

Minutes of Ordinary meeting of Council May 2017

Minutes of Ordinary Meeting of Louth County Council held in County Hall, Dundalk on Monday 15th May 2017

In attendance:

Cathaoirleach: Cllr. P. Bell

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

Officials: J. Martin, Chief Executive
J. McGuinness Director of Services
E. O’Gorman, Director of Services
P. Donnelly, Director of Services
F. Pentony, Director of Services
B. Woods, Head of Finance
M.T. Daly, Senior Executive Officer
A. Lawler, Senior Executive Officer
A. Sherry, Meetings Administrator
J. Lawrence A/ Senior Executive Officer
P. Finn, Senior Engineer
T. McEvoy, Head of LEO

Minute No. 81/17

Confirmation of Minutes

Proposed by: Cllr. T. Byrne
Seconded by: Cllr. K. Callan
And resolved:

That the minutes of the ordinary meeting held on 10th April 2017 be confirmed

Minute No. 82/17

Matters arising

- There were no matters arising

Minute No. 83/17

Minutes for noting

The following minutes were noted by the members.

Corporate Policy Group 30th March 2017
Borough District of Drogheda 3rd April 2017
Municipal District of Dundalk 4th April 2017
Municipal District of Ardee 6th April 2017
Housing, Community Planning & Emergency Services SPC 30th January 2017
Infrastructure, European & Cross Border SPC 13th October 2016 & 19th Jan 2017
LCDC 20th March 2017
Dundalk LPF 23rd November 2016
Drogheda LPF 22nd November 2016
Ardee LPF 21st November 2016

Minute No. 84/17

Monthly Management Report

Members noted the Management Report dated 7th May, 2017

Minute No.85/17

Casual Vacancy

Proposed by: Cllr. K. Flood

Seconded by: Cllr. J. Byrne

And resolved:

That David Saurin shall fill the Casual Vacancy on Louth County Council arising from the resignation of Cllr. Alan Cassidy. The Members wished outgoing Cllr. Cassidy well and along with the Chief Executive welcomed Cllr. David Saurin onto the Council.

Minute No.86/17

Annual General Meeting

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

That the Annual General Meeting will be held on Monday 19th June 2017

Minute No.87/17

Audit Committee Report 2016

The Audit Committee Report for 2016 was noted by the members

Minute No. 88/17

2015 Audited Annual Financial Statement including Local Government Auditors and Audit Committee Report

Members noted the 2015 Audited Annual Financial Statement including Local Government Auditors and Audit Committees Report

Minute No. 89/17

2016 Unaudited Annual Financial Statement

Approval of the 2016 Unaudited Annual Financial Statements including the under/over expenditure as per Note 16 and the transfer to/from capital was **proposed by Cllr. P. Savage, seconded by P. Smith** and agreed by the members.

Minute No. 90/17

Redevelopment of Fair Street Civic Offices

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

To approve borrowing in the sum of €12 million for the redevelopment of Fair Street Civic Offices, Drogheda.

Minute No. 91/17

Allocation of Community Grants

Proposed by: Cllr. K. Callan
Seconded by: Cllr. E. Coffey
And resolved:

To approve Members Community Grant Allocations (No. 32) as listed with the agenda

Minute No. 92/17

Conferences and Events

Proposed by: Cllr. P. Smith
Seconded by: Cllr. E. Coffey
And resolved:

To approve the attendance of members recorded in the Conference & Events Register at such Conferences and Events (No.5) listed within the agenda & endorsed by the Corporate Policy Group on 5th May 2017.

Minute No. 93/17

Notice of Motion

Proposed by: Cllr. E. Coffey
Seconded by: Cllr. J. Tenanty

Calling on Louth County Council to review and update if necessary the Louth Local Economic and Community Plan 2016 -2022.

1. **With Specific Reference to Brexit: that when Preparing the Local Economic and Community Plan 2016 – 2022** the potential consequences of the Brexit vote upon County Louth was a central consideration to formulating its strategy, vision and subsequent core policy framework. That if necessary the Advisory Group will review the plan and update it with specific reference to Brexit.
2. **Calling on the Council to produce** the Advisory Group Adaptive Response and strategy to the consequences of Brexit in the context of the aims and objectives of the Plan and calling on Louth County Council in all future planning strategies and projects to consider the implications of Brexit

Reply

The LECP has been adopted and is subject to a single review during the course of its lifetime. The matter will be brought to the attention of the Advisory Steering Group established to oversee the preparation and implementation of the Plan.

The need to gather together all concerns in relation to the issue was raised. It was agreed to keep members updated in relation to Brexit in the monthly management report and to give a further response to the motion at the next meeting.

The response was noted by the members

Minute No. 94/17

Notice of Motion

Proposed by: Cllr. K. Flood
Seconded by: Cllr. J. Byrne

This Council will initiate a tracking and reference system for motions passed at Municipal District and full Council Meetings in the interest of transparency.

This tracking and reference system would allow Councillors and The Public to follow a motion that was passed along its various stages i.e. SPC, council department for report, being added to a works schedule, through to completion.

