



Comhairle Contae Lú
Louth County Council

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

Minutes of Municipal District of Ardee meeting – hosted in the Dermot O'Brien Room, Ardee Civic Offices, Ardee on Thursday 5th September 2024 at 4:30pm

In attendance:

Cathaoirleach: Councillor John Sheridan

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

Officials: Joan Martin, Chief Executive
Bernie Woods, Head of Finance
Bryan Coughlan, Meetings Administrator
Declan Grimes, Senior Engineer
Helen Hanratty, Biodiversity Officer
Enda Murphy, Senior Executive Engineer

Minute No. 59/24

Minutes of Annual Meeting held on 27th June 2024

Proposed by: Cllr Paula Butterly

Seconded by: Cllr Jim Tenanty

And approved

Minute No. 60/24

Minutes of Meeting held on 4th July 2024

Proposed by: Cllr Jim Tenanty

Seconded by: Cllr Paula Butterly

And approved

Minute No. 61/24

Matters Arising

A number of matters were raised which it was agreed would be taken under the Roads and Local Services report.

Minute No. 62/24

Date for Special Meeting in October to consider the Municipal District of Ardee District Budget

Special Meeting to be held at 9.20am on Monday 21st October 2024

Proposed by: Cllr John Sheridan

Seconded by: Cllr Bernie Conlon

And approved

Minute No. 63/24

Nomination of Members to Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) Newry Mourne Down

Cllr. Pearse McGeough was proposed on his own nomination which was seconded by Cllr. Paula Butterly.

Cllr. Dolores Minogue was proposed on her own nomination which was seconded by Cllr. John Sheridan.

Minute No. 64/24

Housing Progress Report

Members noted the report as circulated at the meeting and Declan Grimes, Senior Engineer, addressed all matters raised by the Members.

The following matters were noted:

- Quarry Court development will be finished by the end of the year.
- Social Housing units being delivered in Dunleer via the Accelerated Delivery Programme are going to tender and works are required to be on-site by the end of the year to comply with funding requirements.

Minute No. 65/24

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:

- Bridge inspections are ongoing with 10 to be prioritized for immediate works.
- Painting of the loading bay outside Boylesports in Ardee will be completed shortly.
- Issue in Dunleer regarding the loss of parking spaces to accommodate Pedestrian Crossing.
- Works on the toilets in Ardee Library to be completed shortly.
- Works at Ardee Playground have commenced.

Enda Murphy agreed to follow up with Members on a number of items, including:

- The illumination at Dorian's junction on the R132.
- An update on any developments regarding the Ardee Bypass.
- The requirement for bollards on the bridge in Ardee.
- Specific yellow boxes in Dunleer.

- The status of the Road Works Programme for 2024.

It was also agreed that the Council engineers would look at schools within the District that would benefit from speed reduction measures that will be funded from the Members' discretionary budget.

Minute No. 66/24

Biodiversity Working Group

Helen Hanratty presented to the meeting and provided an overview of the Biodiversity Working Group, including:

- How it relates to existing national and local policies
- Its work
- Its composition
- Meeting arrangements

Members were asked to nominate one person from the District to join the Biodiversity Working Group. Members agreed to defer the matter to the next meeting.

Proposed by: Cllr John Sheridan

Seconded by: Cllr Paula Butterly

And approved

Minute No. 67/24

Notice of Motion: Cllr. Jim Tenanty

Seconded by: Cllr. Dolores Minogue

Asking that the Local Authority impose a weight restriction on Sean O'Carroll Street as residents and users have had conflicting opinions on right of way leading to road rage.

Reply from David Jones, Director of Services:

Weight restrictions are generally imposed on roads that feature specific challenges, such as weak bridges, narrow widths, excessive gradients, or areas serving special interest destinations.

Accordingly, the imposition of a weight restriction on Sean O'Carroll Street will be considered and assessed based on the factors outlined above.

The members noted the response and highlighted how narrow the street in question is.

Minute No. 68/24

Notice of Question: Cllr. Jim Tenanty

Can a review of the parking by laws come before the council as issues have arisen in connection with enforcement and placement.

Reply from Bernie Woods, Director of Finance

It would be prudent to first undertake a review of the recent changes before any consideration is

given to amending the byelaws.

Minute No. 69/24

Notice of Question: Cllr. John Sheridan

"To ask the number of fixed penalty parking notices issued in Ardee since the changes to parking enforcement in August 2023? How many appeals have been submitted and how many appeals were allowed/accepted?"

If the data is available how many fixed penalty notices have been issued at the loading bay at Market street Ardee?"

Reply from Bernie Woods, Director of Finance

Below are figures requested relating to Ardee .

<i>Total number of tickets issued</i>	<i>1,592 (including the tickets for loading bay in Market Street)</i>
<i>Total number of appeals received</i>	<i>240</i>
<i>Total number of appeals upheld</i>	<i>153</i>
<i>Total number of tickets issued for loading bay in Market street</i>	<i>350</i>

Minute No. 70/24

Condolences

Condolences were expressed to the family of:

- Stella Maguire
- Catherine Lennon, mother-in-law of Cllr. Pearse McGeough.

No. 71/24

Any Other Business

At its close, the meeting was joined by Joan Martin, Chief Executive, at the invitation of the members to mark her upcoming retirement. Each member of the MD spoke to congratulate the Chief Executive and to thank her for the work she had done for the district. Her knowledge of the law and fairness were traits particularly highlighted.

Ms. Martin thanked the Members for the invitation and spoke about the works in Ardee that she was proud of such as the Civic buildings, the Park and the ongoing project at Ardee Castle. She also spoke about her pride in working for Louth County Council and the ability it provides to make a difference and see the impact of your work.

As there was no other business the meeting concluded.

The Minutes were confirmed on:

Date: 3ú Deireadh Fomhair 2024

Cathaoirleach: Seán Ó Stóradáin.

Meeting Administrator: Lisa Dooley