

Minutes of May Ordinary Council Meeting 2014

Minutes of Ordinary Meeting of Louth County Council held in County Hall, Dundalk on Monday 19th May 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, I. Munster, M. Murnaghan, M. O' Dowd, L. Reilly, J. Ryan, P. Savage, T. Sharkey, O. Tully
Officials:	J. Martin, County Manager 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 E. Woulfe, Chief Fire Officer P. Donnelly, Meetings Administrator
Apologies:	Cllr. P. Smith & P. McQuillan

Minute No. 88/14

Confirmation of Minutes

Proposed by Cllr. L. English

Seconded by Cllr. O. Tully

And resolved:-

That the minutes of the Special Meeting held on 14th April 2014 be confirmed.

Minute No. 89/14

Confirmation of Minutes

Proposed by Cllr. L. Reilly

Seconded by Cllr. P.Savage

And resolved:-

That the minutes of the Special Meeting held on 15th April 2014 be confirmed.

Minute No. 90/14

Confirmation of Minutes

Proposed by Cllr. L. Reilly

Seconded by Cllr. L. English

And resolved:-

That the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 28th April 2014 be confirmed.

Minute No. 91/14

Minutes – For Information

The minutes of the following meetings were noted.

- Housing SPC Meeting 24/03/2014
- North Louth Area Meeting 02/04/2014
- Mid Louth Area Meeting 03/04/2014
- South Louth Area Meeting 07/04/2014
- Corporate Policy Group 17/04/2014

Minute No. 92/14

Committee Reports

The following verbal reports were delivered to the meeting.

- Corporate Policy Group – An Cathaoirleach Cllr. D. Breathnach reported on the meeting of 9th May 2014
- Housing, Community Planning & Emergency Service SPC – Cllr. J. Ryan reported on the meeting held on 14th April 2014

Minute No. 93/14

East Border Region Presentation

Ms. Pamela Arthurs and Ms. Det Hughes of East Border Region presented an overview of the work of the East Border Region with a particular emphasis on the projects supported in County Louth.

Proposed by Cllr. F. Godfrey

Seconded by Cllr. F. McCoy

And Resolved:-

That provision is made in the 2015 Budget to facilitate County Louth's continued involvement and participation in the East Border Region network.

Minute No. 94/14

Annual Report 2013

The draft Annual report for 2013 was circulated to the members.

Proposed by Cllr. F. McCoy

Seconded by Cllr. L. Reilly

And Resolved:-

That the members submit their comments and or observations within seven days and that the matter be confirmed at a future meeting.

Minute No. 95/14

Louth Looking Good Grant Scheme – 2014

Proposed by Cllr. F. McCoy

Seconded by Cllr. L.Reilly

And Resolved:-

To approve the Louth Looking Good Grant scheme for 2014.

The following comments were made by the members in relation to the scheme

- Cllr. Sharkey – Discussion to include all communities
- Cllr. Reilly – New scheme to be examined
- Cllr. Savage – Funding is as a community from ground up
- General concern amongst members as to where this will sit under the new scheme

Minute No. 96/14

Votes of sympathy

- To Ms. Anne Keaveney, Library on the death of her mother Mrs. Maura Keaveney
- Byrne Family, Louth Village on the tragic death of their son Keith

Minute No. 97/14

Congratulations

- Dundalk Grammar School on their 250th Anniversary
- To all involved in the local success of the Giro D'Italia
- Ardee Town Council on the World War 1 Memorial erected in Ardee
- Organisers of the Cycle against Suicide

Minute No. 98/14

Members Retiring from Council

Four members not going forward for re-election

- Cllr. M. Bellew
- Cllr. A. Grehan
- Cllr. A. Donohoe
- Cllr. P. McQuillan

The County Manager thanked them for their service to the Council and wished all the existing members well in the forthcoming election on May 23rd.

The Cathaoirleach, on behalf of the member's, management and staff made a presentation to each of the members retiring.

Cllrs Bellew, Grehan, Donohoe replied thanking the Cathaoirleach, County Manager and Council colleagues for their support and professionalism over their periods of Service on Louth County Council.