If a passed motion not a lawful direction the tracking and reference system can simply state that. If a passed motion falls within the remit of other government bodies the tracking and reference system can state that that body has been contacted by our local authority.

If a motion cannot be actioned then the tracking and reference system can state that

Reply:

Replies to motions clearly set out the Council's position for the members, including whether or not the motion relates to areas within the remit of the Council. As the minutes of Council meetings, containing the replies to motions, are available to view on the Councils website it is not considered necessary to introduce an additional tracking and reference system.

In the course of the debate members expressed strong support for the introduction of a system for the tracking of the progress of motions passed.

Members agreed the motion

Minute No. 95/17

Notice of Motion

Proposed by: Cllr. R. Culhane

Seconded by: Cllr. K. Callan

In view of the successful bid by Drogheda to host the Fleadh Cheoil in 2018, Will Louth County Council put in place a special policy on tables and chairs licensing in order to allow restaurateurs and publicans plan in advance for this major event.

Reply:

The Chief Executive will lead in regard to planning and preparations for Fleadh Cheoil 2018 in Drogheda. The planning will include the provision of services for the high number of visitors expected in the town for the duration

of the event. The provision of additional trading spaces for the commercial sector will form part of the planning preparations and the issue of Section 254 licenses will be considered as part of that process.

In the course of the discussion the benefit of informing business of the current licensing arrangements was highlighted. Members were also informed that 1,500 volunteers would be needed for the staging of the event.

Members noted the reply

Minute No.96 /17

Votes of Sympathy

Votes of sympathy were extended by the members to the families of:-

- To Eamonn Dunne, Operations & Local Services on the death of his mother Kathleen Dunne
- To the Family of late John Conlon, former employee of Louth County Council
- To David Hall, Economic Development, Infrastructure & Compliance on the death of his mother Kay (née Woods) Hall
- To the Family of late Mick Drumgoole, former employee of Louth County Council
- Mattie McGahon
- The Palestinian Hunger Strikers

Minute No.97/17

Vote of Congratulations to the following:-

- The Louth under 14's girls team
- Barry Matthews on his ordination
- The recipients of Civic Awards from the Dundalk Municipal District

Minute No. 98/17

Notice of Motion

Proposed by: Cllr. F. Godfrey

Seconded by: Cllr. T. Byrne

That Louth County Council provides 100% direct funding for Flood Barrier Systems to domestic and commercial buildings that have suffered flooding in Louth, similar to other counties such as Mayo, Kerry, Carlow and Dublin, who have provided these grants under the heading of 'Small Works Scheme'

Reply

No provision has been made in the Council's budget to fund such a scheme. At national level the OPW advise as follows: Individual property protection is one measure being considered by a committee with members from a number of Government Departments. This Committee, the Interdepartmental Flood Policy Co-ordination Group will provide to Government for its consideration possible costed measures including any assistance for people whose properties may benefit from Individual Property Protection or a voluntary home relocation scheme. The cost of introducing any schemes of this nature will have to be considered by the potential benefits that may arise.

The Government is expected to consider this Report in tandem with the outcome of the draft FRMPs

It was agreed to come back to members with the cost of the installation of a flood prevention door

Members noted the reply

Minute No. 99/17

Notice of Motion

Proposed by: Cllr. P. Bell
Seconded by: Cllr. K. Callan

“That this Council review the operating licences of waste collection companies for the specific purpose of ensuring that such entities are fully compliant with the specified operating hours so as to ensure that residential communities are not subjected to HGV and operating noise levels in the early hours and late at night. And that Council provide a contact for members of the public to report breaches of licensed operating times by waste collection companies’

Reply:

Waste collection permit reviews are carried out by the National Waste Collection Permit Office (NWCPO) which is based in Offaly Co Co. All the domestic waste collectors operating in County Louth have had their permits reviewed recently to include the following condition in respect of collection times.

'The permit holder shall, minimise noise and nuisance and only collect

i Between the hours of 6am and 10pm in areas where a 60 kilometre per hour or lower speed limit applies, or an extended timeframe if agreed between the nominated authority and the local authority in which the collection activities take place, or

ii At any time in areas where an 80 kilometre per hour or higher speed limit applies'

These conditions only apply to domestic waste collectors and not to operators collecting commercial waste.

The Council's Environment Enforcement section will take appropriate enforcement action against any waste collector found in breach of their permit conditions. Any member of the public who wishes to lodge a complaint may do so through the normal channels giving as much detail as possible of the alleged transgression.

Members were informed that the Council's Environmental Enforcement Section should be contacted to investigate any issues of concern and they would contact the relevant waste operators if necessary.

Members noted the reply

Minute No. 100/17

Notices of Motions from other Councils

Notices of Motions from other Councils as circulated with the Agenda were noted by the members

Minute No. 101/17

Correspondence

Disappointment was expressed at the failure of the new Coroner's legislation to provide for an automatic inquest into every maternal death in the state

That concluded the business of the meeting.

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

Date: _____

Cathaoirleach: _____

Meetings Administrator: _____