

Minutes of the Meeting of the Municipal District of Dundalk held in the Town Hall, Dundalk, on Tuesday, 6th October, 2015

In attendance:

Cathaoirleach: Cllr. M. Doyle

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

Officials: Frank Pentony, Director of Services
Paddy Donnelly, Director of Services/Meetings Admin.
Gerry Kelly, Senior Engineer
Pat Finn, Senior Engineer
Mary Murtagh, Senior Executive Officer
Therese McArdle, Administrative Officer

Apologies: Cllr. J. Green

Also in attendance: Aibhlín McCrann, Communiqué International

Minute No. 95/15

Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 1st September, 2015 were confirmed on the proposal of Cllr. M. Butler and seconded by Cllr. D. Breathnach.

Minute No. 96/15

Local Economic and Community Plan Progress

The Cathaoirleach, Cllr. Maria Doyle introduced and welcomed Ms. Aibhlín McCrann who outlined to the members the current position regarding the development of the Louth Economic and Community Plan.

Ms. McCrann outlined to the members that she and her team are engaging with elected members, development groups and community groups across the county. The deadline for delivery of the plan has been extended to February, 2016 and Ms. McCrann outlined that she was keen to keep the momentum going in relation to the engagement on the plan. Ms. McCrann reminded the members of the conference to be hosted on 14th October, at which Ms. Mary Davis of Special Olympics will present and talk about collaboration between disparate groups.

There was a discussion in regard to deprivation and poverty in the area and the existence of evidence already in place, and how this might be captured in the plan.

The Chairperson welcomed the opportunity to discuss the progress of the plan with Ms. McCrann and looked forward to further engagement on 14th October.

Minute No. 97/15

Housing & Communities Progress Report

Mr. David Storey, Senior Executive Officer presented the Housing and Communities progress report dated 21st September. The members in noting the report, sought details in relation to the number of Housing Authority and Voluntary units that are currently void, and sought that this be included in next month's report.

The issue of difficulties that tenants are experiencing under the HAP Scheme was again raised by a number of members, and an explanation as to how the scheme operates and the requirement of people to opt into the scheme was outlined by Mr. Storey.

The Chairperson thanked Mr. Storey for his presentation.

Minute No. 98/15

Infrastructure, Operations & Marine Progress Reports

Mr. Gerry Kelly, Senior Engineer and Mr. Pat Finn, Senior Engineer presented the report for September in relation to the Infrastructure, Operations and Marine Directorates. The Senior Engineers addressed the members' queries in relation to a number of issues including the Bellurgan embankment and the N53 road closure.

Mr. Kelly also circulated a list of proposed works that would be carried out under the expenditure of the Municipal District Grant. The members welcomed these works and sought reassurance that none of them would be duplicated in regard to the Road Works Programme.

A number of other issues were raised. Cllr. Loughran, in responding to Cllr. Doyle, clarified that he was aware that the Joint Policing Committee Steering Group would meet on 16th October. A number of members expressed disappointment in the delay in starting the series of Joint Policing Committee meetings. Cllr. Loughran hoped that these meetings would commence very shortly.

Cllr. Dearey also raised the matter of the County Drugs Forum and the fact that no meeting had taken place. He understood that there was a difficulty in getting

nominations through the PPN structure, but he would like to see this matter brought to a conclusion in order that these important committees could meet and commence their work.

Minute no. 99/15

Notice of Motion

Proposed by: Cllr. Maeve Yore
Seconded by: Cllr. Conor Keelan

"That the Council check the adhesion coefficient of the racecourse road from before the 2nd bungalow on left (Cairn's resident) to the Lets Bingo hall to ascertain the reason why so many accidents have taken place in this location over the last number of years".

Reply:

The measurement of skid resistance is carried out by a contractor on behalf of Louth County Council. When the contractor is next in the County, Louth County Council will have this section of road tested.

Minute No. 100/15

Notice of Question

Proposed by: Cllr. Marianne Butler

"Dundalk Town Council agreed an Improvement Plan for Coe's Road Signage at the monthly meeting in January 2014 (Minute No. 14/14). The Improvement Plan consisted of differentiating between the "two Coes Roads" renaming them Coes Road East and Coes Road West respectively and providing signage to this effect. It was undertaken to help consumers locate the businesses and services in the area that they wish to access;

Why has the plan been delayed and when will this plan be implemented?"

Reply:

These signs have been ordered from the manufacturer and we hope to have them erected in the first week in October.

There being no other business the meeting concluded.

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

Date: _____

Cathaoirleach: _____

Meetings Administrator: _____