

Borough District of Drogheda – November 2022

Minutes of the Meeting of the Borough District of Drogheda held in Governors House, Millmount Drogheda, on Monday 7th November 2022 at 4.15 p.m.

In attendance:

Cathaoirleach: Cllr Pio Smith

Members: **Councillor(s)** James Byrne, Joanna Byrne, Tom Cunningham, Fiachra MacRaghnaill Paddy McQuillan, Declan Power, Eileen Tully

Apologies: **Councillor(s)** Kevin Callan, Michelle Hall

Officials: Gráinne Tuomey, Meetings Administrator
Paddy Donnelly, Director of Services
Mark Johnson, Senior Engineer
Olivia McCormack, Senior Executive Officer

Minute No. 97/22

Chairing of Meeting

In the absence of the Mayor and Deputy Mayor, it was proposed by Cllr Fiachra MacRaghnaill that Cllr Pio Smith chair the meeting, and following resolution by general agreement of Members in accordance with Standing Order no. 10, Cllr Smith took the chair.

Minute No. 98/22

Confirmation of Minutes Ordinary Meeting

The minutes of the monthly meeting held on Monday 3rd October 2022 were confirmed on the
Proposal of Cllr Eileen Tully
Seconded by Cllr Joanna Byrne
And approved.

Minute No. 99/22

Matters Arising

Cllr Joanna Byrne requested an ETA on works listed on the Tracker

Minute No. 100/22

Confirmation of Draft Budgetary Meeting

The minutes of the Draft Budgetary Meeting held on Monday 17th October were confirmed on the
Proposal of Cllr Pio Smith

Seconded by Cllr James Byrne
And approved.

Minute No. 101/22

Housing Progress Report

Members noted the report as circulated at the meeting. Director of Services, Paddy Donnelly addressed all matters raised by the Members.

The following items were highlighted by Members:

- An update on plans for 31 Rathmullen Park was requested, and Members advised of plans to bring the unit back into stock in 2023
- Members were advised of a draft Homeless Plan with the Department, ongoing work with local service providers and negotiations on family hubs coming into the Winter
- It is not the policy of LCC to install pre-pay meters prior to occupancy of social units
- 469 Housing Grant applications await decision, timeline to be given to those with approval to complete or funding approval will be rescinded
- Rent collection rates have increased from 81% to 84%, with more stock added. Arrears are not written off except in cases of tenant death. Breakdown of arrears to be provided to Members. LCC does use Household budget scheme

Minute No. 102/22

Roads and Local Services Report

Members discussed the report as circulated at the meeting. Mark Johnson, Senior Engineer addressed matters raised.

Along with potholes, footpath repair, traffic calming, road safety and signage requests, sign relocation & sign cleaning, road resurfacing, road lines and yellow box repair & painting, painting of parking and disabled bays, overgrowth cutback on roadside, bus shelters, visibility and sight line action at junction requests, review of traffic light sequences, repair of damaged manholes, the following items were highlighted:

- Works to gullies acknowledged
- Designated Disability parking bays can be requested by application form
- Marleys Lane Flooding gully clearing limited success, may need pumping station
- Letter drops issuing to residents on Castle Manor Gap, broad consultation ongoing with all representatives, schools and interested groups, recommendation by end of November from Active Travel
- Flooding at hospital, Windmill Road may be due to collapsed pipe
- Roundabouts will be reseeded with wild flowers – Sponsorship scheme is active for applicants and costs are based on traffic volume and size of sign
- Line markings are only installed on roads where width allows
- Daily inspections of ring buoys are carried out by outdoor staff as part of their duties
- New Traffic Island at Clogherhead designed by Engineers and auto track tested to ensure maneuverability of vehicles
- Stream at Glen constantly being blocked by waste, dumping
- Anti-graffiti paint not preferred method of tackling graffiti due to black tar like substance, ongoing painting over graffiti used

Minute No. 103/22

Placemaking Report

Senior Executive Officer Olivia McCormack welcomed any questions on the report as issued. No questions were raised.

Minute No. 104/22

Drogheda Allocation of Members Community Grants

In accordance with Section 66 of the Local Government Act 2001 as amended, approval of Allocation of Members Community Grants as notified to the Elected Members was

Proposed by: Cllr Paddy McQuillan

Seconded by: Cllr Fiachra MacRaghnaill

And Resolved.

Minute No. 105/22

Nomination for representative on the Placenames Committee

Following a brief discussion on this item, it was

Proposed by Cllr Pio Smith

Seconded by Cllr Joanna Byrne

And agreed that **Cllr Fiachra MacRaghnaill** represent Drogheda Borough District on the Placenames Committee

Minute No. 106/22

To receive a Deputation from TASC on Participatory Budgeting of District Discretionary Funds

Item deferred to December Meeting

Minute No. 107/22

To received a Deputation from Drogheda Port

Item deferred to December Meeting – no confirmation of attendance received

Minute No. 108/22

Notice of Question: Cllr James Byrne

"Following the success of the Beechgrove roundabout can Louth County Council offer assurances to Councillors that it plans to install mini roundabouts at other busy junctions around town such as Greenhills and Leonard's Corner and (to potentially replace traffic lights) at junctions such as Duleek St to improve safety and traffic flow?"

Reply from C. Duff, Director of Services, Placemaking and Physical Development

All junctions are unique and have their own constraints and characteristics, (topography, road type, location, vehicular / Pedestrian volumes, etc), of which dictates the type of junction arrangement. Urban roads and junctions will be designed in accordance with the current principals and standards of DMURS (Design Manual for Urban Roads and Streets), the National Cycle Manual and the Traffic Management Guidelines, or as amended.

Minute No. 109/22

Correspondence – Noted

Letter to Paul Fleming, Drogheda Port Company 28.10.22

Minute No. 110/22

AOB

A query re removal of the Hebble Sand was raised. Members were advised they would be issued with an update with regards to ongoing consultation by Environmental Staff and the Port Authority. A further concern was raised that any environmental pollution would have greater effect on birds than the marine environment due to dissipation in water, and a query was raised on whether the bird sanctuary were consulted with, and who the responsible body was.

There being no other business, the meeting concluded.

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

Date:

5th Dec 2022

Mayor:

Michelle Hall

Meeting Administrator:

Aine Quinlan