



Comhairle Contae Lú
Louth County Council

Cruinniú de Cheanta Bhaile Átha Fhirdia / Municipal District of Ardee – January 2025

Minutes of Municipal District of Ardee meeting – hosted Online on Thursday 9th January 2025 at 4:30pm

In attendance:

Cathaoirleach: Councillor John Sheridan

Members: Councillor(s) Bernie Conlon, Dolores Minogue, Rachel Kerly, Pearse McGeough, Jim Tenanty,

Officials: Bernie Woods, Head of Finance
John Lawrence, Senior Executive Officer
Enda Murphy, Senior Executive Engineer
Bryan Coughlan, Meeting Administrator
Sinéad Dooley, Senior Executive Officer

Apologies: Keith McArdle, Assistant Engineer

Minute No. 1/25

Minutes of Meeting held on Thursday 6th December 2024

Minutes adopted on the:

Proposal of: Cllr. Bernie Conlon
Seconded by: Cllr. Dolores Minogue
And approved

Minute No. 2/25

Matters Arising

Cllr. McGeough sought an update on the commencement and extent of works since carried out at Mullavalley. John Lawrence committed to seeking an update and reverting to Cllr McGeough and Members in the coming days.

Minute No. 3/25

Housing Progress Report

Members discussed the report as circulated in advance of the meeting. John Lawrence, Senior Executive Officer provided further updates and addressed matters raised.

The following items were noted:

- 20 Units, including 9 Apartments, currently being snagged at Quarry Court, Ardee. While some ground floor residences will be earmarked for people with disabilities the majority of the Units will be going on Choice Based Lettings (CBL).
- It was noted that the housing allocation for Ardee up to 18th November had been 40 and that there had been 10 refusals. The reason behind the refusals was unlikely to be CBL related.
- Customer Service Teams are available in all three areas to provide support and assist the public in completing application forms as necessary. It is understood that Citizens Information also provides similar assistance to those who may need help in completing application forms.
- Clarity from the Department in respect of the future of the Tenant in-Situ Scheme will unlikely issue until such time as a new Government is formed.
- Contractors assigned to developments at Ravel Grange, Dunleer & Mullavalley. John Lawrence will revert to Members with confirmation of when the contractors will commence works.

Minute No. 4/25

Roads and Local Services Report

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

The following items were highlighted:

- Streetlights along the Dundalk Road remain out since Storm Darragh posing significant risk for pedestrians. Enda Murphy to be notified should contractors not fix the lights by week ending 17th January.
- Detail of gritting routes available on Louth County Council website and will also be circulated to Members for ease of reference.
- With reference to R166 and noting the occurrence of 2 serious incidents within the last five years, it was queried if yellow signs and delineators would be possible solutions to minimising the risks particularly to those accessing Cul de sacs along what is a straight stretch of road enclosed by trees.
- With particular reference to R132 White House Cross and noting a recent serious incident involving a cyclist, lighting at junctions was discussed. The members present offered their thoughts to the victim and their family.
- Cllr. Bernie Conlon raised the issue of specific yellow-lines in Dunleer.

Minute No. 5/25

Taking in Charge Report

As Keith McArdle, Assistant Engineer was unable to join the meeting it was agreed to defer discussion to the February meeting.

Members were advised that queries could be sent to Keith McArdle for appropriate attention and response.

Minute No. 6/25

Notice of Motion: Cllr. Jim Tenanty
Seconded by: Cllr. Dolores Minogue

That this Council agree to allocate age friendly parking spaces on Council property or on-street parking spaces to facilitate elderly people to park while they get public transportation for hospital appointments. This is necessary for elderly people.

Reply from David Jones, Director of Placemaking and Physical Development

Age Friendly Strategies have supported the provision of dedicated courtesy parking for older persons in proximity to desired locations within towns across Country, emanating particularly from Age Friendly Business Programmes, in collaboration with local businesses.

As Age Friendly parking spaces are non-enforceable by law, the success of any such provision is dependent on motorists joining into the spirit of the initiative and leaving the courtesy spaces for older persons who need them.

Accordingly, the Council can consider the allocation of Age Friendly parking spaces in the context of any future Age Friendly Business initiatives in Ardee, whilst also being mindful of the broader parking needs and priorities that exist with the town.

In speaking to the motion, Cllr. Tenanty welcomed the response from David Jones and stated that he would like discuss proposals and establish what the number of age-friendly spaces should be. He also suggested that the three spaces in front of the Fair Green would be ideal. Councillors Minogue, Conlon and McGeough also spoke in favour of the motion.

Minute No. 7/25

Any Other Business

- Civic Awards to take place on 29th January 2025 in the Civic Offices, Ardee.
- An appeal is going to the Supreme Court in relation to the Ardee Bypass.
- Detail in respect of 2024 unspent monies to be provided to Members.
- Cllr Rachel Kerley was formally welcomed by Members.
- Cllr John Sheridan reminded Members that Mid Louth Youth Service will be presenting to Members at the Council meeting of 20th January.

As there was no other business the meeting concluded.

The Minutes were confirmed on:

Date: Feb 6th 2025
Cathaoirleach: Seán Ó Staradair.
Meeting Administrator: Binead Doyle