

**Minutes of monthly meeting of Ardee Town Council held in Mid-Louth Civic Services Centre, Fairgreen, on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> July, 2013**

- Cathaoirleach:** Councillor Fintan Malone
- Other Members:** Councillors L. Hatrick, F. McCoy, D. Minogue, P. McGeough, J. Tenanty, M. Farrelly
- Apologies:** Councillor M. Kavanagh  
Councillor P McKenny
- Officials:** J. McGuinness, Director of Services  
P. Judge, Senior Executive Engineer  
M Roe, Town Clerk

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**MINUTE 50/13**

**Approval of Minutes:**

The minutes of the AGM of 12<sup>th</sup> June 2013 were proposed by Cllr. J Tenanty and seconded by Cllr. M. Farrelly.

The minutes of the monthly meeting of 12<sup>th</sup> June 2013 were proposed by Cllr. M. Farrelly and seconded by Cllr. F. McCoy

**MINUTE 51/13**

**Matters Arising:**

Bring Banks – Cllr Tenanty raised the issue of the removal of bring banks from the town and queried Mr McGuinness on same. J McGuinness working on this item and will revert to council. Members agreed that these were a necessity but that more could be done to monitor those who leave materials when they are full.

**MINUTE 52/13**

**Planned Works:**

List of all works carried out/planned was circulated by P Judge to Members. Included in this were:

- Verge cutting / trimming at a number of locations in the Ardee area – such as the bank along the N2 Drogheda Road at Sliabh Breagh, the N33 approach to Ardee and the Castleguard Road.

- Removal of grass cuttings from Sliabh Breagh estate.
- Providing topsoil and removing of debris from Ferdia Park.
- Repairs carried out to Pay Parking meter on main street Ardee
- Cleaning gullies on Drogheda Road and Hale Street.

Cllr McCoy: Ramp on Stoney Lane / Sliabh Breagh – P Judge to investigate  
 Cllr Malone: Vehicles exiting junction at Rogers House (on stoney lane) are very close to traffic travelling down road. Can anything be done?

**Boat Trench:** Result of traffic study on Boat Trench was brought before Members. P Judge stated that this road would not be closed to two way traffic, however, traffic calming measure would be put in place (funding permitted). This road serves to alleviate traffic congestion on N52 (Kells Road) at peak times. Discussion followed.

### **MINUTE 53/13**

#### **Jumping Church:**

Cllr Tenanty raised the issue of maintenance ie grass cutting of this graveyard. He commended all involved in erecting the sign but the grass needed to be maintained. P Judge stated that graveyards were under the remit of Environment Section, Louth County Council and that he was progressing this issue with officials.

### **MINUTE 54/13**

#### **Notice of Motion:**

1. **Cllr Tenanty:** *“That this Council call on the HSE and the Minister for Health to provide hospice care for the terminally ill in the North East area and that St Brigids complex would be a suitable location for this.*

This was passed on the proposal of Cllr J Tenanty and Seconded by Cllr F McCoy.

2. **Cllr Tenanty:** *“That this Council calls on the Minister for the Environment, Community and Local Government in the context of his proposed reform of local government, to devolve to Mid Louth. Municipal District Council (MDC) the representation powers and resources to enable it to function effectively as a proper local council and representative body for this Municipal District. In particular to ensure that the elected representatives in the MDC, have control over the expenditure of property tax, commercial rates and other income, raised in this area to ensure they are spent on local public services in this area.*

This was passed on the proposal of Cllr Tenanty and Seconded by Cllr McCoy with the amendment to remove Council from Municipal District Council. This motion is to be circulated to AMAI.

## MINUTE 55/13

### Notice of Motion from other Councils:

**Dundalk Town Council** – *“That this Council calls on the Government to implement the National Epilepsy Care Programme in full, in particular the critically needed Epilepsy Monitoring units as a matter of urgency, and that this motion be sent as a resolution to other Local Authorities”*

This item was passed on the proposal of Cllr McGeough and Seconded by Cllr Tenanty

**Dundalk Town Council** – *“That this Town Council calls for the expedition of the passage through Dail Eireann of the Poor Relief Ireland (Amendment) Bill 2013, in an effort to boost commerce and regeneration. That this call is made upon the Ministers for Finance: for Public Expenditure and Reform, for Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation: and for Environment, Community and Local Government. Should this Motion be passed, that a copy thereof be forwarded to the above mentioned”*

This item was passed on the proposal of Cllr McGeough and seconded by Cllr Farrelly.

## MINUTE 55/13

### Correspondence:

**A.M.A.I 101 Annual Conference.** Cllr Tenanty to attend.

**Ardee Cycling Club:** It was agreed on the proposal of Cllr F McCoy and seconded by Cllr Minogue that permission be given to use the Council crest on the cycling jerseys.

**H.S.E. Louth Services for Older People:** This report had been circulated previously to the members. Cllr Malone congratulated Ardee Town Council and the people of Ardee on the part they played in this successful outcome. He wished the residents of St Josephs well and also recognised the vital role the staff in this facility play.

Cllr McCoy remarked that congratulations were due to Minister Reilly for this decision. He proposed that Ardee Town Council write to express their gratitude to the Minister in this regard, this was seconded by Cllr Minogue.

Discussion following regarding this motion - Cllr McGeough opposed the motion stating that it would not be appropriate to do so as the Minister had merely changed his mind due to public pressure. Following further debate a vote was taken.

Opposing the motion : Cllr McGeough, Cllr Farrelly, Cllr Hatrick (3)  
Supporting the motion: Cllr McCoy, Cllr Minogue (2)

Abstained: Cllr Malone and Cllr Tenanty.

Therefore Cllr McCoys motion was defeated by 3 votes to 2.

**Bank of Ireland** - Cllr Farrelly stated his dissatisfaction at the response received from Bank of Ireland to the Councils correspondence.

**Letter of Thanks from Sean King:** Cllr Minogue remarked on the lovely letter of thanks sent by Mr King to the members.

### **MINUTE 55/13**

#### **Any Other Business:**

**Pay Parking:** J McGuinness advised the members that the pilot pay parking scheme would cease to operate from Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> August, 2013.

The intention of the pilot was to encourage retail activity and assist in trade generally. It was hoped that there would be minimal financial impact to the Local Authority as the relaxation would encourage parking events and see traders being in a position that they would be in a better position to discharge their commercial rates. Louth County Council have been keeping the matter under review over the last 10 months and note the following.

Income Balances at end of June 2013 indicate that the system has made a loss of €21, 250 trending to over €40,000 by year end. More worryingly, commercial rate income for Ardee town has also declined a further 7% (€125,000) with €1.8 million owed against a previous €1.6 million owed for the same time last year. Therefore, Mr McGuinness was left with no choice but to implement a number of measures to ensure that the accounts remain on target and balanced, and therefore the scheme will cease with effect from start of business on August 6<sup>th</sup>, 2013.

Discussion followed with the Members stating their disappointment at the decision. Mr McGuinness informed the Members that he would be willing to meet with the Traders Association.

This concluded the meeting.

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**Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Chairman**

**Dated:** \_\_\_\_\_