

Minutes of April Ordinary Council Meeting 2014

Minutes of Ordinary Meeting of Louth County Council held in County Hall, Dundalk on Monday 28th April 2014

In attendance:

Cathaoirleach: Cllr. D. Breathnach.

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

Officials: P. Poole, County Manager
J. Martin, Director of Services
M. Curran, Director of Services
J. McGuinness, Director of Services
B. Woods, Head of Finance
F. Pentony, Director of Services
G. Kelly, Senior Engineer
D. Storey, Senior Executive Officer
C. Moss, Senior Executive Officer
P. Donnelly, Meetings Administrator

Minute No. 71/14

Confirmation of Minutes

Proposed by Cllr. L. Reilly
Seconded by Cllr. L. English
And resolved:-

That the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 24th March 2014 be confirmed.

Minute No. 72/14

Minutes – For Information

The minutes of the following meetings were noted.

- Housing, Social & Community Planning SPC 27/01/2014
- South Louth Area Meeting 03/03/2014
- North Louth Area Meeting 05/03/2014
- Mid Louth Area Meeting 06/03/2014
- Corporate Policy Group 14/03/2014

Minute No. 73/14

Committee Reports

The following verbal reports were delivered to the meeting.

- Corporate Policy Group – An Cathaoirleach Cllr. D. Breathnach reported on the meeting of 17th April 2014
- Housing, Community Planning & Emergency Service SPC – Cllr. J. Ryan reported on the meeting held on 10th April 2014
- Transportation and Planning SPC – Cllr. F. Maher
- Economic Development & Cross Border SPC – Cllr. C. Markey reported on the meeting held on 10th April 2014

Minute No. 74/14

Road Works Programme 2014

Proposed by Cllr. F. Godfrey
Seconded by Cllr. F. McCoy
And Resolved:-

Having considered the Road Works Programme for 2014 to confirm same.

Minute No. 75/14

Road Traffic Speed Limits – County of Louth Bye-Laws 2009 2nd Revision.

**Proposed by Cllr. M. Butler
Seconded by Cllr. L. Reilly**

To Confirm the Road Traffic Speed Limits – County of Louth Bye-Laws 2009 2nd Revision.

Amendment

**Proposed by Cllr. P. Savage
Seconded by Cllr. J. Ryan**

That the matter be deferred for consideration by the new Council.

An Cathaoirleach called a vote on the amendment by a show of hands.

For the amendment - ten (10)
Against the amendment - twelve (12)
Abstentions - four (4)

The Amendment fell

For the Motion -nineteen (19)
Against the motion – zero (0)
Abstentions – seven (7)

The motion was carried.

Minute No. 76/14

Broadband Action Plan

The members noted the Draft Broadband Action Plan as presented by the Director of Services. In the course of discussion on the matter the members highlighted the poor broadband service delivery for all the service providers, in the Cooley area. Members also expressed the necessity for service continuity as so many small and medium enterprises now depend on a reliable broadband service. The draft plan is to be further considered by the Economic Forum subcommittee.

Minute No. 77/14

Votes of sympathy

The following votes of Sympathy were recorded.

- To Ms. Therese McArdle, Housing section on the death of her Mother-in-law
- To Mr. Paddy Connolly, Transportation Section on the death of his Mother.

Minute No. 78/14

Congratulations

The Cathaoirleach extended congratulations and thanks and every good wish for a happy retirement to Ms. Catherine Vaughan, Ms. Angela Muckian and Ms. Grainne Cumiskey who recently retired having giving significant and valued service to Louth County Council.

Minute No. 79/14

Louth County Council 3 Year Capital programme 2014 - 2016

Proposed by Cllr. O. Tully

Seconded by Cllr. P. Bell

And resolved:

Having considered and noted the programme to confirm same including amendment proposed by Cllr. Sharkey and agreed by the Head of Finance in regard to the inclusion of expenditure to date on projects.

Minute No. 80/14

Transportation & Marine Progress Report

The Transportation & Marine Progress Report dated 15th April 2014 was discussed and noted by the members and upon which queries were addressed by the Director of Services. These matters included the installation of additional public lights, purchase of lands for the Drogheda Northern Port Access Route, Narrow Water Bridge, and The Giro d'Italia cycle race, maintenance of roads budget for mid Louth under the new structure, Annagassan Harbour and the pursuit of fishermen using the harbour for outstanding harbour dues, Safety measures at St. Oliver's School Omeath, how new requirements of Irish Water are delaying the taking in charge of developments, additional funding for the community involvement scheme. Congratulations were extended to the

Contractor and the team involved in laying the water main through Carlingford which had been done to a very neat and professional standard.

Minute No. 81/14

Suspension of Standing Orders

**Proposed by Cllr. E. Corrigan
Seconded by Cllr. D. Breathnach
And Resolved:-**

To suspend Standing Orders to 1.50pm in accordance with Standing order no.24.

Minute No. 82/14

Planning Progress Report

The Planning Progress Report dated 11th April 2014 was noted by the members.

Minute No. 83/14

Housing Progress Report

The Housing Progress Report dated 14th April 2014 was presented by the Director of Services who addressed the Member's queries which included the announcement by Central Government in regard to the refurbishment of 700 houses nationally, the increase in housing stock numbers, on-going engagement with the voluntary sector, rent arrears, contract for works at Woodlands Dunleer,

Reference was made to the County Managers report issued on Friday 25th April 2014 in regard to the investigation in the matter of the purchases of houses under the Social Housing Investment Programme (SHIP) by a number of members. The County Manager was thanked for the report and she responded to a number of queries in regard to same. The Cathaoirleach commented that it had been a difficult time for staff in the Housing section and he paid tribute to them.

Minute No. 84/14

Environmental Progress Report

The Environmental Progress Report dated 15th April 2014 was presented by the Director of Services and noted by the Member's.

Minute No. 85/14

Allocation of Members Community Grants

Proposed by Cllr. M. Murnaghan

Seconded by Cllr. F. Godfrey

And Resolve:-

To approve the allocation of Members Community Grants numbering fifty eight, as circulated with the agenda.

Minute No. 86/14

Conference & Events

Proposed by Cllr. L. English

Seconded by Cllr. F. Godfrey

And Resolved:-

To approve the attendance of Members at conferences considered by the Corporate Policy Group at their meeting of on 14th April 2014

Minute No. 87/14

Departure of County Manger Ms. Philomena Poole

The Cathaoirleach Cllr. Declan Breathnach lead tributes to Ms. Philomena Poole, County Manager as it was her last meeting before she departed Louth County Council to take up the post of County Manager with Dunlaoire Rathdown County Council.

The County Manager thanked the members for their support during her nine months as County Manager in Louth. She expressed her thanks to the Management and staff and wish everyone continued success under the new structures prescribed in the Local Government reform Act, 2014

That concluded the business of the meeting.

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

Date: _____

Cathaoirleach: _____

Meetings Administrator: _____