

Borough District of Drogheda – December 2020

Minutes of the Meeting of the Borough District of Drogheda held in The Barbican Centre, William Street, Drogheda on Monday 7th December 2020 at 4.15 p.m.

In attendance:

Mayor: Cllr. Kevin Callan

Members: Councillors: James Byrne, Joanna Byrne, Tom Cunningham, Michelle Hall, Paddy McQuillan, Declan Power, Pio Smith

Officials: Gráinne Tuomey, Meetings Administrator
Paddy Donnelly, Director of Services
Frank Pentony, Director of Services
Gerard Brennan, Executive Planner
Mark Johnson, Senior Engineer

Minute No. 92/20

Confirmation of Minutes

The minutes of the monthly meeting held on 2nd November 2020 were confirmed on the proposal of Cllr. Pio Smith and seconded by Cllr. Joanna Byrne.

Minute No. 93/20

Matters Arising

- Cllr. Pio Smith requested an update of Housing in Castlebellingham

Minute No. 94/20

Housing Progress Report

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

- Ongoing issue of Rat Infestation in Tredagh View
- Homeless figures more than double that of 2019 and triple 2013 – query raised on plan to deal with this
- Criteria for eligibility for a Housing Transfer
- Anti social behaviour in Council Estates and co-ordination with other bodies

Paddy Donnelly, Director of Services for Housing advised that

- Contractor was engaged to deal with rats and work plan is agreed
 - Presentations were up in homeless but extra resources assigned and managed well
 - Transfers mainly ceased to give priority to bring 64 voids back in, however some assessed on medical and overcrowding.
 - Estate Management Team engage with other bodies on ASB.
- and addressed all matters raised by Members.

Minute No. 95/20

Operations and Marine Progress Report

Members discussed the report as circulated at the meeting and the following items were addressed.

- A request was made for briefing from Planners on the Louth Meath Local Area Plan
- An update was requested on plans for the Castlemanor estate
- Anti-Social behavior was highlighted in the Old Abbey Lane and signs were requested. Gardai had advised they would not act without signs!
- Query on whether the Minister had any news on the Port Access funding application
- Request that road repair teams better coordinate with Line Marking Team to speed up marking
- Drainage issued in Cherrymount Estate causing flooding on Street
- Request for more pop up cycle lanes
- Cars parking on Castle Manor Cycle lanes
- Heritage funding request on Nuns Walk
- Pothole issues at Hogans turn on L2278
- Badly lit ramp installed on R166 at Beaulieu – query around lighting/signage policy at ramps
- Entrance to Ballsgrove still flooding
- Waste oil and grease dumped at back of Millmount
- Reminder to make submissions to Dev Plan suggestion that a collective submission be made with Chamber of Commerce
- Yellowbox needing repair at Ballymackenny Road Townrath

The Mayor suggested that a Saturday session around Development Plan be organised by Members.

Operations Matters raised were addressed by Operations Staff, Mark Johnson, Senior Engineer, Frank Pentony Director of Services advised on planning issues, and Paddy Donnelly Director of Services advised around Byelaws in place for Anti Social Behaviour.

Minute No. 96/20

Part 8 Amendments to Development at Drogheda Civic Offices

Gerard Brennan, Executive Planner gave an overview on the amendments to development at Drogheda Civic Offices permitted under previous Part 8 Application Ref. No. 18/727. The amendments comprise the inclusion of an ESB Substation & LV Switchroom at group floor level within the permitted service area yard and all associated site development works.

The amendments at Drogheda Civic Offices was proposed by Mayor Kevin Callan and seconded by Cllr. James Byrne.

Minute No. 97/20

Amendment of Standing Orders to facilitate attendance at Drogheda Borough District Meetings

Gráinne Tuomey, Meetings Administrator advised on Standing Orders format being the same as the full council to allow remote attendance.

The amendment of Standing Orders to facilitate remote attendance at Drogheda Borough District Meetings was proposed by Mayor Kevin Callan and seconded by James Byrne.

Minute No. 98/20

Declarations to have Estates Taken in Charge

To recommend to the Council that the roads in the developments listed below be declared Public Roads from a date agreed by the Council or 7 days after the date given in the attached reports all considered in accordance with Section 11 of the Roads Act 1993.

Furthermore, in accordance with Section 180 (4) of the Planning and Development Act, 2000, as amended I would like to recommend that the Council take in charge any public open space, public lighting, unallocated car parks, sewers (excluding service connections) and water mains within the grounds of the developments listed below.

The Developments are:

- Roschoill, Drogheda, County Louth
- Curlew Green, Aston Village, Drogheda, County Louth

The Declaration to have Roschoill, Drogheda and Curlew Green, Aston Village, Drogheda taken in charge was proposed by Cllr. Michelle Hall and seconded by Cllr. Pío Smith.

Minute No. 99/20

Drogheda Allocation of Members Community Grants

The Allocation of Members Community Grants was proposed by Cllr. Paddy McQuillan, seconded by Cllr. Declan Power and agreed by all Members.

Minute No. 100/20

Notice of Motion

Proposed by: Cllr. Pío Smith

Seconded by: Cllr. Joanna Byrne

“Asking LCC to provide in tabular format information outlining the amount of money paid to contractors to carry out both preventative and response maintenance to our social housing stock in Drogheda, the total cost, number of units and average cost per unit for 2019.”

Reply from Mr. P. Donnelly, Director of Services, Housing and Quality of Life:

Reactive Maintenance Contractor costs			
	Expenditure	Units	Unit cost
Ardee	267,370		
Drogheda	436,800		
Dundalk	610,000		
	€1,314,170	3823	€344

Members were advised of budgetary restraints and that the issue of maintenance was raised with Minister Darragh O’Brien on recent visit.

Minute No. 101/20

Notice of Motion

Proposed by: Cllr. Paddy McQuillan

Seconded by: Cllr. Declan Power

“Calling on LCC to work with and liaise with Drogheda’s Changing Places Committee to install a Changing Place Facility during refurbishment works of Dominican Church.”

Reply from Mr. F. Pentony, Director of Services, Economic Development, Infrastructure and Planning:

The acquisition of the Dominican Church and the adjoining Parochial house is progressing but not yet completed. The Council has no plans for major public toilet facilities at this development.

Declan Power seconded this motion but requested amended wording to ‘The acquisition of the Dominican church or any other location or public place’.

Director of Services Frank Pentony advised that the location should necessarily be accessible 24 hours a day and there was a need for a collaborative approach on this. Discussions were underway with a private entity on provision.

The Mayor directed that this was best dealt with by Cllr. Paddy McQuillan and Director of Services.

Minute No. 102/20

Correspondence

The letter from Meath County Council dated the 17th November 2020 was noted by the members.

Minute No. 103/20

Sympathies

Condolences and expressions of sympathy were extended by the members as follows:

- Cllr. Declan Power to the family and friends of
 - Jim Balfe (Barbican/Male Choir)

- Cllr. James Byrne to the family and friends of
 - Sr. Monica Loughran, Principal

Minute No. 104/20

Congratulations

Congratulations were issued to Naomh Martin on their success at reaching their first final.

There being no other business, the meeting concluded.

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

Date: _____

Mayor: _____

Meeting Administrator: _____