

Minutes of Ordinary meeting of Council July 2017

Minutes of Ordinary Meeting of Louth County Council held in County Hall, Dundalk on Monday 17th July 2017

In attendance:

Cathaoirleach: Cllr. C. Markey

Members: Councillors: P. Bell, M. Butler, J. Byrne, T. Byrne, K. Callan, E. Coffey, T. Cunningham, M. Dearey, M. Doyle, K. Flood, F. Godfrey, J. Green, C. Keelan, J. McGahon, P. McGeough, L. Reilly, D. Saurin, P. Savage, T. Sharkey, P. Smith, J. Tenanty, O. Tully, A. Watters, M. Yore

Officials: J. Martin, Chief Executive
P. Donnelly, Director of Services
E. Woulfe, A/ Director of Services
F. Pentony, Director of Services
E. O' Gorman, Director of Services
B. Woods, Head of Finance
Mary T. Daly, Senior Executive Officer
A. Lawler, Senior Executive Officer
M. Quinn, Senior Executive Planner
T. McEvoy, Head of LEO
A. Sherry, Meetings Administrator
J. Lawrence, Senior Executive Officer
L. Duff, Senior Staff Officer
M. Hodgers, Staff Officer

Apologies: Cllr. D. Minogue

Minute No.133/17

Confirmation of Minutes

Proposed by: Cllr. P. Bell
Seconded by: Cllr. O. Tully
And resolved:

That the minutes of the Annual Meeting held on Monday 19th June 2017 be confirmed.

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

That the minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on Monday 19th June 2017 be confirmed

Minute No.134/17

Matters arising

There were no matters arising

Minute No.135/17

Chairman's Report – Corporate Policy Group Meeting held on 6th July 2017

The Cathaoirleach reported to the members that the draft agenda for the July meeting was considered and agreed. It was agreed that motions or questions should only contain a single motion or question in order to be included on the agenda. The members agreed that the Magill Summer School should be recommended for the July Council meeting. It was agreed that Councillors Community Grants should only be included on the list for consideration if all necessary information has been provided. In considering the request from Clan Credo to make a presentation to the Council it was agreed to defer a decision. It was agreed to facilitate the briefing of members in relation to the budget for 2018 prior to the September Council meeting where the rate for the local property tax will be decided.

Minutes of Ordinary meeting of Council June

Minute No. 136/17

Emergency Motion

It was proposed by Cllr. T. Sharkey, seconded by M. Dearey and agreed by a majority of the members present to debate the emergency motion submitted by Cllr. J. Byrne.

Proposed by: Cllr. J. Byrne

Seconded by: Cllr. K. Flood

"That Louth County Council reverse their decision to cease collecting plastics from their bring banks, effective immediately."

Following a discussion in which the members expressed their dissatisfaction with the ceasing of collecting plastic recyclables at bring banks the members unanimously agreed the motion.

Minute No. 137/17

Minutes for noting

The following minutes were noted by the members.

Corporate Policy Group 8th June 2017

Borough District of Drogheda Annual Meeting & Monthly Meeting held on 12th June 2017

Municipal District of Dundalk Annual Meeting & Monthly Meeting held on 6th June 2017

Municipal District of Ardee Annual Meeting & Monthly Meeting held on 1st June 2017

Local Community Development Committee (LCDC) 15th May 2017

Economic Development & Enterprise Support SPC 27th February 2017

Minute No. 138/17

Monthly Management Report

Members considered the Management Report dated 7th July 2017 Queries in regard to the report were addressed by the Chief Executive, Members of the Management Team, and Senior Staff. Issues addressed included:-

- The difficulty experienced by some members of the public using the new method of broadcasting at the blessing of the graves in Dowdallshill burial ground was highlighted. The importance of an effective P/A system was emphasised by the members.

Minutes of Ordinary meeting of Council June

- It was agreed to circulate the members with details of the recreational infrastructure grant applications made by the Council.
- The Chief Executive informed members in reply to a query that the participation of members of the executive in public meetings would be decided on a case by case basis and was solely a matter for the Executive.
- Members were informed that it was hoped that the Brexit report by the East Border Region would be ready for circulation in September.

Minute No. 139/17

Nominations to Local Community Development Committee (LCDC)

Proposed by: Cllr. M. Yore
Seconded by: Cllr. E. Coffey
And resolved:

To appoint Ms. Grainne Berrill (Louth Volunteer Centre) Ms. Annette McDonnell, (HSE), Ms. Joanne Finnegan (PPN Volunteer Pillar) to the above committee as per recommendation from Mr. Joe McGuinness, Director of Services & endorsed by the Corporate Policy Group, in correspondence dated 7th July 2017 as circulated with the Agenda.

Congratulations

Dundalk Sports Centre for their inclusivity sports camp

Mary T. Daly for her promotion to Director of Services with Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council

Minute No. 140/17

Chief Executive's Report on the submissions received on foot of the display of the Draft Dunleer Local Area Plan 2017-2023

Proposed by: Cllr. F. Godfrey
Seconded by: Cllr. K. Callan
And resolved:

Minutes of Ordinary meeting of Council June

Members agreed the plan subject to the inclusion of a sentence stating that Dunleer offers the potential as a location to secure, in co-operation with Iarnród Éireann, improved rail services for the mid and south Louth area.

