

## **Municipal District of Dundalk - November 2021**

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Minutes of the Meeting of the Municipal District of Dundalk hosted in The Council Chamber County Hall, Dundalk on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> November at 5.15 p.m.

### **In attendance:**

**Cathaoirleach:** Councillor Maria Doyle

**Members:** Councillors M. Butler, E. Coffey E. Corrigan, C. Keelan, A. McKeivitt, K. Meenan, L. Reilly, T. Sharkey, A. Watters, M. Yore.

**Remote Attendee(s):** Councillor S. Kelly

**Apologies:** Councillors J. Reilly

**Officials:** Gráinne Tuomey, Meetings Administrator  
Colette Moss, A/Director of Services  
John Lawrence, Senior Executive Officer  
Willie Walsh, Senior Executive Officer  
Mark Johnson, Senior Engineer  
Alan Sherry, Senior Executive Officer

### **Minute No. 103/21**

#### **Confirmation of Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday, 5<sup>th</sup> October 2021 were confirmed on the proposal of Cllr. T. Sharkey and seconded by Cllr. M. Yore.

### **Minute No. 104/21**

#### **Matters Arising**

- Update request on status of Minute no. 97/21 bin replacement for removed bin at AIB which had been set on fire.
- Operations were requested to provide a list of locations of 31 bins for next district meeting if available.

### **Minute No. 105/21**

#### **Confirmation of Draft Budgetary Plan Minutes**

The minutes of the draft budgetary plan meeting held on Monday, 18<sup>th</sup> October 2021 were confirmed on the proposal of Cllr. M. Yore and seconded by Cllr. A. Watters.

## **Minute No. 106/21**

### **Matters Arising**

- None arising

## **Minute No. 107/21**

### **Order of Business - Proposal to take Items out of sequence of listing**

It was proposed by the Cathaoirleach to take an item for consideration out of the sequence of listing on the Agenda, namely to receive a briefing on the 'Living in Carlingford, Visiting Carlingford' project prior to other business. In accordance with Standing Order 13, a roll call vote was held to determine that the majority of members present so decided.

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

Councillors Against: None

Councillors Absent at time of Vote: J. Reilly, L. Reilly

And it was so decided.

## **Minute No. 108/21**

### **Briefing on 'Living in Carlingford, Visiting Carlingford'**

Members received a presentation from Alan Sherry, SEO and Ray Holbeach, RPS Consulting Engineers on the proposed 'Living in Carlingford, Visiting Carlingford' regeneration project which was well received.

Members were advised of a website opening the next day, 3<sup>rd</sup> November where members of the public were encouraged to find out more about the proposed project. The website will have a consultation link for people to engage and give their views up to the 26<sup>th</sup> November. A walk-in consultation booth will be in the Four Seasons Hotel, Carlingford on the 9<sup>th</sup> November also from 12 noon to 8p.m. Members were requested to assist spread the word and encourage participation.

## **Minute No. 109/21**

### **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 highlighted:

Following a house fire at Muirhevnamor, a safety audit of all bungalows in the estate was requested. Members were advised that there were no known issues with the bungalows and housing officials awaited the fire report to determine if any or what actions were required.

The Energy Retrofit Programme will assist with some ongoing issues in estates.

### **Minute No. 110/21**

#### **Operations and Marine Progress Report**

Members discussed the report as issued Mark Johnson, Senior Engineer advised on all Operations items raised, with Willie Walsh, Senior Executive Officer advising on others.

Among the items discussed the following were highlighted:

- A moratorium on public lighting prevents installation of new lights at Muirhevnamor District Park
- Contractors working to lists and will complete works
- Road safety measures considered based on accident data, low psi ratings and traffic volume
- CCTV still cannot be used for enforcement purposes due to legislative restrictions
- A request was made for a breakdown of operations works to show those within the urban -v- rural area, i.e. to show town boundary
- A request was made to review and base gritting plans on accident data
- Amnesty day request made to collect mattresses directly from householders - officials cited issues with this
- Draft Casual Trading Bye-laws brought to SPC but no quorum reached

The following non-operation items were raised:

- Various infrastructure items
- School works requiring planning permissions should be applied for through normal planning channels with Dept of Education input/funding
- Request for Active Travel update at next meeting
- Abandoned Boats in Omeath not a matter for council, most likely a matter for Dept of Marine

### **Minute No. 111/21**

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

Distribution of the allocation of Members Community Grants was:

**Proposed by:** Cllr. M. Yore

**Seconded by:** Cllr. L. Reilly

And Resolved.

## **Minute No. 112/21**

### **Update on Litter Enforcement**

Members discussed the reports as issued and Willie Walsh, Senior Executive Officer responded to all queries raised.

Members expressed satisfaction with the review furnished by Willie Walsh, SEO, on the recent IBAL report, and requested this be published on Louth County Council website.

A request was made to have a further breakdown of the bottlebank report by Municipal District.

Removal and enforcement of illegal signage on approach roads was requested.

## **Minute No. 113/21**

### **Notice of Motion**

**Proposed by: Cllr. Maeve Yore**

Deferred for discussion from previous October meeting.

“That Louth County Council organise an Independent Engineers road safety audit and an Independent Engineers written opinion of the auto track sweep path analysis carried out at Rock Road/Sandy Lane, junction due to town and village funding for footpath upgrade in May 2021.”

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

LCC do not intend to carry out a road safety audit, the Independent Sweep path analysis demonstrates that buses can negotiate the turn in accordance with DMURS.

Members discussed this item at length including documentation forwarded to Members on behalf of the bus company from the insurance company. There was a disparity of opinions regarding the content of the documentation submitted with some stating that the documentation did not say there was an issue with the layout, and the opinion was proffered that allowing insurance companies to influence works was not part of an Elected Members role.

An independent Engineers Report has not been carried out by the bus company due to stated restricted funds.

It was suggested that other bodies had issues with the DMURS layout including An Garda Síochána, oil delivery trucks, nearby schools. Members requested that concerned bodies be requested to put forward their complaints in writing so this can be considered.

The response of the Executive that a sweep path analysis showing that buses could negotiate the turn was noted by some and disputed by others.

A copy of all documentation including the DMURS report and the independent sweep analysis was requested by Members and the Cathaoirleach advised that she would request a meeting with official to see if there was any middle ground.

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:** \_\_\_\_\_