

## **Municipal District of Dundalk – July 2018**

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Minutes of the Meeting of the Municipal District of Dundalk held in the County Chamber, County Hall, Dundalk on Tuesday, 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2018 at 5:15 p.m.

### **In attendance:**

**Cathaoirleach:** Councillor Conor Keelan

**Members:** Councillors: M. Butler, A. Campbell, E. Corrigan, M. Dearey, M. Doyle, J. McGahon, R. O'Murchu, P. Savage & A. Watters

**Officials:** Catherine Duff, Senior Engineer  
Willie Walsh, Acting Director of Services  
John Lawrence, A/Senior Executive Officer  
Vincent Toner, Senior Executive Engineer  
Mary G. Reilly, Senior Staff Officer  
Alan Sherry, Meetings Administrator

**Apologies:** Councillors E. Coffey, M. Yore

### **Minute No. 62/18**

The minutes of the annual meeting held on Tuesday, 5<sup>th</sup> June 2018 were confirmed on the proposal of Cllr. A. Campbell and seconded by Cllr. J. McGahon.

The minutes of the monthly meeting held on Tuesday, 5<sup>th</sup> June 2018 were confirmed on the proposal of Cllr. M. Butler and seconded by Cllr. M. Dearey.

### **Minute No. 63/18**

#### **Matters arising**

- There were no matters arising.

### **Minute No. 64/18**

#### **Housing and Communities Progress Report**

Members discussed the report as circulated at the meeting, and the following points were addressed:

- Concern was raised at the possible difficulty for elderly and disabled housing assistance grant applicants accessing official documents to be submitted with their application.
- The issue of residential properties being used for short term lettings, i.e. holiday lettings was raised, and information was requested in relation to the enforcement action that has been taken by the Council.
- Members received a briefing in relation to the Tidy Towns funding arrangements for capital projects
- Members were informed of the progress in relation to the development of a grass athletics track as part of a municipal athletics facility in Muirhevnamor District Park, and, while the project was welcomed, the need for a tartan track was emphasised.

## **Minute No. 65/18**

### **Operations, Marine and Infrastructure Report**

Members discussed the report as circulated at the meeting and the following points were addressed:

- The need to clean the tennis courts in Carlingford was restated.
- Dissatisfaction was expressed with Irish Water writing to households in relation to excessive water use when leakage was the major issue. While members agreed that the leakage in the water supply system need to be tackled there were differences of opinion in relation to how that should be funded.
- It was requested that the OPW be written to seeking information in relation to what was being constructed at the site beside Aldi on the Newry Road.

## **Minute No. 66/18**

### **Taking in Charge Quarterly Report**

It was requested that Elmore Lawns be included in the next report, and, while the work done was commended, the need to progress all estates was emphasised. It was also requested that the relevant engineer attend the next meeting that the issue was being discussed.

## **Minute No. 67/18**

### **Dundalk Allocation of Members Community Grants**

This was proposed by Cllr. M. Butler and seconded by Cllr. M. Dearey and agreed by the members.

## **Minute No. 68/18**

### **Notice of Question:**

**Proposed by:** Cllr. J. McGahon

"Will Louth County Council provide a full update on the works to repairing the Ghan Wall to date and outline a timeframe as to when they hope said works will be complete?"

### **REPLY:**

**All drawings and documents relating to works for the reconstruction of the folly have been completed (Health and Safety and tender drawings and documents). Repairs to the substructure have been designed by consulting engineers, including piling layout, and bridge beam over the culvert, and these works have been priced by a Piling Company. A general contractor will be appointed for works to the main structure, once the Piling Company has completed the stabilization works.**

The works were intended for completion by the end of September of this year, although some slippage to this timetable has occurred as a result of the need to employ a structural engineer to design the foundations.

The members noted the reply.

**Minute No. 69/18**

**Notice of Question:**

**Proposed by:** Cllr. C. Keelan

"In each of the last 5 years how many applicants have been removed from the Dundalk Municipal Area Housing list for reasons other than having been allocated a Council house?"

**REPLY:**

The statistics for each of the last 5 years for the entire County Louth (cannot detail on a Municipal District basis) are:

<b>Year</b>	
<b>2013</b>	<b>2,502</b>
<b>2014</b>	<b>407</b>
<b>2015</b>	<b>330</b>
<b>2016</b>	<b>1,524</b>
<b>2017</b>	<b>467</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,230</b>

Of these, 1,432 were due to not replying to a request for further information, 1,415 were due to not being contacted by the applicant and 1,307 no longer qualified for social housing. The remainders were due to being adequately housed, having alternative accommodation, a change in their circumstances, deceased, incomplete application form, or left the administrative area.

The members noted the reply.

**Minute No. 70/18**

Matters requested that the issue of Faughart Graveyard be referred to the National Monuments Service of the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaelteacht.

There being no other business, the meeting concluded.

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

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Cathaoirleach: \_\_\_\_\_

Meeting Administrator: \_\_\_\_\_