

## *Minutes of December Ordinary Council Meeting 2013*

---

Minutes of Ordinary Meeting of Louth County Council held in County Hall, Dundalk on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2013.

### **In attendance:**

**Cathaoirleach:** Cllr. D. Breathnach.

**Members:** Councillors: P. Bell, M. Bellew, M. Butler, T. Byrne, E. Corrigan, A. Donohoe, L. English, F. Godfrey, A. Grehan, J. Lennon, J. Loughran, F. Maher, C. Markey, F. McCoy, P. McGeough, I. Munster, M. Murnaghan, P. McQuillen, M. O' Dowd, L. Reilly, J. Ryan, P. Savage, T. Sharkey, P. Smith, O. Tully

**Officials:** P. Poole, County Manager  
F. Pentony, Director of Services  
B. Woods, Head of Finance  
J. Martin, Director of Services  
J. McGuinness, Director of Services  
G. Kelly, Senior Engineer  
D. Storey, Senior Executive Officer  
B. Lynch, Financial Accountant  
P. Donnelly, Meetings Administrator

### **Minute No. 264/13**

#### **Confirmation of Minutes**

**Proposed by Cllr. F. Godfrey**

**Seconded by Cllr. L. Reilly**

**And resolved:-**

That the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> November 2013 be confirmed.

**Minute No. 265/13**

**Minutes – For Information**

The minutes of the following meetings were noted.

- CPG 08/11/2013
- CPG Budget Meeting 26/11/2013
- Dundalk/North Louth JPC 09/09/2013
- Drogheda/ South Louth JPC 16/09/2013
- Ardee /Mid Louth JPC 18/09/2013
- Mid Louth Area Meeting 07/11/2013
- North Louth Area Meeting 06/11/2013
- South Louth Area Meeting 01/11/2013

**Minute No. 266/13**

**Committee Reports**

- Corporate Policy Group – Cathaoirleach Cllr. D. Breathnach reported on the meetings of 26<sup>th</sup> November and 6<sup>th</sup> December 2013
- Transportation SPC – Cllr. F. Maher reporting on the meeting of the 10<sup>th</sup> December 2013 highlighted speed limits on the N2, callout for winter gritting, Road Works Programme progress and the withdrawal of funding for the Narrow Water Bridge as the main issues addressed at the meeting.

**Minute No. 267/13**

**Part 8 Managers Report**

**Proposed by Cllr. L. Reilly**  
**Seconded by Cllr. F. McCoy**  
**And Resolved:-**

That having considered the County Managers Report dated 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2013 in respect of the upgrade works and associated site works at Ardee Water Treatment Plant, Ardee, Co. Louth, to confirm the recommendations there-in, in accordance with Section 179 (4) (b) of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 as amended and the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 – 2006.

**Minute No. 268/13**

**Part 8 County Managers Report**

**Proposed by Cllr. P. Savage**

**Seconded by Cllr. O. Tully**

**And Resolved:-**

That having considered the County Managers Report dated 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2013 in respect of the upgrade works and associated site works at Greenmount Water Treatment Plant, Greenmount, Castlebellingham, Co. Louth, to confirm the recommendations there-in, in accordance with Section 179 (4)(b) OF THE Planning and Development Act, 2000 as amended and the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 – 2006.

**Minute No. 269/13**

**Annual Financial Statement 2012 – Auditors Report**

The Annual Financial Statement 2012 and Auditors Report was presented by the Head of Finance and the members queries in regard to same were addressed and the matter was noted.

**Minute No. 270/13**

**Second review of Louth County Councils Road Traffic Speed Limits.**

**Proposed by Cllr. P. Savage**

**Seconded by Cllr. L. English**

**And Resolved:-**

That having considered the report dated 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2013 on the Amendment to proposed Second Review of the Louth County Council Road Traffic Speed Limits, County of Louth Bye-Laws 2009 to confirm the Director of Services recommendation.

**Minute No. 271/13**

**Approval to advance a loan of up to €261,400**

**Proposed by Cllr. F. Godfrey**

**Seconded by Cllr. F. McCoy**

**And Resolved:-**

That having considered the matter to approve to advance a loan of up to €261,400 for the provision of one unit (six bedrooms) of accommodation at 63 Ard na Mara, Blackrock, Dundalk, County Louth under the Capital Assistance Scheme.

**Minute No. 272/13**

**Approval to advance a loan of up to €256,400**

**Proposed by Cllr. T. Byrne  
Seconded by Cllr. F. McCoy  
And Resolved:-**

That having considered the matter to approve to advance a loan of up to €261,400 for the provision of one unit (five bedrooms) of accommodation at Shanlis, Ardee County Louth under the Capital Assistance Scheme.

**Minute No. 273/13**

**Louth Comhairle na nÓg Presentation**

The members noted and thanked the representatives of Comhairle na nÓg, Aine Lawless, Chairperson, Katie Brady, Rachel Begley, Ronan Quigley and Shay McArdle for their presentation on the two year programme of activities 2011 - 2012.

