

Municipal District of Dundalk – July 2020

Minutes of the Meeting of the Municipal District of Dundalk held in An Táin Theatre, Crowe Street, Dundalk on Tuesday 7th July, 2020 at 5.15 p.m.

In attendance:

Cathaoirleach: Cllr. Emma Coffey

Members: Councillors: M. Butler, E. Corrigan, M. Doyle, C Keelan, S. Kelly, K. Meenan, L. Reilly, T. Sharkey, A. Watters, M. Yore

Officials: Alan Sherry, Meetings Administrator
Frank Pentony, Director of Services
Paddy Donnelly, Director of Services
John O'Hagan, Senior Engineer
Frank Magee, Senior Executive Engineer
David Hall, Executive Planner

Minute No. 40/20

Confirmation of Minutes

The minutes of the annual meeting held on Tuesday, 2nd June 2020 were confirmed on the proposal of Cllr. M. Butler and seconded by Cllr. L. Reilly.

Minute No. 41/20

Confirmation of Minutes

The minutes of the monthly meeting held on Tuesday, 2nd June 2020 were confirmed on the proposal of Cllr. L. Reilly and seconded by Cllr. M. Yore.

Minute No. 42/20

Matters Arising

- Members were informed that the Part VIII report in relation to Lynches Lane would be circulated when it is obtained.
- It was agreed to follow up on the provision of litter bins at the entrances to Muirhevnamor Park and it's inclusion on the parks section of the website.
- It was agreed to inform the members of the date of the launch of the mywaste campaign

Minute No. 43/20

Housing Progress Report

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

- The need to redesign parts of Muirhevnamor in relation to alleyways and open spaces to reduce the potential for anti-social behaviour was raised

- It was suggested that the new Minister for Housing should be written to requesting more funding for the carrying out of repairs to vacant units.
- Concern was raised at the non-inclusion of the financial statements and the national performance indicators in the annual report and the possible implications for future funding applications for Louth County Council. It was pointed out to the members that the deadline for these items was extended for all local authorities while the timeline for adoption of the annual report was not. It was also pointed out that these items would be added to the annual report when completed.

Minute No. 44/20

Operations and Marine Progress Report

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

- It was suggested that an awareness campaign was needed in relation to the change in the traffic light sequence at the Ann Street/Park Street junction.
- The need to remove trollies and other debris from the pond in Ice House Park was raised.
- It was agreed to circulate the road resurfacing schedule to the members
- The need to tidy up the green area at the Redeemer school was raised.
- It was agreed to check who was responsible for the upkeep of the old Castletown burial ground.
- It was agreed to revert back to the members with the work plan for Dowdallshill burial ground when it is ready.
- It was agreed to revert back to the members with details of the tree survey carried out between the Carrick and Castleblayney roads.
- It was pointed out that the road from the race course into town was overgrown.
- The need to address HGVs going through Blackrock village was raised.
- It was agreed to contact Coillte in relation to the need for parking signs on land under their control.

Minute No. 45/20

Part 8 – Park and Share at Gibstown

Construction of a Park and Share Scheme at Gibstown, approximately 250m west of Junction 16 of the M1 Motorway in County Louth. The proposed works shall comprise, generally, the following: An off-road 'Park & Share' car park facility at Gibstown near Junction 16 M1 Motorway; A right turn lane on the public road to support safe access to the facility from Junction 16 M1 Motorway; A safe pick-up and drop-off area for those using the facility; Improved public lighting provision between Junction 16 M1 Motorway and the new Park and Share facility and lighting of the facility; Provision for possible future security measures (e.g. CCTV), electric vehicle (EV) charging points and public transport connection; Measures to deter use by heavy goods vehicles. All associated site development works.

Cllr. E. Coffey pointed out that a relative of hers had made one of the submissions in relation to the proposal. In the course of the discussion some concerns were expressed at the lack of detail in relation to the works that would be carried out and opposition to the location was expressed by one member. Others welcomed the proposal and expressed support for it.

Approval of the Part VIII proposal was proposed by Cllr. T. Sharkey and seconded by M. Butler.

