

Municipal District of Dundalk – October 2022

Minutes of the Meeting of the Municipal District of Dundalk hosted in the Chamber of Dundalk Town Hall, on Tuesday 4th October 2022 at 5.15 p.m.

In attendance:

Cathaoirleach: Councillor Kevin Meenan

Members: Councillor(s) Marianne Butler, Conor Keelan, Seán Kelly, John Reilly, Liam Reilly, Antóin Watters, Maeve Yore.

Apologies: Councillor(s) Emma Coffey, Edel Corrigan, Maria Doyle, Andrea McKevitt, Tomás Sharkey

Officials: Thomas McEvoy, A/Director of Services
Gráinne Tuomey, Meetings Administrator
John Lawrence, Senior Executive Officer
Paddy Connolly, Senior Executive Engineer
Keith McArdle, Assistant Engineer

Minute no. 85/22

Confirmation of Minutes – Ordinary Meeting

The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Tuesday 6th September were confirmed on the:

Proposal of Cllr Maeve Yore

Seconded by Cllr Seán Kelly

And approved.

Minute no. 86/22

Matters Arising

The following updates were requested and advice given on Minutes from previous meeting:

Min. 77/22 – A request for an update on Dundalk Athletic Track was not recorded in minutes

Min. 79/22 – A request for bins on the inner relief road was not recorded in minutes

Min. 77/22 – An update was requested on Casual Trading Bye-Laws

Min 77/22 – Members were advised works were being considered on clock repairs on Clanbrassil St following request for update

A request was made for a letter to issue to Niall Gleeson in Irish Water demanding attendance with Councillors. This was:

Proposed by: Cllr Seán Kelly

Seconded by: Cllr Kevin Meenan

And agreed.

The Meeting Administrator Gráinne Tuomey advised Members that wording of letter must be forwarded in advance of any letter issuing so that Members views cannot be misrepresented.

Thomas McEvoy, Director of Services provided members with updates on the WWI memorial and planned joint firework display with Newry Mourne Down Council.

Minute no. 87/22

Housing Progress Report

Members discussed the report as issued and John Lawrence, Director of Services, advised on all Housing items raised.

The following items were noted in particular:

- Duiche Roden – a further update on expected delivery of units was given
- Coxes 2B – Keys are being given out. An official opening is planned with details to follow
- Halliday's Mills – a request for a working group of various bodies including the County Council, An Garda Síochána and Councillors to meet with residents and Lar Roddy of the Approved Housing Body (AHB) Cooperation Ireland was made. Members were however advised that Cooperation Ireland was the responsible body to manage the property and Council Officials were closely coordinating with the AHB to counteract and prevent Anti Social Behaviour. The only official role of Louth Co. Council in relation to the building is allocation of tenancies.
- A request for Lars Ruddy to present to Councilors was made.
- It was clarified to Members that AHBs take allocations from Louth County Council and do not apply their own in relation to Social Units tenanted from Louth County Council housing list.
- The number of Tenancy Support officers in Approved Housing Bodies active in the County was confirmed as follows:
 - Tuath – 2 full time
 - Clúid – 3 full time
 - North & East – 2 full time

- Respond – 3 full time
- Dublin Simon – 1 part time
- Croí Cónaithe (Towns) Fund Scheme – 11 applications have been received, more expected. Inspections will be required and resources allocated to this new initiative.
- A request was made for a working group to be set up specifically on Anti-Social Behaviour to include various state bodies, AHBs, LCC, An Garda Síochána and councillors to convene and agree procedures around Anti social behaviour.
- A request for Cllr Yore for Joe McGuinness Director of Services to be set up a Committee on Dundalk Athletics track.
- A further request to a joint group meeting with Túath on ASB in Dun Doogan was made, with an allegation that An Garda Síochána are diverted from dealing with criminal behaviour elsewhere as they attend so often in Dun Doogan. The Cathaoirleach Cllr Meenan drew similarities with Muirhevnamore 30/40 years ago and Dun Doogan and advised that he would arrange a meeting with various stakeholders.

Minute no. 88/22

Placemaking and Physical Development Report

Members discussed the report as issued and Paddy Connolly, Senior Executive Engineer advised on all items raised.

Litter Blackspots, Road safety measures including numerous traffic speed counts requests, traffic calming, redirection of traffic flow, filter lanes and lights, line repairs, footpath repair and maintenance, hedge and overgrowth cutting, flooding reparation, drainage, speed ramp maintenance measures, signage were requested at various areas

The following items were highlighted in particular:

- An update on MyWaste enforcement measures will be requested
- Road crossing difficulties at Stapletown Place will be looked at
- Resurfacing of Ecco Road was requested to be done during the mid term break with residents will be consulted first
- Process for Casual traders to access ESB points will be referred back
- Bush Primary School road safety highlighted as problematic
- GPS and Google maps sending motorists the quickest ways rather than national routes highlighted as problematic
- Name plates on estate entrances missing, and on streets
- A request for a presentation on Bridge Street like that received by Drogheda BD on Westgate the previous night was made
- Carlingford weather gauge behind the library is an OPW instrument measuring rainfall gauge and should not be covered
- Period Speed Limit Review process should commence again in 2023

Minute No. 89/22

Taking in Charge Report

Director of Services Thomas McEvoy introduced Keith McArdle, Assistant Engineer as the new contact for Taking in Charge. Members welcomed Keith to the meeting. Updates were requested and given on the following estates:

Mede Bawn, McParland Development Apartments, Blackrock Cove, Dun Doogan, Cluain na Mara, Clermont flooding.

Minute No. 90/22

Member's Community Grants September 2022

In accordance with Section 66 of the Local Government Act 2001 as amended, approval of the Member's Community Grants October 2022 as presented by Members were

Proposed by: Cllr. Antóin Watters

Seconded by: Cllr. Seán Kelly

And approved.

Minute No. 91/22

Congratulations

Congratulations were offered to Cooley Kickhams GFC who won the Championship final for the first time in 32 years, and this was extended to the Cooley Kickhams Senior Ladies team who won the Peninsula Derby.

Minute No. 92/22

Condolences

Condolences were extended to the family and friends of:

Calvin Curley Gray

Sinead Boyle

Both of whom died tragically in the town of Dundalk in two recent separate incidents.

Minute No. 93/22

AOB

At the conclusion Councillor Keelan outlined some personal concerns on politics generally.

There being no other business, the meeting concluded.

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

Date: 1st Nov 2022

Cathaoirleach: Kevin Keelan

Meeting Administrator: Aileen Quinlan