



Comhairle Contae Lú
Louth County Council

Cruinniú de Cheanta Bardasach Bhaile Átha Fhirdia / Municipal District of Ardee

Minutes of the Municipal District of Ardee meeting hosted in the Dermot O'Brien Room, Ardee Civic Offices, Ardee on 5th October 2023 at 4.30 p.m.

In attendance:

Cathaoirleach: Councillor Dolores Minogue

Members: Councillors: Paula Butterly, Pearse McGeough, John Sheridan, Jim Tenanty

Apologies: Councillor(s): Bernie Conlon

Officials: Bernie Woods, Director of Services
Gráinne Tuomey, Meetings Administrator
David Jones, Director of Services
Noel Treanor, Senior Executive Engineer
Declan McMahon, Senior Executive Engineer
John Lawrence, Senior Executive Officer
Keith McArdle, Assistant Engineer

Minute No. 82/23

Minutes of Meeting held on Thursday 7th September 2023

Minutes of the September monthly meeting as held on Thursday 7th September 2023 were confirmed on the

Proposal of Cllr Pearse McGeough
Seconded by Cllr John Sheridan
And approved.

Minute No. 83/23

Matters Arising

Minute no. 68/23 - It was agreed to be amended to remove the reference to the HSE Day Care Car Park and replace it with the 'Car Park beside Dee Hub'

Minute no. 77/23 Members felt that the term 'health check' indicates that more of an overall residential consultation will be sought, and were advised that national policy of Town Center First would eventually filter into all towns and include greater stakeholder consultation.

Minute No. 84/22

Housing Progress Report

Members noted the report as circulated at the meeting. John Lawrence Senior Executive Officer addressed all matters raised by the Members.

The following items were highlighted:

- While there is no specific Affordable Housing Scheme planned for mid-Louth, Housing are actively engaging with any interested Developer, and are monitoring commencement notices on planning to identify potential sites. While they advise Affordable Housing Bodies of the type and number of units required they remain cognisant of not interfering with any planning process
- There is no perceivable impact of recent increase on mortgage rate as yet on housing presenters

Minute No. 85/23

Roads and Local Services Report

Members discussed the report as circulated at the meeting. Declan McMahon, Senior Executive Engineer addressed matters raised.

Items discussed included:

- Recent road markings painted on road at locations including outside the pub at Stabannan and at Darver National School were queried. Members were advised Stabannan was part of the Low Cost Safety Works, and Darver would be examined to see if in right location
- A commitment to refresh line markings for traffic safety at Dorians Pub junction will be honoured but there is no funding for lighting
- A query on take up of accessibility funding for playgrounds and playground equipment will be referred to the Parks Superintendent and a response brought back to members
- Louth County Council pursues owners of dangerous trees to remove them
- The feasibility report on the pedestrian crossing at Bank of Ireland Ardee is still with TII
- Requests to include Hill Top terrace on the future gritting route cannot be accommodated. Members were advised of priority given to main roads, and that 430km of roads are gritted each night the trucks are out
- The footpath at Lennons Pub Tallanstown was again highlighted as requiring works

Minute No. 86/23

Taking in Charge Report

Members considered the report as presented to them and Keith McArdle Assistant Engineer responded to questions raised.

Along with some questions around plebiscites in various estates, the following items were highlighted:

Fosters Close - *Cllr Jim Tenanty confirmed a conflict of interest and left the meeting for the duration of the discussion

Members were advised that there was no update on legal opinion sought

*Cllr Jim Tenanty was invited back into the meeting

Mayne Way - Issues with the pumping station will be discussed with the Developer and land owner

There is no reason why one phase of an estate cannot be taken in charge while another is being constructed if all conditions are met

White River Manor – reports of a light pole in situ which has never had lighting installed will be investigated

Minute No. 87/23

Standing Order no. 45 Deputation from Lightsource bp

As Members had previously resolved to receive a deputation from Lightsource bp at the September meeting, Aidan Collins, Principal Environmental Planner from Lightsource bp was welcomed to the meeting.

Mr. Collins gave Members a background on the company and other solar farms created by them to date. He then gave a presentation on a proposed Solar Farm at Derrycammagh, Co. Louth which was well received.

Members complimented Mr. Collins for speaking to them and local stakeholders in advance of the proposed project and he advised of a recent public consultation meeting that had taken place in Darver which some of the Members had also attended.

A Q&A session followed with Members raising numerous queries which were responded to by Mr. Collins.

Minute No. 88/23

Standing Order 69 - Suspension of Standing Order 13 Order of Business

As there was a further presentation on the agenda, the Cathaoirleach suggested that the Notice of Motion was taken in advance of the other business in order to give it due regard. This was agreed by all Members present by a show of hands and it was so resolved.

Minute No. 89/23

Notice of Motion: Cllr John Sheridan
Seconded by: Cllr Dolores Minogue

"That Louth County Council give a report on Minute 76/22 - a commitment to examine traffic calming, lights or otherwise for the cross roads at the centre of Louth Village."

Reply from D. Jones, Director of Services, Placemaking and Physical Development

There are speed ramps in place on each approach road to the centre of Louth village, representing the current traffic calming measures within the village. Collusion data within the village centre will be reviewed, and if a collusion data cluster exists, Louth village will be placed on the list of locations to be subject to a traffic count. Analysis of any completed traffic count will determine the need or otherwise of any further traffic calming interventions.

Speaking on this item Cllr Sheridan expressed disappointment with the response to the motion, referring to a previous motion raised on the issue in 2022 and citing a number of housing estates centralised within Louth village and a high volume of bus traffic, and queried the transparency of traffic counts.

Cllr Minogue suggested that one of the two ramps in the village are too low to slow traffic and asked in the absence of other actions that this could be raised.

Cllr McGeough while supporting the motion suggested that the main concern was that speed limits were not being followed and are not being enforced by An Garda Síochána.

Minute No. 90/23

Active Travel Presentation

Noel Treanor, Senior Engineer, gave members a presentation on 4 approved Active Travel Projects for Safe Routes to School in Louth, which was well received.

A Q&A session followed.

It was noted that there were no schools in mid-Louth currently approved under the Safe Routes to School programme and there was a discussion around whether students and parents of students would avail of active travel measures if they were installed.

Minute No. 91/23

Condolences

Condolences were extended to the family and friends of Thomas Carroll who had recently passed away and whose family had experienced several deaths over the last few years

As there was no other business the meeting concluded.

The Minutes were confirmed at a meeting of the Municipal District held on:

Date:

21/11/23

Cathaoirleach:



Meeting Administrator:

