

Minutes of Planning & Support Infrastructure Strategic Policy Committee Meeting held on the zoom platform on the 9th March, 2022 at 4.00 p.m.

In Attendance

Cllr. Maria Doyle	Louth County Council
Cllr. Edel Corrigan	Louth County Council
Cllr. Antoin Watters	Louth County Council
Eddie Phelan	Business Sector
Richie Barry	Environment

Officials

Frank Pentony, Director of Services
Willie Walsh, A/Director of Services
Joanna Kelly, Senior Planner
John O' Hagan, Senior Engineer

Matters Arising

Casual Trading Bye-Laws

Willie Walsh, A/Director of Services advised the meeting that an amended document in relation to Casual Trading Bye-Laws is now with a Barrister for legal opinion. There are five locations that require screening for appropriate assessment and if this is required this will result in a lengthy delay in progressing these Bye-Laws. One consultant that he contacted can progress this matter and if he gets the go-ahead, the Bye-Laws will go on public display for 4 weeks with 2 weeks for receipt of submissions. A report will then be prepared for a meeting of the full Council.

Motorhomes/Campervan Bye-laws

Cllr. M. Doyle discussed with all the members of the meeting the Motorhomes/Campervan Bye-Laws for Dunganvaran and Portumna that were circulated prior to the commencement of the meeting.

Eddie Phelan suggested that the Bye-Laws contain a requirement that no such vehicle stay longer than 48 hrs at each location. Cllr. M. Doyle asked F. Pentony what barriers he envisaged in preparing these Bye-Laws. He advised that meeting that the main issue would be where to locate these parking bays in the County and how would they be enforced.

He said if the bays were within a controlled urban setting the Bye-Laws could be enforced by the Traffic Wardens but if there were located in Annagassan or Gyles Quay it would be difficult to enforce. Eddie Phelan suggested the town areas of Dundalk and Drogheda would be preferable. He also advise the provision of water and waste facilities were not essential as these are contained within the campervans. He suggested that each location have a minimum of 5 bays and that a parking meter. John O' Hagan asked Eddie Phelan if LCC could get standard lengths into bay areas and what the dimensions of the each bay should be. E. Phelan said that in general motorhomes/campervans are 6.5m long, 3.5m wide and 2.8m high.

Frank Pentony suggested the car-parks of the Marsh's Shopping Centre in Dundalk and Scotch Hall in Drogheda as suitable locations as they have no height restrictions. Cllr. M. Doyle and Eddie Phelan said they would contact the BIDS Office in Dundalk and Drogheda respectively to discuss these suggested locations.

AOB

Cllr. M. Doyle acknowledge this would be the last time Frank Pentony would be attending this SPC meeting and commended him for all his hard work and thanked him for all his help and advice.

Date & Time of next SPC Meeting

Cllr. M. Doyle suggested that the next meeting be held May/June and said that a decision on whether or not to meet in person would be decided at a later date.