



Comhairle Contae Lú
Louth County Council

Cruinniú Ceantar Buirge Dhroichead Átha - Borough District of Drogheda Meeting

Minutes of the Borough District of Drogheda Meeting held at Civic Offices, Fair Street, Drogheda
Monday, 4th December 2023 at 4:15pm

In attendance:

Cathaoirleach: Mayor Cllr Eileen Tully

Members: Councillor(s) James Byrne, Joanna Byrne, Kevin Callan, Tom Cunningham, Emma Cutlip, Michelle Hall, Paddy McQuillan, Declan Power, Pio Smith.

Apologies: None

Officials: Joe McGuinness, Director of Services
Gráinne Tuomey, Meetings Administrator
Mark Johnson, Senior Engineer
Ger Murphy, Director of Services
Olivia McCormack, Senior Executive Officer
Keith McArdle, Assistant Engineer
Declan Grimes, Senior Engineer
Rachel Hamilton, Senior Executive Architect
Terence Loane, Executive Planner

Minute No. 111/23

Minutes of Meeting held on Monday 6th November 2023

The minutes of the monthly meeting held on Monday 6th November 2023 were confirmed on the

Proposal of: Cllr Kevin Callan

Seconded by: Cllr Joanna Byrne

And approved.

Minute No. 112/23

Proposal to write to An Bórd Pleanála

It was proposed by Cllr James Byrne that a letter issue to An Bórd Pleanála which was seconded by Cllr Joanna Byrne. Members were reminded by the Meeting Administrator of the process for submitting notices of motion under standing orders.

Minute No. 113/23

Proposal to discuss 'in committee' under Section 45(3) of the Local Government Act, 2001, the matter of threatened legal action

Director of Services Joe McGuinness suggested that as the matter of threatened legal action was resolved there was no longer any need to hear this item.

A request to meet 'in committee' anyway was

Proposed by: Cllr Michelle Hall

Seconded by: Cllr Joanna Byrne

And as on questioning by the Meeting Administrator, no Member raised any objection, unanimously agreed by Members. This thereby met the requirement of Standing Order no. 50 that at least one-half of members vote to meet in committee, and the room was cleared of all present apart from the Members, Director of Services and Meeting Administrator.

Minute No. 114/23

Allocation of Members Community Grants provided for under Section 66 of the Local Government Act 2001

Members considered the Community Grants as presented to them including the additional items, and approval was

Proposed by: Cllr Joanna Byrne

Seconded by: Cllr Emma Cutlip

And agreed by Members

Minute No. 115/23

Suspension of Standing Order No. 7 – Agenda Item Amendment

It was

Proposed by: Cllr Pio Smith

Seconded by: Cllr Eileen Tully

to allow insertion of extra allocations to list of Members Community Grants without the required agenda notice.

Members present unanimously agreed to allow extra allocations to be added to the list of the Community Grants before them.

Minute No. 116/23

Allocation of Additional Members Community Grants provided for under Section 66 of the Local Government Act 2001

Members considered the Additional Community Grants as presented to them and approval was

Proposed by: Cllr Joanna Byrne

Seconded by: Cllr Emma Cutlip

And agreed by Members.

Minute No. 117/23

Borough District Municipal Allocation

Members unanimously agreed to meet in committee privately before the January meeting to discuss the 2024 Allocation.

Minute No. 118/23

Termonfeckin Playground Part 8

Senior Executive Officer Olivia McCormack, Executive Planner Terence Loane advised Members of the proposed development of a playground at Termonfeckin. Members were advised of the requirement for the removal of the old Water Tower to facilitate the playground which was welcomed.

Approval of the Chief Executive Report and Part 8 as presented to Members was

Proposed by: Cllr Tom Cunningham

Seconded by: Cllr Kevin Callan

And agreed by Members.

Minute No. 119/23

Proposed Development for Social Housing at Ballymakenny West, Drogheda - 179A Planning Route

Declan Grimes Senior Engineer, Rachel Hamilton, Senior Executive Architect Louth County Council introduced Andy Howell, Senior Architect from EML Architects and presented Members with proposed plans for a Social Housing Scheme at Ballymakenny West, Drogheda. Members were advised that this site was one that the Department had agreed to fund legacy loans for, conditional on the construction of social units. Construction must commence before the end of 2024. Members were informed that the proposals were before them for noting only as S179 is not a reserved function.

Ger Murphy Director of Services advised that under S179 there was a requirement to inform Members in advance and welcomed any queries from Members.

A discussion followed in which Members made several suggestions and raised concerns around anti-social behaviour and pedestrian access which were noted and responded to by Housing Staff.

Minute No. 120/23

Taking in Charge Gort Buí

Keith McArdle, Assistant Engineer invited questions from Members on the report as presented to them.

Approval of the proposal that the roads in the development known as Gort Buí, Ballymakenny Road, Drogheda be declared Public Roads in accordance with Section 11 of the Roads Act 1993. And furthermore, in accordance with Section 180 (4) of the Planning and Development Act, 2000, as amended that the Council take in charge any public open space, including roads and footpaths, public lighting, unallocated car parks, and storm network within the grounds of the development, was

Proposed by: Cllr Joanna Byrne

Seconded by: Cllr Michelle Hall

And Agreed

Minute No. 121/23

Housing Progress Report

Members noted the report as circulated at the meeting. Ger Murphy, Senior Executive Officer and Declan Grimes, Senior Engineer addressed all matters raised by the Members.

The following items were highlighted:

- There is ongoing engagement with tenants in arrears
- A complaint was raised about the standard of a recently allocated social unity for a transferred tenant – The Director of Services advised of ongoing engagement with the tenant and of almost 500 tenancies allocated in 2023
- A breakdown of the 832 derelict units identified through the vacant homes survey was requested
- Concerns were raised about tenants being afraid to complain about standards in HAP properties. Members were reminded that tenants have protections with the PRTB

Minute No. 122/23

Roads and Local Services Report

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

Along with road surfacing, potholes, footpath repair, traffic calming, traffic light resequencing, vegetation cut back on roadside, road signage requests, and Disabled parking bays and yellow box requests, the following items were highlighted:

- Consideration of a mini roundabout at Stameen / Wheaton Hall was requested
- Estates that are not taken in charge with not be considered for road sweeping
- Baltray Bridge Low Cost Safety Works early in 2024 are hoped to address road safety concerns
- Roads staff will visit onsite to examine coastguard access at St. Michael's Church
- Coastal erosion threatening road collapse will be examined and any necessary works addressed
- Concerns were raised that diversion due to works to Obelisk Bridge will affect Christmas Trade
- A request was made to again invite Drogheda Port to a BD meeting as the Hebble Sand remains in place
- Dangerous structures on roadside in various locations will be looked at to determine ownership

There being no other business, the meeting concluded.

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

Date:

8 Jan 2024

Mayor:

Henry Collier Deputy

Meeting Administrator:

Alice Newman

reaper