drogheda. Cllr. K. Callan advised that he had not received a response to date but was following up on same.

Cllr. P. Smith stated that clarification should be sought from Irish Water with regard to water pressure at Newfoundwell.

Following a discussion it was agreed that Operations would make contact with Irish Water with a view to arranging a meeting with the Councillors.

Minute No. 53/14

Presentation on the Drogheda Viaduct Refurbishment Project

Cllr. Callan welcomed Mr. Garry Keegan and Ms. Rita Butterly, Irish Rail, who gave a presentation on the Drogheda Viaduct Refurbishment Project and addressed issues such as lighting, noise, safety and painting. Queries raised were addressed by Mr. Keegan. He advised that Pat Finn, Senior Engineer, had recently received a report from Irish Rail with details. He advised that the funding had to be agreed between Irish Rail and the Council and that the Council would have to make a significant contribution. He will revert to the Council with regard to the type of paint to be used.

Minute No. 54/14

Draft Protocol for the attendance of An Cathaoirleach of Louth County Council at functions/events

There was a discussion on the Draft Protocol for the attendance of An Cathaoirleach of Louth County Council at functions/events and following discussion it was agreed that the comments raised by the members would be brought back to the Corporate Policy Group.

Minute No. 55/14

Nomination for Place Names Committee

Proposed by: Cllr. K. Flood

Seconded by: Cllr. K. Callan

And resolved

That Cllr. A. Cassidy be elected on to the Place Names Committee which is being re-established.

Minute No. 56/14

Housing and Communities Progress Report

Mr. David Storey, Senior Executive Officer presented the report dated 24th November, 2014, and addressed the members queries with regard to same. He advised that the Housing Strategy document which was announced last week would be circulated to members. Cllr. F. Godfrey asked Cllr. K. Callan to meet with the Minister for funding to build houses.

Cllr. Munster raised the matter of Irish Water requesting name and details of Council tenants from the Council and stated that the Department and Irish Water are to revert with regard to what mechanism should be used on how this information should be handed over. She stated that this information should not be handed over without the written consent of the tenants. Mr. Storey advised that Irish Water advised that the Council were statutorily obliged to supply this information but that the Council have neither, agreed or disagreed. He advised that Joe McGuinness, Director of Services, had sought advice and clarification from the Office of the Data Protection Commissioner on the subject.

Cllr. Munster stated that monies collected at source should only be rents. Mr. Storey advised that the issue of water charges being added to rent bills was unclear and that he would revert back to the council when clarified.

Cllr. Byrne requested that sites be identified for building purposes as no construction was taking place.

Minute No. 57/14

Operations, Infrastructure and Marine Progress Report

Mr. Gerry Kelly, Senior Engineer, and Mary T. Daly, Acting Director of Services, presented the report dated November 2014, and addressed the members queries in relation to same.

Cllr. Byrne asked that a sign be erected at Newtownstalaban saying 'no dumping'.

Various members raised the matter of no public lighting at Liscorey. Cllr. I. Munster asked that members be circulated by e-mail with protocol for, unfinished estates, estates not taken in charge and public lighting. Mary T. Daly advised that she made contact with the person in charge of this estate and would revert. Cllr. Tully asked if, in this case, we could look at the public lighting issue firstly and then the taking in charge issue later. Mary T. Daly advised that the Council are looking at estates in the County which require to be taken in charge and then prioritizing.

Members welcomed the bus shelter at Monasterboice but advised that it was difficult to see same, and asked that public lighting be provided as part of the project.

Cllrs. P. Bell, F. Godfrey and P. Smith requested an update on the Drogheda Port Company. Mary T. Daly advised that in accordance with the National Ports Policy it has been agreed at national level the transfer of the Ministers shareholding in the Drogheda Port Company to Louth County Council, and that a report on the National Port Policy and Drogheda Port Company be submitted at the January meeting.

Minutes No. 58/14

Suspension of Standing Orders

Proposed by: Cllr. K. Callan
Seconded by: Cllr. I. Munster
And resolved

That standing order are suspended, as per Standing Order No. 69, to proceed with the business of the meeting.

Minutes No. 59/14

Cllr. Callan congratulated the Council on the success of the Bonanza Festival and in particular Frank Pentony, Mary T. Daly, Darius Messiah, and Paddy Rogers.

Minute No. 60/14

Vote of Sympathy

The Mayor, Cllr. Callan, called for a vote of sympathy and a vote was extended to the family and friends of Ms. Eva Berrill.

The members acknowledged their association with the vote of sympathy as duly recorded.

Notices of Motion

Minute No. 61/14

Proposed by: Cllr. K. Flood
Seconded by: Cllr. F. Godfrey

"That Louth County Council erect a Bird Watching Outlook on the Boyne Estuary, to highlight the outstanding landscape and bio-diversity in the area, and to attract bird watching tours and eco-tourism to the area"

Reply:

Louth County Council do not at this time have the resources or the access to funding to provide such a facility.

