

Minutes of Council Meeting November 2018

Minutes of Ordinary Meeting of Louth County Council held in County Hall, Dundalk on Monday 19th November 2018

In attendance:

Cathaoirleach: Cllr. L. Reilly

Members: Councillors: P. Bell, M. Butler, T. Byrne, J. Byrne, K. Callan, A. Campbell, E. Coffey, E. Corrigan, R. Culhane, T. Cunningham, M. Dearey, M. Doyle, K. Flood, F. Godfrey, C. Keelan, C. Markey, J. McGahon, P. McGeough, D. Minogue, R. O'Murchu, , D. Saurin, P. Savage, T. Sharkey, P. Smith, J. Tenanty, O. Tully, A. Watters, M. Yore.

Officials: J. Martin, Chief Executive
F. Pentony, Director of Services
J. McGuinness, Director of Services
P. Donnelly, Director of Services
B. Woods, Head of Finance
W. Walsh, A/Director of Services
T. McEvoy, Head of LEO
M. Johnston, Senior Engineer
M. Sheeran, Senior Engineer
J. O'Hagan, Senior Engineer
P. Connolly, Senior Engineer
A. Abbott-King, Senior Planner
M. Quinn, Senior Executive Planner
C. Moss, Senior Executive Officer
J. Lawrence, Senior Executive Officer
A. Lawler, Senior Executive Officer
L. McKenna, Senior Executive Officer
B. Lynch, Financial Accountant
R. McAuley, Financial Accountant
A. Sherry, Meetings Administrator
C. Mullen, Administrative Officer
E. McManus, Administrative Officer
A. Brannigan, Senior Executive Librarian
J. Kearney, Executive Engineer

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Minute No.194/18

Confirmation of Minutes

Proposed by: Cllr. M. Yore
Seconded by: Cllr. O. Tully
And resolved:

That the minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on 15th October 2018 be confirmed

Minute No. 195/18

Matters Arising

It was requested that minute no. 180/18 be amended to state that the item was withdrawn. It was requested that the cost of the work on the Buttergate be circulated to the members in writing. It was requested that a copy of the letter sent to the Minister for Housing, Planning and Local Government in relation to meeting the members be circulated to all of the Councillors.

Minute No. 196/18

Minutes for noting

Corporate Policy Group 3rd October 2018

Borough District of Drogheda 1st & 26th October 2018

Municipal District of Dundalk 2nd & 15th October 2018

Municipal District of Ardee 4th & 15th October 2018

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Minute No.197/18

Report on CPG Meeting

The Cathaoirleach reported that the meeting of the CPG was held Wednesday 7th November 2018. The draft agenda for the November meeting was considered and agreed. Councillors Community Grants (15) were noted and approved. The members also considered and agreed to recommend the conferences listed on the agenda. The Chief Executive outlined the main points of the draft budget for 2019.

Minute No. 198/18

Monthly Management Report

An update was requested in relation to the Ardee bye-pass.

Concern was expressed at the draft heritage plan being reviewed by the management team while it was being drafted by the SPC.

There was dissatisfaction expressed at the lack of progress in relation to the painting of electricity boxes on streets, with funding having been provided.

Members expressed their concern in relation to the recent anti-social and criminal activity in Drogheda and the need to progress the putting in place of CCTV was emphasised. It was agreed to revert back to the members in relation to their belief that funding had been previously made available for the installation of CCTV.

The need to engage with NGOs dealing with homelessness prior to the carrying out of the rough sleeper count was raised.

It was agreed to check the figures in the housing report in relation to the land owned by the Council.

The need for more background information in relation to void housing units was raised.

Dissatisfaction was expressed with the wide variety of funding schemes for voluntary groups and local authorities and the need to reduce and simplify them was highlighted.

