

Minutes of Council Meeting February 2019

Minutes of Ordinary Meeting of Louth County Council held in County Hall, Dundalk on Monday 18th February 2019

In attendance:

Cathaoirleach: Cllr. L. Reilly

Members: Councillors: P. Bell, M. Butler, J. Byrne, K. Callan, A. Campbell, E. Coffey, E. Corrigan, R. Culhane, T. Cunningham, M. Dearey, M. Doyle, K. Flood, F. Godfrey, C. Keelan, C. Markey, J. McGahon, P. McGeough, D. Minogue, R. O'Murchu, P. Savage, T. Sharkey, P. Smith, O. Tully, A. Watters, M. Yore

Apologies: Cllrs T. Byrne

Officials: J. Martin, Chief Executive
F. Pentony, Director of Services
J. McGuinness, Director of Services
P. Donnelly, Director of Services
B. Woods, Head of Finance
W. Walsh, A/Director of Services
M. Johnston, Senior Engineer
J. O'Hagan, Senior Engineer
C. Duff, Senior Engineer
A. Abbott-King, Senior Planner
T. McEvoy, Head of LEO
J. Lawrence, Senior Executive Officer
M. Sheeran, Senior Engineer
L. McKenna, Senior Executive Officer
A. Sherry, Meetings Administrator
C. Moss, Senior Executive Officer

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Minute No.15/19

Confirmation of Minutes

Proposed by: Cllr. F. Godfrey

Seconded by: Cllr. M. Yore

And resolved:

That the minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on 21st January 2019 be confirmed

Minute No. 16/19

Minutes for noting

Corporate Policy Group note for 9th January 2019-02-19

Borough District of Drogheda 7th January 2019

Municipal District of Dundalk 8th January 2019

Municipal District of Ardee 10th January 2019

Housing, Community Planning & Emergency Services SPC 1st October 2018

Minute No.17/19

Report on CPG Meeting

The Cathaoirleach informed the members that the meeting of the CPG was held Wednesday 6th February 2019. The draft agenda for the February meeting was considered and agreed, the Councillors Community Grants (14) were noted and approved and the members also considered and agreed to recommend the conferences listed on the agenda. The meeting received an update in relation to the Member's Communication Plan, the civic award list for Ardee was agreed and it was agreed to recommend that the March council meeting be held on the 25th March. The itinerary for the Cathaoirleach's annual trip to New York was agreed. It was agreed to look into providing printed maps of the local electoral areas to the members and to providing the members with the electoral register on disk.

A member expressed concern at the poor attendance by Councillors at recent meetings.

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Minute No. 18/19

Monthly Management Report

It was requested that the headings on the agenda be expanded to include all aspects of the Council's activities.

The need to make the public aware that litter bins can be used for dog fouling was raised, along with other litter issues.

It was agreed to consider an event to mark International Women's Day on Friday, 8th March.

Start dates were requested for the Ghan Wall and King John's Castle projects.

The need to devise innovative approaches to addressing mould and damp in Council housing stock was highlighted.

The need to have community wardens to help address anti-social behaviour in Council housing estates was raised.

It was agreed to advise the members of plans in relation to the €10,000 centenary fund that has been secured.

It was agreed to provide details in relation to the enforcement actions detailed in the report in relation to waste management.

A question was raised as to whether or not the accutrace marker in diesel was robust or being overcome by illegal operators.

The need for an information campaign for beach users in relation to littering was raised.

The need to enforce animal bye-laws was emphasised.

Minute No. 19/19

Section 183 Notice – Disposal of Fee Simple at 61 Trinity Street, Drogheda

Proposed by: Cllr. E. Coffey

Seconded by: Cllr. M. Butler

And resolved:

That having considered the notice on the matter dated 5th February 2019 to confirm the disposal of 0.022957 hectares in total of land at 61 Trinity Street, Drogheda for a consideration of €391.00 (three hundred and ninety one euro) to Maeve Dooley (fee simple disposal)

Purchaser responsible for all legal costs and expenses.

