

AGENDA / CLÁR OIBRE

1. **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

(Enclosed/Iniata)

Monthly Meeting held on 20th January 2014

2. **MINUTES – For Information**

(Enclosed/Iniata)

- Housing, Social & Community Planning SPC 16/09/2013
- Traveller Accommodation Consultative Committee 17/10/2013
- South Louth Area Meeting 06/01/2014
- North Louth Area Meeting 08/01/2014
- Mid Louth Area Meeting 09/01/2014
- CPG 10/01/2014

3. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- Housing, Social & Community Planning SPC
- CPG

4. **SECTION 183 NOTICE – DISPOSAL OF LANDS AT ARDEE TO JOHN CLARKE & SONS**

(Enclosed/Iniata)

To be dealt with by Mr. J. McGuinness, Director of Services

5. **REPORT FOR AUDIT COMMITTEE – Dr. Philip Byrne**

To be dealt with by Mr. P. Donnelly, Senior Executive Officer

6. **ADOPTION OF COMMUNITY FIRE SERVICE STRATEGY**

(Enclosed/Iniata)

To be dealt with by Mr. J. McGuinness, Director of Services

7. **ARDEE PAY PARKING BYE-LAWS**

(Enclosed/Iniata)

To be dealt with by Mr. J. McGuinness, Director of Services

8. **TRAVELLER ACCOMMODATION PROGRAMME 2014 – 2018 for noting**

(Enclosed/Iniata)

To be dealt with by Mr. J. McGuinness, Director of Services

9. **MEMBERS BRIEF ON CHANGES TO BUILDING CONTROL REGULATIONS – PRESENTATION BY Ms. Bernadette McArdle**

(Enclosed/Iniata)

To be dealt with by Mr. J. McGuinness, Director of Services

10. **TRANSPORTATION & MARINE PROGRESS REPORT**

(Enclosed/Iniata)

To be dealt with by Ms. J. Martin, Director of Services

11. **PLANNING PROGRESS REPORT**

(Enclosed/Iniata)

To be dealt with by Mr. G. Kelly, Senior Engineer

12. **HOUSING PROGRESS REPORT**

(Enclosed/Iniata)

To be dealt with by Mr. J. McGuinness, Director of Services

13. **ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRESS REPORT**

(Enclosed/Iniata)

To be dealt with by Mr. F. Pentony, Director of Services

14. **LIBRARY & ARCHIVES QUARTERLY REPORT**

(Enclosed/Iniata)

To be dealt with by Ms. B. Woods, Head of Finance

15. **ALLOCATION OF MEMBERS COMMUNITY GRANTS**

(Enclosed/Iniata)

To be dealt with by Mr. P. Donnelly, Senior Executive Officer

16. **CONFERENCES / EVENTS**

To approve members' attendance at the enclosed conferences endorsed by the Corporate Policy Group on 7th February 2014

To be dealt with by Mr. P. Donnelly, Senior Executive Officer

17. NOTICES OF MOTION

(i) Cllr. T. Byrne

'That the Minister for the Environment and Local Government Mr. Phil Hogan T.D. bring forward proposals for Management Companies in Residential Housing Estates, in light of the introduction of the Local Property Tax'.

Reply

This is a matter for the members

(ii) Cllr. P. Smith

"That LCC implement a system similar to the one in Dublin City Council, your Dublin your voice. LCC want to hear from anyone over 18 that lives, works, visits or studies in the Louth region to tell us what you really think about the County region and to shape its future direction."

Reply

Louth County Council will, as resources permit, investigate the Dublin City Council system of public engagement with a view to encouraging and facilitating such consultation with those who work, visit and study in the County. The Council have piloted with Newry & Mourne District Council the Peoples Panel Project which is similar to the Dublin Voice initiative.

<http://www.dublincity.ie/press/dccpresspacks/ydyv/Pages/YourDublinYourVoice.aspx>

(iii) Cllr. M. Murnaghan

"I am calling on Louth County Council to install public lighting and speed ramps at St. Laurences national school in Omeath. I am making this call on foot of an NRA report that recommends the installation of public lighting before installing speed ramps."

