

Borough District of Drogheda - October 2021

Minutes of the Meeting of the Borough District of Drogheda held in The Barbican Centre, Drogheda on Monday 4th October 2021 at 4.15 p.m.

In attendance:

Mayor: Cllr. James Byrne

Members: Councillors Joanna Byrne, Kevin Callan, Tom Cunningham, Michelle Hall, Fiachra Mac Raghnaill, Paddy McQuillan, Declan Power, Eileen Tully

Apologies: Councillors Pio Smith

Officials: Gráinne Tuomey, Meetings Administrator
Paddy Donnelly, Director of Services
Catherine Duff, Director of Services
Mark Johnson, Senior Engineer
Gerry McCormack, Assistant Engineer

Minute No. 93/21

Confirmation of Minutes

The minutes of the monthly meeting held on Monday 6th September 2021 were confirmed on the proposal of Cllr. Kevin Callan and seconded by Cllr. Joanna Byrne

Minute No. 94/21

Matters Arising

- 75/21 - an update on the wall at Mount Sandford and car park spaces at Pearse Park was requested

Minute No. 95/21

Housing Progress Report

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

The following items were clarified:

- New Part 8 Boice Court properties are being built in accordance with regulations and no future issues of damp were foreseen.
- Additional properties had been added to the list of Voids to be brought back into use.
- Some of the homeless persons in Donors Green tents had availed of housing services but left. The Homeless Team had visited the site on at least three occasions, no easy solution.

Minute No. 96/21

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:

- Expected works at Donore Road did not go ahead due to land owner pulling permission at last minute. The information given to councillors was correct at time given, a request to update councillors on where change of plans occur was noted.
- Resurfacing at Rathmullen Junction (and other areas) would be carried out in coming weeks but other works on it would be delayed until Active Travel funding available next year.
- Illegal dumping stockpile was again appearing at St Anthonys Park
- Gully works were underway but where flooding is caused by subsidence this is a significantly higher cost and lengthier process.
- The Town and Village Scheme was looking at funding for extension of footpaths
- Fáilte Ireland funding for lighting of monuments was welcomed but a request to spray and remove overgrowth first was made. The cost and difficulty in appointing Conservation Architects to this was cited.
- A list of bike rack locations would be furnished to Members
- Requests for safety audits were noted. Members were advised of process and of the criteria for priority ranking. 50/60 locations are on list and circa 20 get done annually.
- Road works completed but markings outstanding were noted.
- Members were advised that not all requests for yellow boxes could be accommodated and where installed require maintenance every 3 - 4 years.
- Request for dredging harbors noted but costs, environmental assessments, consultation and external permission process can prohibit
- Speed ramps not preferred option for traffic calming.
- Cats eyes policy is that they are for national and not local or regional roads.
- Members were advised to address Active Travel and other Infrastructure queries through Sugar or hold until next month when Infrastructure would attend.

It was requested that Louth County Council write to Drogheda Port to remove the dredger Hebble Sand and to clean the rubbish on Donors Green which is accumulating due to homeless tent occupancy on green.

Minute No. 97/21

Taking in Charge Report

Members discussed the report as circulated at the meeting and Gerry McCormack, Assistant Engineer responded on all matters.

The following were noted:

- No funding is available unless bonds are in place
- Requests for resurfacing of estates Taken in Charge were dealt with in order of priority of worst and where funds allowed. There was very little remaining funding this year.

Minute No. 98/21

Drogheda Allocation of Members Community Grants

Approval of the Drogheda Allocation of Members Community Grants as circulated with the agenda was:

Proposed by: Cllr. Kevin Callan

Seconded by: Cllr. Michelle Hall

And resolved

Minute No. 99/21

Graffiti Report

Members discussed the report as circulated at the meeting and Mark Johnson responded on all matters.

- Members were advised of the appointment of a contractor who is currently removing graffiti from public places, and that the Community Warden has written to all land owners with graffiti on private lands.

Minute No. 100/21

Notice of Motion

Proposed by: Cllr. Pio Smith

"Asking that this Borough District will clarify who authorised the clean-up of vacant ground in Rathmullen Park in May 2021 behind houses 301 etc, why was it done, who carried out the work and how much did it cost."

As Cllr. Pio Smith was not present his motion was deferred to next meeting.

Minute No. 101/21

Notice of Motion

Proposed by: Cllr. Pio Smith

"Asking that this Borough District will provide a list of the estates where the council is responsible for grass cutting, explain why the council assumes responsibility for grass cutting, outline the cost of grass cutting per estate and clarify if Louth County Council is the owner of the green space in Trinity Gardens."

As Cllr. Pio Smith was not present his motion was deferred to next meeting.

Minute No. 102/21

Condolences

Members extended sympathy to the family and friends of:

- Eileen Rushe

There being no other business, the meeting concluded.

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

Date: _____

Mayor: _____

Meeting Administrator: _____