



Comhairle Contae Lú
Louth County Council

Cruinniú de Cheanta Bhaile Átha Fhirdia / Municipal District of Ardee – February 2024

Minutes of Municipal District of Ardee meeting – hosted in the Dermot O'Brien Room, Ardee Civic Offices, Ardee on Thursday 1st February 2024 at 4:30pm

In attendance:

Cathaoirleach: Councillor: Dolores Minogue

Members: Councillor(s): Bernie Conlon, Pearse McGeough, John Sheridan, Jim Tenanty

Apologies: Councillor(s): Paula Butterly

Officials: Bernie Woods, Director of Services
Gráinne Tuomey, Meetings Administrator
Willie Walsh, Senior Executive Officer
John Lawrence, Senior Executive Officer
Declan McMahon, Senior Executive Engineer

Minute No. 7/24

Minutes of Meeting held on 11th January 2024

Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of the 11th January 2024 was

Proposed by: Cllr Pearse McGeough

Seconded by: Cllr Bernie Conlon

And approved

Minute No. 8/24

Matters Arising

Updates were sought on items in Minute no. 5/24

Minute No. 9/24

Housing Progress Report

Members noted the report as circulated at the meeting and John Lawrence, Senior Executive Officer responded to queries raised.

The following items were clarified:

- Retrofitting of properties is expected to reduce maintenance requests. However annual servicing is required so costs may not decrease

- The Housing Team are keen to speak to any Developers with interest in Affordable Housing. Cost dependent they could possibly go straight to a scheme but would limit the numbers to 10 units or less to ensure success of any scheme
- Mullavalley, Louth Village is a very challenging site, it is intended to be on the ground by end of year
- Concern was again raised about the Section 179 proposal for development of lands at Ravel, Dunleer and an appeal to leave sufficient lands to allow for future expansion of school was made. It was commented that Dunleer was an identified growth centre and the school should not be restricted from future growth. It was noted that the works must break ground by the end of year. A commitment was given to re-engage with the Department and when the number of builds was confirmed to talk to Members and the School.

Minute No. 10/24

Louth County Council Ardee Municipal District (Casual Trading Act 1995) Bye-Laws 2024

Willie Walsh, Senior Executive Officer advised Members of an error in previously approved Bye-Laws which omitted to include Port Beach in the Ardee MD map. Draft Bye-Laws had since been amended to include this area and had gone back out on Public Display and no submissions were received.

Approval of the Bye-Laws as set out before Members on the Clár was

Proposed by: Cllr Bernie Conlon

Seconded by: Cllr Jim Tenanty

And resolved.

A request to clearly mark all trading bays will be accommodated.

Minute No. 11/24

Roads and Local Services Report

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

Along with potholes, footpath repair, flooding at junctions, traffic calming, road safety and signage requests, traffic light sequencing and traffic light repair, road resurfacing, road lines painting, painting of parking bays, road subsidence, bridge works, the following items were highlighted:

- Lump of tree in Beechwood Drive, Dunleer which fell during recent storm is impeding access
- Consideration that Native Bio-Diversity friendly Trees be used when planting at roads and council estates was requested, along with consideration of replacement of non native trees
- It is hoped to have confirmation of funding for the Road Works Programme for the April Meeting
- A list of line-marking works is given to the contractor. Priority is given to Danger and Stop sign areas. €100,000 is allocated under this scheme
- The road from Charleville Roundabout to Dorians Pub Junction was again highlighted as dangerous. To add to these recent diversions from the Motorway are directing extra traffic onto this road
- It was confirmed that florescent line painting and installation of Cats Eyes at Dorians Junction will happen this year
- An update was requested on the passed resolution to make the road from Ardee passing Castleguard Manor onto the N33 left turn only, with further suggestion made that a roundabout be installed at the junction

- Consideration was requested for Weight Restrictions to be applied to Seán O'Carroll road which is very narrow and which some Members had previously raised over a number of years

Declan McMahon offered the following updates in addition to items raised:

- Ministerial approval has been received for works to the Town Hall
- Additional funding has been received for dredging works to Annagassan Harbour

Praise was given to the staff for follow up and response to items raised over the Sugar CRM.

Minute No. 12/24

Placemaking Report

Members noted the report as presented to them and Olivia McCormack Senior Executive Officer responded to items raised. The following items were highlighted:

- Members expressed praise that Ministerial consent had been received on Ardee Castle works, and that Dunleer Masterplan had been signed off and were advised that this sat with Terry Hamilton.
- Ardee 2040 draft planning application went to the TII in November, the TII asked for further information. Once TII approve the application this will be lodged with An Bord Pleanala/
- Collon Playground cannot progress until legal land issues are resolved but the team are working hard to find resolution

Minute No. 13/24

Condolences

Condolences were offered to the family and friends of

- Riona McCoy, staff member of Louth County Council
- Alec McClean, former principal of Clogherhead school
- All those who had died in the area.

Minute No. 14/24

AOB

Thanks were given to all staff who had worked in treacherous conditions during recent storm events.

It was noted that only a portion of the LRA (Local Representational Allowance) can be paid up to the election but it was confirmed that if a Member had transferred their conference monies over that the full amount could be claimed.

A zoom meeting in committee would be arranged on the 2024 MD Allocation budget. In the interim Members were advised to email proposals into the Meeting Administrator and cc MDArdee@louthcoco.ie so all Members were aware of what was being proposed.

As there was no other business the meeting concluded.

The Minutes were confirmed on:

Date: 7 / 3 / 2024

Cathaoirleach: D. M. M.

Meeting Administrator: C. M. M.