

Borough District of Drogheda – September 2018

Minutes of the Meeting of the Borough District of Drogheda held on Monday, 3rd September 2018, at Barlow House, West Street, Drogheda.

In attendance:

Mayor: Cllr. Frank Godfrey

Members: Cllrs: P. Bell, J. Byrne, T. Byrne, K. Callan, R. Culhane, K. Flood, D. Saurin, P. Smith, O. Tully

Officials: Joan Martin, Chief Executive
Willie Walsh, Acting Director of Services
Aoife Lawler, Senior Executive Officer
Mark Johnston, Senior Engineer
Alan Sherry, Meetings Administrator

Minute No. 86/18

The minutes of the monthly meeting held on 2nd July 2018 were confirmed on the proposal of Cllr. T. Byrne and seconded by Cllr. D. Saurin.

Minute No. 87/18

Matters arising

- It was requested that the Mayor circulate the members with a copy of a letter he read out at the previous meeting from St. Vincent de Paul in relation to bring banks. He was also requested to provide evidence of a claim made by him at the previous meeting that the vintners of Drogheda were considering withdrawing sponsorship for the Fleadh.

Minute No. 88/18

Sympathies were expressed to the family and friends of Patrick Barrow and a minute of silence was observed.

Congratulations were extended to:

- The Dublin senior football team
- Louth ladies football team
- All involved in the organisation of the highly successful Fleadh Cheoil na hEireann

Minute No. 89/18

Housing Progress Report

- It was agreed to check if housing assistance grant applicants were advised by the Housing Department of the need to submit information to the Council if they wish to be changed to priority 1 status.

- It was agreed to look into how housing applicants that were homeless but not in emergency accommodation were being reported in the monthly housing report.
- Members were informed that the housing maintenance budget had been fully exhausted and the officials were examining options. The members expressed their anger at maintenance not being carried out.

Minute No. 90/18

Operations, Marine and Infrastructure Report

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

- The pothole on Beechwood Drive was highlighted as needing repair.
- The need to unblock the sewer on John Paul Court was raised.
- Member expressed concern about the capacity of the Staleen Water infrastructure to support future housing development.
- It was suggested that a mini roundabout is needed at Wheaton Hall. It was agreed to investigate the situation.
- Mary Street was raised as needing repair work.
- Concern was expressed at citizens dumping material at bring banks and the need for the banks to be maintained properly by the organisations that own them was emphasised.
- The need to carry out repairs to the Baltray road was raised.
- It was agreed to investigate if bollards are needed at Silk Park.
- Officials were informed that the drain on Georgian Close needs to be unblocked
- It was suggested that the pedestrianisation of West Street from Stockwell Street to the Tholsel should be investigated.
- Members expressed the view that Drogheda needed more festivals.
- Frustration was expressed at the lack of communication with the businesses on the Plattin Road in advance of the road works taking place.

Minute No. 91/18

Drogheda Allocation of Members Community Grants

This was proposed by Cllr. P. Bell, seconded by Cllr. K. Callan, and agreed by the members.

Minute No. 92/18

Consideration of proposal for pay parking fee reduction (on-street and in car parks) in Drogheda to €1.00/ hour from the current level of €1.20/ hour

In the course of a heated debate the Chief Executive expressed her opposition to the motion on the basis of the negative impact it would have on the Council's budget. When the Chief Executive left the meeting it was proposed by Cllr. P. Bell, seconded by O. Tully and agreed by the members to adjourn the meeting for 5 minutes. The Chief

Executive did not return, and when the meeting resumed it was proposed by Cllr. P. Bell, seconded by O. Tully and agreed by the members to suspend standing order in order to allow the meeting to continue until the item was dealt with.

The following amendment to the motion was proposed by Cllr. D. Saurin and seconded by K. Flood:

“Equalise Dublin Road and North Strand parking fees, introduce residents only parking on one side of the Windmill Road and equalise the Lourdes zone parking fees with the hospital car park fees”

A roll call vote followed for this amendment:

For (6): Cllrs. J. Byrne, K. Callan, R. Culhane, K. Flood, F. Godfrey, D. Saurin

Against (4): Cllrs. P. Bell, T. Byrne, P. Smith, O. Tully

The amendment was carried.

The motion for pay parking fee reduction (on-street) and in car parks) in Drogheda to €1.00 per hour from the current level of €1.20, with the above amendment, was proposed by Cllr. K. Callan and seconded by Cllr. F. Godfrey.

A roll call vote followed for this amended motion:

For (6): Cllrs. J. Byrne, K. Callan, R. Culhane, K. Flood, F. Godfrey, D. Saurin

Against (4): Cllrs. P. Bell, T. Byrne, P. Smith, O. Tully

The amended motion was carried.

The meeting then concluded.

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

Date: _____

Mayor: _____

Meeting Administrator: _____