

Minutes of Planning & Support Infrastructure Strategic Policy Committee Meeting held on the zoom platform on the 8<sup>th</sup> December, 2021 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
Cllr. Bernie Conlon	Louth County Council
Eddie Phelan	Business Sector
Richie Barry	Environment

**Officials**

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

**Casual Trading Bye-Laws**

Willie Walsh, A/Director of Services gave an overview of Louth County Council's Casual Trading Bye-Laws 2004 which was circulated to all the members prior to the meeting. He informed the meeting that there was a high demand for casual trading stands in 2021 due to the pandemic. He discussed the 13 proposed new locations and advised that 6 of these would be considered. He advised the SPC that he was now seeking approval to bring wording for new bye-laws for legal advice and advancing the matter further.

Cllr. A. Watters informed the meeting that he had put forward 3 locations for consideration and requested that each Casual Trading Stand satisfy a local need. He also enquired about the possibility of providing an electric meter at Gyles Quay and Templetown Beach for the traders. He also enquired as to the overall number of Casual Trading Stands there will be in the County with the addition of the proposed new 6 stands.

Willie Walsh responded to the issue of electric meters being provided for Traders and said he would look into this matter for Cllr. Watters. He also advised that he would have to revert to Cllr. Watters on the overall number of Casual Trading Stands in the County.

Cllr. M. Doyle asked Willie Walsh to clarify if local needs means meeting the needs of local people or that local people provide the service?

Willie Walsh responded to this question by saying Louth County Council cannot discriminate against people who are not from the local area from trading in the area.

Eddie Phelan asked W. Walsh for a timeline for the Bye-Laws

Willie Walsh advised that he will bring the wording of the new Bye-Laws to a Barrister for legal opinion and hopes to have this done in Q. 1 of 2022.

Cllr. B. Conlon asked W. Walsh why Annagassan was excluded from being considered as a new location for casual trading. W. Walsh advised her that there was no proper parking provided in a public space at this location. Cllr. Conlon asked would the beach be an option for a stand and W. Walsh responded by saying that this would be discussed with our Barrister to see if this is feasible.

### **Motorhomes/Campervan Bye-laws**

Cllr. M. Doyle informed the meeting that this item would not be discussed today and would be dealt with at the next meeting which Frank Pentony will be attending. She also advised the meeting that she would circulate Bye-laws regarding motorhomes/campervans prior to the next meeting.

### **Update on County Development Plan**

Joanna Kelly, Senior Planner advised the meeting that the Co. Development Plan took effect in November, 2021 and that works on the Local Area Plans would now commence. She also advised the meeting that the Development Contribution Scheme would be reviewed in 2022. She informed the meeting that impending legislation is going through the Oireachtas at the moment relating to marine and large scale residential developments.

Cllr. Watters asked the Senior Planner if it would be possible to do a workshop with Agents in light of the number of planning applications that were refused recently in the North Louth area. Cllr. Watters requested a general validation workshop with the Agents and J. Kelly said this would be arranged early in 2022.

In relation to work commencing on the Local Area Plans, Eddie Phelan raised the question 'what would constitute part of the LAP?'. It was indicated this area would likely incorporate the area within the current Drogheda and Meath Plans

### **Membership Update**

Cllr. M. Doyle informed the meeting that there are currently 2 seats to be filled and there are no nominees at the moment. Eddie Phelan suggested K. Devin and an Environment Rep as she was a rep. on another SPC

### **Date & Time of next SPC Meeting**

Cllr. M. Doyle suggested that no specific date and time be put forward at the moment due to Covid-19 but would hope to arrange a meeting for next February.

**AOB**

John O' Hagan, Senior Engineer informed the meeting that submissions could be made in respect of the Greater Dublin transport Strategy by the 17/12/21. Eddie Phelan said Drogheda Chamber of Commerce will be making a submission on this and asked if this SPC could also make one. John O' Hagan said he could co-ordinate this submission but would first have to check with the Senior Planner. Eddie Phelan said if there was something prepared on this he could also submit.