



Comhairle Contae Lú
Louth County Council

Cruinniú Bardasach Dhún Dealgan / Municipal District of Dundalk – June 2024

Minutes of 2024 Annual Meeting of Municipal District of Dundalk - Town Hall, Dundalk - Tuesday, 25th June 2024 at 5:15pm

In attendance:

Cathaoirleach: Councillor Seán Kelly

Members: Councillor(s) Marianne Butler, Emma Coffey, Ciarán Fisher, Sionainn McCann, Shane McGuinness, Andrea McKeivitt, Fiona Mhic Conchoille, Kevin Meenan, Robert Nash, John Reilly, Antóin Watters, Maeve Yore,

Apologies: Thomas McEvoy, Director of Services

Officials: Colette Moss, A/Director of Services
Gráinne Tuomey, Meetings Administrator

Minute No. 72/24

Election of Cathaoirleach

Cathaoirleach Seán Kelly welcomed the four new members of Dundalk Municipal District wishing them all the best in their new positions and thanked the existing Members for their support over the last year, while wishing them continued success in the term ahead.

Cllr Kelly then called for nominations for the Cathaoirleach of the Municipal District of Dundalk 2024 - 2025.

Cllr Seán Kelly was nominated on the
Proposal of Cllr Andrea McKeivitt
Seconded by Cllr Emma Coffey

Cllr Sionainn McCann was nominated on the
Proposal of Cllr Kevin Meenan
Seconded by Cllr Antóin Watters

As neither candidate rejected the nomination, there were therefore 2 valid candidates for Cathaoirleach. In accordance with Section 37(g) of the Local Government Act 2001, as amended, a vote was called for as follows:

Name	Nominee - Kelly	Nominee - McCann	Abstain	Absent
Marianne Butler		1		
Emma Coffey	1			

Ciarán Fisher	1			
Seán Kelly	1			
Sionainn McCann		1		
Shane McGuinness	1			
Andrea McKeivitt	1			
Fiona Mhic Conchoille		1		
Kevin Meenan		1		
Robert Nash	1			
John Reilly	1			
Antóin Watters		1		
Maeve Yore			1	
	7	5	1	0

And Cllr Seán Kelly was re-elected Cathaoirleach of Dundalk MD for the 2nd consecutive term.

Members widely spoke to congratulate Cllr Kelly, however there was some unhappiness stated about alleged pact arrangements made prior to the annual meetings by parties with Cllr Meenan congratulating Cllr Kelly but voicing discontent on the process.

Cllr Yore read a statement which she requested 'clarified and confirmed' would be put into the minutes as follows:

"Democracy is dead in Dundalk and Louth and the will of the voting public disrespected and ignored by the FG/Lab/FF/majority ex party Ind Pact who spent the last 2 weeks since polling day ringing and pressurising other Cllr's - some who are new and unaware of the dishonourable party politics - to join the pact and disregarding the attempt to introduce the dHondt system in Louth where each of the 29 democratically elected cllrs would have a position on a Committee or as Chair and where Louth would have a voice locally, regionally and nationally

Can I get clarification and confirmation recorded in the Minutes of this AGM that each of the 29 Cllrs will be treated equally and fairly by the Council Executive regardless if they are in the pact and that the peddling of the narrative that you will get nothing done as a Cllr unless you are in the pact is incorrect and dismissed outright by the Council Executive?"

The Meetings Administrator reminded Members that staff are bound to the Code of Conduct for Employees as the Councillors are to the Code of Conduct for Councillors and hoped for a calm year ahead of respectful meetings.

An Cathaoirleach, Cllr Kelly acknowledged all the good wishes with thanks and stated his support for all members and pledging to be impartial and fair to all.

Minute No. 73/24

Election of Leas-Chathaoirleach

An Cathaoirleach Cllr Seán Kelly called for nominations for Leas-Chathaoirleach.

Cllr Robert Nash was nominated on the
Proposal of Cllr John Reilly
Seconded by Cllr Andrea McKeivitt

Cllr Fiona Mhic Conchoille was nominated on the
Proposal of Cllr Antóin Watters

Seconded by Cllr Kevin Meenan

As there were 2 candidates, in accordance with Section 37(g) a poll was taken as follows:

Name	Nominee - Nash	Nominee - Mhic Conchoille	Abstain	Absent
Marianne Butler			1	
Emma Coffey	1			
Ciarán Fisher	1			
Seán Kelly	1			
Sionainn McCann		1		
Shane McGuinness	1			
Andrea McKeivitt	1			
Fiona Mhic Conchoille		1		
Kevin Meenan		1		
Robert Nash	1			
John Reilly	1			
Antóin Watters		1		
Maeve Yore			1	
	7	4	2	0

And Cllr Robert Nash was elected as Leas-Chathaoirleach.

Congratulations were offered to Cllr Nash on his appointment.

Colette Moss who was Acting Director of Services said “on behalf of the Chief Executive and staff of Louth County Council we look forward to working with you all in a fair manner as we have done in the past.”

Minute No. 74/24

To confirm the Schedule of Meetings of Dundalk Municipal District

While considering the annual schedule of meetings as set out before the Members on the agenda, Cllr Marianne Butler suggested that it might be better to have the Municipal District Meetings on the second Tuesday of the month as opposed to the first Tuesday of the month.

This was

Proposed by Cllr Butler

Seconded by Cllr Maeve Yore

And as there were no objections agreed by all Members.

It was further agreed that the July meeting would go ahead as scheduled with the September meetings to follow the agreed format.

Minute No. 75/24

Placenames Committee

- Schedule 10, Para. 4(4)(a) of the Local Government Act, 2001 as amended.
- To appoint 1 member to Committee.

An Cathaoirleach called for nominations for the Placenames Committee.

Cllr Ciarán Fisher was nominated on the
Proposal of Cllr Andrea McKeivitt, as
Seconded by Cllr Emma Coffey

And as there were no other nominees, Cllr Fisher was thus appointed.

Minute No. 76/24

Louth PEACEPLUS Partnership

- Schedule 10, Para. 4(4)(a) of the Local Government Act, 2001 as amended.
- To appoint 2 members to Committee.

An Cathaoirleach called for nominations for the PEACEPLUS Committee.

Cllr Shane McGuinness was nominated on the
Proposal of Cllr, Emma Coffey, and this was
Seconded by Cllr Andrea McKeivitt

Cllr Sionainn McCann was nominated on the
Proposal of Cllr, Kevin Meenan, and this was
Seconded by Cllr Antóin Watters

Cllr John Reilly was nominated by Cllr Shane McGuinness but declined the nomination in order that Cllr McCann could take a place on the committee.

Cllrs Shane McGuinness and Sionainn McCann were deemed appointed to represent Dundalk Municipal District on the PeacePLUS partnership.

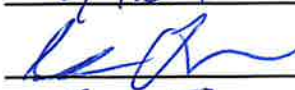
An Cathaoirleach then announced the closing of the meeting.

Colette Moss who was Acting Director of Services spoke on behalf of the Chief Executive and staff of Louth County Council saying “we look forward to working with you all in a fair manner as we have done in the past.”

A discussion took place thereafter on working groups and committees which did not form part of the meeting.

As there was no other business the meeting concluded.

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

Date: 10/9/24
Cathaoirleach: 
Meeting Administrator: 