



Comhairle Contae Lú  
Louth County Council

## **Cruinniú Bardasach Dhún Dealgan / Municipal District of Dundalk – March 2023**

Minutes of Municipal District of Dundalk Meeting – Council Chamber, Town Hall, Dundalk -  
Tuesday, 7<sup>th</sup> March 2023 at 5:15pm

### **In attendance:**

**Cathaoirleach:** Councillor Kevin Meenan

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

**Apologies:** Councillor(s) Edel Corrigan, Maria Doyle Andrea McKevitt, Tomás Sharkey.

**Officials:** Thomas McEvoy, Director of Services  
Gráinne Tuomey, Meetings Administrator  
Paddy Donnelly, Director of Services  
John O'Hagan, Senior Engineer  
Paddy Connolly, Senior Executive Engineer  
Michael McGrath, Senior Engineer

### **Minute No. 18/23**

#### **Minutes of Meeting held on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2023**

The minutes of the monthly meeting held on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2023 were confirmed on the  
**Proposal of** - Cllr Maeve Yore  
**Seconded by** - Cllr Seán Kelly  
**And approved.**

### **Minute No. 19/23**

#### **Matters Arising**

Updates were requested and given on the following items  
Noting the lack of response to correspondence sent to Irish Water/Uisce Éireann it was suggested that the letter issue again this time to the CEO  
Minute No. 13/23 – A list of traffic speed counts approved and dropped was requested  
Minute No. 12/23 - A presentation by Edel O'Neill on the Retrofitting Scheme will be deferred until Departmental funding approval is known

## **Minute No. 20/23**

### **Allocation of Members Community Grants provided for under Section 66 of the Local Government Act 2001**

Members considered the Community Grants as approval of same was

Proposed by: Cllr Seán Kelly

Seconded by: Cllr Marianne Butler

And resolved

## **Minute No. 21/23**

### **Housing Progress Report**

Members noted the report as circulated at the meeting and Paddy Donnelly Director of Services and Michael McGrath Senior Executive Engineer addressed all matters raised by the Members.

The following items were highlighted:

- Members were advised that the expressions of interest on Affordable Housing saw circa 70 expressions submitted with only 5 meeting the criteria. It was considered that engagement with developers to commence a small scheme might increase expressions of interest.
- The grants schemes are oversubscribed with Priority 1 applicants being given priority.
- A request for prior notification on upcoming Choice Based Letting units and level of interest will be considered but cognisance must be had to not adding to the ever increasing work load of staff
- A national framework of contractors for the Delivery of Housing Units is under consideration by the Department
- The assessment process for Home Loan Applications was discussed

## **Minute No. 22/23**

### **Roads and Local Services Report**

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

Along with potholes, footpath repair, traffic calming, road safety and signage requests, traffic light sequencing and traffic light repair, road resurfacing, road lines painting, painting of parking bays, road subsidence, lighting of bus shelters, the following items were highlighted:

- Cutting of hedges is prohibited during the nesting season except in cases of road safety.
- A request was made to decrease the volume of the accessibility buzzer at traffic lights or to have it only on demand. Members were advised that Placemaking had met with disability groups who want more audible lights.
- Crash repair to wall required at Toberona bridge
- A request was made for Louth County Council to purchase Railway Road owned by Ianród Éireann
- Replacement 'Stop Signs' in Kilcurry requested following theft of same

## Minute No. 23/23

### Roads Works Programme

Members discussed the list of scheduled Road Works as circulated at the meeting. Paddy Connolly, Senior Executive Engineer addressed matters raised. Several queries were raised which were responded to and Members noted the Programme as issued.

- A request was made for future years Road Work Programme

## Minute No. 24/23

### Physical Development Report

Members discussed the report as issued and John O'Hagan Senior Engineer, advised on all items raised. The following items were highlighted/discussed:

- Bikeshare Scheme Byelaws are going on public display on the 8<sup>th</sup> March
- Members will be invited to an online Teams presentation on an Active Travel pilot scheme the week after St. Patricks Day
- Plot owners with Ornaments and Surrounds on green burial grounds have been written to giving time to remove items
- Removal of Cul de Sacs to through roads is a matter for Planning in the first instance
- Litter and household waste inspections under MyWaste are a matter for Organisational Development

## Minute No. 25/23

### Notice of Motion: Cllr Antóin Watters

**Seconded by:** Cllr Maeve Yore

Call on Louth County Council to install bollards along the footpath from the top of the Ghan Road to Harbour cottages in Carlingford. The area is blighted with cars parking on the footpath forcing wheelchair users and parents with push chairs onto the road to pass them.

### **Reply from C. Duff, Director of Services, Placemaking and Physical Development**

*The area engineer carried out an inspection. The majority of the footpath is narrow. The footpath is circa 700m in length. As the footpath is narrow the installation of bollards on the footpath would restrict pedestrian movement. The area engineer has recommended applying road markings at the junction of the Ghan Road and the R176 Dundalk Road in compliance with the current Traffic Signs Manual and to monitor the situation. The location will be raised with the Gardaí who have the powers to take enforcement action.*

Speaking on the motion Cllr Watters while welcoming the response, considered that bollards are the only solution to prevent cars parking on the footpath and described the area as an accident waiting to happen, and asked that the council be proactive.

## Minute No. 26/23

### Notice of Question – Cllr Antóin Watters – Response Noted

How many fines were issued for the last 5 years for illegal dumping and how many have been paid?

**Reply from J. McGuinness, Director of Organisational Development**

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Total Issued	Total Paid
<b>Litter Fixed Penalty Notices Issued</b>	926	969	486	413	321	<b>3115</b>	----
<b>Litter Fixed Penalty Notices Paid</b>	351	506	229	127	103	----	<b>1316</b>

**Minute No. 27/23**

**Condolences**

Condolences were offered to the family and friends of:  
Catriona O'Connor mother of Stephen O'Connor, Litter Warden

**Minute No. 28/23**

**AOB**

It was noted that it was Cllr Maria Doyle's last scheduled Municipal District Meeting but unfortunately, she could not attend. It was suggested that Members would meet with Cllr Doyle at some point to celebrate her time as a Councillor.

Nominations for Civic Awards to be forwarded along with contact details to the Meetings Administrator by the following Friday.

All those with Electric Vehicles are welcome to take part in the St. Patrick's Day parade.

As there was no other business the meeting concluded

**The Minutes were confirmed at a meeting of the Council held on:**

**Date:**

4<sup>th</sup> April 2023

**Cathaoirleach:**

Kim Meen

**Meeting Administrator:**

Alice Spence