



Comhairle Contae Lú  
Louth County Council

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

Minutes of Municipal District of Dundalk Meeting - Town Hall, Dundalk - Tuesday, 4<sup>th</sup> June 2024  
at 5:15pm

### **In attendance:**

**Cathaoirleach:** Councillor Seán Kelly

**Members:** Councillor(s) Marianne Butler, Emma Coffey, Edel Corrigan, Kevin Meenan, Liam Reilly, Antóin Watters, Maeve Yore.

**Apologies:** Conor Keelan, Andrea McKevitt, Robert Nash, John Reilly, Tomás Sharkey

**Officials:** Thomas McEvoy, Director of Services  
Gráinne Tuomey, Meetings Administrator  
John O'Hagan, Senior Engineer  
Patrick Connolly, Senior Engineer  
John Lawrence, Senior Executive Officer

### **Minute No. 65/24**

#### **Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2024**

The minutes of the monthly meeting held on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2024 were confirmed on the

**Proposal of -** Cllr Emma Coffey

**Seconded by -** Cllr Maeve Yore

**And approved.**

### **Minute No. 66/24**

#### **Matters Arising**

None

### **Minute No. 67/24**

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

Members considered the proposed dispersal of Community Grants from Dundalk Municipal District Allocations, and approval of same was

**Proposal of -** Cllr Emma Coffey

**Seconded by -** Cllr Maeve Yore

**And resolved.**

## Minute No. 68/24

### Housing Progress Report

Members noted the report as circulated at the meeting. John Lawrence, Senior Executive responded to all queries raised.

The following items were clarified:

- The report as presented to members focuses on ongoing works which are physically progressing. Communication on planned works such as Kincora House are progressing in the background and will be put on the report when they progress
- The Housing Team were pleased to receive an increase in Department Funding for disabled grants, however cautioned that notification of completion of the works from the householder was proving difficult to receive
- Requests for greater communication from the housing teams on receipt of grant applications and housing maintenance queries will be brought back to the teams
- Grant priority is and has been on administering and processing Housing Adaptation Grants and Mobility Aid Grants; the Housing aids for Older People January 2023 allocations are still being worked on
- If extra funding is made available for Retrofitting Units, the Housing section will be ready to go

## Minute No. 69/24

### Roads and Local Services Report

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

The following items were highlighted:

- Queries on removal and change of location of planters and bins will be referred to BIDs and roads teams to review
- Potholes repair is ongoing throughout the county
- An appointment is expected in coming weeks following the Roadwork Programme (RWP) tender for North Louth
- The RWP tender for Cooley is due in this week, with appointment expected in late July at earliest
- The traffic light sequence on the Avenue Road Roundabout was to be assessed the day following the meeting
- There is no funding for new footpaths
- The drainage and gully cleaning programme is ongoing. Repairs are carried out by contractors where necessary
- Barriers are planned at a location at Aghameen where a lorry overturned previously
- Members appealed for a review of traffic calming assessment procedures as no cluster data had been available from An Garda Síochána for some time. A general discussion took place on policy with a consensus that all estates should be fitted with traffic calming measures. Members were cautioned that the low-cost safety budget was minimal
- Staff were thanked for recent works at Dowdallshill Graveyard with a request for an ongoing action plan made
- Official correspondence regarding funding of some €472,000 had not yet reached the council

The following items unrelated to agenda items were raised:

- A query about bins being left out after collection in town centre homes will be referred to Environment staff to assess under Presentation of Waste Byelaws
- Concern over ongoing lack of communication from Uisce Éireann was highlighted, along with brown tap water throughout the Dundalk area
- The Draft Dundalk Local Area Plan is due to issue in several weeks following which statutory consultation and consideration process will follow

#### **Minute No. 70/24**

### **Placemaking and Physical Development Report**

Members noted the report as circulated at the meeting. John O'Hagan, Senior Engineer addressed matters raised.

The following items were highlighted:

- Following that day's official opening of Narrow Water Bridge, Members were advised that any updates would feature in the Monthly Chief Executive Report. Concerns were raised about the approved contractor
- The Greenway will continue under the bridge and connect to cycleways etc
- Members welcomed recent correspondence on funding for Templetown and Port beaches and Dromiskin. Again, official correspondence was awaited

#### **Minute No. 71/24**

### **Acknowledgement of Members not standing for Local Elections 2024**

The Cathaoirleach led acknowledgement of three Municipal District Members who had decided not to put themselves forward for re-election: Cllr Tomás Sharkey who was absent, and Cllrs Liam Reilly and Edel Corrigan who were present.

Cllr Reilly was noted for his dedication to the Dromiskin area, his commitment to the tidy towns, his assistance and mentoring of new members over his 16 years, while Cllr Corrigan was described as a female forerunner having been one of the first female members of the council. Members spoke of their friendship with the Councillors and the vast experience that was leaving the chamber.

Director of Services Thomas McEvoy spoke on behalf of the Chief Executive and the Executive to thank the outgoing members for their time and dedication, and commented on the huge commitment to the citizens and that it takes to be a Councillor on top of the ordinary working lives of the Members, wishing them well and those standing again for election.


Cllr Liam Reilly spoke of his tenure in Ardee and Dundalk, thanking all the members and officials for ensuring that every item was listened to even if it was not achievable, and advised that he loved working with people but a career change to Dublin had made it untenable to continue. He wished everyone the best in the upcoming election.

Cllr Edel Corrigan spoke to consider the current Councillor group as the best she had worked with over the years, achieving everything they set out to do. She reminisced about how when she started, she felt so out of place but that the council was now a very different place and more welcoming to younger people. She said it was great to be at the final meeting of the District and wished everyone well in the upcoming elections.

Members also congratulated and thanked the Cathaoirleach for his work over the last year as well as the Executive and staff of Louth County Council for their assistance over the term of Council.

As there was no other business the meeting concluded.

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

**Date:** 2 July 2024  
**Cathaoirleach:**   
**Meeting Administrator:** 