Minute No. 199/18

Section 183 Notice – Disposal of land at Marshes Upper Dundalk

This notice was withdrawn

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Minute No. 200/18

Section 183 Notice – Disposal of land at Forresters Hall, Market St, Dundalk

This notice was withdrawn

Minute No. 201/18

Section 183 Notice – Disposal of Land adjacent to No. 6 Lisheen Park, Knockbridge, Dundalk

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

That having considered the notice on the matter dated 26th October 2018 to confirm the Disposal of 54.4 sq.m.of land adjacent / attached to No. 6 Lisheen Park, Knockbridge, Dundalk to Mr. Patrick Farrell, No.6 Lisheen Park, Knockbridge, Dundalk for a consideration of €1,500 euro (fifteen hundred euro).
Purchaser to be liable for costs and expenses.

Minute No. 202/18

Section 183 Notice – Disposal of land at Ardee

Proposed by: Cllr. D. Minogue
Seconded by: Cllr. J. Tenanty
And resolved:

That having considered the notice on the matter dated 5th November 2018 to confirm the Disposal of Land (1.583 hectares) approx. at Ardee to the Minister for Education & Skills for a consideration of €130,000. (One hundred and thirty thousand euro).

The sale is subject to Louth County Council providing good title and other requirements as set out in the Contract for Sale.

Minute No.203/18

Membership of the Local Traveller Accommodation Consultative Committee

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

That in accordance with Section 22 of the Housing (Traveller Accommodation) Act, 1998 it was agreed by the members to appoint Ms. Brigid Maguire, Slane Rd. Drogheda, Mr. Paddy Donnelly, Director of Services and Ms. Danielle McMahon, Louth County Council Social Worker to the Local Traveller Accommodation Consultative Committee.

Minute No. 204/18

Allocation of Community Grants

Proposed by: Cllr. P. Bell
Seconded by: Cllr. P. Smith
And resolved:

To approve Members Community Grant Allocations (No. 15) as listed on the report circulated with the agenda

Minute No. 205/18

Conferences and Events

Proposed by: Cllr. P. Smith
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 & endorsed by the Corporate Policy Group on 7th November 2018

Minute No.206/18

Nomination of one member to the Board of LMETB

Proposed by: Cllr. P. McGeough
Seconded by: Cllr. J. Byrne
And resolved:

That Cllr. Antoin Watters be nominated to the Board of the Louth Meath Education & Training Board. Vacancy occurred due to the resignation of Cllr. T. Sharkey.

Minute No. 207/18

County of Louth, Road Traffic, Special Speed Limit Bye-Laws for 2018

Members were informed that individual parts of the bye-laws could not be amended at this stage and that they must be voted on as were presented. Some members expressed their concern at certain roads not having speed reductions.

Proposed by: Cllr. P. Bell
Seconded by: Cllr. M. Dearey
And resolved:

To approve the County of Louth, Road Traffic, Special Speed Limit Bye-Laws for 2018 as per documents circulated to Councillors in advance of the monthly meeting.

Minute No. 208/18

Arts Act Round II – 2018 for approval

Item deferred. It was agreed to give the members a presentation in relation to this item at the December monthly meeting.

Minute No. 209/18

Call for submission in relation to the Local Authority Elected Members Role and Remuneration Review

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This item was noted by the members

Minute No. 210/18

Notice of Motion

Proposed by: Cllr. C. Keelan

Seconded by: Cllr. M. Yore

And resolved:

'That the elected representatives be provided with the most up to date land and property asset registry of what the local authority currently owns.'

Reply

The Council records details of all of its land and property assets on an electronic system which allows queries to be generated in relation specific areas. All Council-owned land is recorded on this system. Due to the very substantial amount of land owned by the Council throughout the County a map detailing all of that land would be have to be on a very large scale and is therefore impractical.

If members have queries in relation to specific pieces of land or land owned by the Council in a particular geographical area a map can be generated illustrating the area in question.

