

## *Municipal District of Dundalk – May 2015*

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Minutes of the Meeting of the Municipal District of Dundalk held in the Town Hall, Dundalk on Tuesday, 5<sup>th</sup> May, 2015 at 5.15 pm.

### **In attendance:**

<b>Cathaoirleach:</b>	Cllr. D. Breathnach
<b>Members:</b>	Councillors: M Butler, E. Corrigan, M. Dearey, M. Doyle, J. Green, C. Keelan, J. Loughran, J. McGahon, K. Meenan, P. Savage, T. Sharkey, M. Yore
<b>Officials:</b>	Frank Pentony, Director of Services Gerry Kelly, Senior Engineer David Storey, Senior Executive Officer Paddy Donnelly, Meetings Administrator
<b>Apologies:</b>	n/a

### **Minute No. 45/15**

#### **Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> April, 2015 were confirmed on the proposal of Cllr. D. Breathnach and seconding of Cllr. M. Butler.

It was noted that the reference at Minute 43/15 should read N53 and not N52; this was a non material change.

### **Minute No. 46/15**

#### **Matters Arising**

Cllr. C. Keelan raised the matter of Minute No. 36/15 in regard Lis Dubh, and Minute No. 43/15 in regard to the junction of Castletown Road and Mill Road. These matters would be dealt with in the upcoming reports.

### **Minute No. 47/15**

#### **Annual Meeting**

The members considered in accordance with Section 44 of Schedule 10.3(3) of the Local Government Act, 2001 the holding of the Annual General Meeting. On the proposal of Cllr. M. Butler and seconding of Cllr. M. Doyle it was agreed that the Annual Meeting would be held on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> June at 5:15 pm in the Town Hall, Dundalk.

**Minute No. 48/15**

**Housing & Communities Progress Report**

Mr. David Storey, Senior Executive Officer presented the Housing and Communities progress report dated 24<sup>th</sup> April, 2015 as circulated with the Agenda. Mr. Storey addressed the members' queries in relation to same and advised that at this stage there were no further details in relation to the proposed provision of social housing as recently announced by the Minister.

**Minute No. 49/15**

**Operations, Marine & Infrastructure Report**

Mr. Gerry Kelly presented the report dated 24<sup>th</sup> April, 2015 as circulated with the Agenda. Mr. Kelly addressed the members' queries in relation to same and agreed to revert in relation to infrastructure at Chapel Street regarding the cycle lanes. In regard to the Bellurgan embankment, this matter would also be forwarded to Infrastructure for a response.

Cllr. Sharkey called for a representative from the Infrastructure Directorate to attend at future meetings on a rotational basis in order that issues specific to the Infrastructure Directorate can be addressed at the Municipal District level. This matter will be investigated and the members advised accordingly.

Queries in relation to information circulated to members in regard to the proposed road closure of the N53 for a period of approximately three months was discussed in brief, and members sought clarification as to whether additional road works would be carried out to support the traffic that would be using alternative routes. This is a matter that may come up at a future meeting.

**Minute No. 50/15**

**Notice of Motion**

**Proposed by: Cllr Mark Dearey**

**Seconded by: Cllr. Marianne Butler**

"That this council take in charge the shared sewer to the back of the cottages on the east side of St Alphonsus Road that is repeatedly blocking and causing raw sewage to come up in residents back yards and pollute the Rampart River. Failing this that the council enter into a process with Irish Water whereby they take charge of the shared sewer in question."

**Reply:**

**The 'shared sewer' referred to at the back of the cottages on the east side of St Alphonsus Road would be defined as a 'service connection' under the Water Services Act, 2007. The service connection is located across a number of**

private properties. Under the Planning Act service connections are not included for taking in charge. The notice of question has been referred to Irish Water for a response.

In noting the answer, a number of members expressed their disappointment with Irish Water in failing to address these issues. The Director of Services advised members that the situation had not changed since the responsibility had been handed over to Irish Water. It was always the Local Authorities policy not to take in charge service connections and this would continue to be the practice.

**Minute No. 51/15**

**Notice of Motion**

**Proposed by: Cllr Marianne Butler**

**Seconded by: Cllr. Mark Dearey**

"That this Municipal District implements measures to improve sightlines for motorists exiting Springfield Manor, Red Barns Road."

