

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council December 2014

Minutes of Ordinary Meeting of Louth County Council held in County Hall, Dundalk at 10.00am on Monday 15th December, 2014.

In attendance:

Cathaoirleach: Cllr. Oliver Tully

Members: Councillors: D. Breathnach, M. Butler, T. Byrne, K. Callan, A. Cassidy, E. Corrigan, R. Culhane, T. Cunningham, M. Dearey, M. Doyle, K. Flood, F. Godfrey, J. Green, C. Keelan, J. Loughran, C. Markey, J. McGahon, P. McGeough, K. Meenan, D. Minogue, I. Munster, L. Reilly, P. Savage, T. Sharkey, P. Smith, J. Tenanty, M. Yore

Officials
J. Martin, Chief Executive
F. Pentony, Director of Services
B. Woods, Head of Finance
J. McGuinness, Director of Services
M. T. Daly, A/Director of Services
D. Storey, Senior Executive Officer
P. Finn, Senior Engineer
P. Donnelly, Meetings Administrator

Apologies Cllr. P. Bell

Minute No. 302/14

Confirmation of Minutes

Proposed by Cllr. F. Godfrey
Seconded by Cllr. P. Savage
And resolved:-

That the minutes of the ordinary meeting of Council held on 17th November 2014 be confirmed.

Minute No. 303/14

Confirmation of Minutes

Proposed by Cllr. F. Godfrey

Seconded by Cllr. P. Savage

And resolved:-

That the minutes of the Statutory Budget meeting of Council held on 17th November 2014 be confirmed.

Minute No. 304/14

Arising from the Minutes

The Cathaoirleach, in recording again his apologies for his absence at the November meeting sought clarification in respect of Minute number 300/14 whereby a decision was recorded whereby Cathaoirleigh allowances would not be paid and the total sum would be transferred to housing adaptation grants.

The Chief Executive, Mrs. Joan Martin in responding advised the members that she had a question as to whether Council could by making a decision as recorded subvert a decision of the Municipal Districts which had already been exercised as a reserve function given onto Municipal Districts as set out in Schedule 3 of the Local Government Reform Act, 2014.

The Chief Executive confirmed that otherwise budgetary proposals were in order.

There was a lengthy discussion on the matter.

Minute No. 305/14

Proposed by Cllr. J. McGahon

Seconded by Cllr. D. Minogue

That as there was a question in regard to the procedure around the proposal at minute number 300/14 that the decision be struck out.

Amendment

Proposed by Cllr. M. Dearey

Seconded by Cllr. M. Yore

That a decision in the matter be deferred until such time as a legal opinion in the matter had been obtained.

There followed a roll call vote on the amendment.

For: Councillors: D. Breathnach, M. Butler, T. Byrne, A. Cassidy, E. Corrigan, R. Culhane, T. Cunningham, M. Dearey, M. Doyle, K. Flood, F. Godfrey, J. Green, C. Keelan, J. Loughran, C. Markey, J. McGahon, P. McGeough, K. Meenan, D. Minogue, I. Munster, L. Reilly, P. Savage, T. Sharkey, O. Tully, J. Tenanty, M. Yore

Twenty Six (26)

Against: None (0)

Absent: Cllrs. Bell, Callan, Smith **Three (3)**

The amendment was carried.

Minute No. 306/14

Minutes for Information

The members noted the following minutes

- Municipal District of Dundalk 04/11/2014
- Borough District of Drogheda 03/11/2014
- Municipal District of Ardee 06/11/2014
- Corporate Policy Group 07/11/2014

Minute No. 307/14

Committee Reports

Corporate Policy Group

The Cathaoirleach Cllr. Oliver Tully presented a report on the Corporate Policy Group meeting held on Friday 5th December 2014.

Housing Community & Emergence Services SPC

Cllr Imelda Munster, Chair of the Housing Community and Emergence Services Strategic Policy Committee presented a report of the inaugural meeting of the SPC held on 1st December 2014

Minute No. 308/14

Chief Executives Report

The Chief Executives report dated 5th December was noted by the members.

Minute No. 309/14

Section 183 Notice – Land at Clos na Manach

Proposed by Cllr. P. Savage

Seconded by Cllr. M. Butler

And resolved:-

Having considered the matter as per the notice dated 27th November 2014 to confirm the sale of 7.87 M2 of land at Clos na Manach to the Electricity Supply Board for a consideration of €1.00

Minute No. 310/14

Comhairle na nOg Annual Report to Council

The Cathaoirleach welcomed Ms. Aine Lawless, Mr. Ronan Quigley and Ms. Katie Brady of Louth Comhairle na nOg. The representatives presented to Council a report on the activities of the group for the preceding year. In that they set out the group's main activities which included details of a European Union debate, Bully awareness raising, Peer leaders Peace Group and details of a residential in Dromintine and a number of trips to Brussels.

