



Comhairle Contae Lú
Louth County Council

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

Minutes of Municipal District of Ardee meeting – hosted in the Dermot O'Brien Room, Ardee Civic Offices, Ardee on Thursday 7th November 2024 at 4:30pm

In attendance:

Cathaoirleach: Councillor John Sheridan

Members: Councillor(s) Paula Butterly, Bernie Conlon, Dolores Minogue (remote), Jim Tenanty,

Officials: Bernie Woods, Head of Finance
Bryan Coughlan, Meeting Administrator
Edel O'Neill, Executive Engineer
Finbar Gethins, Senior Executive Officer
Enda Murphy, Senior Executive Engineer

Minute No. 85/24

Minutes of Meeting held on Thursday 3rd October 2024

Minutes adopted on the

Proposal of: Cllr. Jim Tenanty
Seconded by: Cllr. Paula Butterly
And approved

Minute No. 86/24

Minutes of Special Budget Meeting held on Monday 21st October 2024

Minutes adopted on the

Proposal of: Cllr. John Sheridan
Seconded by: Cllr. Paula Butterly
And approved

Minute No. 87/24

Housing Progress Report

Members noted the report as circulated at the meeting.

Minute No. 88/24

Roads and Local Services Report

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

The following items were highlighted:

- Broken street light at Ashe Walk to be repaired as soon as possible.
- Gritting routes are to be reviewed with Unions and routes that facilitate transport to schools will be looked at.
- In response to a query from Cllr. Paula Butterly, it was confirmed that the yellow box in Dunleer will be completed before Christmas.
- A new street lighting contract is now in place.
- Enda Murphy will revert on the need for lights at the pedestrian crossing at John Street

Minute No. 89/24

Playgrounds Update

The following items were highlighted:

- There is a significant problem with anti-social behaviour at the playground in Dunleer and it was requested that Enda Murphy would revert on the cost of repairing the damage over the years.
- There was a query as to who owns the basketball court in Dunleer and also noted that there was an absence of passive surveillance.

The members spoke of their disappointment at the news that the playground in Collon was not proceeding but noted the significant work that had gone into the project by the Council, the Community section and the recently retired Chief Executive, Joan Martin.

Finbar Gethins informed the meeting that the playground group will try and enter into a private arrangement with the Arch-Diocese but that the Council will support them with this. Mr. Gethins discussed the legal complexities of the situation.

Cllr. Butterly cited the project as a great example of how all stakeholders worked together and asked whether an extension of Town and Village funding could be sought from the Department of Rural and Community Development.

On the **proposal of Cllr. Dolores Minogue, seconded by Cllr. Paula Butterly**, it was agreed that the Municipal District would send correspondence to the Arch-Diocese to seek a meeting on the matter.

Minute No. 90/24

Notice of Motion: Cllr. Jim Tenanty

Seconded by: Cllr. Paula Butterly

I am asking this council to write to Garda commissioner and Minister for justice requesting that Dunleer station be considered for 24 hour service or extra Gardai assigned as it has seen increased burglaries ,and criminal activity and is an easy target as accessibility to motorway and exit routes are favourable.

Reply from David Hanratty, A/Director of Services Organisational Development

This is a matter for the members.

In speaking to the motion, Cllr. Tenanty stated that without Joint Policing Committees, there is no voice on these matters. Cllrs Conlon and Butterly also spoke to support the motion.

Minute No. 91/24

Notice of Motion: Cllr. John Sheridan
Seconded by: Cllr. Bernie Conlon

"That the Ardee MD Councillors would get a breakdown on the funding announced under the Participation Nation Outdoor Fund (€56,250 for Louth) and what work will be done in Ardee MD as part of this funding."

Reply from David Hanratty, A/Director of Services Organisational Development

Louth Local Sports Partnership applied for €90,000 for the sports portion of the Participation Nation Funding Scheme for the provision of three 3x3 Basketball Courts, one in each of the of the Municipal Districts. The allocation received has a shortfall of €33,750. For the Biodiversity portion €30,000 was applied for and €18,750 allocated, a shortfall of €11,250. The overall allocation has a shortfall of €45,000. There is no funding available to make up for the shortfall, therefore it will not be possible to complete the intended three courts. Louth Local Sports Partnership is currently assessing the options available on how best to proceed.

Minute No. 92/24

Any Other Business

- There were queries regarding the discretionary budget. Bryan Coughlan committed to reverting with the up to date position.
- Cllr. John Sheridan updated the group on the first meeting of the Biodiversity Working Group
- Civic Awards will take place on week commencing 9th December 2024.
- A discussion took place regarding the memorial garden. Bernie Woods is to seek an update and revert.

As there was no other business the meeting concluded.

The Minutes were confirmed on:

Date: 5 Nollag 2024
Cathaoirleach: Seán Ó Stóradáin
Meeting Administrator: Sean Dooney