

Borough District of Drogheda – November 2016

Minutes of the Meeting of the Borough District of Drogheda held in Barlow House, West Street, Drogheda, on Monday, 7th November, 2016 at 6.00 p.m.

In attendance:

Mayor: Cllr. O. Tully

Members: Cllrs: P. Bell, J. Byrne, T. Byrne, K. Callan, A. Cassidy, R. Culhane, K. Flood, F. Godfrey, P. Smith

Officials: Paddy Donnelly, Director of Services
Aoife Lawler, Senior Executive Officer
Pat Finn, Senior Engineer
Alan Sherry, Meetings Administrator

Minute No. 114/16

Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 3rd October, 2016, were confirmed on the proposal of Cllr. P. Bell and seconded by Cllr. T. Byrne.

Minute No. 115/16

Special Meeting Minutes

The minutes of the Special meeting held on 17th October, 2016, were confirmed on the proposal of Cllr. P. Smith and seconded by Cllr. P. Bell.

Minute No. 116/16

Matters arising

Members were informed that the speed review in relation to the N.51 was ongoing.

Minute No. 117/16

Housing and Communities Progress Report

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

- Members were informed that all HAP tenants were being included on the Council's transfer list.
- Members were informed that the Housing Department was working with Simon to secure accommodation for homeless people in Dundalk.
- It was undertaken to update the members on the progress of the developments at Liscorrie and Aston Village.

Minute No. 118/16

Operations, Marine and Infrastructure Report

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

- Members strongly requested that they be provided with a copy of the presentation made to them at the September meeting in relation to the Narrow West Street Rejuvenation Scheme.
- Members were informed that new design consultants were being tendered for the Town Hall refurbishment project.
- A copy of the report in relation to coastal flooding at Baltray is to be circulated to the members.
- The flood defences for Drogheda are to be kept in the monthly report.
- The unhappiness of the residents at Tredagh View, Marleys Lane at the removal of the boundary wall was raised.
- It was agreed to look into the problems being caused by parked cars at Scarlett Crescent, along with the illegal dumping at the fallen tree.

Minute No. 119/16

Proposed Scheduled Meeting 2017

The Meetings Administrator circulated the Meeting Schedule for 2017 and brought to the members' attention a request to hold the January Municipal District of Ardee meeting on Monday, 9th January, 2017 at 5.30 pm in order to facilitate the issuing of the agenda and replies to the members following the Christmas leave. This was proposed by the Cllr. P. Bell and seconded by Cllr. F. Godfrey and agreed by all.

Minute No. 120/16

Councillors Allocations

The Councillors Allocations were confirmed on the proposal of Cllr. K. Callan and seconded by Cllr. P. Bell.

Minute No. 121/16

Notice of Motion

Proposed by: Cllr. R. Culhane
Seconded by: Cllr. K. Callan

" In keeping with our Age Friendly County policies I call the on LOUTH County Council to install street furniture (seating), on Peter St, George's St, and Laurence's St Drogheda to facilitate our elderly citizens gaining respite while exiting the main st and encouraging older people to walk to and from the centre of their town".

REPLY:

The installation of street furniture can enhance the shopping experience for all ages. As we do not currently have a budget for such an initiative, Members may wish to consider a pilot scheme which could be funded from the Municipal /Borough District allocation in budget 2017.

Members spoke in favour of the motion but emphasised the need to come up with innovative ideas such as fold-up seating and that it was important that the street furniture was monitored and maintained if put in place. The motion was agreed by the members.

Minute No. 122/16

Notice of Motion

Proposed by: Cllr. K. Flood
Seconded by: Cllr. A. Cassidy

"Noting that the all day car-park at Scarlet Street is now being developed for social housing, This Council will identify a site and open a new car park, accessible for commuters using public transport and those who work within the town center.

REPLY:

The former Fire Station Yard was opened up as a temporary car park when the new fire station on Rathmullen Road opened. It was never developed with permanent surfacing lining etc. and was an interim use of the site pending its re-development.

There are no plans to develop a replacement long term car park in this area at present.

During the discussion members agreed to meet in sub-committee to develop ideas for parking throughout the town. It was also agreed that Irish Rail and the owners of the former Coca Cola site would be written to by the Council to examine the possibility of providing free parking. The motion was agreed by the members.

Minute No. 123/16

Notice of Motion

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

" That Louth County Council carry out a comprehensive Environmental Scheme in the historic Dale/ 101 Steps area to include a Greenway along the Public Right of Way of the main sewerage line, to the eye of the Bridge at Meadow View, through the overgrown laneway adjoining Bully's Acre and exiting at Calvary Cemetery, for the benefit of the

local community, including wheelchair accessibility, the residents of the nearby housing estates in the Blackbush Lane/ Bryanstown area and Local Tourism".

REPLY:

Unfortunately, the land involved is not in the ownership of the local authority and there is neither detailed design or funding available for such a scheme.

Following a discussion a roll call vote was called.

For: Cllrs. T. Byrne and F. Godfrey

Against: Cllrs. J. Byrne, K. Callan, A. Cassidy, R. Culhane, K. Flood, P. Smith, O. Tully.

Absent: Cllr. P. Bell

The motion was defeated.

Minute No. 124/16

Notice of Motion

Proposed by: Cllr. F. Godfrey

Seconded by: Cllr. K. Callan

"That the Borough District of Drogheda write to the Minister for Local Government to reinstate Drogheda Borough Council with full executive powers."

REPLY:

This is a matter for the Members.

In the course of the discussion the members expressed strong support for the urgent need to review the Local Government Act 2014. The motion was agreed by the members.

Minute No. 125/16

Notice of Question – Alan Cassidy

"Can this council confirm whether it owns a plot of land in close proximity to Sacred Heart school; specifically the site on the corner of Blackbush lane and Sunnyside cottages?"

REPLY:

The Council has a legal interest in the site detailed on the attached map. However, no title has been registered with the Property Registration Authority (PRA).

Minute No. 126/16

Notice of Question – Cllr. F. Godfrey

"What is the up-to-date situation on drains / gullies causing serious flooding in Drogheda? It appears that many drains on streets and roads in the town are blocked and in need of more regular cleaning and maintenance."

REPLY:

Louth County Council have appointed a contractor who will commence drain clearing work at critical points on the R132 before the end of October. Other areas will be reviewed and dealt with as necessary and as resources allow.

The meeting then concluded.

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

Date: _____

Mayor: _____

Meeting Administrator: _____