



Comhairle Contae Lú
Louth County Council

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

Minutes of Municipal District of Dundalk Meeting - Town Hall, Dundalk - Tuesday, 7th May 2024 at 5:15pm

In attendance:

Cathaoirleach: Councillor Seán Kelly

Members: Councillor(s) Marianne Butler, Emma Coffey, Edel Corrigan, Conor Keelan, Andrea McKevitt, Kevin Meenan, Robert Nash, Liam Reilly, John Reilly, Tomás Sharkey, Antóin Watters, Maeve Yore.

Apologies: None

Officials: Thomas McEvoy, Director of Services
Gráinne Tuomey, Meetings Administrator
Ger Murphy, Director of Services
Declan Grimes, Senior Engineer
Mark Johnston, Senior Engineer

Minute No. 52/24

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on Tuesday 2nd April 2024

The minutes of the monthly meeting held on Tuesday 2nd April 2024 were confirmed on the

Proposal of - Cllr Maeve Yore
Seconded by - Cllr Andrea McKevitt
And approved.

Minute No. 53/24

Minutes of the Special Meeting held on Monday 15th April 2024

The minutes of the Special meeting held in the Chamber of County Hall on the morning of Monday 15th April 2024 were confirmed on the

Proposal of - Cllr Marianne Butler
Seconded by - Cllr Maeve Yore
And approved.

Minute No. 54/24

Matters Arising
None

Minute No. 55/24

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

The Members noting an error in the allocations as set out before them, agreed amendments and considered the proposed amended dispersal of Community Grants from Dundalk Municipal District Allocations. Following a contention by Cllr Keelan that items submitted had not been included in the list and further suggested additions by other members, it was proposed that all and any further amendments or additions to grants submitted within a week of the meeting would be preapproved by the MD members, this was:

Proposed by: Cllr Seán Kelly
Seconded by: Cllr Maeve Yore
And resolved

Minute No. 56/24

Proposal under Section 177AE of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended; for an application to An Bord Pleanala for Approval of 44 Units under the Accelerated Delivery Scheme (S179(a) of the Act), at the Point Road, Dundalk

Members noted the presentation as set out before them on the agenda. A lengthy discussion followed.

Flooding concerns were raised by members both at the proposed site and regarding possible dispersal of flood waters to existing estates, should the build progress.

Declan Grimes, Senior Engineer and Ger Murphy, Director of Services advised Members that an application had been made to An Bord Pleanala following receipt of a satisfactory consultants' report that demonstrated the build of units could safely be done albeit with mitigations in place.

Other concerns were raised at the possible over saturation of social units in the area considering the proximity to Haliday's Mills and units under construction by Simon AHB on Barrack St.

Following further discussion where it was clarified that if the build does not go ahead the council will incur a debt of over €7m to the Department, an undertaking was given to provide Members with a breakdown note on the process of public consultation of the scheme with the Bord, as well as a copy of the consultants' report.

Minute No. 57/24

Decision on holding June meeting for Dundalk Municipal District

On response to the Cathaoirleach questioning if Members wished to hold the June meeting so close to the election on 7th June, Members decided unanimously to hold the pre-scheduled meeting on the 4th June 2024; there were no objections.

Minute No. 58/24

Housing Progress Report

Members noted the report as circulated at the meeting. Declan Grimes, Senior Engineer and Ger Murphy Director of Services responded to all queries raised.

The following items were clarified:

- The final number of Affordable units in Cois Ferraige Blackrock was 5 out of the initial 10 planned
- Sourcing of potential Emergency Accommodation units in Drogheda and Dundalk is hopeful. All options are being considered
- With over 4000 social units in stock, it is unlikely that the council will be able to accommodate individual requests to paint units
- Members were reminded that the elected reps system was the best way to log calls
- Consideration can only be given to purchase of tenant-in-situ units where they are to standard

Minute No. 59/24

Roads and Local Services Report

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

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

- Members were advised that guidance is still awaited from the Department on CCTV usage, but Cllr Yore contended that the guidance was already there and suggested this be confirmed at next County meeting
- A request that Infrastructure contact Uisce Eireann regarding water pressure issues causing difficulty to households will be accommodated.
- The moratorium remains on Street lighting
- Mark Johnston said that he had turned up at a scheduled meeting on Dowdallshill Graveyard but nobody else arrived. A request was made for another meeting and an appeal later given by Cllr Keelan, who suggested that he would walk out to the graveyard on foot on any text, WhatsApp or phone call on behalf of the citizens of the town, following which Cllr Keelan left the meeting.
- A request was made for roads to be made good in advance of an event on the 8th June.
- Members were advised an Outdoor changing area fund at bathing waters may be insufficient to provide changing areas and perhaps consideration could be given to application to Community under the Community Recognition Fund
- The mechanical weed remover is in full use as is the sweeper. The machine operates at night to prevent traffic disruption and physically rips out and removes weeds.
- The Road Works Programme Tender is out, with hopes to appoint contractors in June
- There is no funding for any extra items not already scheduled such as new Disabled Bays, or new footpaths
- Footpath works are repair only

Minute No. 60/24

Notice of Motion: Cllr Antóin Watters

Seconded by: Cllr Seán Kelly

"Call on Louth County Council to install a floodgate at Omeath Pier which would close in the event of stormy weather and high tides. The floodgate will help to prevent damage to the recently completed regeneration works. There is a similar gate in Blackrock"

Reply from D. Jones, Director of Placemaking & Physical Development

Works are currently ongoing in relation to the Omeath Placemaking Scheme. The provision of

floodgates has not been provided for or deemed necessary as part of said scheme. The public realm works have been developed, and all materials have been chosen to a specification, that are appropriate to a coastal environment, thus negating the need for any protective barrier against potential damage from coastal flooding.

Members noted the response as issued by the Executive. Cllr Watters considered that the public realm works are not going to stop the water ingress and suggested the pier needed to be widened.

Minute No. 61/24

Notice of Question: Cllr Marianne Butler – Noted

Members noted the response to the Notice of Question raised by Cllr Butler as it appeared on the agenda before them

Minute No. 62/24

Notices of Questions: Cllr Conor Keelan – Noted

Members noted the response to two Notices of Questions raised by Cllr Keelan in his absence as they appeared on the agenda before them

Minute No. 63/24

Correspondence – Noted by Members

Correspondence from the following body was noted by Members

- Eamon Ryan TD, Minister for Transport 1st May 2024.


Minute No. 64/24

Condolences were extended to the family and friends of:

- Eamon Carroll Hazelwood Avenue Bay Estate Dundalk
- Brian Connolly RIP Dad of Paddy Connolly Engineer /LCC c/o Operations Section County Hall Dundalk

As there was no other business the meeting concluded.

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

Date: 4 June 2024
Cathaoirleach: 
Meeting Administrator: 