**Minute No. 274/13**

**Transportation & Marine Progress Report**

The Transportation & Marine Progress Report dated 5<sup>th</sup> December 2013 was discussed and noted by the members. Issues raised and address by the Director of Services and Senior Engineer included, Winter Gritting, Pot holes, works on Seafield road, Local contribution road maintenance scheme, HGV traffic in Drogheda, Station Road Castlebellingham project funding, non payment of harbour fees at Annagassan and the Narrow Water Bridge.

**Minute No. 275/13**

**Planning Progress Report**

The Planning Progress Report dated 5<sup>th</sup> December 2013 was noted by the members. The proposed dated for the taking in charge of Termon Abbey, Drogheda was noted and welcomed.

**Minute No. 276/13**

**Votes of Sympathy**

The following votes of Sympathy were recorded.

- To Superintendent Gerard Curley on the death of his Mother Brigid.
- To the people of South Africa on the death of Mr. Nelson Mandela

**Minute No. 277/13**

**Housing Progress Report**

The Housing Progress Report dated 5<sup>th</sup> December 2013 was presented by the Director of Services who addressed the Member's queries which included a request for clarification in respect of furniture allocation to tenants.

**Minute No. 278/13**

**Environmental Progress Report**

The Environmental Progress Report dated 4<sup>th</sup> December 2013 was presented by the Director of Services who addressed the Member's queries which included; update on the Cavan Hill site, makeup of the new Waster Management Region.

**Minute No. 279/13**

**Library and Archives Quarterly Report**

The Library and Archives Quarterly Report dated 5<sup>th</sup> December 2013 was presented by the Head of Finance and noted by the members. The members welcomed the ongoing works to the Drogheda Library.

**Minute No. 280/13**

**Arts Quarterly Report**

**Proposed by Cllr. P. Savage  
Seconded by Cllr. E. Corrigan  
And Resolved:-**

That the matter be deferred until the January meeting.

**Minute No. 281/13**

**Conference & Events**

**Proposed by Cllr. F. Godfrey  
Seconded by Cllr. O. Tully  
And resolve:-**

To approve the attendance of Members at conferences considered by the Corporate Policy Group at their meeting of on 6<sup>th</sup> December 2013 and recorded in the Conference and Events register.

**NOTICES OF MOTION**

**Minute No. 282/13**

**Proposed by Cllr. F. Godfrey  
Seconded by Cllr. P. Bell  
And Resolve:-**

That Louth County Council Environment Dept remove all illegally erected “cash for cars” advertising signs on traffic lights and other locations in the County  
How many prosecutions has the Council taken against illegal advertisers under the Litter Pollution Act over the past three years?

**Reply**

**It is the policy of Louth local Authorities to have all unauthorised signs on public roadways (including cash for cars signs) removed. Where the owners of signs cannot be identified the Council arranges removal of the signs. Details of prosecution actions against unauthorised advertisers over the past 3 years are as follows:-**

*Minutes of December Ordinary Council Meeting 2013*

Year	Court Prosecutions	Out of Court Settlements	Total Cases
2011	3	14	17
2012	10	7	17
2013 (to Date)	3	10	13

**Minute No. 283/13**

**Proposed by Cllr. F. Godfrey**

**Seconded by Cllr. P. Bell**

**And Resolve:-**

That Louth County Council adopts a policy that there be no further wind turbines erected in the County of Louth in the interest of public health, and also as they are so unsightly.

Does Louth County Council have a policy on wind turbines?

**Reply**

***The policy on renewable energy, including wind turbines is included in the County Development Plan 2009 -2015 which can only be amended by a formal variation. The review of the plan has recently commenced.***

***Section 9.6 of the Louth County Development Plan 2009-2015 deals with Renewable Energy and therein, specifically under Section 9.6.1, the issue of Wind Energy is addressed. Contained within the Development Plan are three stated policies, in relation to Wind Energy which are as follows:***

***EN 12: To promote the location of wind farms and wind energy infrastructure in the 'preferred areas' as outlined in Map 9.1 to prohibit such infrastructure in the areas identified as 'no go areas' and to consider, subject to appropriate assessment, the location of wind generating infrastructure in areas 'open for consideration'.***

***EN 13: To facilitate the development of wind energy sources where proposals are consistent with the landscape preservation objectives of the Plan, the protection of the natural and built environment and the visual and residential amenities of the area.***

***EN 14: To require all wind farm developments to comply with the Wind Energy Development Guidelines for Planning Authorities.***

The Cathaoirleach call for a show of hands on the matter and the result was recorded as follows

**For 2 – Against 16 – Abstain 4 – Absent 4**  
**The motion failed**

The time being 1.30 pm the Cathaoirleach closed the meeting in accordance with Standing Orders.

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

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Cathaoirleach: \_\_\_\_\_

Meetings Administrator: \_\_\_\_\_