

Municipal District of Ardee – November 2022

Minutes of the Municipal District of Ardee meeting hosted in the Dermot O'Brien Room, Ardee Civic Offices, Ardee on 3rd November 2022 at 4.30 p.m.

In attendance:

Leas Chathaoirleach: Councillor Dolores Minogue,

Members: Councillors: Bernie Conlon Pearse McGeough, John Sheridan, Jim Tenanty

Apologies: Councillor(s): Paula Butterly

Officials: Joe McGuinness Director of Services
Gráinne Tuomey, Meetings Administrator
Paddy Donnelly, Director of Services
Declan McMahon, Senior Executive Engineer
Olivia McCormack, Senior Executive Officer

Minute No. 105/22

Confirmation of Minutes

The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Thursday 6th October, 2022 were confirmed on the proposal of Cllr Jim Tenanty and seconded by Cllr Pearse McGeough.

Minute No. 106/22

Matters Arising

- An update was requested on the pedestrian crossing and the recent accident investigated by the TII, and a further appeal to initially upgrade the crossing, then move the crossing and better light the main street of Ardee
- An update was requested on Yellow box upgrades
- **Minute 97/22** It was agreed to remove the line "Anti-social behaviour at Dunleer Car Park..."

Minute No. 107/22

Confirmation of Minutes

The minutes of the Draft Budgetary Plan Meeting held on Monday 17th October, 2022 were confirmed on the proposal of Cllr Jim Tenanty and seconded by Cllr Pearse McGeough.

Minute No. 108/22

Matters Arising

A request was made to amend the last line of Minute 104/22 to acknowledge the role of Cllr Tenanty in requesting the extension of the Mattress Amnesty Scheme to include the Mid-Louth area.

Minute No. 109/22

Housing Progress Report

Members discussed the report as circulated at the meeting, and Paddy Donnelly Director of Services answered queries raised. Among the items discussed the following were highlighted:

- Every effort was made to contact people on the Housing List under the Summary of Social Housing Assessments. The onus is on the applicant to ensure they remain on the list. Those who did not respond to any of the three letters sent will be removed from the list and will not have their waiting time reinstated on reapplication.
- Louth County Council has acquired 22 units previously on the HAP scheme. Conditions apply around waiting times on list, housing need matching accommodation etc.
- An increase in homeless presenters is noted.
- Stoney Lane units final snagging to be completed.

Minute No. 110/22

Roads and Local Services Report

Members discussed the report as circulated at the meeting. Declan McMahon Senior Executive Engineer addressed matters raised.

Various items were requested including traffic calming, road safety and signage requests, ramps requests and repairs, road works, update on disabled bay works, upgrades to the junction at Mullens Cross, speed limit review and a request for school warden. The volume of fallen leaves following recent winds was considered problematic and an appeal for members of the public to clear up their area to assist keep gullies clear was made.

Following several references to 'tracker' numbered items, a discussion took place amongst members on the method of logging representations to officials. The Leas-Chathaoirleach Dolores Minogue who was chairing the meeting sought clarity on whether calls should be logged via the Sugar CRM or at the meeting to be put on the tracker. Both she and Cllr Bernie Conlon expressed that items raised by them on Sugar seemed to be given greater priority if later raised by other Members at meetings and follow up given when put on the tracker.

Director of Services Joe McGuinness advised Members that the only official method of logging items was via the Elected Reps Sugar system, that the Executive monitors calls logged on the

Sugar system. Members were advised if they did not get a response on Sugar or were not happy with the response received, they could then raise at MD.

The Leas-Chathaoirleach Dolore Minogue asked Members to only use Sugar to the end of the year and review in January.

Minute No. 111/22

Placemaking Report

Olivia McCormack Senior Executive Officer was introduced to Members who welcomed her to the meeting. An update was given to Ardee Castle works and Dunleer Masterplan.

Members were advised of an upcoming presentation on Ardee 2040 by Turley Consultants.

Minute No. 112/22

Motion: Cllr Jim Tenanty

Seconded by: Cllr Dolores Minogue

That this council ask LCC waste management and environment to include Ardee Mid Louth in their application for the Anti-dumping initiative for 2023.

Reply from J. McGuinness, Director of Organisational Development

“The Anti-Dumping Initiative is funded by the Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications and it aims to reduce incidents of illegal dumping nationally by providing funding for projects aimed at tackling the problem, using a collaborative approach involving local authorities, communities and other State Agencies; proposals are assessed based on their potential impact in the following areas:

- (i) prevention,*
- (ii) abatement,*
- (iii) education and*
- (iv) enforcement.*

The funding body outlines strict project selection criteria, upon which applications are assessed (see attached 2022 criteria).

In 2022 2no. projects were initially funded. Namely, a countywide sofa and mattress amnesty and a Summer Community clean-up in Dundalk. After the amnesty some funding remained and approval was received for a clean-up operation proposed by the Placemaking section. The total funding received was €84,000.

A similar level of funding is expected in 2023 and it is currently our intention to run a similar Countywide Sofa & Mattress Amnesty, due to the success of these events over recent years.

If a public representative, community group or an individual wishes to suggest a project, they can submit this suggestion to environmentalcompliance@louthcoco.ie and it will be considered for inclusion in future anti-dumping initiatives.”

Speaking on the motion Cllr Tenanty welcomed the response from the Director, and advised of his intention to submit an application to extend the scheme to Mid-Louth on behalf of all Members. Members spoke in support of this motion and requested equality of provision of service to Mid Louth. An update on previous 2020 discretionary funding allocation to tidy town groups for similar initiatives was requested.

Cllr Minogue reminded people that one of the charity shops in Ardee takes second hand couches.

Minute No. 113/22

AOB

Agreement of a request to move the date of the January meeting to the second Thursday of the month (12th January) to allow for Christmas leave was

Proposed by: Cllr Jim Tenanty

Seconded by: Cllr John Sheridan

And approved.

A reminder that the annual wreath laying ceremony for War Remembrance was on Saturday 12th November at 11a.m.

An update was sought on allocated CCTV scheme, and on Ardee Library Toilet works.

Minute No. 114/22

Congratulations

Congratulations were offered those estates who took place in the Louth in Bloom competition, and particularly those who got awards and who increased marks since the last competition. The awards event was noted as a very well-run event.

A book entitled ‘The History of Nettuno’ was presented to the Director, Joe McGuinness and Members were advised of the official launch of the book on the 6th March.

Best of luck was issued to the St Marys team on the upcoming match on Sunday.

Minute No. 115/22

Condolences

Condolences were extended to the family and friends of:

- o Recent fatalities on the N2
- 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:

1/12/2022

Cathaoirleach:

Paula Buckley

Meeting Administrator:

Aine Quoney