

Minutes of July Ordinary Council Meeting 2015

Minutes of Ordinary Meeting of Louth County Council held in County Hall, Dundalk on Monday 20th July 2015

In attendance:

Cathaoirleach: Cllr. P. Savage

Members: Councillors: P. Bell, 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, P. McGeough, K. Meenan, D. Minogue, I. Munster, L. Reilly, P. Smith, J. Tenanty, O. Tully, M. Yore

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

Apologies: Cllrs, T. Sharkey, J. McGahon
F. Pentony, Director of Services

Minute No. 180/15

Confirmation of Minutes

Proposed by Cllr. L. Reilly
Seconded by Cllr. F. Godfrey
And resolved:-

That the minutes of Special Meeting (County Development Plan) held on Tuesday 9th June 2015 be confirmed.

Minute No. 181/15

Confirmation of Minutes

Proposed by Cllr. L. Reilly

Seconded by Cllr. O. Tully

And resolved:-

That the minutes of Annual Meeting held on Monday 15th June 2015 be confirmed.

Minute No. 182/15

Confirmation of Minutes

Proposed by Cllr. O. Tully

Seconded by Cllr. L. Reilly

And resolved:-

That the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Monday 15th June 2015 be confirmed and include an amendment to minute no 172/15 noting that there was no rent review for three years.

Minute No. 183/15

Minutes for Information

The following minutes were noted by the members.

- Borough District of Drogheda 8th June 2015 Annual Meeting
- Borough District of Drogheda 8th June 2015
- CPG Meeting 5th June 2015
- Municipal District of Ardee 4th June 2015 Annual Meeting
- Municipal District of Ardee 4th June 2015
- Municipal District of Dundalk 2nd June 2015 Annual Meeting
- Municipal District of Dundalk 2nd June 2015
- SPC Minutes Economic Development & Enterprise Support 9th March 2015
- SPC Minutes Planning & Environment 11th March 2015

Minute No. 184/15

Committee Reports

Corporate Policy Group

The Cathaoirleach Cllr. Peter Savage presented a report on the Corporate Policy Corporate Group meeting held on Friday 10th July.

Economic Development SPC

Cllr. Mark Dearey Chair of the Strategic Policy Committee presented a report on the meeting of the committee held on 17th June 2015.

Planning and Environment SPC

Cllr. Richie Culhane Chair of the Strategic Policy Committee presented a report on the meeting of the committee held on 10th June 2015.

Minute No. 185/15

Monthly Management Report

The Members noted the report from the Chief Executive dated 7th July 2015.

The Chief Executive responded to a number of queries as follows

- Fáilte Ireland, Ireland's Ancient East grant scheme closing date – matter to be referred to Fáilte Ireland.
- Clarified funding for Oldbridge Greenway scheme is a matter for Meath County Council.

Minute No. 186/15

Section 183 of the Local Government Act 2001

Renewal of lease on Housing units 10,11, 13, 18, 19, 20, 21, 65, 66, 67, 68 at Clos Na Manach, Greenore Road, Carlingford

Proposed By: Cllr T. Byrne

Seconded by: Cllr. L. Reilly

That having considered the notice on the matter dated 3rd July 2015 to confirm the leasing for a consideration of €10.00 per annum to Tuath Housing Association.

Amendment

Proposed By: Cllr I. Munster
Seconded by: Cllr. E. Corrigan

That the housing units referred to in the notice remain with the Local Authority.

The Cathaoirleach called for a show on hands in the matter and there nine (9) for the amendment and thirteen (13) against with seven (7) absent.

The Cathaoirleach declared the original motion as per the notice carried.

Minute No. 187/15

Section 183 of the Local Government Act 2001

Disposal of Land at 3 Dalebrook to the Estate of Doreen Matthews deceased, to Roy Matthews

Proposed By: Cllr. T. Byrne
Seconded by: Cllr. F. Godfrey
And resolved:

That having considered the notice on the matter dated 22nd June 2015 to confirm the disposal of the Fee Simple for a consideration of €676.00 to The Estate of Doreen Matthews deceased, to Roy Matthews.

