



Comhairle Contae Lú
Louth County Council

Cruinniú de Cheanta Bardasach Bhaile Átha Fhirdia / Municipal District of Ardee

Minutes of the Municipal District of Ardee meeting hosted in the Dermot O'Brien Room, Ardee Civic Offices, Ardee on 6th July 2023 at 4.30 p.m.

In attendance:

Cathaoirleach: Councillor Dolores Minogue

Members: Councillors: Paula Butterly, Pearse McGeough, Jim Tenanty

Apologies: Councillor(s): Bernie Conlon, John Sheridan

Officials: Joe McGuinness Director of Services
Gráinne Tuomey, Meetings Administrator
Padraig Judge, A/Director of Services
Declan McMahon, Senior Executive Engineer
Frank Magee, Senior Executive Engineer
Keith McArdle, Assistant Engineer

Minute No. 59/23

Minutes of the 2023 Annual Meeting held on Thursday 1st June 2023

The minutes of the 2023 Annual meeting held on Thursday 1st June 2023 were confirmed on the

Proposal of Cllr Pearse McGeough

Seconded by Cllr Paula Butterly

And approved.

Minute No. 60/23

Minutes of Meeting held on Thursday 1st June 2023

The minutes of the June monthly meeting held on Thursday 1st June 2023 were confirmed on the

Proposal of Cllr Paula Butterly

Seconded by Cllr Pearse McGeough

And approved.

Minute No. 61/23

Matters Arising

Members requested and received updates on various items including:

- Pedestrian Crossing at Bank of Ireland

- Signage at Collon
- Overgrowth impeding passage from private lands
- Castlebellingham Health Check – Members were advised that a report would be sought for the September meeting

Minute No. 62/23

Ardee Town Parking Control (On Street) (Amendment) Bye-Laws 2023

Members were advised that Bye-Laws have been amended to include the provision for residential parking so residents can apply for a parking permit. Following the statutory period for public consultation no submissions were received.

Once adopted the Bye-Laws would come into effect 30 days from the date of adoption.

It was clarified that the Bye-laws did not refer to pay parking but time restricted parking which included for 2 hour parking on street and 4 hour parking in public car parks.

It was confirmed that where there was more than one resident in a property with a vehicle that each individual could apply for parking, but carers of persons attending to residents were not eligible to apply as the legislation refers to vehicles and not people.

Following some discussion the following was agreed:

Officials would carry out a full review of the map as presented and ensure that only public spaces would be highlighted. It was considered that as this was not a material change this would not require the Bye-laws to go out on public display again.

The wording of Section 4(5) was considered confusing by Members who requested that this was to be amended to remove Section 4(5)(a) and alter wording of Section 4(5)(b) so that all of Section 4(5) is to read as follows:

'The Councils decision as to whether it is satisfied as to the eligibility of any applicant to receive a Resident's Parking Disc shall be final.'

The amended documents would be forwarded to Members once completed.

Member agreed to the adoption of the **Ardee Town Parking Control (On Street) (Amendment) Bye-Laws 2023** from the date of the meeting subject to the modifications above as

Proposed of Cllr Jim Tenanty
Seconded by Cllr Paula Butterly

And agreed by all Members present.

Minute No. 63/23

Housing Progress Report

Members noted the report as circulated at the meeting. Pdraig Judge, A/Director of Services responded to queries raised.

It was clarified by Joe McGuinness that a new Tenancy Sustainment Officer (TSO) role within the council would not duplicate or interfere with work carried out by HSE Mental Health TSO's, rather it would complement same. The role is to assist those with Mental Health issues to deal with the practicalities of commencing a new tenancy, e.g. around settling in, paying bills, getting on with

neighbours etc. It is seen as more of a specialised Tenancy liaison role which will reduce over time once the tenant is settled.

Minute No. 64/23

Roads and Local Services Report

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

Items discussed included:

- Resurfacing and scheduled surface dressing has commenced in the area, following which the crew will be moved to tackle pot holes
- The issue of utility companies not adhering to conditions of opening roads was raised. Members were informed that once a road opening licence is granted the utility companies have a 2 year responsibility to ensure the area is to standard
- A new pedestrian crossing is proposed for Dunleer village at Centra
- An LIS report will be brought to the September meeting

Minute No. 65/23

Taking in Charge Report

Members considered the report as presented to them and Keith McArdle Assistant Engineer responded to questions raised.

The following items were highlighted

Fosters Close

*Cllr Jim Tenanty confirmed a conflict of interest and left the meeting for the duration of the discussion

Noting the reference to legal opinion being sought a query was raised as to whether the legal fees would be paid out of the bond – this will be checked and Members informed.

*Cllr Jim Tenanty was invited back into the meeting

It was clarified that an estate did not need a resident association to apply for a plebiscite to take an estate in charge. As long as over 50% of the property owners request same this will be considered as a valid request.

Minute No. 66/23

Physical Development Report

Members considered the report as presented to them and Frank Magee, Senior Executive Engineer advised that he was happy to answer any questions.

The following items were clarified:

- The Ardee Bye-pass 2040 proposal is still subject to judicial review which An Bord Pleanála is defending. Louth County Council are just a notice party in same. It is expected to be deferred to 2024. Members spoke of the need to progress the Bye-pass, noting that over 3000 children attend schools in the area, and referring to recent GAA matches in Croagh Park which saw 3 teams passing through the town to get to Dublin causing gridlock

- Members again expressed their disappointment with the level of Active Travel funding for mid-Louth in comparison to the other Municipal District areas. Padraig Judge suggested that the focus for Active Travel is on larger population and greater travel distances but that proposed upcoming public realm schemes will incorporate Active Travel measures
- Members were advised that a contractor was hoped to commence works to the Ardee Library Toilets in August

As there was no other business the meeting concluded.

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

Date:

7 Sep 2023.

Cathaoirleach:

D. Winger

Meeting Administrator:

Ale Quoney