

Municipal District of Ardee 2023 Budgetary Plan Meeting

Minutes of the Municipal District of Ardee meeting hosted in The Council Chamber County Hall, Dundalk on Monday 17th October 2022 at 9.30a.m.

In attendance:

Cathaoirleach: Councillor Paula Butterly

Members: Councillors: Bernie Conlon, Pearse McGeough, Jim Tenanty.

Apologies: Councillors: John Sheridan, Dolores Minogue.

Officials: Joan Martin, Chief Executive
Joe McGuinness, Director of Services
Bernie Woods, Head of Finance
Catherine Duff, Director of Services
Thomas McEvoy, Director of Services
Paddy Donnelly, Director of Services
Gráinne Tuomey, Meetings Administrator

Minute No. 104/22

Budgetary Plan 2023

An Cathaoirleach, Councillor Paula Butterly, commenced the meeting and invited the Executive to speak.

Bernie Woods, Head of Finance advised Members that the executive expected clarification from the Department this week, on the allocation to Louth County Council including pay increases and energy costs. At this point in time, it was proposed that €60k could issue to each Municipal District for their 2023 Discretionary Fund. This would be reviewed at final balancing of Budget and may increase.

Ms. Woods further advised Members they had discretion on whether to accept the allocation laid out before them, as well as to allocate it now or decide to allocate it in the New Year at Municipal District.

Separately Municipal Districts had an option to increase local charges, such as Pay-Parking but as Ardee had no local charges Members were advised that they do not have the option.

The Chief Executive advised that the allocation of €60k was as it stood today and it was hoped to be able to match the 2022 Discretionary Allowance of €75k but that would remain to be seen. Responding to questions raised the Chief Executive confirmed that a query had been made relation to distribution of Municipal District Discretionary Funds but She was not getting into any argument on same as it was a matter for the members.

Members were invited to raise any issues particular to their area that they might want addressed in the Budget.

It was **proposed by Cllr Jim Tenanty** to accept the initial draft budget of €60,000 with allocations to be decided in 2023, this was **seconded by Cllr Bernie Conlon** and agreed.

Councillors suggested that they need to be ready for the other Municipal Members to seek portion of their discretionary funds, with Cllr McGeough thanking the CE and Staff for keeping the Municipal Allocation equal and suggesting that €60k out of the overall budget was a very small item to focus on.

Led by Councillor Jim Tenanty, Ardee Members requested the Executive to consider extending the Mattress Amnesty scheme to include provision for the Mid-Louth Area in main budget proposals.

There being no other business, the meeting concluded.

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

Date: 30 Dec 2022
Cathaoirleach: D. Mince
Meeting Administrator: Aileen Hone