

Municipal District of Dundalk - June 2021

Minutes of the Meeting of the Municipal District of Dundalk hosted in The Council Chamber County Hall, Dundalk on Tuesday 1st June immediately following the Annual Meeting at 5.15 p.m. and attended remotely over MS Teams

In attendance:

Cathaoirleach: Cllr. Maria Doyle - Present in Chamber

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

Cllr. E. Coffey attended remotely in the Mellifont Room

Officials: Gráinne Tuomey, Meetings Administrator - Present in Chamber
Frank Pentony, Director of Services - Present in Chamber
Paddy Donnelly, Director of Services - Remote
John Lawrence, Senior Executive Officer - Remote
Mark Johnston, Senior Engineer - Remote
John O'Hagan, Senior Engineer - Remote

Minute No. 63/21

Confirmation of Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday, 4th May 2021 were confirmed on the proposal of Cllr. M. Butler and seconded by Cllr. M. Yore.

Minute No. 64/21

Matters Arising

- Clarification on Minute 51/21 - footpath on Avenue Road crossing was sought, and members advised.

Minute No. 65/21

Housing Progress Report

Members discussed the report as issued and John Lawrence, Senior Executive Officer, advised on all Housing items raised.

The following items were noted as requiring further clarification for members

- Unit Breakdown at Racecourse Meadows
- Request for funding to upgrade/paint units at Cox's Demesne to tie in Phase 1 to Phase 2 to be made to Dept.

Minute No. 66/21

Operations and Marine Progress Report

Members discussed the report as issued and Mark Johnson, Senior Engineer advised on all Operations items raised.

The following matters were clarified:

- Public consultation will occur on parklets and pedestrianisation
- Bollards are flexible and not for impact protection
- Assessment surveys are required before any speed lowering measures considered
- Budget for flashing signage exhausted
- Application made for 50 Solar bins but new funding announced for servicing, may apply
- Footpath dishing expensive - some 30 footpaths in Drogheda funded by NTA - €130k
- Wildflower planting - council lands only

The following non operation matters were noted:

- Dangerous wire across cycle lane at Ravensdale - Garda matter
- Lands at Spirit Store will be checked for ownership to tackle anti-social behaviour
- Rusted Lifeguard hut at Templetown and 'No Swimming Signs' request for Gyles Quay noted for Paddy Drumgoole, Water Safety Officer
- Dangerous Buildings should be referred to Alan Wilson in Planning

Minute No. 67/21

Infrastructure Report

Members discussed the report as circulated at the meeting and John O'Hagan, Senior Engineer responded on all Infrastructure Matters.

The following matters were noted:

- Increased Social Media push on information on Public Consultation on N53 Hackballscross / Rasan closing date of 8th June would be made and Councillors engagement appreciated.

The following non infrastructure matters were noted:

- Request for Irish Water to be contacted re feasibility study on extending mains to North Louth and all of Ravensdale, Faughart and Kilcurry to be passed to Director of Service Water Services.

Minute No. 68/21

Report on Dundalk Bottle Bank Demand Figures

Members discussed the report as circulated at the meeting and Willie Walsh, Senior Executive Officer responding also on some matters.

The following matters were noted:

Members considered that where hospitality would reopen, there was also a culture change of drinking at home and in home bars and contrary to forecast report, it was likely that the increased pressure on bottle banks would remain. Willie Walsh advised that usage would be reviewed and a report furnished to Members closer to year end.

Minute No. 69/21

Dundalk Allocation of Members Community Grants

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

Proposed by: Cllr. M. Butler

Seconded by: Cllr. S. Kelly

And agreed.

Minute No. 70/21

Notice of Motion

Proposed by: Cllr. A. Watters

Seconded by: Cllr. K. Meenan

"Call on Louth County Council to fully pedestrianise specific areas in Carlingford and Omeath to enable businesses to facilitate outside dining. Can LCC also provide all necessary support to fast track applications to enable businesses to open safely. Consideration should also be given to ease planning requirements for same."

Reply from Ms. Catherine Duff, Director of Services, Operations:

Carlingford

The consideration of pedestrian streets for Carlingford will be covered under the consultation for the Rural regeneration funding . The consultant is currently being procured. It is not planned to do this under Outdoor dining we are focusing on accommodating Parklets, and table and chairs on the public footpaths. We have granted eleven Section 254 licenses in Carlingford and a number of Parklets will be made available now that the restrictions on construction have ended. The council is applying for funding under the Fáilte Ireland outdoor dining scheme for an area in Carlingford. Carlingford has also previously received €40k under the Town and Village funding to facilitate outdoor dining.

Omeath

The regeneration scheme has already being through planning part viii and this will significantly improve the public realm and the footpaths but does not pedestrianise the street. Pedestrianisation was considered as part of the process however was ruled out due to constraints of residential properties. We have had no applications for Section 254's or Parklets in Omeath. We would encourage some of the local business to apply and we will examine the areas for their potential.

All fees for section 254 licenses for outdoor furniture have been waived.

Cllr. A. Watters spoke on this and asked if consideration could be given to installation of removable bollards and signage to at least pedestrianise areas in evening times and if a balanced approach could be considered. He asked that this be brought back to DOS.

Minute No. 71/21

Notice of Question

Submitted by: Cllr M. Butler

Of the over two hundred properties in County Louth, identified as potentially being in breach of the Short Term Letting regulations, how many of them are located in the Dundalk Carlingford local electoral area?"

Reply from Mr. Frank Pentony, Director of Services, Planning, Infrastructure and Economic Development:

Of the properties listed for short term letting in County Louth, 106 of them are currently located in the Dundalk - Carlingford electoral area. This figure relates to short term letting of the entire property

The members noted the reply.

As time was up and there being no other business, the meeting concluded.

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

Date: _____

Cathaoirleach: _____

Meeting Administrator: _____