

Municipal District of Dundalk – October 2020

Minutes of the Meeting of the Municipal District of Dundalk held in An Táin Theatre, Crowe Street, Dundalk on Tuesday 6th October, 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, J. Reilly, T. Sharkey, A. Watters, M. Yore

Officials: Alan Sherry, Meetings Administrator
Aoife Lawler, Senior Executive Officer
Frank Pentony, Director of Services
Gráinne Tuomey, Meetings Administrator
John O'Hagan, Senior Engineer
Susan Deery, Acting Senior Staff Officer
Emer O'Callaghan, Senior Executive Planner
Martin McCresh, Senior Executive Engineer
James Searson, Assistant Engineer

Apologies: Councillors: A. McKeivitt, L. Reilly

Minute No. 71/20

Confirmation of Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday, 1st September 2020 were confirmed on the proposal of Cllr. S. Kelly and seconded by Cllr. M. Yore.

Minute No. 72/20

Confirmation of Minutes

The minutes of the special meeting held on Monday, 21st September 2020 were confirmed on the proposal of Cllr. A. Watters and seconded by Cllr. M. Yore.

Minute No. 73/20

Matters Arising

Members sought update on the following items:

- Minute 63/20 - Traffic calming updates at Medebawn
- Bins at Muirhevnamor, Tom Bellew Avenue and at Hoeys Lane, review requested.
- Minute 56/20 Safety Audit - Advised referred to Road Safety Officer

Minute No. 74/20

Stage 3 Strategic Housing Development for lands at Dublin Road, Haggardstown, Dundalk

Members received a briefing from Emer O'Callaghan SEP on the process, deadline and status of Haggardstown SHD and that they were being consulted on foot of same

Members raised the following concerns regarding the SHD:

- Increased capacity to sewerage systems, infrastructure, schools etc
- Whether SHD system could be reviewed, members discussed raising this at Leinster House level directly with TDs
- Design of the alleyways, and the green spaces possibly leading to Anti-social behaviour.
- Provision within SHD of Elderly focused accommodation
- Impact on Blackrock Village and pipe infrastructure of high density housing

Louth County Council Planning staff advised on all issues.

Minute No. 75/20

Housing Progress Report

Members highlighted the following concerns and raised the following queries:

- Non inclusion of Ard Dealgan on report
- Disparity between funding for 13-18 Patrick Timoney Crescent being funded and 7-12 not being funded nor 516 – 517 Aisling Park despite disturbance to all residents during development
- If Staff numbers were sufficient or if more staff were required in housing and if works were below target
- Whether migration of housing delivery would be better served by turnkey or direct build
- What tenant responsibilities for upkeep of property were in tenancy agreement
- What was delay in allocation of N&E Housing Association properties at Dowdallshill Close

The Housing SEO responded on all matters

Minute No. 76/20

Operations and Marine Progress Report

The following items and queries were raised by Members:

- Road Safety concern at Omeath School
- Signage at Junction of Anne/Park Street impeding visibility
- Hedgecutting between Ballymac and Roundabout
- Strandfield exit and speed of approaching traffic

- Provision of pedestrian crossing at McEntee Ave as elderly residential area
- List of proposals for Low Cost Safety 2021
- Flashing sign provision requested in various locations to reduce speed, Armagh Road, Rock Road, into Main Street Blackrock etc
- Footpath repairs in various locations
- Flooding on Ballymac roundabout and splashing onto oncoming lanes causing traffic danger on both sides of road
- Templetown road water erosion opposite O'Neill's Flowers at school
- Pothole near Bellurgan
- Shellinghill Beach to Pebble Hill beach access issues, slippery path
- Flooding issue at Omeath Park - referred
- Signage request at:
 - One way sign missing at Bachelors/Mc Evoy Walk
 - Ballymac roundabout for St. Brigids Shrine and Faughart Graveyard
 - Concealed entrance signs in various locations request from residents
- Road surface on Newry Road
- Doylesforth Road bad condition and ramps reduced in size – will request inspection
- Templetown Road - funding under climate action to confirm same part of road
- Gully cleaning request / Drain blocked past Carrickdale – refer to GSS
- Rampart River clean up request – funding obtained works to commence
- Materials stored in timber leaching onto beach at Greenore Port – refer to Env, possible gardai issue
- Request from Ferns Resident Association and supported by An Garda Siochana to put in ramps in village approaching estate – Ramps not preferred option but letter received and exploring options
- Update requested on safety traffic calming on Rock Road
- Lower Point Road safety issue on bad bend
- Look to ban HGVs in Blackrock Village – referred for consideration
- Hoeys Lane Pedestrian Crossing request, near miss advised no follow up - being looked at under the low cost safety list
- Public Beach at Blackrock behind Bus Garage – resident telling people it is private beach, request signs erected re public beach status – will check land reg and investigate
- Request for letter to issue to Landowner to prevent illegal dumping at Carnbeg

