LOUTH COUNTY COUNCIL

Minutes of Infrastructure, European and Cross Border Affairs and Sustainable Energy Strategic Policy Committee meeting held in The Cooley Room, County Hall, Dundalk on Thursday 28th January 2016 at 3.00pm.

Present: Cllr D Breathnach (Chairman)
Cllr D Minogue
Cllr C Markey
Cllr O Tully
Ms F Okobi, Community/Voluntary Rep
Mr P Malone, Business/Commercial Rep
Mr P Mc Kevitt, Environment/Conservation Rep

Officials:
Mr P Donnelly, Director of Services
Ms M Murtagh, Senior Executive Officer
Mr P Finn, Senior Engineer
Ms T Mc Ardle, Administrative Officer
Ms M O Callaghan, Staff Officer

Apologies: Cllr E Corrigan
Mr M McGreehan, Agricultural/Farming Rep

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1. Minutes

On the proposal of Cllr C Markey seconded by Cllr D Minogue the minutes of the meeting held on 19th November 2015 were noted and approved.

2. Matters Arising

The lack of attendance at meetings by some members of the SPC was noted. Members were asked to communicate with officials confirming attendance in advance to ensure a quorum can be achieved.

If the attendance does not improve the matter will have to be raised at Corporate Policy Group and full Council level.

3. Dog Litter and Dog Control Draft Bye-laws

Ms M Murtagh highlighted the eight submissions received in response to the public consultation phase of the new Bye-laws. All submissions were generally supportive of the bye-laws.
Comments were taken from the floor and members raised the issue of the difficulties in enforcing the bye-laws and the need for a proactive campaign. Suggestions included that a public/private initiative with dog food/dog accessories suppliers who might sponsor receptacles should be considered. The “Doggie Ambassador” scheme where ambassadors gave out receptacles to other dog walkers was identified as a scheme that could be further promoted as part of a public launch of the bye-laws.

On the proposal of Cllr O Tully seconded by Cllr D Minogue it was proposed to prepare and bring the final report on submissions to Louth County Council recommending approval of the Bye-Laws.

4. **Presentation Speed Limit Review** Mr Pat Finn, Senior Engineer

Mr P Finn gave a presentation on Speed Limit Review 2013. A discussion ensued covering such issues as inconsistencies in speed limits in both county areas of Meath and Louth, effectiveness of speed limits and Garda Speed traps.

The issue of periodic speed limits at schools and the cost of new signage was raised. It was agreed to check if the guidelines issued by the NRA/TII can be changed to include a cheaper type of sign.

A question was raised in relation to initial consultation and if social media and the Louth County Council website are being used in the consultation process. P Finn confirmed that the consultation process is advertised on both and is oversubscribed so the deadline has been extended to allow all communities to have their say. The new deadline is 2\textsuperscript{nd} March 2016.

5. **Work Programme**

- P Malone brought up the importance of Cross Border co-operation in relation to the economy and tourism for the area. He informed the members he had recently attended the launch of the Report on All-Island Economy and it was agreed that the report would be circulated to all the members.

6. **AOB**

M Murtagh informed the meeting that the new Better Energy Communities application is currently being put together by the Energy Office. The closing date for the application is the 26\textsuperscript{th} February 2016. It was agreed that the Energy Office would host a workshop for the members on the week beginning 1\textsuperscript{st} February and it was further agreed that an invitation would also issue to all Council members.
Provisional Date of Next Meeting
The next meeting is 14th April 2016

Confirmed at Meeting held on: ____________________

Signed: ____________________
Chairman