

Minutes of monthly meeting of Ardee Town Council held in Mid-Louth Civic Services Centre, Fairgreen, on Wednesday 11th December, 2013

In Attendance: Councillors: Fintan Malone (Chairperson), Michael Farrelly, Jim Tenanty, Pearse McGeough, Padraig McKenny, Mary Kavanagh, Dolores Minogue, Finnan McCoy

Apologies: Councillor Leonard Hatrick

Officials: Joe McGuinness, Director of Services
Padraig Judge, Senior Executive Engineer
Miriam Roe, Town Clerk
Mary Deery, Administrative Officer

MINUTE 78/13

Minutes

On the proposal of Cllr. J Tenanty and seconded by Cllr. M Farrelly, the minutes of the meeting of 13th November, 2013 were agreed.

MINUTE 80/13

Matters Arising

GAA Louth County Grounds: Cllr McGeough asked that the Council write to the Louth County Board requesting that they consider Ardee as a location for their county grounds. This was proposed by Cllr McGeough and seconded by Cllr Tenanty.

Cllr McGeough asked if there was any update regarding the light at Bank of Ireland. P Judge advised that Airtricity confirmed that it was sufficient. However there is always the option of changing the bulb from yellow to white.

MINUTE 81/13

Ardee Age Friendly Town:

Mary Deery gave a presentation to the Members regarding Ardee: Age Friendly Town. She gave an overview of the project from its inception, through public consultation to improvements which have been carried out in the town over the last 3 years. Included in these works were, footpaths, ramps, railings, crossings, lights, seating and exercise equipment and walks.

She advised the Members that Ardee is now being used as an exemplar by other towns and cities throughout the country. She distributed the finished report and asked if the Members would allow her to now release this for wider circulation.

This was agreed on the proposal of Cllr McCoy and Seconded by Cllr Tenanty.

A discussion followed regarding items in the presentation including

- Enabled Area
- Riverside Walk
- Lighting on the Town
- Pedestrian Crossing at Bank of Ireland
- Abiding by Rules of the Road including how to use a yellow box.

Cllr Tenanty stated that the Members were not consulted about the location of the crossing at the Bank of Ireland and voiced concern that it is in a dangerous location. This was supported by a number of the Members. It was stated that this location was mentioned as a 'preferred' location as a result of the public consultation in 2010. This was to be confirmed.

J McGuinness advised that the issue of the crossing would be dealt with by the Roads Engineers and should not take away from the excellent work that was done in Ardee by Mary Deery and the Team in the Area Office.

Mrs Deery was thanked for her informative presentation and the wonderful work she has done for the town.

MINUTE 82/13

Planned Works

P. Judge circulated a report in relation to planned works in Ardee Town and surrounding areas for the forthcoming month. These matters included;

- Repairs to Ash Walk.
- Erection of Tourist signs for Chantry College on Main St and Sean O'Carroll St.
- Cleaning of road gullies in Fairgreen, Townspark, Carried Rd, John St and Hale St.

Other issues raised by the Members included:

- Pedestrian Bridge re-surfacing – thanks to staff for a job well done
- Lights along back row at De La Salle Crescent – Underground works need to be carried out by Airtricity to rectify the problem
- Road surface outside Scoil Mhuire
- Light at Basketball court in Ferdia Park
- Manhole cover needs replacing along Tierney Street.

MINUTE 83/13

Notice of Motions from Other Councils

Macroom Town Council: This item was taken as read.

Nass Town Council – *“That Naas Town Council calls on the Minister of the Environment, Community & Local Government to apply a waiver for all councils from the payment of Local Property Tax for all houses that are within the ownership of Local Authorities, since the Minister’s Department is effectively the owner of these houses”.*

This notice of motion was passed on the proposal of Cllr McGeough and seconded by Cllr Tenanty.

Letterkenny Town Council:

“That this Council totally condemns the present government policy of deliberately withdrawing discretionary medical cards from some of the most sick in our society”

This notice of motion was passed on the proposal of Cllr McGeough and seconded by Cllr Tenanty.

Clonakilty Town Council: This item was taken as read

MINUTE 84/13

Correspondence:

Office of the Taoiseach : Response to Notice of Motion asking Taoiseach to review the Local Government Reform proposals – This item was noted.

MINUTE 85/13

Any Other Business

A number of matters were raised by the members of Ardee Town Council as follows:

- **The Use of Townlands on Fines issued by Gardai.** Cllr Farrelly stated that people were receiving fines with the name of the townland on it and this was causing confusion. It was stated that legally it has to be the townland and not the ‘local’ name on any fine issued.
- **Road Name:** Cllr McKenny asked what the procedure was for naming roads or estates etc. He suggested that the Members consider naming the area which is known as Castle Guard Road, Link Road, but does

not have any official name. J McGuinness advised that there is a place names committee who consider requests for new place names. It was agreed that the Members would consider suggestions for names and revert to the January meeting.

- **Lighting along Main Street:** Cllr McCoy asked that the Council write to the NRA regarding public lighting on the main street (N2). The was agreed on the proposal of Cllr McCoy and seconded by Cllr Minogue.
- **List of Assets:** It was agreed on the proposal of Cllr Kavanagh and seconded by Cllr Minogue that the Council write to the Head of Finance to seek clarification on the List of Assets owned by Ardee Town Council

This concluded the meeting

Signed: _____
Cathaoirleach

Dated: _____