Minute No. 99/14

Transportation & Marine Progress Report

The Transportation & Marine Progress report dated 8th May 2014 was presented and noted by the members. Issued raised included the notice to treat in respect of the Narrow Water Bridge, Funding for repairs necessary following the Storm damage. N53 – Proposed by Cllr. Sharkey Seconded by Cllr. Corrigan that a safety audit be carried out. The response of the Senior Engineer in this matter "that as a practice it would be normal for such an audit to be conducted", was noted.

Minute No. 100/14

Planning Progress Report

The Planning Progress report dated 8th May 2014 was presented and noted by the members.

Minute No. 101/14

Housing Progress Report

The Housing Progress report dated 12th May 2014 was presented and noted by the members. Cllr. Sharkey raised the matter of the purchase of a dwelling described as number 66 Loughantarve, Knockbridge.

Queries in respect of the Fire Service were addressed by the Chief Fire Officer who confirmed that the safety of staff or the public was not compromised and the level of service being delivered was in compliance with Keeping Communities Safe and the Section 26 agreement confirmed by Council.

Minute No. 102/14

Environmental Progress Report

The Environmental Progress report dated 12th May 2014 was presented and noted by the members.

Minute No. 103/14

Library & Archives Quarterly Report

**Proposed by Cllr. E. Corrigan
Seconded by Cllr. T. Sharkey
And Resolved**

To approve the Library & Archives Quarterly Report as circulated to the members

Minute No. 104/14

Allocation of Members Community Grants

**Proposed by Cllr. P. Savage
Seconded by Cllr. J. Ryan
And Resolve:-**

To approve the allocation of Members Community Grants numbering thirty nine as circulated with the agenda.

Minute No. 105/14

Conference & Events

**Proposed by Cllr. F. Godfrey
Seconded by Cllr. J. Ryan
And Resolved:-**

To approve the attendance of Members at conferences considered by the Corporate Policy Group at their meeting of on 9th May 2014

Notices of Motion

Minute No. 106/14

**Proposed by Cllr. I. Munster
Seconded by Cllr. E. Corrigan
And Resolved:-**

"That Louth County Council believes that adding a Social clause to contracts it enters into, society will benefit from localised employment, value for money, public confidence, environmental gain and democratic accountability.

This Council calls for the Office for Public Procurement to enable local authorities and agencies to add a Social Clause to contracts entered into.

Reply

EU procurement directive provides that contracting authorities may consider how what is proposed to be procured might improve the economic, social and environmental well-being of the relevant area and how, in conducting the process of procurement, it might act with a view to securing that improvement.

It allows for social and environmental criteria in public procurement as long as these are linked to the subject matter of the contract. In practice this allows for bidders that offer better working conditions to their workers and offer sustainably produced goods as well as considering the life-cycle costs rather than just the up-front costs of assets purchased. Simply considering price, rather than quality, as the only award criterion will be discouraged.

This is a matter for the members but we propose to refer same to the office of government procurement

Minute No. 107/14

**Proposed by Cllr. F. Godfrey
Seconded by Cllr. A. Grehan
And Resolved:-**

That Louth County Council expresses its concern at the amount paid to consultants engaged by Irish Water, and we write to the Minister calling on him that the Council should have an input on any charges imposed on household consumers by Irish Water in County Louth.

Minute No. 108/14

**Proposed by Cllr. P. Savage
Seconded by Cllr. J. Ryan
And Resolved:-**

That the Minister for Health consults with the HSE in order that volunteers driving patients such as the "Hospice Scheme" are not charged parking fees for time spent in Hospital Car Parks awaiting patients.

Minute No. 109/14

**Proposed by Cllr. M. Butler
Seconded by Cllr. P. Savage**

That on the planned amalgamation of Dundalk Town Council and Louth County Council in May of this year, that the financial reserves of Dundalk Town Council are ringfenced for use in the new Dundalk municipal area.

Reply

Upon the order directing the dissolution of the Town Councils, all assets and liabilities of Dundalk Town Council will transfer to Louth County Council. While the sentiment of the motion is understood it is not possible to act upon same for the reasons outlined.

Minute No. 110/14

The meeting concluded with the Cathaoirleach wishing everyone well in the upcoming election.

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That concluded the business of the meeting.

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

Date: _____

Cathaoirleach: _____

Meetings Administrator: _____