Minute No. 188/15

Section 183 of the Local Government Act 2001

Disposal by way of lease for a period of three years for the consideration of a peppercorn rent the community building at Lois Dubh, Armagh Road, Dundalk to two groups, Special Needs Active Parents (SNAP) and North East Family Support Network (NEFSN) Dundalk.

Proposed By: Cllr L. Reilly
Seconded by: Cllr. J. Tenanty
And resolved:

That having considered the notice on the matter dated 3rd July to confirm the disposal by way of lease for a period of three years, subject to an annual review and also subject to the Company operating/staffing the facility for the purpose of a Community building and for which it was designed and making same available to the Council as required. The lease will also require the company to comply

with all legislative and HSE requirements and fully indemnify the Council from any claim arising from the operation of same.

Declaration of possible Conflict of Interest

In regard to this matter Cllrs. Maeve Yore and Mark Dearey declared a conflict of interest as both are members of SNAP. Neither member took part in the discussion or exercised a preference in regard to the decision.

Minute No. 189/15

Section 183 of the Local Government Act 2001

Disposal of plot of ground at the rear of No. 9 Crescent 1 Muirhevnamor Dundalk

Proposed By: Cllr D. Breathnach

Seconded by: Cllr. M. Dearey

And resolved:

That having considered the notice on the matter dated 3rd July 2015 to confirm the disposal of circa 39 sq meters at the rear of No.9 Crescent 1, Muirhevna Mór, Dundalk to Brendan and Mary Smith for a consideration of €1,000.00

Minute No. 190/15

Section 183 of the Local Government Act 2001

Disposal of Community Building by way of Lease at Mullaharlin Park, Dublin Road, Dundalk

Proposed By: Cllr D. Breathnach

Seconded by: Cllr. E. Corrigan

And resolved:

That having considered the notice on the matter dated 3rd July 2015 to confirm the disposal by way of lease of Crèche / Community building at Mullaharlin Park, Dundalk to Women's Aid Dundalk Ltd., Avenue Road Dundalk for a period of five (5) years at a consideration of €700.00 per month.

Minute No. 191/15

Appointment to the Economic Development SPC

Proposed By: Cllr M. Butler

Seconded by: Cllr. D. Breathnach

And resolved:

To confirmed the appointment of Ms. Karen Devine, 60 Byranstown Village, Dublin Road, Drogheda to the Environmental Pillar of the Economic Development SPC. This is to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Dr. Byrne who is no longer available to sit on this committee.

Minute No. 192/15

Rural Water Programme

Proposed By: Cllr O. Tully

Seconded by: Cllr. C. Markey

And resolved:

To confirm the Rural Water provisional proposals for the year 2015 as set out in the report dated 2nd July 2015 and as endorsed by the Local County Monitoring Committee.

Members also noted the Rural Water Programme year review for 2014

Minute No. 193/15

Allocation of Members Community Grants - July 2015

Proposed By: Cllr. K. Flood

Seconded by: Cllr. M. Butler

And resolved:

To confirm the allocation of the seventy four (74) Members Community Grants as circulated with the agenda.

Minute No. 194/15

Housing and Communities Progress Report

The Members noted the Housing & Communities Progress Report dated 13th July 2015 and the Members queries were addressed by the Director of Services.

In response to a query regarding the Audit Committee's role in regard to the Housing Policies and Procedures, the Chief Executive advised that the Audit Committee would further consider the matter at their meeting in September. The Chief Executive further clarified that while the matter was being considered by the Audit Committee that no decision had been made in regard to the publication of any or all of the documents.

The Director of Services agreed to review the very recently adopted Urban Regeneration Act and revert to the members in regard to same.

Minute No. 195/15

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 report dated 3rd July 2015.

Following a discussion on the matter of Drogheda Port it was proposed by Cllr. P. Smith and seconded by Cllr. I. Munster that an opportunity be provided for a full discussion on the matter in September.