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Minute No. 20/19

Date for the March Monthly Meeting

Proposed by: Cllr. P. Savage

Seconded by: Cllr. E. Coffey

And resolved:

To hold the next monthly meeting on Monday 25th March

Minute No. 21/19

Conferences and Events

Proposed by: Cllr. M. Butler

Seconded by: Cllr. F. Godfrey

And resolved:

To approve attendance of members recorded in the Conference & Events Register at such Conferences and Events listed within the agenda & approved at Policy Group on 6th February 2019

Minute No. 22/19

Allocation of Members Community Grants

Proposed by: Cllr. E. Coffey

Seconded by: Cllr. M. Yore

And resolved:

To approve Members Community Grant Allocations (No.14) as circulated with the agenda

Minute No. 23/19

To nominate one member to the Eastern & Midland Regional Assembly – vacancy arises due to the resignation of Cllr. T. Byrne

Cllr. R.O' Murchu was proposed by Cllr. J. Byrne, seconded by Cllr. K. Flood

Cllr. C. Keelan was proposed by Cllr. E. Coffey, seconded by Cllr. F. Godfrey

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A roll call vote followed:-

For Cllr. O Murchu: Cllrs. J. Byrne, A. Campbell, T. Cunningham. K. Flood, P. McGeough, R. O' Murchu, A. Watters

Total : 7 (seven)

For Cllr. Keelan: Cllrs. M. Butler, E. Coffey, F. Godfrey, C. Keelan, C. Markey, J. McGahon, L. Reilly P. Savage, P. Smith, O. Tully, M. Yore

Total : 11 (eleven)

Absent: Cllrs. P. Bell, T. Byrne, K. Callan, E. Corrigan, R. Culhane, M. Dearey, M. Doyle, D. Minogue, D. Saurin, T. Sharkey, J. Tenanty

Total : 11 (eleven)

Cllr. Keelan was duly nominated to the Eastern & Midland Regional Assembly

Minute No. 24/19

Presentation by the Irish Heart Foundation

Ms. Catherine Reilly of the Irish heart Foundation gave a presentation in relation to childhood obesity and the advertising of unhealthy foods and then answered questions from the members.

Minute No. 25/19

Update on Regeneration Projects

Ms. Catherine Duff, Senior Engineer gave a presentation and answered questions from the members

Minute No. 26/19

Report on Vacant Sites February 2019

The members had questions answered and noted the report

Notice of Motion

Calling on this Local Authority to Put in place a 'Town Team': a visionary, strategic and strong operational management team whose objective it will be to examine the future of our town centres, ie Drogheda, Dundalk and Ardee and make recommendations about the role Louth County Council can play in breathing economic and community life back into our high streets and town centres and address the challenge of online shopping"

The motion was withdrawn by Cllr. Smith

Minute No. 28/19

Notice of Motion

Proposed by Cllr. E. Coffey

Seconded by Cllr. J. McGahon

And resolved

Louth County Council in exercise of the powers conferred on it by section 199 of the Local Government Act 2001 hereby makes the following bye-laws for the regulation and control of public roads and footpaths adjacent to service providers of abortion services within the county of Louth to exclude any form of prohibited behaviour within a 500 meter area from the outer edge of the healthcare facility"

For the purposes of these bye-laws, 'prohibited behaviour' shall include but not limited to:

- (i) continuously or repeatedly observing a service provider or other person accessing a healthcare facility.
- (ii) continuously or repeatedly observing a healthcare facility.
- (iii) engaging in threatening conduct directed at the service provider or a person known to them.
- (iv) besetting, harassing, intimidating, interfering with, threatening, hindering, obstructing or impeding a person who is attempting to enter a healthcare facility.
- (v) in any way recording a service provider, or a person accessing, or attempting to access a healthcare facility without that person's consent, or publishing or distributing a recording so obtained, except in discharge of police duty.

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(Vi) recording information about a person accessing, or attempting to access a healthcare facility without that person's consent, or publishing or distributing information so obtained, except in discharge of police duty.

(Vii) distributing or displaying any leaflets, pamphlets, notices, advertisements or other documentation.

(viii) affixing bills, posters or stickers upon any wall, door, pole, structure, vehicle, floor or pavement or on any surface forming part of, or used in relation to the healthcare facility.

