



Comhairle Contae Lú
Louth County Council

Cruinniú Bardasach Dhún Dealgan / Municipal District of Dundalk – January 2023

Minutes of Municipal District of Dundalk Meeting - Town Hall, Dundalk - Tuesday, 10th January 2023 at 5:15pm

In attendance:

Cathaoirleach: Councillor Kevin Meenan

Members: Councillor(s) Marianne Butler, Edel Corrigan, Maria Doyle, Conor Keelan, Seán Kelly, Andrea McKevitt, John Reilly, Antóin Watters.

Apologies: Councillor(s) Emma Coffey, Liam Reilly, Tomás Sharkey, Maeve Yore.

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

Minute No. 1/23

Minutes of Meeting held on Tuesday 6th December 2022

The minutes of the monthly meeting held on Tuesday 6th December 2022 were confirmed on the
Proposal of - Cllr Andrea McKevitt
Seconded by - Cllr Antóin Watters
And approved.

Minute No. 2/23

Matters Arising

None

Minute No. 3/23

Housing Progress Report

Members noted the report as circulated at the meeting. John Lawrence, Senior Executive Officer addressed all matters raised by the Members.

The following items were highlighted:

- Staff resources have been assigned to the Grants team, however due to the backlog of grants from 2022, no acknowledgement of new applications will be made until stocktake of existing applications is done and priority and funding allocation has been determined.
- Housing do not inspect private rented dwellings tenants by those being allocated Social Units. They are aware of significant issues which can lead to houses then being badly maintained including Mental Health problems.

Minute No. 4/23

Roads and Local Services Report

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

Along with flooding, ponding, signage at ramps, concern at tree size, traffic calming, road safety and signage requests, potholes, footpath repair, traffic light resequencing the following items were highlighted:

- There is no specific funding for installing cats eyes on existing roads
- Members expressed concern at the removal of the tracker
- Clarity was sought on tree pruning and Members were advised that pruning was carried out within the old Dundalk Town Boundary
- Confirmation will issue on JCB Pro Pothole machine Dundalk Schedule
- Members expressed disappointment on Dundalk IBAL result rating. Director of Services Thomas McEvoy echoed the disappointment in light of the effort of all including community and tidy town groups.
- The Economic Development Team are sourcing signage for St. Brigid's Well and Shrine
- Lighting was requested on the Riverside Walkway as it sees high night time use
- A report on the effect of removing bins on illegal dumping volume/incidents was requested

Minute No. 5/23

Request for correspondence to issue

Referring to an item in Louth County Council News on a Page (an internal Members Communication Document) which advised Members that the exemption to the provisions of the Waste Management (Prohibition of Waste disposal by burning) (Amendment) Regulations 2022 expired on 1st January 2023;

It was

Proposed by Cllr Antóin Watters

Seconded by Cllr John O'Reilly

That a letter issue to the Department requesting an extension of the exemption for another year. As further support was established and there were no objections from Members it was so resolved that letter issues.

Minute No. 6/23

Taking in Charge Report

Keith McArdle, Assistant Engineer invited questions from Members on the report as presented to them on Taking in Charge measures. The following estates were discussed:

- Cathedral View
- Mount Hamilton
- Garrybawn
- Cul na Bala
- Cul na Raithe
- Mullach Alainn
- Coulter Park
- Coulter Place

Minute No. 7/23

Notice of Motion - Cllr Sean Kelly

Seconded by - Cllr Edel Corrigan

“That Louth Council look at the possibility of installing two new pedestrian crossing at the following locations: Outside of Castletown Pharmacy on the Castletown Road, Dundalk; At the entrance of Aisling Park playground at Marian Park, Dundalk

The rationale behind this is the fact that there is no other means for pedestrians to cross in close vicinity and there are a lot of children and elderly people using both roads on a frequent basis, therefore the lack of a pedestrian crossing is a significant safety concern.

Reply from C. Duff, Director of Place Making and Physical Development

The locations identified are not part of the proposed roads program for 2023

The two locations proposed for crossings will be assessed by the area engineer and should they warrant same they will be considered for future funding based on prioritisation.

Speaking on the motion Cllr Kelly outlined a gap in pedestrian crossing areas at the pharmacy which is near a busy Doctors surgery which sees a lot of footfall of elderly persons. He advised that the Aisling Park Playground does not have a footpath to access it which forces people out onto road.

Cllr Corrigan spoke in support of this motion advising that she had previously tabled a motion on this, describing the provision of footpaths as vital for the area.

Minute No. 8/23

Notice of Motion - Cllr. Sean Kelly and Cllr. Kevin Meenan

Seconded by: Cllr Antóin Watters

“That Louth County Council write to Irish Water and for them to facilitate a visit by Councillors from Dundalk MD to Cavan Hill Water Treatment Plant as soon as possible, and while on site, to be given an overview of the causes and issues surrounding continuous water notices in Dundalk over the past two years.”

Reply

This is a matter for the Members

Speaking on this motion Cllr Kelly told Members he had requested the contact details of the Manager of Cavan Hill and had been advised that due to GDPR concerns Irish Water could not give him the name.

Cllr Meenan advised of zero confidence in Irish Water.

As there was no further business the meeting concluded.

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

Date: 7th Feb 2023

Cathaoirleach: Ken Meenan

Meeting Administrator: Celia Quaney