The response was noted by the members

Minute No. 211/18

Notice of Motion

Proposed by: Cllr. C. Keelan

Seconded by: Cllr. M. Yore

And resolved:

"That a protocol committee be established in Louth County Council so that the members have a role in the operation of civic events in the County."

Reply:

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The protocol committee has traditionally been made up of the leaders of each political party and a representative of the independent members and has

most recently been active in relation to the development of an action plan to address issues in relation to enhancing communication between the members and the officials of the council. A meeting can be called of the committee to examine the current protocol in relation to the staging of civic award events and to discuss any issues in relation to other civic events.

The response was noted by the members

Minute No. 212/18

Notice of Motion

Proposed by: Cllr. J. Byrne
Seconded by: Cllr. D. Saurin
And resolved:

That this council noting the recent Cervical Check Scandal, calls upon the Minister for Health and An Taoiseach to acknowledge, support, and respond in detail to the demands of the Standing4Women* campaign. These include: Legislation and policy on mandatory open disclosure independent of the patient safety bill, Provision of a start and end date and full disclosure on the 1800 smears yet to be audited, and a breakdown of the new packages being negotiated with laboratories carrying out smear slide analysis including mandatory site audits.

The motion was agreed by the members

Minute No. 213/18

Notice of Motion

Proposed by: Cllr. E. Coffey
Seconded by: Cllr. C. Keelan
And resolved:

"That LCC request that the Proposed Housing (Regulation of Registered Housing Providers) Bill to be passed/enacted immediately to ensure that there is legislative governance of approved housing bodies. A statutory regulatory framework will provide assurances to tenants, Government investments and the sector itself that social housing providers operate in a well-regulated and stable environment

The motion was agreed by the members

Minute No. 214/18

Vote of Congratulations to the following:-

Collon and Gary Kelly Centre for Pride of Place success
Dundalk FC

Ardee Community School boys Gaelic Football team

St. Mary's minor team

Rob Kearney, Devin Toner and the Irish Rugby team

Amy Broadhurst

SS Dundalk Commemoration Committee

Louth Volunteers and John Boyle O'Reilly Society

Newtown Blues

It was suggested that a statue should be erected in honour of Jimmy Hasty

Minute No. 215/18

Vote of Sympathy:-

Votes of sympathy were extended to the families of the following:-

The Chief Executive Ms. Joan Martin on the death of her sister Kathleen Hamill

Paddy Clarke

Liam Wilson

Brendan Hand

Minute No. 216/18

Notice of Question

From Cllr. M. Yore

"How many fines have been issued to dog owners in Dundalk, Drogheda, and Ardee in relation to dog litter and what date did Louth County Council enact the dog bye-laws?"

REPLY:

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12 fines for dog litter have been issued in 2018 to date (up to 7th November): 1 in Drogheda, 2 in Dundalk and 9 in the rest of the county, including Ardee. The Dog Litter and Dog Control Bye-Laws of 2015 were commenced on 16th March 2016.

Minute No. 217/18

Notice of Question

From Cllr. P. Bell

'Can this Council confirm the total cost of hosting Fleadh Cheoil na hÉireann in Drogheda 2018 and specifically the cost liability to Louth County Council?'

REPLY:

Fleadh Cheoil na hÉireann 2018 was a Comhaltas hosted event and details of costs pertaining to same are a matter for Comhaltas and the Fleadh Executive Committee.

Members will be aware that Louth County Council played a leading role in promoting the bid to secure the event for Drogheda. The Council is also playing a central role in supporting the delivery of the festival over a two year period. Fleadh costs attributed to the Council will be quantified over that period and reported accordingly. This approach of 'Balancing' the account over the two years has also been used by previous venues.

The questioner stated that he was not satisfied with the response to this question.

Minute No. 218/18

Notices of Motion from other councils

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

Minute No. 219/18

Correspondence

Correspondence as listed with the Agenda was noted by the members

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That concluded the business of the meeting

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

Date: _____

Cathaoirleach: _____

Meetings Administrator: _____