

Municipal District of Ardee – December 2015

Minutes of Municipal District of Ardee meeting held in Clogherhead Fishermen's Co-Op on Thursday, 3rd December, 2015, at 5.30 p.m.

In attendance:

Cathaoirleach:	Cllr. C. Markey
Members:	Councillors: T. Cunningham, P. McGeough, D. Minogue, J. Tenanty
Officials:	J. McGuinness, Director of Services G. Kelly, Senior Engineer M. Murtagh, Meetings Administrator
Apologies:	Cllr. Liam Reilly

Minute No. 104/15

Chairman, Cllr. Colm Markey welcomed members to Clogherhead for the December meeting and thanked the Clogherhead Fishermen's Co-Op for making the excellent facilities available to the members. It was agreed that Mr. Paul Boyd from the Fishermen's Co-Op and Mr. Oliver Kirwan from Clogherhead Development Group would be invited to address the meeting on completion of the formal agenda.

Minute No. 105/15

Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 5th November, 2015 were confirmed on the proposal of Cllr. Tom Cunningham and seconded by Cllr. Jim Tenanty.

Minute No. 106/15

Matters Arising

- J. McGuinness, Director of Services, confirmed that work will be complete on Ardee Playground before Christmas at a cost of approximately €15,000, consisting primarily of surface repairs and some equipment replacement.
- G. Kelly, Senior Engineer agreed to revert to members in relation to taking in charge of Sean O'Carroll Street.
- G. Kelly will seek a report from the Infrastructure Section in relation to the Head Wall on Station Road and revert to members with an update.
- G. Kelly agreed to check the position in relation to the hedge/ditch at the front of St. Oliver's Park, Kilsaran and provide an update.
- It was confirmed that Coole and Mullenstown were on the schedule for hedge cutting.

- J. McGuinness, Director of Services confirmed that Ardee Castle is included in the Capital Programme and that meetings have been held with Fingal County Council in the matter. A figure of €250,000 is included in the 2016 Budget. It was agreed by members that a workshop would be held in early 2016 to develop the Business Plan for the facility.

Minute No. 107/15

Report on Private Care Homes

Mr. J. McGuinness, Director of Services, circulated a short report to members outlining the current position. It was noted that these homes are not medical care facilities, so all the local authority can pursue is planning compliance. It was noted that there may be an issue with change of use in the facilities identified in the report. It was agreed that members would advise the Director of Service of any additional facilities and that a further update would be provided at the next meeting.

Minute No. 108/15

Housing and Communities Progress Report

During discussion on the report included with the agenda the following matters were addressed;

- Contractor is on site for the renovation of four units at Woodlands.
- Part 8 for the Oaklee development for persons with intellectual disabilities will come before members at the January Municipal District Meeting.
- Lands at Dunleer are part of a national procurement initiative to seek a developer to construct dwellings that would be leased back to the Council. Discussions ensued as to whether the lands were an asset or financial liability, and it was confirmed that if the process is successful the Department will refund the loan on the site. It was also confirmed that the development would be subject to the planning process.
- J. McGuinness agreed to examine eligibility for Choice Based Lettings on two properties recently advertised and clarify whether precedence is given to local residents in the area of the dwellings or if equal consideration is given to all applicants.
- The Director agreed to add Fr. Finn Park to future reports with procurement expected in early 2017.
- Members were advised that a presentation on the Tenant Purchase Scheme was planned for the December meeting of Louth County Council, including the conditions that must be met for eligibility.
- Concern was expressed that room size in local authority housing was too small and was impacting negatively on expanding families. Mr. McGuinness advised that such matters were governed by national guidelines, and the only matter at

the discretion of the local authority was the size of the overall dwellings in terms of the number of bedrooms. Members agreed to write to the Minister for the Environment in the matter.