Minute No. 141/17

Nomination of one member to the Placenames Committee

Cllr David Saurin was proposed by Cllr J. Byrne, seconded by Cllr A. Watters
Cllr Frank Godfrey was proposed by Cllr M. Yore, seconded by Cllr K. Callan

There followed a roll call vote, the result of which is as follows:

For Cllr Saurin	Cllrs: J. Byrne, T. Cunningham, K. Flood, P. McGeough, D. Saurin, T. Sharkey, A. Watters Total Seven (7)
For Cllr Godfrey	Cllrs: P. Bell, M. Butler, K. Callan, E. Coffey, M. Dearey, M. Doyle, F. Godfrey, C. Keelan, C. Markey, J. McGahon, L. Reilly, P. Savage, O. Tully, M. Yore. Total fourteen (14)
Absent:	Cllrs: T. Byrne, E. Corrigan, R. Culhane, J. Green, K. Meenan, D. Minogue, P. Smith, J. Tenanty Total eight (8)

Cllr Godfrey was duly elected to the Placenames Committee

Minute No. 142/17

Allocation of Community Grants

Proposed by: Cllr. F. Godfrey
Seconded by: Cllr. M. Butler
And resolved:

To approve Members Community Grant Allocations (No. 54) as listed on the report circulated with the agenda

Minute No.143/17

Conferences and Events

Proposed by: Cllr. M. Butler

Seconded by: Cllr. O. Tully

And resolved:

To approve attendance of members recorded in the Conference & Events Register at such Conferences and Events listed within the agenda.

Minute No.144 /17

Notice of Motion

Proposed by: Cllr. T. Sharkey

Seconded by: Cllr. J. Byrne

That Louth County Council is concerned for the condition of Donaghmore Soutterain.

"This Council calls for a full report to be prepared by the CE of LCC outlining all reports, inspections and considerations regarding this soutterain."

Reply:

Planning permission has been granted for a dwelling (Planning Ref 08/1372; 14408 and 15401) in this location, and this is currently under construction.

The line of the 'existing caves' was delineated on the site layout plan. In assessing this planning application, the Department was consulted, an Archeological Survey was undertaken and the Department subsequently recommended permission be granted subject to a condition that no ground disturbance works be undertaken to the eastern part of this site.

A member of our planning staff visited this site on the 24th May 2017. While there are significant quantities of materials and vehicles elsewhere on this site, I can confirm that the eastern area has not been disturbed.

The Donaghmore Soutterain is a National Monument, and under the care of the OPW.

Response was noted by the members

Minutes of Ordinary meeting of Council June

Minute No. 145/17

Notice of Motion

Proposed by: Cllr. T. Sharkey

Seconded by: Cllr. J. Byrne

"That Louth County Council engage in a public awareness campaign and direct meetings with farming organisations highlighting the regulations and responsibilities around cattle soiling public roads

Reply:

The Operations & Local Services Section manage reported incidents of spillage and road debris by way of Section 13 of the Road Traffic Act, 1993. The Road Safety Officer will engage with the Farming organisations representatives on this matter and will trail a number of messages on our social media platform. The matter will also be highlighted at the next meeting of the Collision Prevention Programme Committee which is attended by An Garda Síochána and the Councils Engineering staff.

During the discussion concern was raised at the problem of horse litter on roads and beaches.

Response was noted by the members

Minute No. 146/17

Notice of Motion

Proposed by: Cllr. E. Coffey

Seconded by: Cllr. C. Keelan

Given the allocation of €187m by the Irish Public Bodies to county councils across Ireland under the "retained earnings distribution fund (2017-2019)" for the purpose of investing this money in the infrastructure of towns and villages in order to prevent accidents on footpaths that Louth County Council ensure this payment is ring-fenced explicitly for this purpose and not subsumed into general income by the finance department.

Reply

The allocation from Irish Public Bodies will be need to be ring-fenced to address a number of items including the proposed changes to our insurance including;

- a) the cessation of retro rated premiums,
- b) the settlement of outstanding retro related claims
- c) the removal of claims excesses
- d) the introduction of community rating which will result in increased annual premiums
- e) investment in resolving key issues/areas relating to claims

Response was noted by the members

Minute No.147/17

Notice of Question

Submitted by: Cllr. J. McGahon

In light of the recent tragedy at Grenfell Tower in London and difficulties with apartment complexes in Dublin, what measures have Louth County Council undertaken or will undertake to ensure the fire safety and compliance of apartment blocks in Louth and what inspection regime is currently in place and if there are any plans to review or augment this?

REPLY:

Louth County Council are actively reviewing this matter in tandem with national advice and guidance that has been issued by the Department of Housing. Whilst cladding is not an issue with regard to social housing apartments in Louth, the review will concentrate on means of escape, fire alarm systems and emergency lighting systems and the roles and duties of management companies with regard to fire safety.

Louth County Council will also be issuing Community Fire Safety guidance to Council tenants.

Minute No.148/17

Notice of Question

Submitted by: Cllr. C. Keelan

Can the members be provided with information on the following: -The current number of disabled parking spaces in the local authority area (broken down by district if possible).

REPLY:

North Louth

Dundalk Municipal District - Dundalk 73, Carlingford 7, Blackrock 8 Sub-Total = 88

Ardee Municipal District - Castlebellingham 1

= Total 89

South Louth

Borough District of Drogheda - Drogheda 74, Dunleer 2, Tullyallen 1, Sub-Total 77

Ardee Municipal District - Ardee 15, Sub-total 15

= Total 92

Minute No.149/17

Notice of Question

Submitted by: Cllr. C. Keelan

What funding Louth Local Authorities received from Central Government in the past 5 years to upgrade and introduce disabled parking spaces?

REPLY:

No specific funding is allocated for upgrading and / or provision of disabled parking spaces. Works are currently funded from own resources.

Minutes of Ordinary meeting of Council June

Minute No.150 /17

Correspondence

Correspondence as circulated with the Agenda was noted by the members.

Minute No.151 /17

Motions from other Councils

Motions from other Councils as circulated with the Agenda was noted

That concluded the business of the meeting.

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

Date: _____

Cathaoirleach: _____

Meetings Administrator: _____