

Minutes of monthly meeting of Ardee Town Council held in Mid-Louth Civic Services Centre, Fairgreen, on Wednesday 10th April, 2013

Cathaoirleach: Mary Kavanagh

Other Members: Michael Farrelly, Pearse McGeough, Dolores Minogue, Finnan McCoy, Padraig McKenny, Fintan Malone, Cllr Jim Tenanty

Officials: Joe McGuinness, Director of Service
Miriam Roe, Town Clerk
Padraig Judge, Senior Executive Engineer
Bernadette Woods, Head of Finance

Apologies: Cllr Leonard Hatrick

MINUTE 27/13

Minutes

On the proposal of Cllr. M. Farrelly and seconded by Cllr. D Minogue, the minutes of the meeting of 13th March, 2013 were adopted.

MINUTE 28/13

Matters Arising:

The Gathering - Cllr Farrelly informed the Members that with the help of Cllr Malone they had a substantial list of past Ardee Town Commissioners. Following discussions it was suggested by Cllr Tenanty that this event might coincide with Ardee Baroque 10th Anniversary in November, 2013. Cllr Farrelly & Cllr Malone agreed to form a sub committee to progress this event.

MINUTE 29/13

Delegates to Visit Nettuno:

Cllr Kavanagh asked the Members for names of those wishing to travel to Nettuno in May. The Cathaoirleach stated that she would like to bring a Translator, from her funds, to accompany the delegates on the trip. It was agreed that the Town Clerk would email Nettuno confirming that delegates would be travelling and that details would follow before 19th April, 2013.

MINUTE 30/13

Planned Works:

P. Judge circulated a report in relation to the planned works for the forthcoming month and works undertaken since the last report.

- Re surfacing of Bridge Street and Market Square Car Park.
- Cleaning of Gullies at various locations throughout the town.
- Improvement works at College Park.
- Repairs to railings at various locations within the town.

Members noted the following:

Cllr McCoy: - Kerbs at St Marys GFC –

- Loose gravel adjacent to Church of Nativity (Drogheda Rd)
Bus Stopping at Sliabh Breagh, obstruction to traffic – Town Clerk to write to Bus Eireann and enclose photo of same.

Cllr Malone: - Drains at Square, Sliabh Breagh need cleaning
Seat at College Park – No plans to move same.

Cllr Farrelly: - What are the plans for College Park – P Judge reiterated what was stated in planned works. It was hoped this would eliminate the anti social behaviour which was occurring in this location previously. Cllr McKenny suggested that the Members should put forward ideas which they might have to the future use of this area. It was agreed, following discussion, to place it as an item on the May Agenda.

- Pothole re appearing on Bridge: P Judge stated that the contractor who carried out original repair has been contacted.

Cllr Tenanty: - Vehicles parking on Castle Street outside Sizzlers, obstructing visibility at Kells Road junction. Town Clerk stated that there are double yellow lines there and Wardens did ticket in this area.

MINUTE 31/13

Notice of Motion from Other Councils:

Buncrana Town Council – *‘That Buncrana Town Council write to the Minister for Health Mr James Reilly asking him to recognise Polio as a life long illness and the issue medical cards to the survivors of same.’*

This item was marked as ‘noted’.

MINUTE 32/13

Correspondence:

Response from Department of Health re St Josephs: Cllr McCoy stated that a letter should be sent to congratulate Minister Reilly on leaving St Josephs open. Cllr McGeough stated that this statement regarding St Josephs was premature as no formal announcement had been made. Cllr Malone stated that the peaceful protests by the people of Ardee and also the substantial submission from Ardee Town Council should be recognised. Following discussion on the matter it was decided that any letter would be premature and that Cllr McCoy could write to the minister individually if he so wished.

MINUTE 33/13

Any Other Business

AFS: B Woods ran through the AFS which had been circulated to the members. It was stated that whilst there was an overspend in some areas, there was a total under spend of €6,530.00. It was also stated that there were no issues raised by the Auditor.

This overspend was approved as per page 3 of 5 of AFS 2012 on the proposal of Cllr McCoy and seconded by Cllr McKenny.

St Patricks Day Parade: Cllr McKenny, on behalf of the St Patricks day committee thanked the Ardee Town Council for their contribution and also thanked the Council staff and Gardai for their co-operation with the event.

Clean Up – Riverside Walk: Cllr McGeough asked that a clean up be carried out in this area again this year. Town Clerk to organise.

Rates Reviews for Business: Cllr McGeough asked if there would be a collective review for businesses. J McGuinness stated that this is a statutory process and there is no leeway on charges. B Woods also cautioned that there is a risk to re-valuation as the rate can increase as well as decrease. Cllr McKenny asked if the Rate Collector could come back out to collect rates.

Property Tax: Cllr McKenny raised the issue of the local property tax (LPT) and how it was being collected. A discussion followed in this regard.

It was agreed on the proposal of Cllr McKenny and seconded by Cllr Malone, that Ardee Town Council write to the Minister for Finance to state that the Members were unhappy with the assessment and implementation of the LPT. Including in this correspondence that deceased family members and children were being written to which was in itself distressing for people. This should be circulated to all councils.

Incremental Purchase Scheme: Cllr Malone asked if this applied to any houses in Ardee. J McGuinness explained that the Incremental Purchase

Scheme has been introduced as a new purchase option to meet the needs of those requiring long term housing support and assist those households with low-incomes to make a start on the route to homeownership and applies to new houses only. There is one scheme currently in Seafield Road, Blackrock.

Dermot O'Brien Room: Cllr Minogue asked if members of the O'Brien family could visit the O'Brien room. This is to be arranged.

Ramps at De la Salle Crescent: Cllr Minogue asked if ramps could be installed at this location. P Judge to meet with residents association to review same.

Bus Stop at Sliabh Breagh: Cllr McCoy stated that Bus Eireann were still parking up busses at this location which is causing a hazard to vehicles exiting the estate. Town Clerk to write again to Bus Eireann with regard to same and enclose photo.

Cycle against Suicide: Cllr Kavanagh informed the members that the cycle against suicide would be passing through the town on Sunday 5th May, stopping at the Community School. All the members were invited to lend their support to the event.

Best wishes were sent to Cllr Hatrick for a speedy recover.

This concluded the meeting.

Signed: _____
Chairman

Dated: _____