

Municipal District of Dundalk – July 2015

Minutes of the Meeting of the Municipal District of Dundalk held in the Town Hall, Dundalk, on Tuesday, 7th July, 2015

In attendance:

Cathaoirleach: Cllr. M. Doyle

Members: Councillors: D. Breathnach, M. Butler, E. Corrigan, J. Green, C. Keelan, J. Loughran, J. McGahon, K. Meenan, P. Savage, T. Sharkey

Officials: Fiona Downes, Meetings Administrator
Frank Pentony, Director of Services
Gerry Kelly, Senior Engineer
David Storey, Senior Executive Officer

Apologies: Councillors: M. Dearey. M. Yore

Minute No. 72/15

Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 2nd June, 2015, were confirmed on the proposal of Cllr. P. Savage and seconded by Cllr. D. Breathnach.

Minute No. 73/15

The minutes of the annual meeting held on 2nd June, 2015, were confirmed on the proposal of Cllr. P. Savage and seconded by Cllr. D. Breathnach.

Matters Arising

Re Minute No. 65/15 Cllr. C. Keelan enquired re arrangements for Pattern Sunday. Mr. Frank Pentony, Director of Services, advised that he assumed the arrangements were the same as before.

Re Minute No. 68/15 Cllr. C. Keelan enquired re clarification on works to reduce the threat of anti-social behaviour by securing the through way between Marian Park and Castle Heights. Mr. David Storey, Senior Executive Officer, advised that the works were dependant on funding being available.

Re Minute No. 63/15 Cllr. D. Breathnach enquired re concerns expressed by locals regarding closure of N53 and the number of responses received following

advertisement in paper re same. Mr. Gerry Kelly, Senior Engineer, advised that he would request a detailed report on N53 from Infrastructure and that the closing date for submissions was this coming Friday so there are currently no details of numbers of submissions received to date.

Cllr. Breathnach also enquired re update on broadband report. Mr. Pentony advised that he requested report from Infrastructure.

Minute No. 74/15

Housing & Communities Progress Report

Mr. David Storey, Senior Executive Officer presented the report dated 29th June, 2015 and addressed the members queries in regard to same. These included issues around bonfire aversion fund, travellers at IDA site, management & maintenance costs of voluntary housing bodies, choice based lettings.

Mr. Storey dealt with a number of queries on the rent review scheme and advised that after completion of same a full report may issue in this regard.

Mr. Storey also advised the members that a number of Section 183 notices were due to go before the main Council. These include the continuing of the lease to Tuath Housing Association in Clos na Manach, disposal of land at no 9 crescent 1 Muirhevnamor, securing occupancy of crèche facilities in Mullaharlin and Lisdubh.

Minute no. 75/15

Operations, Infrastructure & Marine Progress Report

The members noted the report for September 2014 and the queries in relation to same were addressed by Mr. Gerry Kelly, Senior Engineer. These included issues around low cost safety measures at Dowdallshill, Newry Road, verge cutting, grass cutting, subsidence on left side of entrance to Bay Estate, road improvements to local roads near N53, road markings at the Demense.

On the proposal of Cllr. Edel Corrigan and seconded by Cllr. Marianne Butler it was agreed to go to public consultation for the low cost safety measures proposed at Dowdallshill following recommendation from Mr. Kelly.

Minute No. 76/15

Notice of Question

Cllr. Mark Dearey (Cllr. Peter Savage raised same in Cllr. Dearey's absence)

“Given the confusion experienced by motorists choosing the correct lane to get to Clanbrassis St, is it intended that the road markings on the Demesne before the Magnet Building (currently directing traffic to Derry) be refreshed and renewed to include Long Walk on one lane and Clanbrassil St on the other?”

Reply:

The road markings on the Demesne before the Magnet Building (currently directing traffic to Derry) can be removed and new road markings applied to read 'LONG WALK' in the left lane. However the right hand lane will be marked to read 'TOWN CENTRE' rather than Clanbrassil Street as suggested, as this lane also leads to Crowe Street and Town Centre Areas. This can be carried out in this year's program.

Minute No. 77/15

Notice of Motion

Proposed by: Cllr. Declan Breathnach
Seconded by: Cllr. Peter Savage

“That Dundalk Municipal District support the Irish Harness Racing Associations call upon the Minister to ensure Horse Racing Ireland grant permission to allow the privately owned Dundalk Stadia to conduct Trotting on the all-weather at the racecourse on 25th July, 2015 and for a limited number of dates during the coming twelve months for the immediate benefit of export revenues to the economy, tourism and local community.”

Reply

This a matter for the Members.

Cllr. Breathnach requested that a letter should go to Mr. Simon Coveney TD immediately re same.

Minute No. 78/15

Notice of Motion

Proposed by: Cllr. Edel Corrigan
Seconded by: Cllr. Thomas Sharkey

“That the rainbow flag be flown over Dundalk Town Hall in support of Dundalk Pride events from 13th to 20th July 2015.”

Reply

This a matter for the Members.

Cllr. McGahon supported this motion also.

Minute No. 79/15

Notice of Motion

Proposed by: Cllr. John McGahon
Seconded by: Cllr. Peter Savage

“That Louth County Council install a soakage pit as a matter of urgency in Lennonstown, Kilcurry in order to reduce the risk of flooding on the road.”

Reply

While agreement in principle has been reached with a landowner for the installation of a soak pit, this is not the preferred solution. Further attempts will be made to get agreement for a way leave to pipe a drain to the river. If agreement cannot be reached then a soak pit may be the only solution.

Mr. Kelly advised that a soak pit was a temporary solution and that he would prefer to get proper drainage that will last forever. If agreement cannot be reached in the short term, then a soak pit will be installed.

Minute No. 80/15

Municipal Budget Allocation

The matter was considered in committee. Three proposals were put forward. Following discussion on the matter it was agreed that €49,000 should be spent on district footpath improvements with a particular focus on improving access for wheelchair users. The list of footpaths to come from the Engineers. The remaining €1,000 to be used to help fund the cost of a World War One memorial.

Proposed by: Cllr. Marianne Butler
Seconded by: Cllr. Declan Breathnach

No counter proposals were put forward.

Mr. Kelly confirmed that a list in regard to footpath improvements would be put together based on population so that all areas would be given consideration.

Minute No.81/15

Votes of Sympathy

Votes of sympathy were extended to the family and friends of Mrs. Bridie Donnelly, mother of Paddy Donnelly, Acting Director of Services, Louth County Council and Michael Donnelly, Station Officer, Louth County Council.

There being no other business the meeting concluded.

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

Date: _____

Cathaoirleach: _____

Meetings Administrator: _____