The representatives and their mentors where congratulated for professionalism they showed in the delivery of the report and the Members wished Comhairle na nOg continued success with their work.

Minute No. 311/14

Votes of Sympathy

Votes of sympathy were recorded to the families of:-

- Joe Walsh, father of Maureen Walsh, Finance Section
- Mary Ann Murray, mother of Mary Deery, Social & Community Section

Minute No. 312/14

Vote of Congratulations

A vote of Congratulations was recorded in respect of Councillor Peter Savage being elected as Chairman of the East Border Region.

A vote of good wishes for a speedy recovery was recorded for the former Councillor Finnan McCoy who had been recently hospitalised.

Minute No. 313/14

Framework for establishment of Public Participation Network in County Louth

**Proposed by Cllr. M. Dearey
Seconded by Cllr. M. Butler
And resolved:-**

That having considered the matter circulated under cover dated 5th December 2014 to confirm The Framework for the establishment and operation of Public Participation Networks (PPNs) in County Louth

Minute No. 314/14

Renewal of Joint Policing Committee Structure in Louth

The members noted a report on the matter dated 8th December 2014.

Minute No. 315/14

Housing Monthly Progress Report

The Members noted the Housing Progress Report dated 10th December 2014 and the Members queries were addressed by the Director of Services and Senior Executive Officer.

Minute No. 316/14

Suspension of Standing Orders

**Proposed by Cllr. M. Dearey
Seconded by Cllr. P. Smith
And resolved:-**

That standing orders be suspended as per Standing Order Number 24 to permit the business of the meeting continue until 2.00 pm.

Minute No. 317/14

Planning & Environmental Progress Reports

The Members noted the suite of reports circulated with the agenda in respect of Environmental Compliance, Forward Planning, Planning Enforcement and Planning progress. Member's raised a number of queries including sea weed issue at Blackrock and road gritting scheme.

Minute No. 318/14

Conference and Events

There were no Conference and Events for approval.

Minute No. 319/14

Notice of Motions

Proposed by Cllr. M. Yore
Seconded by Cllr. F. Godfrey
And resolved:-

"That Louth County Council ensure that Supervising Engineers consider wheelchair users in relation to accessibility issues in regard to works on main streets/public buildings County wide, and before sign off on completion of improvements take place wheelchair users assess whether improvements will benefit them. For example Dunnes Stores, Park Street one side of island made wheelchair accessible other side not done"

Reply:

Louth County Council's Engineers do consider wheelchair users and their accessibility issues when carrying out works. Accessibility issues are dealt with at design stage in accordance with the Irish Wheelchair Association's Best Practice Access Guidelines, and we will endeavor to consult with wheelchair users in advance of completion of works. We are currently working through issues raised regarding access issues in Dundalk and a number of projects have been completed in 2014

Minute No. 320/14

Notice of Motions

Proposed by Cllr. M. Yore

Seconded by Cllr. F. Godfrey

And resolved:-

"That Louth County Council write to Minister for Environment stating concerns relating to installation of water meters in Louth detailing poor workmanship: meters should be installed 18 inches below ground to protect from freezing but installation is taking place less than 6 inches which will cause huge issue in relation to burst pipes and huge expense, inconvenience and aggravation to people of Louth - how are Government /Irish Water going to address these issues?"

Minute No. 321/14

Correspondence

The Members noted the following Correspondence

- Dept of Environment Community & Local Government 12/11/14 x 2
- Dept of Health 14/11/14
- Dept of Environment Community & Local Government 08/12/14 x 2

Proposed by Cllr. I. Munster

Seconded by Cllr. E. Corrigan

And resolved:-

That a response is issued to Minister Kelly letter of 10th November 2014 in regard to house construction and that he commit to meet with Louth County Council in regard to same.

Minute No. 322/14

Chief Executives Register

The register was available for the members' inspection.

Minute No. 323/14

The time being 2.00pm the Cathaoirleach concluded the meeting and thanked the Members and Staff and wished everyone a very Happy Christmas.

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

Date: _____

Cathaoirleach: _____

Meetings Administrator: _____