Reply

As part of the Greenway project traffic calming measures are being implemented including signage, line marking and solar powered vehicle actuated speed warning signs on the approaches to the road section of the Greenway in Omeath. This will also benefit the school as it is located on this route. A speed survey will be carried post construction to determine how effective these measures have been. Additional measures will then be considered including the possibility of solar powered lighting and speed ramps if necessary.

(iv) Cllr. C. Markey

That this council support the IFA campaign for 50/50 national exchequer co-funding for pillar two of the Common Agricultural Policy, and call on the government to provide the necessary funding in order to sustain the Agricultural Industry and Rural Communities

Reply

This is a matter for the members

(v) Cllr. P. Savage

That the Minister for Transport in consultation with the Airline / Shipping lines introduces a scheme whereby the remains of deceased persons can be repatriated free of charge or at a nominal rate

Reply

This is a matter for the members

(vi) Cllr. P. Savage

That the Minister for Health consult with the H.S.E. and Consultant Bodies to eliminate the extraordinary delays in fixing appointments and more specifically to eliminate long delays in actually dealing with patients when appointments have been made. Seriously ill patients can be waiting for period in excess of six hours

Reply

This is a matter for the members

(vii) Cllr. E. Corrigan

That Louth County Council mark international women s day (March 8th) each year. International Women's Day celebrates the social, political and economic achievements of women while focusing attention on areas requiring further action.

The theme of international womens day in 2014 is "Inspiring Change", however, a number of groups select their own International Women's Day theme, specific to their local context, and I propose that in the Louth Local authorities select a theme relevant to Local Community on an annual basis.

Reply

Louth County Council do intend to mark International Women's Day as set out below. We will also explore the option to mark the day through the Age Friendly Initiative.

International Women's Day – March 8th 2014 – Celebrating the Social, Political and Economic achievements of women.

Dundalk Branch Library

Feb 27th 'The EU and You' – Lifestyle, Equal Opportunities, Education and Women in the EU. – Keynote Speaker – Mary O' Rourke with a panel of speakers to be confirmed

March 8th 'Women Celebrating Diversity (event to be confirmed in co-operation with the Polish community and / or African community in Dundalk)

March 11th "Women in Business in County Louth" – Recognising the Achievement of Women in County Louth – a lively panel discussion with women from a broad range of business backgrounds (speakers to be confirmed)

We may also look at a daytime event for Secondary Schools on local women as role Models

Ardee Branch Library

March 8th 'Women & Health' – A talk with expert advice on all aspect of women's health.

All branches will also have relevant book displays highlighting different themes to coincide with the day including women's authors, influential women over the last century, womens health issues etc.

(viii) Cllr. E. Corrigan

With the knowledge that Anaphylaxis is on rise following a W.H.O. (World Health Organisation) survey in 2010, and considering the preventable death of 14 year old Emma Sloan, in Dublin from Anaphylaxis, on O Connell Street Dublin after her mother was refused an EpiPen by a pharmacist as she didn't have Emmas prescription with her.

I call on this Council to request that HSE and Minister for Health James Reilly, ensure legislation and codes of practices be put in place to ease the restrictions on the availability of Epinephrine auto injectors (commonly known as EpiPens) and other Anaphylaxis medicines and make them available in public areas.

Reply

This is a matter for the members

(ix) Cllr. F. Godfrey

That Louth County Council expresses its concern at the amount paid to consultants engaged by Irish Water, and we write to the Minister calling on him that the Council should have an input on any charges imposed on household consumers by Irish Water in County Louth.

Reply

This is a matter for the members

(x) Cllr. T. Sharkey

"Noting that upgrading works have taken place on a section of the N53, Louth County Council resolves to make it a priority to upgrade the remaining 3.2 miles of this road from Hackballscross to the County Armagh border. This Council will bring the proposed project to the NRA as a matter of urgency."

Reply

The upgrading of the N53 is a priority of Louth County Council and improvement of the N53 is continuously being pursued with the NRA. An allocation has been secured from the NRA to acquire the lands required from Barronstown to Hackballscross this year subject to CPO approval by An Bord Pleanala.

(xi) Cllr. I. Munster

"That Louth County Council believes that adding a Social clause to contracts it enters into, society will benefit from localised employment, value for money, public confidence, environmental gain and democratic accountability.

