

## Borough District of Drogheda – April 2022

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Minutes of the Meeting of the Borough District of Drogheda held in the Governors House, Millmount, Drogheda on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> April 2022 at 4.15 p.m.

**In attendance:** *(All attendance was in person)*

**Mayor:** Cllr. James Byrne

**Members:** Councillors, Joanna Byrne, Kevin Callan, Tom Cunningham, Fiachra MacRaghnaill, Paddy McQuillan, Declan Power, Pio Smith, Eileen Tully

**Apologies:** Councillor Michelle Hall

**Officials:** Gráinne Tuomey, Meetings Administrator  
Paddy Donnelly, Director of Services  
Mark Johnson, Senior Engineer  
James King, Assistant Planner  
Gerard McCormack, Assistant Engineer

### Minute No. 29/22

#### Confirmation of Minutes

The minutes of the monthly meeting held on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2022 were confirmed on the proposal of Cllr. Kevin Callan and seconded by Cllr. Tom Cunningham.

### Minute No. 30/22

#### Matters Arising

Updates were requested and given on the following:

Minute 21/22 – Issues in Aura have been raised with Aura Engineers who say they will address.  
Minute 27/22 – Rainbow crossing – Council happy to promote LGBTQ+ community but not on roads due to safety concerns.

### Minute No. 31/22

#### Housing Progress Report

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

The following items were clarified on request by Members:

**Refugees** - Louth County Council was requested by the International Protection Accommodation Services (IPAS) to identify accommodation around the county as possible locations to assist with refugees from Ukraine. The recently acquired Franciscan Friary facilitated 16 refugees last Wednesday on short notice, another 47 arrived on Saturday morning and were accommodated in the Sports Centre in Dundalk. This accommodation is essentially a rest centre which is safe, clean, warm and has shower/toilet facilities.

Works are being carried out on the Dominican Church in preparation should it be required, however the full accommodation requirement is not yet known.

Any accommodation sourced to date is outside of and in addition to usual emergency accommodation and includes private accommodation providers.

**HAP / HAOP / MAGs** - A total of 630 grant adaptation applications were rolled over from 2020/2021 into 2022.

**Voids** - Void funding requests are with the Department of Housing.

The following Planning issue was raised:

Differing advise issuing on planning requirement for walkway around football club grounds.

### **Minute No. 32/22**

#### **Operations and Marine Progress Report**

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

The following items were highlighted:

- Drug Paraphernalia repeatedly found on Chord Road steps
- Footpath repair schedule has been prepared
- Congress Avenue traffic plans are progressing, consultation with residents next
- Lawrence Street car parking will be examined re change of direction
- Stone retaining wall designed at King Williams Glen to prevent further river erosion
- Limited budget for line marking
- Whitethorn Housing Estate – junction box cost may be prohibitive but solutions to traffic issues will be considered
- Lifeboat comments awaited on Crooked Street traffic proposal
- Yellowbatter junction survey will be examined
- Broadgate is a protected structure, clearing of ivy problematic
- Marley Court Lane will not be cleared by Council
- White lines request made for Baltray Road
- Tertiary road repair request cited as extenuating circumstances will be looked at, but Members cautioned funding is not there for all approved CIS schemes
- Baltray Road surface works will be examined but road safety is prioritised over bowling
- Private works for footpath on Donore Road – owners will be written to again

The following non-operations issues were raised:

- Dangerous structure on public walkway to be referred to Planning.
- Bus stop on grass verge Termon Abbey referred to Infrastructure
- Request to write again to Drogheda Port re Dredger

### **Minute No. 33/22**

#### **Taking in Charge**

Members noted the report received. Gerry McCormack, Assistant Engineer answered all queries raised. Members were advised site resolution plans are to be drafted for some sites. The bond in Riverbank has been exhausted and Irish Water will hopefully fund some works.

### **Minute No. 34/22**

#### **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. Kevin Callan

**Seconded by:** Cllr. Pib Smith

And Resolved.

### **Minute No. 35/22**

#### **Part 8 Gort Uaine, Clogherhead**

In accordance with Section 179 (4)(c) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended), it was

**Proposed by:** Cllr. Kevin Callan

**Seconded by:** Cllr. Eileen Tully

And resolved that the proposed development may be carried out as recommended in the Chief Executive report.

### **Minute No. 36/22**

#### **Part 8 Moneymore Estate**

In accordance with Section 179 (4)(c) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended), it was

**Proposed by:** Cllr. Joanna Byrne

**Seconded by:** Cllr. Fiachra Mac Raghnaill

And resolved that the proposed development may be carried out as recommended in the Chief Executive report.

## **Minute No. 37/22**

### **To receive a delegation from Drogheda Cycling Group**

Messrs Noel Hogan and Daniel Danko gave Members and Officials an overview of the nature and works of Drogheda Cycling Group which started up in 2021. 21 community rides have been facilitated by the group to allow ordinary cyclists to get active and involved without a competitive cycling focus. The group repairs old and unwanted bicycles and can loan these out. Similar schemes exist in Prague, Phoenix Arizona and London. They wish to contribute their voice to works around Drogheda to promote safe active travel around the town.

They are looking for grant funding where possible, tools, assistance to source a shed/workshop for bike repair and storage, space, stands, along with a site to teach cycle safety.

The presentation was very well received.

## **Minute No. 38/22**

**Notice of Motion:** Cllr. Kevin Callan

**Seconded by:** Cllr Declan Power

*'Will this Council enter into further discussions with both the ONE Organisation of National Ex Service Personnel and also Drogheda Animal Rescue in terms of finding possible respective premises to run their worthwhile voluntary work in the Drogheda Area'.*

**Reply from Mr. J. McGuinness, Director of Corporate and Emergency Services**

The Council has had previous discussions and communications with both groups but currently has no suitable premises available

## **Minute No. 39/22**

**Notice of Question:** Cllr. Kevin Callan

*"Will this council assess and prioritise disabled parking spaces for remarking in the Drogheda area?"*

**Reply from Ms. C. Duff, Director of Services, Operations**

Parking bay markings and signage, including that of disabled parking bays in Drogheda, will be assessed and a renewal programme for these markings will be included as part of planned works under the Road Works Programme this year.

## **Minute No. 40/22**

**AOB**

The dates of the next two meetings were noted as falling on Bank Holidays and would therefore be put to the following Mondays i.e. 9<sup>th</sup> May and 13<sup>th</sup> June respectively.

There being no other business, the meeting concluded.

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

Date:

9 May 2022

Mayor:

[Signature]

Meeting Administrator:

[Signature]