

Borough District of Drogheda – October 2019

Minutes of the Meeting of the Borough District of Drogheda held on Monday, 7th October 2019 at 4.15 p.m. Barlow House, Drogheda.

In attendance:

Mayor: Cllr. Paul Bell

Members: Cllrs. James Byrne, Joanna Byrne, Kevin Callan, Tom Cunningham, Michelle Hall, Declan Power, Pio Smith, Eileen Tully

Officials: Paddy Donnelly, Director of Services
Mark Johnston, Senior Engineer
Alan Sherry, Meetings Administrator
James Searson, Assistant Engineer
John O'Hagan, Senior Engineer

Apologies: Cllr. Paddy McQuillan

Minute No. 99/19

The minutes of the monthly meeting held on 2nd September, 2019 were confirmed on the proposal of Cllr. Tom Cunningham and seconded by Cllr. Kevin Callan.

Minute No. 100/19

Matters Arising

A schedule of maintenance for the town was requested again.

Minute No. 101/19

Housing Progress Report

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

- It was agreed to circulate a report in relation to Boyce Court.

Minute No. 102/19

Infrastructure Report

Members noted the report and had their queries and questions answered.

Minute No. 103/19

Operations and Marine Progress Report

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

- The flooding at King Williams Glen was highlighted
- The Council was requested to contact Coillte in relation to repairing the Townley Hall pier
- The overgrowth at Donors green was highlighted for attention
- It was agreed to update members in relation to Chord Road/Francis Street
- The members were asked to inform the Council of any locations where road signage was obscured by hedges or trees.
- The poor condition of the surface of the Roestown Road was raised.
- It was requested to consider changing the right of way on Constitution Hill to prevent drivers stopping on the incline
- The issue of sandwich boards blocking the pathway on West street was highlighted.
- The flooding at Duff Farm in Termonfeckin was highlighted
- The need for road markings at the roundabout in Aston Village/Termon Abbey was raised.
- The need to carry out maintenance work on the hydrobrake at the attenuation basin at the school was raised.
- The need to unblock the drains at the Old Abbey was raised.
- The need to repaint the road markings on the Donore Road was highlighted.
- The need to cut the hedge at the ESB station in Rathmullen Park was raised along with the overgrown grass in the walkway.
- The need to address flooding on the Platin road was raised.

Minute No. 104/19

The Mayor welcomed Cllr. Eileen Tully to her first meeting of the Borough District and wished her well in her role as a councillor.

Minute No. 105/19

Taking in Charge Report

Members noted the report and had their queries and questions answered.

Minute No. 106/19

Meeting to Consider the Draft Budget Plan

It was proposed by Cllr. P.Bell, seconded by Cllr. K. Callan and agreed by the members that the borough district budget meeting should take place after the Ardee budget meeting which is scheduled for immediately after the Council meeting on 21st October.

Minute No. 107/19

Freedom of Drogheda Award

It was proposed by Cllr. Paul Bell and seconded by Cllr. Kevin Callan for the Freedom of Drogheda to be awarded to Geraldine Byrne-Nason. The members expressed their strong support for the proposal.

Minute No. 108/19

Drogheda Allocation of Members Community Grants

This was proposed by Cllr. Kevin Callan and seconded by Cllr. Pio Smith and agreed by the members.

Minute No. 109/19

Notice of Motion

Proposed by: Cllr. James Byrne
Seconded by: Cllr. Kevin Callan

“That Louth County Council complete the boundary fence at Castle Manor, as per the original plans for the estate, that is causing significant anti-social behaviour in the area using any remaining retained levies/fees to fund it”.

Reply:

This matter was discussed at the December 2015 Drogheda Municipal Borough meeting.

There is clear photographic evidence that there has been a pedestrian route available from Moneymore through Castlemanor, that this access has existed for at least 20 years and that it existed even prior to the construction of Castlemanor Housing Estate. The short-cut through a gap in Moneymore/Castlemonor boundary can be clearly seen on various aerial photographs as far back as 1995. Moneymore residents tended to walk to the Ballymakenny Road via the Rugby Club grounds, as opposed to Castlemanor as it was the shorter of the two short-cuts, though both routes existed. It is only since the Rugby Club closed off the former, that the Moneymore-Castlemanor route has become more widely used. Following discussion at the Borough District meeting it was recognised that closure was not an option, but areas such as a drop in grounds levels, lack of public lighting and waste/water on site need to be addressed. In any event, as the services in Castlemanor were taken in charge in 2007, there are no retained levies/fees to fund any such work.

The members requested that a report be produced in relation to this issue with costed proposals. The members agreed the motion.

Minute No. 110/19

Notice of Motion

Proposed by: Cllr. Paul Bell
Seconded by: Cllr. Kevin Callan

“That this Council remove the steel railings from either side of the entrance to Laurence Gate for the purpose of enhancing the structure’s appearance and also request from An Post the relocation of the existing postbox.”

Reply:

The post box has been removed and the area office is currently evaluating the costs of removing the railings and any associated works required to the footpath.

Members agreed the motion.

Minute No. 111/19

Notice of Question

Proposed by: Cllr. James Byrne

“Are there plans by Louth County Council and Meath County Council to improve the road surface throughout Rosevale under the programme of joint initiatives between the Councils with respect to co-operation on cross boundary operational matters?”

Reply:

Meath County Council surfaced this estate in 2019 and Louth County Council contributed €7,000 for an area within the boundary of LCC. In order to complete the estate within Louth an estimate of €77,000 is required. This will be included in the Roads program for 2020 for consideration by the elected members and will be subject to the funding being available.

Members noted the reply.

Minute No. 112/19

Sympathies

Sympathies were extended to families of:

- Carmel Freeman
- Katherine Lord

A minutes silence was observed

The meeting then concluded

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

Date: _____

Mayor: _____

Meeting Administrator: _____