Louth County Council Operations staff advised on all items raised.

Minute No. 77/20

Infrastructure Report

Members received a report from infrastructure staff and requested updates on the following:

- Clanbrassil Street / Linehall Street Junction Safety Audit
- Lis na Dara CPO – residents emailed re safety measures on road, have emailed Minister
- Balmers Bog Works

Louth County Council Infrastructure Senior Engineer advised on all items.

Minute No. 78/20

Taking in Charge Report

Members asked that the following estates be further investigated:

- Doylesforth Grove
- Seacrest Manor

Minute No. 79/20

Dundalk Allocation of Members Community Grants

Proposed by: Cllr. M. Yore
Seconded by: Cllr. A. Watters

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

Minute No. 80/20

Notice of Motion

Proposed by: Cllr. J. Reilly

“Calling on Louth Country Council to upgrade the cattle and sheep grids at Bavan and Edentubber to prevent livestock’s wondering off the commonage of the Cooley mountains.”

Reply from C. Duff, Director of Services, Operations:

LCC will review the existing grids and repair if so required. In principal and going forward LCC will avoid installing any new cattle grids on public roads due to the dangers of crossing them on bicycles and also the low slip surface of the steel bars causing skidding especially if located in hilly areas.

Cllr. J. Reilly withdrew his motion.

Minute No. 81/20

Notice of Motion

Proposed by: Cllr. S. Kelly
Seconded by: Cllr. E. Corrigan

“That Dundalk Municipal District write to the National Transport Authority with a view to engaging in proposal to a new Town Centre bus route servicing the Armagh Road, Newry Road, Doylesfort Road, Racecourse Road and Ath Lethan. This route could also include a stop at Dowdallshill graveyard and this will give people from other Town Centre routes a public transport option to visit the graveyard.”

Reply:

This is a matter for the members.

Members agreed the motion.

Minute No. 82/20

Notice of Motion

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

“That Dundalk MD calls on Louth County Council to address a number of issues relating to the Fatima Estate, Dundalk including:

- The cleaning of the river/stream from Mill Road flowing to the rear of Fatima estate into the Castletown river.
- To erect a boundary fence between Fatima Drive and Saltown to prevent future anti-social behaviour.
- To properly secure the area of land in Council ownership between Fatima estate and Toberona estate that is being used by quad bikes and scramblers as a racetrack.”

Reply from Mr. J. McGuinness, Director of Services, Corporate and Emergency Services:

The Council will review all matters raised above and will consider same in the context of legal and budgetary availability.

Members requested engagement with Local Anglers Club on river.

Minute No. 83/20

Notice of Motion

Proposed by: Cllr. J. Reilly
Seconded by: Cllr. M. Doyle

“Calling on the Municipal District of Dundalk to start urgent talks with Irish water to extend the mains water supply to houses in the Faughart, Kilcurry, and Roche areas.”

Reply from Ms. B. Woods, Director of Services, Water Services:

We will raise this issue with Irish Water.

Members discussed the option of starting dialogue with Irish Water and perhaps the Northern Ireland Water Board re provision of mains water supply to area including school.

There being no other business, the meeting concluded.

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

Date: _____

Cathaoirleach: _____

Meeting Administrator: _____