This Council calls for the Office for Public Procurement to enable local authorities and agencies to add a Social Clause to contracts entered into.

Reply

EU procurement directive provides that contracting authorities may consider how what is proposed to be procured might improve the economic, social and environmental well-being of the relevant area and how, in conducting the process of procurement, it might act with a view to securing that improvement.

It allows for social and environmental criteria in public procurement as long as these are linked to the subject matter of the contract. In practice this allows for bidders that offer better working conditions to their workers and offer sustainably produced goods as well as considering the life-cycle costs rather than just the up-front costs of assets purchased. Simply

considering price, rather than quality, as the only award criterion will be discouraged.

This is a matter for the members but we propose to refer same to the office of government procurement.

18. NOTICES OF QUESTION

(i) Cllr. P. McGeough

What efforts have Louth County Council made to force the Developer to provide proper fencing at the so called 2nd Phase of Oriel Heights in Collon in order to prevent this dangerous site from being used for Anti Social Activities

There are a number of unresolved issues in Phase 1 of the Oriel Heights Development could an update on progress to date to resolve these matters be provided.

Reply

Oriel Heights is listed as an unfinished housing development on the Department of Environment, Community and Local Governments National Housing Survey. It has been assessed as a category 3 unfinished development by Louth Co Council. The unfinished part of the development is fenced off with light weld-mesh steel fencing which is designed for and only suitable to short-term use. The developer has been requested to submit a site resolution plan and to date has not done so. No legislative powers have been given to the Councils to enforce the submission of a site resolution. The developer has responded to 3 requests to date, to repair breaches in the fencing, but has not improved the quality or standard of fencing to one suited for long term use.

In relation to the occupied part of the development, the Council has received a request for taking in charge on behalf of the house owners. Roads Section are currently organising a plebiscite under the provisions of Section 180 (2) of the Planning & Development Act 2000 (as amended) in order to proceed with the taking in charge process. Provision is made under Section 180 (2) of the Planning & Development Act 2000 (as amended) to permit the Council to utilise any cash security or bond to bring the development up to a condition suitable for taking in charge. Roads Section has been advised of the requirement to implement satisfactory long term security measures to isolate the unfinished part of the development from the occupied part in the interests of public safety. It is anticipated that such works will be included in the scheme of works that will be carried out to render the development suitable for taking in charge in a similar manner to those works currently being carried out by Planning Enforcement Section to the Woodlands / Rivervale Estate in Dunleer.

(ii) Cllr. M. O'Dowd

What strategy and plans are in place to ensure that Burton Hall Tullyallen does not have a repeat flooding incident as happened earlier this year and in particular what plans are in place to deal with the run off from the main road into the estate?

Reply:

The flooding incident that occurred at Burton Hall housing estate was caused by a blockage at the mouth of the culverted section of the stream that flows through the estate. Runoff from the estate itself and from the adjoining local primary road was not a significant contributory factor. As well as draining the developed areas of Tullyallen the stream drains a significant rural catchment resulting in vegetation and other debris being washed down in flood conditions. The strategy adopted to deal with this is to carry out regular checks on the culvert so as not to allow the build up of debris. The feasibility of providing an emergency overland flood route to bypass the section of culvert in the event of it becoming blocked will also be investigated. A level survey will need to be carried out to assess this.

(iii) Cllr. M. Murnaghan

"What is the annual rate that Louth Local Authority raises from the harbours located throughout the county, and what is the annual cost of maintaining these facilities "

I am looking for a breakdown, harbour by harbour.

Reply

Income from Harbour Dues 2013:

Port Oriel (Clogherhead) and Annagassan Harbours: **€49,818.00**

Expenditure 2013:

Loan Repayments for Port Oriel:	134,175.00
Annagassan:	10,552.00
Code 71506 (Port Oriel Pier):	35,300.45
Code 71509(Pier & Harbours Service Support Costs):	18,775.43
Code 7001 (Harbour Dues Legal Costs, Water Charge):	<u>6,710.38</u>
Total:	€205,513.26

(iv) Cllr. F. Godfrey

What is the estimated cost of flooding and damage following the recent storms in the County?

What is the overall cost of damage caused to roads by recent flooding?

Erosion – what is the current state of our Coastline following the recent storms?

