

Municipal District of Ardee – December 2022

Minutes of the Municipal District of Ardee meeting hosted in the Dermot O'Brien Room, Ardee Civic Offices, Ardee on 1st December 2022 at 4.30 p.m.

In attendance:

Cathaoirleach: Councillor Paula Butterly

Members: Councillors: Pearse McGeough, Dolores Minogue, John Sheridan, Jim Tenanty

Apologies: Councillor(s): Bernie Conlon

Officials: Joe McGuinness Director of Services
Gráinne Tuomey, Meetings Administrator
John Lawrence, Senior Executive Officer
Declan McMahon, Senior Executive Engineer
Olivia McCormack, Senior Executive Officer
Finbar Gethins, Senior Executive Officer
John O'Hagan, Senior Executive Engineer

Minute No. 119/22

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Thursday 3rd November 2022

The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Thursday 3rd November 2022 were confirmed on the proposal of Cllr Jim Tenanty and seconded by Cllr Dolores Minogue.

Minute No. 120/22

Minutes of the Special Meeting held on Monday 21st November 2022

The minutes of the Special Meeting held on Monday 21st November 2022 were confirmed on the proposal of Cllr John Sheridan and seconded by Cllr Pearse McGeough.

Minute No. 121/22

Matters Arising

- An update was requested and given on the pedestrian crossing on Ardee Main Street
- A request to revisit road safety measures and lighting at Mullin's Cross was made

Minute No. 122/22

Standing Order no. 13 – Taking an Item out of Sequence

As allowed for in Standing Order no. 13, Members present unanimously agreed to *“Take an item for consideration out of the sequence of listing on the Agenda, provided always that such decision shall not affect any business required by Statute to be done before*

any other business at the meeting” to receive a presentation on Ardee 2040 prior to any other business.

Minute No. 123/22

Ardee 2040 – Turley’s Presentation

Members received a presentation on the Ardee 2040 Project from Seamus Donohoe of Turley Consultants as introduced by Olivia McCormack, Senior Executive Officer Public Realm. Members were advised of a large multi-disciplinary team working on the project, and shown computer generated images of visionary plans for Ardee and the hinterlands. The presentation generated several questions and much interest from Members who overall expressed support for the Plan. The current status of Ardee By Pass and how it influenced the plan was discussed. Members were advised that it was hope planning permission application would go to An Bord Pleanála early in 2023.

Minute No. 124/22

Housing Progress Report

Members discussed the report as circulated at the meeting, and John Lawrence Senior Executive Officer answered queries raised. Among the items discussed the following were highlighted:

- 181 applications have been terminated from the Social Housing List and time on list will not be reinstated if new application is submitted. Every effort was made to contact people under the Summary of Social Housing Assessments including three letters sent.
- Stoney Lane 14 units - expected to available Q1, 2023, units are for disabled persons and those over age 55. They will not be advertised on Choice Based Lettings system.
- An Affordable Housing survey is to be carried out before end of year, to assess levels of interest. Should sufficient interest be determined, expressions of interest on provision of properties will similarly be sought from developers. Income limits apply to applicants.
- Louth County Council is in discussions with the Department on Vacant Homes, the CPO process has not been ruled out, but resolution is required on previous matters with the Department first.

Minute No. 125/22

Roads and Local Services Report

Members discussed the report as circulated at the meeting. Declan McMahon Senior Executive Engineer addressed matters raised. Among the items raised the following were highlighted:

A review of the following will be carried out

- Measures to ease traffic congestion in Ardee and divert drivers to other routes
- Flooding relief measures at St. Oliver’s Park
- Painting of Disabled Bay at Church of Ireland Dunleer
- Level of detail of responses on Sugar system, and possibility of issuing of reports to Members
- Legality of parking distance from pedestrian crossings/traffic islands

Minute No. 126/22

Physical Development

Members discussed the report as circulated and John O'Hagan Senior Executive Engineer answered any queries raised.

Members were advised

The Ardee Bypass high court case has been adjourned to 24th January 2023

Public consultation is ongoing on Ardee CFRAM and a Link will be sent to Members

Minute No. 127/22

Proposal for Safety and Security Programme in the Municipal District of Ardee

Finbar Gethins, Senior Executive Officer advised Members of the document presented to them was an overview of the CCTV/Thumblock scheme as approved under Discretionary Funding. A suggestion to install sensor lights at same time was not going ahead following discussions with the installation companies but could be examined for interest for future funding.

Priority of security measures would be given to existing applicants and then funding dependant a call could be made for new applications. It was noted that not all those who might like the scheme would be involved in local groups so this would factor in targeting new applicants.

Joe McGuinness Director advised Members that the update was being given following requests from Members on spend and outstanding items on Discretionary Funding allocations. Other queries included the outstanding Ardee Library toilet works which will commence in January 2023, and 2020 periodic speed measures approved funds which had been diverted to Beechwood Drive road safety works. 2021 Funds to mattress amnesty/bin provision had been reallocated to add to the 2022 discretionary budget.

Members were advised that correspondence had issued to all external grant applicants advising them funding had been from the Ardee MD discretionary fund and requesting them to promote this.

Minute No. 128/22

Motion: Cllr Pearse McGeough

Seconded by: Cllr Dolores Minogue and supported by all Members present

"That Louth County Council in conjunction with Transport Infrastructure Ireland install traffic calming measures along the R132 at Mullary"

Reply from Catherine Duff, Director of Place Making and Physical Development

Road safety at the section of road on the R132 at Mullary will be assessed by the engineers and should it be ranked as a priority it will be put forward for consideration for funding in 2024

Speaking on the Motion, Cllr McGeough advised that he was extremely disappointed in the response. Members advised of ongoing issues on the road and treacherous conditions. It was noted that a traffic survey had determined that speeding was not the issue. It was suggested that several measures be examined including traffic calming and review of speed limits under future Speed Limit Review scheme.

Minute No. 129/22

Congratulations

Congratulations were extended to Ardee Traders on lighting up Ardee. It was noted that they had acknowledged the sponsorship of Ardee Municipal District funding publicly which was appreciated.

Minute No. 130/22

Condolences

Condolences were extended to:

- o Cllr Dolores Minogue on the sudden death of her cousin
- o The Molloy family on the death of their mother who raised 18 children, 9 boys and 9 girls, and who was in her 80th year and whose son John works for Louth Fire Service
- o Staff Member Paul Kane on the death of his sister.
- o All those who had passed in the area.

There being no other business, the meeting concluded.

The Minutes were confirmed at a meeting of the Municipal District held on:

Date: 12 Jan 2023
Cathaoirleach: Paula Ballydoon
Meeting Administrator: Grainne