

Municipal District of Dundalk – October 2018

Minutes of the Meeting of the Municipal District of Dundalk held in the County Chamber, County Hall, Dundalk on Tuesday, 2nd October 2018 at 5:15 p.m.

In attendance:

Cathaoirleach: Councillor Conor Keelan

Members: Councillors: M. Butler, A. Campbell, E. Coffey, E. Corrigan, M. Dearey, M. Doyle, J. McGahon, R. O'Murchu, P. Savage, T. Sharkey, A. Watters, M. Yore

Officials: Frank Pentony, Director of Services
Aoife Lawler, Senior Executive Officer
Vincent Toner, Senior Executive Engineer
Alan Sherry, Meetings Administrator

Minute No. 81/18

The minutes of the monthly meeting held on Tuesday, 4th September 2018 were confirmed on the proposal of Cllr. M. Yore and seconded by Cllr. J. McGahon.

Minute No. 82/18

Matters arising

- The Cathaoirleach condemned the two recent knife attacks in Dundalk and encouraged anyone with information to contact an Garda Síochána. He expressed his sympathy for the family and friends of Ingrida Maciokaite, and to the Lithuanian community in Dundalk. Several members also expressed their sadness at her murder.
- Some members expressed their dissatisfaction at the lack of replies to correspondence in relation to the taking in charge of Willowgrove and repairing the walls in Hazelwood Avenue.
- It was suggested that levies generated by planning applications could be used to repair the Golf Links Road.
- Members were informed that the updating of the contact list of senior members of staff was being progressed.
- It was pointed out that the quarterly taking in charge report should be circulated for the next meeting.

Minute No. 83/18

Housing and Communities Progress Report

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

- It was agreed to look into possible difficulties housing applicants were having with the online process for choice based letting.

- Concern was raised at vacant houses in Council housing estates and members were informed that the budget had been spent for re-let repairs.
- While members welcomed the announcement of some funding being made available for emergency maintenance works on Council housing stock, there was dissatisfaction with the amount of money not being made known to the members and a request that they be informed.
- Some concern was expressed at the possibility that the Council was doing repairs that are the responsibility of the tenant unnecessarily.

Minute No. 84/18

Operations, Marine and Infrastructure Report

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

- The winning tidy towns groups were commended along with the Council for its support to them.
- The need to increase the height of the coastal road at Greenore was highlighted.
- The commencement of road repairs in early September when schools resume and traffic increase needs to be reviewed.
- The need to clean and repair signs in the town and remove obstructing vegetation was raised.
- Support for the extension of the greenway into Dundalk was expressed.
- It was suggested that the Queens Hotel building should be CPOed for use as housing
- Dissatisfaction was expressed at the practice of prison service vans parking on the pathway outside the Courthouse.
- The pooling of rainwater on parts of Avenue Road was raised for attention.
- The number of outdoor staff employed by the Council was requested.
- The need to use all available data to plan works was raised.
- It was suggested that lessons from previous experience needs to be learned in relation to the forthcoming closure of the N53 to minimise disruption and damage on other roads.
- It was suggested that there needs to be an imaginative campaign in relation to the closure of Clanbrassil Street for redevelopment to maximise public awareness.
- The need to ensure works vehicles parked off-site during the Clanbrassil Street redevelopment was highlighted.
- It was agreed to check if the local authority/AHB pay management fees in estates that had not been taken in charge.
- The need to address the weeds at St. Patrick's cemetery and update the members in relation to replacing the railings was raised.

Minute No. 85/18

To agree a date for the Draft Budgetary Plan

It was proposed by Cllr. M. Butler, seconded by E. Coffey and agreed by the members to include the draft budget plan as an agenda item at the November Dundalk Municipal District monthly meeting.

Minute No. 86/18

Dundalk Allocation of Members Community Grants

This was proposed by Cllr. M. Yore and seconded by Cllr. J. McGahon and agreed by the members. Members were asked to encourage anyone who may be in a position to volunteer as a driver for the hospice to do so.

There being no other business, the meeting concluded.

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

Date: _____

Cathaoirleach: _____

Meeting Administrator: _____