

Borough District of Drogheda – September 2020

Minutes of the Meeting of the Borough District of Drogheda held in The Barbican Centre, William Street, Drogheda on Monday 7th September, 2020 at 4.15 p.m.

In attendance:

Mayor: Cllr. Kevin Callan

Members: Councillors: James Byrne, Joanna Byrne, Tom Cunningham, Michelle Hall, Paddy McQuillan, Declan Power, Pio Smith, Eileen Tully

Officials: Alan Sherry, Meetings Administrator
Paddy Donnelly, Director of Services
Darius Messayeh, Executive Engineer
Frank Pentony, Director of Services
Mark Johnston, Senior Engineer

Minute No. 57/20

Confirmation of Minutes

The minutes of the monthly meeting held on 6th July 2020 were confirmed on the proposal of Cllr. Joanna Byrne and seconded by Cllr. Michelle Hall.

Minute No. 58/20

Matters Arising

- It was agreed to update the members in relation to the review of the pay parking on Windmill Road at the next meeting.

Minute No. 59/20

Housing Progress Report

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

- It was suggested that there was not enough communication with the members in relation to the carrying out of the housing needs assessment.
- It was agreed to raise the issue of anti-social behaviour in the Ramparts green estate with North & East Housing Association.
- It was agreed to look into the case of a homeless man who was not provided with emergency accommodation for several days.

Minute No. 60/20

Operations and Marine Progress Report

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

- While supporting the concept, several members expressed concerns around the proposed pedestrianisation of West Street on a trial basis and emphasised the need to review it after the first trial.
- The need to repair the drains in Balls Grove was highlighted.
- The Council was requested to engage with the residents of Marley Court
- The need for traffic calming measures on Congress Avenue was raised
- A review of the traffic light sequence on Trinity Street was requested
- The pooling on the west side of the Bridge of Peace was highlighted
- It was suggested that the clothes banks in Mayfield should be moved as the location is not appropriate
- It was pointed out that the pathway to the retail park on the Cement Road is too narrow for prams or wheelchairs
- The issue of parking on Crushrod Avenue was raised
- It was agreed to update the members in relation to works at the Chord Road junction
- The need for motor home parking to facilitate tourism in the area was raised
- It was pointed out that the works on the Ballymakenny Road are causing major traffic delays
- The need to flush out the drains at flooding hotspots was raised
- The issue of litter and weeds in the town was raised
- The need to review the safety measures at the school in Sand Pit was raised.
- The need to remove graffiti from the casing of the life buoys at the ramparts was highlighted.

Minute No. 61/20

Drogheda Allocation of Members Community Grants

The Allocation of Members Community Grants was proposed by Cllr. Paddy McQuillan, seconded by Cllr. Joanna Byrne and agreed by the members.

Minute No. 62/20

Notice of Motion

Proposed by: Cllr. Paddy McQuillan
Seconded by: Cllr. Kevin Callan

“That this council, as part of the €12m restoration works on the Fair Street Council Offices, commits to the installation of a Changing Places Ireland facility in its restoration. As it stands,

the current standards of disabled toilets in the town do not meet the needs of all people with disabilities. This facility would ensure that those with specific needs are not excluded from participating in social, cultural and economic activities. I would also encourage the council to work with Disability Louth to ensure the facility meets the needs of the disability community.”

Reply from F. Pentony, Director of Services, Economic Development, Infrastructure and Planning:

The council has no plans for major public toilet facilities at this development.

The members expressed their strong support for a facility of his nature to be provided in the town centre and agreed the motion.

Minute No. 63/20

Notice of Motion

Proposed by: Cllr. Tom Cunningham
Seconded by: Cllr. Joanna Byrne

“Tourism in Clogherhead is increasing year on year and the infrastructure requirements and needs of the community are developing and changing. I am asking that Louth county council carry out a Village Health Check in the village similar to those done in Collon and Ardee in 2018 with a view to identifying how the area can capitalise on these changes and reach its full potential.”

Reply from P. Donnelly, Director of Housing and Quality of Life:

Provision for the funding of a local needs assessment / village plan for Clogherhead has been included in one of the Town and Village applications for the area. Delivery of needs assessment / plan will be subject to the funding been secured under the T&V main scheme 2020.

The members noted the reply.

Minute No. 64/20

Notice of Motion

Proposed by: Cllr. Tom Cunningham
Seconded by: Cllr. Joanna Byrne

“That this Council carry out a survey of the R166 at the section of road at Chapel Road and the Main Street in Clogherhead that has no footpath. This section of road is a busy section with traffic and pedestrian footfall as it is the main walkway of the majority of housing estates to Clogherhead village.”

Reply from C. Duff, Director of Services, Operations:

We will organise a topographical survey on this section of roadway to assess the feasibility of the works, including required land take in order to provide said footpath.

The members noted the reply.

Minute No. 65/20

Notice of Motion

Proposed by: Cllr. Paddy McQuillan
Seconded by: Cllr. Kevin Callan

“To ensure the safety of the residents in Ballsgrove and the surrounding area I am calling on this council to install street lighting in the centre of the footpath that crosses the Ballsgrove Green.”

Reply from F. Pentony, Director of Services, Economic Development, Infrastructure and Planning:

Unfortunately due to ever increasing energy costs for public lighting and pressures on budgets there is an embargo on installing new lights anywhere in the County.

The members noted the reply.

Minute No. 66/20

Notice of Question

Submitted by: Cllr. James Byrne

“Can we have an update on what Louth County Council finally propose to do to resolve problems associated with the ‘gap’ at Castle Manor?”

Reply from F. Pentony, Director of Services, Planning, Infrastructure & Economic Development:

The Chief Executive is proposing the rezoning of a large element of the green space in this area with a view of developing housing proposals.

The members noted the reply.

Minute No. 67/20

Notice of Question

Submitted by: Cllr. James Byrne

“With the work completed on the Meath side of the estate do Louth County Council intend finishing the resurfacing of Rosevale this year or next?”

Reply from C. Duff, Director of Services, Operations:

It will be done as part of the RWP in 2021.

The members noted the reply.

Minute No. 68/20

Borough District Annual Budget Meeting

It was proposed by Cllr. Pio Smith, seconded by Cllr. J. Byrne and agreed by the members to have the Borough District annual budget meeting before or after the full council meeting in October.

Minute No. 69/20

Sympathies

Sympathies were expressed to the family and friends of:

- Brendan Loughran

A minutes silence was observed

There being no other business, the meeting concluded.

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

Date: _____

Mayor: _____

Meeting Administrator: _____