

Municipal District of Dundalk – January 2015

Minutes of the Meeting of the Municipal District of Dundalk held in the Town Hall, Dundalk on Tuesday, 13th January, 2015.

In attendance:

Cathaoirleach:	Cllr. D. Breathnach
Members:	Councillors: M Butler, E. Corrigan, M. Dearey, M. Doyle, C. Keelan, J. Loughran, K. Meenan, T. Sharkey, M. Yore
Officials:	Gerry Kelly, Senior Engineer David Storey, Senior Executive Officer Paddy Donnelly, Meetings Administrator
Apologies:	Cllrs: J. Green, J. McGahon and P. Savage Frank Pentony, Director of Service

Minute No. 01/15

Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 2nd December, 2014, were confirmed on the proposal of Cllr. M. Dearey and seconded by Cllr. C. Keelan.

Minute No. 02/15

Matters Arising

Minute No. 46/14 - Cllr. Keelan is seeking an update in regard to the taxi ranks in Park Street and Earl Street. The Senior Engineer is to revert on this matter.

Minute No. 50/14 - Cllr. Dearey enquired in regard to the issue of the right-hand turn lane at the new Tesco development, the Senior Engineer confirmed that there was a non-compliance issue with the turn and there were additional markings required on the road which would be dealt with the next time the contractor was operational in the area.

Minute No. 56/14 – Cllr. Doyle indicated that the conditions at Grays Lane have worsened and asked staff to reinvestigate the matter.

Query in regard to the barrier at Lidl, the Senior Engineer advised that this was a planning matter and staff had been in discussion with some of the business owners in the area. The requirement to have the barrier there is a condition placed on the Lidl development.

Minute No. 03/15

Housing and Communities Progress Report

Mr. David Storey, Senior Executive Officer presented the Housing and Communities Progress Report dated 5th January, 2015. Mr. Storey advised the members that the housing acquisition and construction programme announced nationally had not yet been confirmed at local level, and there were no details of the extent of either programme. When details were to hand it will be reported to the members.

The member's queries were addressed by the Senior Executive Officer which included responses in regard to Anti Social Behaviour, the Cox's Regeneration Programme and the progress in relation to HOPs, HAGs and MAGs. It was confirmed to members that the Grant Scheme would reopen on Monday 19th January and forms will be available on the website from that day on. Members were advised that currently there were 137 requests for application forms for the schemes.

Minute No. 04/15

Operations, Infrastructure and Marine Progress Report

Mr. Gerry Kelly, Senior Engineer presented the report from Operations, Infrastructure and Marine dated 22nd December, 2014. Mr. Kelly advised the members that the report is specifically from Operations and the Infrastructure section, and while he is assigned to the Operations section he would be happy to address issues from Infrastructure, but he would have to revert to the members on some of the detail.

Mr. Kelly also circulated to the members a draft preliminary Road Works Programme for 2015, which he outlined was based on an estimate of what grants will be paid to the local authority. He advised the members that this matter will come before the meeting at a future date. The members raised a number of issues including the refurbishment of the Clanbrassil Street area which is due to commence in March 2015, and sought further details in relation to that; Speed ramps on the N53; details of the works on the inner relief road; coastal erosion at Blackrock and Bellurgan; and queries in regard to the selection of low cost safety measure projects.

Members also raised the matter of the Racecourse Road and the erection of a barrier which was welcomed by Cllrs. Keelan and Dearey. Mr. Kelly advised the members that this was an ongoing matter and there were a number of challenges in regard to this and he would keep the members advised.

Minute No. 05/15

Proposed Extinguishment of the Right of Way at St. Josephs Park, Dundalk

Mr. P. Donnelly brought to the members' attention the report that had been circulated with the agenda in regard to the extinguishment of the right of way at St. Josephs Park, Dundalk, and confirmed that it was in respect of access to the rear of the

dwellings between No. 8 and No. 16. This was welcomed by the members and proposed by Cllr. Butler and seconded by Cllr. Doyle.

Minute No. 06/15

Declaration of Roads to be Public Roads

The Meetings Administrator brought to the members attention the report circulated with the agenda from Ms. Mary T. Daly, Acting Director of Services in respect of the intention to proceed with the statutory process to declare roads in estates to be public roads, in accordance with Section 11 of the Roads Act, 1993. These include Cluain na Mara, Glenwood Close, Lis na Dara, Medebawn, Saltown, Schomberg Close, Sliabh na Coillte and Tates & Carrons Park.