**Reply:**

**Louth county Council will examine the situation on the ground and identify any measures necessary to improve the sightlines with regard to pedestrians and cyclists.**

The Senior Engineer agreed to investigate the matter of sightlines for Springfield Manor, Redbarns Road and revert at a future meeting.

**Minute No. 52/15**

**Notice of Question**

**Cllr. Mark Dearey**

"Has air monitoring in Dundalk shown an increase in sulphur dioxide levels in January, February, March of 2015 when compared to (a) Summertime levels, and (b) the same period in 2014?"

**REPLY:**

**No air monitoring of SO<sub>2</sub> has been carried out in Dundalk since April 2010. SO<sub>2</sub> is currently measured by the EPA as part of the Air Quality Monitoring Network.**

**The Directive 1999/30/EC (CEC, 1999) established an hourly limit of 350 µg/m<sup>3</sup> and an annual mean limit of 20 µg/m<sup>3</sup> in respect of SO<sub>2</sub>. No more than 24 exceedances of the hourly limit values are allowed per year. Both limit values came into force on 1 January 2005.**

**Air Monitoring was carried out at two locations, in Dundalk Sports Centre Muirhevnamor and the Museum at Jocelyn Street. Monitoring was carried out 61% and 69% of the year respectively between Apr 2009-2010.**

From the readings carried out the average reading during the Winter period (Oct 2009 to April 1<sup>st</sup> 2010) was 4ug/l (Muirhevnamor) and 4ug/l Town Centre (museum).

The average reading during the summer period (March-September) was 4ug/l Sports Centre Muirhevnamor and 5ug/l at the Town Centre.

**Minute No. 53/15**

**Notice of Question**

**Cllr. Jennifer Green**

"Have the council received any response from anyone in regard to the derelict site notice served on Ard Dealgan?"

**Reply:**

The Ard Dealgan site was entered on the Derelict Register on 24/11/2014. The Council notified a number of parties that the property had been placed on the register. The Council also wrote to a financial company requesting that they advise the Council of any interest they might have in the property. To date no response has been received from any of the parties notified or contacted.

**Minute No. 54/15**

**Notice of Question**

**Cllr. Jennifer Green**

"Has the council any update into who is responsible for Ard Dealgan?"

**Reply:**

The Council has not received any further information to update the members with.

**Minute No. 55/15**

**Correspondence**

The members noted the correspondence circulated with the agenda.

In response to clarification regarding the expenditure of €50,000 Municipal Budget, Mr. P. Donnelly advised the members that this had been dealt with in an initial stage at only one of the Municipal Districts. He suggested to the members that a way forward on the matter would be for members to submit their strategic initiatives for the spending of this fund to the Meetings Administrator who would collate same and circulate same in advance of the next meeting. This may be discussed by the members, preferably in committee, in order to not raise hopes for any funding for a

particular project. This was agreed by the members and it was agreed that the matter would be listed for the June Agenda.

**Minute No. 56/15**

**Notice of Motion from Other Councils**

The Notice of Motion from Ballina Municipal District was proposed by Cllr. P. Savage and seconded by Cllr. C. Keelan.

**Minute No. 57/15**

**Civic Awards**

The Cathaoirleach, Cllr. Declan Breathnach suggested to the members that it may be more appropriate that this matter be dealt with in committee.

On the proposal of Cllr. Butler and seconding of Cllr. McGahon it was agreed that the matter of Civic Awards be dealt with in committee in accordance with Standing Order No. 50.

A discussion ensued with regard to a number of proposals regarding likely recipients of Municipal Civic Awards. It was the view of a number of members that the suggestions were all very sport orientated, and awards were being proposed for individuals and groups who had already received a reward for their achievements in their specific disciplines.

It was proposed by Cllr. Butler and seconded by Cllr. Doyle that a cross party working group be established to agree a protocol in relation to the award of Civic Awards, and that this take account of any decisions that the Corporate Policy Group might take in regard to same. This was agreed by all.

The following working group nominations were confirmed:  
Cllr. Keelan, Cllr. Butler, Cllr. McGahon, Cllr. Yore and Cllr. Green.

The Meetings Administrator agreed to circulate a draft Protocol for Civic Awards and that a meeting would be scheduled as soon as was practical.

There being no further business the meeting concluded.

The Minutes were confirmed at the meeting held on:-

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

Cathaoirleach: \_\_\_\_\_

Meetings Administrator: \_\_\_\_\_