Reply

As indicated in the Severe Weather Report presented to Council at the January meeting, the cost of damage is estimated at €225,000

The damage caused to roads is estimated at €15,000, required for repairs to roads at Whitestown/Ballagan. All other disruption caused by stones, seaweed and debris being washed onto the coastal roads has been cleared without any permanent damage.

Erosion of the coast line is an ongoing issue. The principle impacts resulting from the recent storms are as indicated in the Severe Weather Report.

(v) Cllr. T. Sharkey

"Will the manager outline the criteria used for the different inspections which are carried out on houses for RAS, Long Term Leasing, and Acquisition, detailing the template documents which are used for all 3?"

Reply

"There are currently 288 number of properties in either the Rental Accommodation Scheme (RAS) or Leasing. Any property, that is being considered for RAS or Leasing is inspected utilising a template that was created against each Article that is detailed in the Rented Dwelling Standards, Regulations, 2009 Document and the Smoke/Heat/CO Alarm Policy Document adopted by Louth County Council. A similar process is utilised for any Acquisition among other considerations

(vi) Cllr. M. O'Dowd

Will Louth County Council conduct a review of the traffic management at Tullyallen NS and in so doing consult with the School Authorities, the parents Association and the Gardai?

Reply

The County Council implemented traffic control measures at Tullyallen School last summer. The measures were agreed in advance with the School Management, the Parent's Association and the Gardai. It was also agreed to review the measures after they were in place for a period of time. In this regard the Council will contact the Board of Management requesting that they convene a meeting with the relevant stakeholders to carry out this review.

(vii) Cllr. M. Butler

In relation to the awarding of the tender for the operation and management of two civic amenity sites for Louth County Council (JAN300975), were the services of any external consultants, advisors or experts sought? If so, at what cost?

Reply

Services of an external consultant was obtained at a cost of €2959.69

19. NOTICES OF MOTION FROM OTHER COUNCILS

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------|
| • Monaghan Town Council | Sept Agenda |
| • Monaghan County Council | Sept Agenda |
| • Carrickmacross Town Council | Sept Agenda |
| • Waterford City Council | Sept Agenda |
| • Offaly County Council x 2 | Sept Agenda |
| • Limerick City & County Council | Sept Agenda |
| • Dundalk Town Council | Sept Agenda |
| • Clones Town Council | Sept Agenda |
| • Limerick City & County Council | Oct Agenda |
| • Ennis Town Council | Oct Agenda |
| • Leitrim County Council | Oct Agenda |
| • Cavan County council | Nov Agenda |
| • Kildare County Council | Nov Agenda |
| • Offaly County Council | Dec Agenda |
| • Clare County Council | Dec Agenda |
| • Waterford City Council | Dec Agenda |
| • Leitrim County Council | Jan Agenda |

20. CORRESPONDENCE

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| • Office of an Taoiseach x 2 | Sept Agenda |
| • Office of the Tánaiste | Sept Agenda |
| • Department of Health x 5 | Sept Agenda |
| • Dept Of Education & Skills | Sept Agenda |
| • Dept Jobs, Enterprise & Innovation | Sept Agenda |
| • Dept Justice, Equality & Defence | Sept Agenda |
| • Border Regional Authority | Sept Agenda |
| • Dept of Social & Family Affairs | Sept Agenda |
| • Dept of Education (N. Ireland) | Sept Agenda |
| • Dept of Health x 2 | Oct Agenda |
| • Minister for Health & Social Services N.I. | Oct Agenda |
| • Border Regional Authority | Oct Agenda |
| • Mobile Library Service – Revised Routes | Oct Agenda |
| • Minister for Environment, Community & L.G. | Dec Agenda |
| • Director of Public Prosecutions | Dec Agenda |
| • Department of Health | Dec Agenda |
| • Office of the Tanaiste | Jan Agenda |
| • Office of the Minister for Education & Skills | Jan Agenda |
| • Blackrock Tidy Towns Committee | 14/1/2014 |
| • Chamber of Commerce Warrenpoint | 24/1/2014 |
| • Border Regional Authority | 04/2/2014 |

21. COUNTY MANAGER'S REGISTER

The County Manager will submit the Order Register to-date.