Minute No. 196/15

Votes of Sympathy

Votes of sympathy were recorded in respect of the following.

- To Ann Monahan, Finance Section, on the death of her Mother Mrs. Alice Monahan.
- To Eileen McArdle, Staff Officer Drogheda, on the death of her infant Son Liam McArdle.
- To Asumpta Gray, Social & Community Section, on the death of her Mother Maureen Harmon.
- To Michael Donnelly, Dundalk Fire Station and Paddy Donnelly, Corporate Services / Cross Border & European Office on the death of their Mother Mrs. Bridie Donnelly.

Minute No. 197/15

Conference and Events

Proposed By: Cllr. O. Tully
Seconded by: Cllr. F. Godfrey
And resolved:

To confirm the attendance of Members at conferences approved by the CPG and listed with the agenda and who have recorded their request to attend in the Conference and events register.

Minute No. 198/15

Notice of Question

Cllr. K. Flood

Can Louth County Council confirm that all estates listed in the Department of Environment, Community, and Local Government National Survey of unfinished housing developments 2014 in Louth, have accessible funds available to complete them?

REPLY:

There are 29 housing estates classified as unfinished in the National Survey of Unfinished Housing Development (December 2014 update) in County Louth. Of these only one is classified as having any construction activity. The Council is not in a position to comment on the availability of funding to complete these estates as these are private developments, many with current planning permissions in place. Where an estate is built out and ready to be taken in charge the Council has on occasion sequestered the bond in order to complete roads and public services to taking in charge standards. In other cases in unfinished estates the Council has availed of central funding to carry out public safety measures. The Council is committed to continuing to work with developers and financial institutions on site resolution plans for these estates.

Minute No. 199/15

Notice of Motion

Proposed By: Cllr I. Munster
Seconded by: Cllr. E. Corrigan

That Louth County Council calls on the Minister and the Government to ensure that funding is provided to continue and expand the WALK PEER Programme, which is making such a big difference to the lives of young people in County Louth, and to further request that funding be attached to the upcoming Comprehensive Employment Strategy so that the WALK PEER Programme is secured and sustainable in the long term.

It was agreed to write to the Minister in this regard.

Minute No. 200/15

Notice of Motion

Proposed By: Cllr P. Smith
Seconded by: Cllr. F. Godfrey

That this Council provides a detailed report on the number of derelict sites currently on the records of this local authority for the last 5 years on a year-on-year basis.

That the report informs on how many sites were removed from the list as a result of intervention by the local authority, how many are currently being pursued through legal action, how much money has been collected year-on-year in levies over the last 5 years and what work was carried out by the local authority with monies collected.

That this Council further provides the report on the number of derelict sites in the ownership or under the charge of the local authority itself for the past 5 years.

As part of the report that the local authority provides details of what action was taken by this authority to upgrade these sites and remove them from the derelict sites categorisation.

Reply:

A report will be prepared in time for the September meeting of Council

Minute No. 201/14

Correspondence

The following Correspondence was noted.

- Office of the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport
24/06/2015
- Dept of Environment, Community & Local Government
12/06/2015 - Training for Elected Members
- Dept of Finance 02/7/2015

Minute No. 202 /15

Chief Executives Order Register

The Register was available for inspection.

Minute No. 203/15

Louth Economic Forum

Presentation by the Chairman of the Louth Economic Forum, Mr. Padraic White.

An Cathaoirleach welcomed Mr. White who delivered a presentation in respect of the Committees Draft Foreign Direct Investment Action Plan. Following a lengthy question and answer session the Action Plan was adopted upon the proposal of Cllr. Declan Breathnach seconded by Cllr. Marianne Butler.

Minute No. 204/15

Congratulations and Good Wishes

The Cathaoirleach, on his own behalf and on behalf of the Members and staff extended every good wish to Cllr. Green and Cllr. Cassidy on the impending birth of their baby.

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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: _____