Following discussion on the matter members enquired regarding a number of other estates including Willow Grove, and asked that a list of all estates where taking in charge would be considered at future dates be circulated as soon as is practical. This is to outline at what stage the various taking in charge processes are at, particularly for those developments where a plebiscite had been completed.

Minute No. 07/15

Notice of Motion

Proposed by: Cllr. M. Yore
Seconded by: Cllr. M. Doyle

"That Louth County Council install traffic calming/road safety measures like solar powered speed limit signs only to be activated during school term times in the vicinity of St Furseys School, Haggardstown."

Reply:

Schools have historically availed of a 50/50 scheme in order to provide for signage at the school. It is proposed to provide a budget for the 50/50 schemes in 2015 Road Works Programme. It is also proposed to bring a report to the SPC on proposed signage at schools, based on the class of road, cost, traffic speed and volume. On approval by the SPC this will become the standard to be applied and will facilitate the management of the requests for such signage.

Minute No. 08/15

Notice of Motion

Proposed by: Cllr T. Sharkey
Seconded by: Cllr. M. Doyle

"That this Municipal District initiates a programme of works to install flashing safety beacons at the approaches to local schools including St. Francis School, Blackrock and St. Furseys School, Haggardstown".

REPLY:

Schools have historically availed of a 50/50 scheme in order to provide for signage at the school. It is proposed to provide a budget for the 50/50

schemes in the 2015 Road Works Programme. It is also proposed to bring a report to the SPC on proposed signage at schools, based on the class of road, cost, traffic speed and volume. On approval by the SPC this will become the standard to be applied and will facilitate the management of the requests for such signage.

Minute No. 09/15

Notice of Motion

Proposed by: Cllr M. Doyle

Seconded by Cllr. M. Butler

"In addition to the existing arrangements whereby certain roads in Blackrock are swept during the summer months, that these roads will also be swept at the end of February, April, October and November".

Reply:

The sweeping arrangements for Blackrock will be reviewed and will be extended if funding is available within the Road Works Programme.

The members requested that the Senior Engineer revert with what the cost of the additional sweeps as set out in the motion would be, and furthermore that the cost of a small sweeping unit be obtained in order to see if it would be possible to make such piece of equipment available as a community based unit which Tidy Town groups could avail of as required.

Minute No. 10/15

Notice of Motion

Proposed by: Cllr. M. Yore

Seconded by: Cllr. C. Keelan

"In view of the insurance implications and the vandalism which can happen in the town from time to time but particularly at week-ends, that we the undersigned request the council to desist from any legal action against the owners of shuttered premises until such time as the matter is fully discussed during the course of the New Development Plan and when hopefully a scheme might be worked out which will protect property but add to the attractiveness of the streetscape."

Reply:

Planning Enforcement is an Executive Function and is not a matter for the members. The Council will consider this issue in accordance with the current Development Plan. The matter can also be considered during the draft Development Plan process. Closing date for submission on the new plan was 17th December, 2014

Minute No. 11/15

Correspondence

The Cathaoirleach, Cllr. Declan Breathnach brought to the members attention correspondence circulated with the agenda from Ms. Sarah Daly of Creative Spark offering members an opportunity to host a meeting at the Creative Spark development.

Mr. P. Donnelly, Meetings Administrator confirmed that the venue was suitable for a meeting, and it would be a matter for the members as the Standing Orders would permit the holding of a meeting at another venue.

Members discussed the matter and agreed that a number of meetings should be held in various locations within the Municipal District. It was agreed that the invitation should be availed of and that the March meeting of the Municipal District be hosted at the venue, and that Ms. Daly be afforded an opportunity in advance of the meeting at 5.00 p.m. to give a short presentation in relation to Creative Spark.

Minute No. 12/15

Vote of Sympathy

Cllr. Keelan proposed that due to Dundalk's association with Rezé, that the Municipal District write to the Mayor of Rezé expressing their condolences due to the recent Charlie Hebdo shootings and other incidents in France.

There being no other business the meeting concluded.

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

Date: _____

Cathaoirleach: _____

Meetings Administrator: _____