

**Minutes of monthly meeting of Ardee Town Council held in Mid-Louth Civic Services Centre, Fairgreen, on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> November, 2013**

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

**Apologies:** Councillor Dolores Minogue

**Officials:** Joe McGuinness, Director of Services  
Padraig Judge, Senior Executive Engineer  
Miriam Roe, Town Clerk  
Brian Walsh, Museum Curator

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**MINUTE 69/13**

**Minutes**

On the proposal of Cllr. M Farrelly and seconded by Cllr. M Kavanagh, the minutes of the meeting of 9<sup>th</sup> October, 2013 were agreed.

**MINUTE 70/13**

**Matters Arising**

Cllr Farrelly advised the members that he had spoken with Eva Beirne who explained that there was no Mens Sheds in Ardee due to lack of suitable location and interested numbers. However, anyone who is interested would be welcomed at either the Dundalk or Drogheda projects.

Cllr McGeough asked if the public light at Bank of Ireland is sufficient to illuminate the pedestrian crossing at this junction. P Judge to revert

**MINUTE 71/13**

**Ardee Castle**

Mr Brian Walsh read a report to the Members outlining the current position and proposed timeframe for works to be carried out. He advised that he intended to have a presentation and 'roll out' time table for the members early in the new year. Discussion followed and Mr Walsh answered the Members questions which included the issues of funding, timeframes for work, fire escapes and fire certificates. Also addressed were the concerns regarding the length of time this project is taking to deliver.

## **MINUTE 72/13**

### **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;

- Verge / Hedge cutting on railway walk.
- On-going maintenance of road signage & parking meters.
- Road gulley cleaning at in areas including Irish st, Kells Rd, Sliabh Breagh, Hale St, St Patricks Tce & John St..

P Judge also advised of road closure on section of N2 south of Collon with diversions in place.

Cllr Tenanty thanked staff and all involved for the work done on Lambs Tce.

## **MINUTE 73/13**

### **Notice of Motions from Other Councils**

**Ennis Town Council** - "That Ennis Town Council requests the Minister for Education to provide additional posts for Special Needs Assistants and increased Resource Teaching Hours in Primary and Post Primary Schools for children with special needs throughout Ennis and Clare."

This was passed on the proposal of Cllr P McGeough and seconded by Cllr J Tenanty amended as follows:

*"That this Council request the Minister for Education to provide additional posts for Special Needs Assistants and increased Resource Teaching Hours in Primary and Post Primary Schools for children with special needs throughout the country"*

**Kilrush Town Council** – "That this council would request An Taoiseach to hold a national referendum before Christmas on the proposed abolition of town councils".

This motion was supported by the Members.

**Ballina Town Council** – "This Town Council calls on the Minister for the Environment when introducing legislation for the new Municipal District Councils to ensure that all funds raised in a particular area are retained in that area"

This was taken as read.

### **MINUTE 74/13**

**Wexford Town Council:** Cllr Hatrick put forward the following motion

“That this Council endorses the principle of the right to water and sanitation as a fundamental core value within Irish society and this should be reflected as a central pillar in national water policy. As citizens of the EU we believe in the right of all inhabitants to enjoy this right and that we oppose any attempt to include water in legislation aimed at market liberalisation. This council supports the call for the full national political comment to ensuring that water and sanitation are publicly owned, democratically run and that all in the sector are fully accountable”.

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

### **MINUTE 75/13**

#### **Correspondence:**

**Carrickmacross Town Council** – Letter to Minister regarding Abolition of Town Councils . This item was taken as read.

### **MINUTE 76/13**

#### **Any Other Business**

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

- **Speed limit at St Marys GFC.** Cllr McCoy asked if were legally possible to change from 100km to 50km without first entering and 80km. He wanted to know on what basis did the NRA refuse the request of LCC to change the speed limit in this location. Following discussion it was agreed on the proposal of Cllr Tenanty and seconded by Cllr McGeough to write to NRA to ask what are their guidelines with regard to changing speed limits.
- **GAA County Grounds:** Cllr McGeough stated that the Louth County Board should seriously consider lands adjacent to the N33 link road should be considered for this purpose. It would be an ideal location within the county with good infrastructure and would also bring trade to the town. The Members supported this idea.
- **Driving Licence Centre:** Cllr Tenanty questioned why the centre for Louth was located in Meath stating that Ardee would be a far more superior location for same.
- **On Street Charity Collections:** Cllr Farrelly voiced his concern about the number of charity collections which are frequently located outside the post office and other ‘key locations’ throughout the town. He stated

that some of these collectors are quite aggressive and drive away business. As this was a matter for an Garda Siochana it was agreed to raise the matter at the forthcoming JPC meeting.

- **Old IRA Commemoration:** Cllr Malone advised that the Old IRA Commemoration will be held on Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> December, and all are welcome to this non political event.
- **Halloween:** Cllr Malone thanked all those who sponsored the events and St Marys for all of their help with stewarding and use of their facilities.
- **Pay Parking:** J McGuinness advised the Members that Pay Parking in Ardee would cease in 2014. He stated that amended bye-laws would go on public display in the coming week which would propose 2 hour max parking on street and 4 hour off street with no fee payable. Therefore the current Bye-Laws would cease mid March, following the statutory period of public display and pending its adoption at the full Council meeting in February.

**Ardee Town Council Budget ATC Budget Meeting:** A Budget Meeting date was set for 11<sup>th</sup> December, 2013 at 6.30pm. This is to be on the same night as the Monthly meeting.

This concluded the meeting

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Cathaoirleach

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