A roll call vote followed

For (7): Cllrs. M. Butler, E. Corrigan, C. Keelan, S. Kelly, K. Meenan, T. Sharkey, A. Watters

Against (2): Cllrs. M. Doyle, M. Yore

Abstained (1): Cllr. E. Coffey

Absent (1): Cllr. L. Reilly

Minute No. 46/20

Taking in Charge Declarations

To recommend to the Council that the roads in the developments listed below be declared Public Roads from a date agreed by the Council or 7 days after the date given in the attached reports all considered in accordance with Section 11 of the Roads Act 1993.

Furthermore, in accordance with Section 180 (4) of the Planning and Development Act, 2000, as amended to recommend that the Council take in charge any public open space, public lighting, unallocated car parks, sewers (excluding service connections) and water mains within the grounds of the developments listed below.

The Developments are:

- Abbey Court, Carlingford
- Belfry Grove, Avenue Road, Dundalk
- Cairlinn Hall Phase 1, Dundalk
- Chapel Pass, Blackrock
- Fort Terrace, Doylesfort Road, Dundalk
- Lough Táin, Omeath
- Railway Village, Rampark, Jenkinstown
- Stamanaran Phase 1, Haggardstown

The Taking in Charge developments was proposed by Cllr. M. Doyle, seconded by Cllr. M. Yore and agreed by the members.

Minute No. 47/20

Dundalk Allocation of Members Community Grants

Proposed by: Cllr. M. Doyle

Seconded by: Cllr. M. Yore

To approve Members Community Grant Allocations as circulated with the agenda.

Minute No. 48/20

Notice of Motion

Proposed by: Cllr.C. Keelan
Seconded by: Cllr. S. Kelly

"That Operations examine the feasibility of introducing a weight restriction on the Faughart-Kilcurry Road in recognition of the significant volume of non-local HGV traffic passing through the area."

Reply:

Requests for weight restrictions are not common and are usually dealt with on a case-by-case basis.

In this regards, weight restrictions may be applied to a particular road for traffic management reasons, eg. to prevent large vehicles (usually non-passenger or goods vehicles) from accessing urbanized streets, residential areas or town centres. Other similar type restrictions may be applied in order to protect particular structures/obstructions or to protect weak structures. Weight restrictions are not prescribed for rural roads generally. In addition, applying a weight restriction does not prohibit access to a particular premises on the affected road, if there is no alternative means of access.

The road referred to here is the LS7108-28. It is difficult to see that this road would be carrying any significant volume of HGV 'through traffic' and therefore it is highly unlikely that a weight restriction would be recommended, even if it could be deemed appropriate to such a rural road. However, a further study of origins of said HGV is now needed.

It was requested that unlit bollards should be identified and repaired.

Members noted the reply.

Minute No. 49/20

Notice of Motion

Proposed by: Cllr.C. Keelan
Seconded by: Cllr. M. Yore

"That Operations conduct an audit of all our bollards, traffic islands, road signage and road markings throughout the Urban area of Dundalk to ensure that they are adequately lit, sufficiently clean and not blocked by any unnecessary foliage so as to inhibit the safety of motorists and other road users."

Reply:

We do not have resources to carry out audit of requested items and cannot commit to same, but can commit to a scheduled cleaning of illuminated bollards and signage across town over the summer period.

Members noted the reply.

Minute No. 50/20

Notice of Motion

Proposed by: Cllr. M Yore
Seconded by: Cllr. S. Kelly

“That LCC install traffic calming measures, reduce speed limit on main roads entering Blackrock Village, address and resolve the blocking of view whilst exiting The Ferns Estate Blackrock from both sides and install public footpath from The Ferns to Southend estate in the interest of public safety.”

Reply:

Area required for footpath in private ownership and in use as parking for private residential use. A review of speed limit is recommended.

The members noted the reply.

Minute No. 51/20

Sympathies

Tributes were paid to the late Terry Brennan and sympathies extended to his family and friends.

Minute No. 52/20

Congratulations

Congratulations were extended to Erin McGreehan on her election to Seanad Éireann.

There being no other business, the meeting concluded.

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

Date: _____

Cathaoirleach: _____

Meeting Administrator: _____