Minute No. 109/15

Infrastructure, Operations and Marine Progress Report

Members discussed the report as circulated with the agenda and the following matters were addressed;

- A number of overlay schemes in the Mid Louth area have been completed.
- Work has commenced on the 2016 Road Works Programme, with a first draft expected at Municipal District in January and final draft to go to the February meetings of Municipal District and full Council.
- G. Kelly advised that additional requests had been received from Residents Associations for inclusion in the 30 kph speed limit. Mr. Kelly further advised that such a low speed limit was not suitable in all estates and reminded members that it will cost €10,000/€15,000 for each eligible estate. Members expressed the view that traffic speed should be dealt with at planning permission stage.
- G. Kelly agreed to check who is responsible for the security cameras at Clogherhead Harbour and if they are currently operational, and revert to members.
- G. Kelly agreed to investigate if a waste oil receptacle could be provided at Clogherhead Harbour and revert to members.
- The issue of non-active boats taking up space at the harbour was raised. G. Kelly agreed to investigate.
- G. Kelly agreed to check the feasibility of re-installing bicycle racks in Ardee that were removed when pay parking meters were removed.
- G. Kelly agreed to examine the situation in relation to trees at River Glyde in Castlebellingham which require attention.

Minute No. 110/15

Notice of Motion

Proposed by Cllr. D. Minogue

Seconded by Cllr. C. Markey

"That this local authority welcomes increased Government investment of €5 million in policing to tackle burglaries and related crime, and calls on the Garda Commissioner to ensure that Co. Louth is prioritised in her spend"

Reply:

This is a matter for the members.

Cllr. P. McGeough indicated that he could not support the Motion outlining his reasons for same.

On the proposal of Cllr. J. Tenanty, seconded by Cllr. D. Minogue it was agreed to forward the Motion to the Joint Policing Committee.

Minute No. 111/15

Notice of Motion

Proposed by Cllr. T. Cunningham

Seconded by Cllr. P. McGeough

"That Louth County Council close off the alleyway in John Kirk Estate, behind houses numbered 49 and 85 to 60 and 92 and also between houses number 52 and 53. That this alleyway gets closed off with gates."

Reply:

The Extinguishment of a Right of Way is governed by Section 73 of the Roads Act 1993. The normal practice is for residents to submit a letter of support with signatures for the closure of a laneway. Upon receipt of this letter the Council will investigate the matter and a further report will issue to the members.

It was agreed that the Housing Section would progress by liaison with the residents in this matter to see if all were in support. Members were advised that the process can be difficult, but that the number of complaints received about anti-social behaviour would also be taken into consideration.

Minute No. 112/15

Notice of Motion

Proposed by Cllr. D. Minogue

Seconded by Cllr. C. Markey

"That this council put a bus shelter on the north side of Ardee Town between the two Dundalk and Carrick road roundabouts"

Reply:

The Council will assess the suitability of this location for a bus shelter. Once the suitability of the location is confirmed the Council will explore all available options open to it to fund the provision of the bus shelter.

The Motion received the full support of council, but it was noted that similar Motions in the past referred to the matter being the responsibility of the NRA. Legislation/Guidelines for bus shelters may have changed in the interim. It was agreed that the matter would be prioritised and that G. Kelly would pursue with Infrastructure and revert to members.

Minute No. 113/15

Mr. Paul Boyd, Clogherhead Fishermen's Co-Operative and Mr. Oliver Kirwan, Clogherhead Development Group were introduced to and addressed the members.

Municipal District of Ardee – December 2015

Mr. Boyd outlined the background to and success of the Co-Operative and indicated that two priorities for action by the local authority would be:

- i. Provision of waste oil receptacle,
- ii. FLAG - Fishermans Local Action Group - local authority to get more information and include objectives in LECP.

Mr. Oliver Kirwan was congratulated by the Chairman, Cllr. Colm Markey, and other members on the excellent work being done by Clogherhead Development Group / Tidy Towns, some of which he outlined to the members. A number of priorities for this area were identified.

- i. Derelict sites, particularly Ferrard House and the Sail Inn,
- ii. Road surface / footpaths,
- iii. Eircom overhead wires (ESB underground)
- iv. Adequate budget provision, to recognise the work being done on behalf of the local authority.

There being no other business the meeting concluded.

The Minutes were confirmed at a meeting held on:-

Date: _____

Cathaoirleach: _____

Meetings Administrator: _____