(ix) conducting or taking part in public meetings, demonstrations or procession

Reply:

The members agreed the motion and the Chief Executive undertook to seek legal advice and then refer it to the Strategic Policy Committee or the Joint Policing Committee

Minute No. 29/19

Notice of Motion

From Cllr. D. Saurin

That Louth County Council calls on the Government following the passing of the No Consent, No Sale bill to facilitate the quick passage of this bill through the remaining legislative stages."

Motion was deferred to March Meeting as Cllr. Saurin was absent from the meeting.

Minute No. 30/19

Suspension of Standing Orders

Proposed by Cllr. J. McGahon

Seconded by Cllr. J. Byrne

And resolved:-

That standing orders be suspended as per Standing Order number 24 to permit the business of the meeting to continue until 1.40 p.m.

Minute No. 31/19

Notice of Motion

Proposed by Cllr. J. Byrne

Seconded by Cllr. A. Campbell

And resolved

"Following the recent revelation that the Irish Deaf Society is facing closure by the end of March, Louth County Council supports the organisation's call on the Government to intervene and find an appropriate body to fund their core expenses and advocacy services so the organisation can continue to work for the Deaf Community."

The motion was agreed by the members

Minute No. 32/19

Vote of Congratulations to the following:-

Students who participated in the Trashion Fashion event
Dundalk Sports Centre

Minute No. 33/19

Votes of sympathy were extended to the families of the following:-

Garda James McCumiskey
Ms. Aileen Hearty
Liam Leech

Minute No. 34/19

Notice of Question

Submitted by Cllr. P. Smith

"Calling on this council to give a breakdown of the number of Local Authority controlled car parking spaces that exist in Drogheda and Dundalk"

REPLY:

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	On-street Parking Spaces	Spaces in carparks	Total
Dundalk	2306	569	2875
Drogheda	1170	533	1703

Minute No. 35/19

Notice of Question

Submitted by Cllr. J. McGahon

Will Louth County Council outline how many electric vehicle charging points there are in the Dundalk, Ardee and Drogheda Municipal Districts?

REPLY:

All ESB e.cars public chargers UNO:

- In Ardee MD; 2 No. 22Kw at the one location; in Castlebellingham services: 16 No. Tesla Superchargers; 2 No. FAST 50KW chargers, 2 No. 43KW-all in same location
- In Dundalk MD; 12 No. 22kw at 6 No. separate locations.
- In Drogheda MD; 8 No. 22kw at 4 No. separate locations and 1 No. FAST 50KW chargers+1 No. 43KW at same location at Lidl

Minute No. 36/19

Notice of Question

Submitted by Cllr. F. Godfrey

How much property tax was collected by Louth County Council in the period 2017/18?

REPLY:

The Local Property Tax is collected by Revenue not by the County Council. As per the Revenue's website the amount of Local Property Tax collected in Co. Louth for 2017 is €9.1 million and the preliminary figure for 2018 (as of January 2019) is €9.0 million. The amount paid to Louth County Council both

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in 2017 and 2018 was €9.87 million (includes a subvention from the LPT fund).

Minute No. 37/19

Notice of Question

Submitted by Cllr. F. Godfrey

How much in commercial rates was collected by Louth County Council in the period 2017/18?

REPLY:

Louth County Council collected €28.68 million in Rates in 2017 and €30.37 million in Rates in 2018

Minute No. 38/19

Notice of Question

Submitted by Cllr. P. McGeough

How many field workers were engaged by Louth County Council in compiling the recent register of Electors?

REPLY:

32 field officers were engaged in preparing the current register of electors

Minute No. 39/19

Notice of Question

Submitted by Cllr. P. McGeough

How many names were added/deleted to/from the Register of Electors?

REPLY:

There were 6,206 additions and 4,560 deletions resulting in a total number of 97,047 on the Register of Electors

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Minute No. 40/19

Motions from other Councils

Motions from other Councils as listed with the Agenda were noted by the members

Minute No. 41/19

Correspondence

Correspondence as listed with the Agenda was noted by the members

That concluded the business of the meeting

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

Date: _____

Cathaoirleach: _____

Meetings Administrator: _____