Cllr. I. Munster asked if a joint venture between Meath and Louth could be considered. Cllr. K. Callan to make contact with East Meath Councillors. Mary T. Daly advised that there was no provision in the budget for same but that she would speak to the Heritage Officer.

Minute No. 62/14

Proposed by: Cllr. F. Godfrey

Seconded by: Cllr. K. Callan

"That the Borough District Council put in place a mini roundabout at the top of Mell junction with proper signage for the nearby Loughboy Estate in the interest of public safety"

Reply:

The Council has prepared a preliminary design for improving this junction. A staggered junction is proposed. However no funding is available to progress the scheme at present. A mini roundabout is not considered suitable at this location.

Cllr. O. Tully advised that there was a survey carried out on this junction. Cllr. I. Munster confirmed that it was carried out and that she had a copy of the report. Mary T. Daly advised that the works required will be considered on the Capital Programme and that she will circulate a copy of the report to the Members.

Minute No. 63/14

Proposed by: Cllr. T. Byrne

Seconded by: Cllr. I. Munster

"That Louth County Council, implement a 5 tonne vehicular weight restriction on Matthews Lane south, in the interest of public safety particularly for residents living in the housing estates of Knockbrack Close, Knockbrack Downs and Knightsbrook, which lie along the route."

Reply:

This matter needs careful consideration and a report will be prepared and brought before the Borough District.

Gerry Kelly advised that the Gardai had been consulted and that a 7½ tonne limit be applied as per the drawing circulated and that the public consultation process would be carried out prior to implementation.

Minute No. 64/14

Cllr. P. Smith requested that his Notice of Motion and Notice of Question be removed from the Agenda.

Notices of Question

Cllr P. Bell

"Can this Council confirm the date for recommencement of works for the completion of Ballsgrove Hill?"

Reply:

A contractor is due on site on 1st December with the work being completed within two weeks.

Cllr. P. Bell

"Will this Council prepare detailed formal report on the water supply disruptions which occurred on Wednesday November 5th in Drogheda in the interests of maintaining public confidence in the provision of water supply and maintenance in water supply infrastructure:

Termonfeckin Rd
Yellowbatter
Rathmullen Road
Dublin Road"

Reply:

Further to Cllr. Paul Bells Notice of Question, I can confirm the following watermain bursts occurred in Drogheda on 5th November 2014.

- **Termonfeckin Road, outside the Newtown Blues GFC grounds,**
- **Yellowbatter estate,**
- **Rathmullen Road at St Oliver's Community College,**
- **Dublin Rd opposite Wheaton Hall entrance.**

November 5th 2014

Termonfeckin Road and Yellowbatter disruptions were evident from Louth County Council's DMA monitoring on Wednesday morning. The disruption at Rathmullen Road occurred around lunch time when a contractor came in contact with a supply pipe at the College. The burst on the Dublin Road was reported by a member of the public through the Irish Water call centre at approximately 5 pm.

Repairs carried out:

Termonfeckin Rd	Replacement fitting repair, Mains repair.
Yellowbatter	Replacement fitting repair, Mains repair.
Rathmullen Rd	Replacement fitting repair, service supply to College.
Dublin Rd	Clamp Repair carried out on the mains.

Repairs complete and water restored

Termonfeckin Rd	water supply restored and repair complete by 1700 hrs on 5th Nov.
Rathmullen Rd	water restored and repair complete by 2200 hrs on the 5th Nov.
Dublin Rd	water restored and repair complete by 2200 hrs on the 5th Nov.
Yellowbatter	water restored on 5th and leak repair carried out on the 7th Nov.

Cllr. A. Cassidy

"Will this council write to the Dept. of Transport to seek an additional school warden for St. Pauls National School in Rathmullen given the volume of traffic and pupil footfall in Rathmullen Estate?"

Reply:

Before seeking sanction from the Department for a new school warden at this or any school site, the need for such a warden must be assessed in accordance with set criteria as follows:

- **Availability of existing pedestrian crossing**
- **Traffic volume, speed and type**
- **Route to and from school**
- **Junction design and complexity**
- **Child pedestrian flows, volume and nature**
- **Safe waiting places**
- **Proposed cycling routes and lanes**
- **Sight lines of traffic**
- **Street lighting, signage and markings**
- **Traffic prohibitions**

The necessary assessment of need for the school site at Rathmullen will be programmed into the work schedule and actioned as soon as current workloads permit, and on the basis of that assessment, Louth County Council will decide whether or not to seek sanction from the Department for an additional school warden.'

The time being 8:15 p.m. the business of the meeting concluded.

The minutes were confirmed at a meeting of Council held on

Date: _____

Mayor: _____

Meetings Administrator: _____