

Municipal District of Ardee – April 2022

Minutes of the Municipal District of Ardee meeting hosted in the Dermot O'Brien Room, Ardee Civic Offices, Ardee on Thursday 7th April, 2022 at 3 p.m.

In attendance:

Cathaoirleach: Councillor Jim Tenanty

Members: Councillors: Paula Butterly, Bernie Conlon, Dolores Minogue, Pearse McGeough, John Sheridan

Officials: Joe McGuinness, Director of Services
Gráinne Tuomey, Meetings Administrator
John Lawrence, Senior Executive Officer
Declan McMahon, Senior Executive Engineer
John O'Hagan, Senior Executive Engineer
Gerard McCormack, Assistant Engineer
Gerard Brennan, Executive Planner
Joanna Kelly, Senior Planner
Patricia Hughes, Acting Senior Executive Planner
Frank Magee, Senior Executive Engineer

Minute No. 29/22

Confirmation of Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 4th March 2022 were confirmed on the proposal of Cllr Bernie Conlon and seconded by Cllr Paula Butterly.

Minute No. 30/22

Matters Arising

- Footpath at Lennon's Pub to Tallansfield Manor - accident cited. Advised works are being addressed.
- Derelict buildings – planning to be requested to look at Castlebellingham again.
- Min 19/22 – Update requested on the half/open drain at Coopers Cross.

Minute No. 31/22

Housing Progress Report

Members discussed the report as circulated at the meeting by John Lawrence, Senior Executive Officer.

- A breakdown of the number of transfer applications in Mid Louth will be given to Members in the next meeting.

- The Section are in discussions with the Dept on the 'Housing for All' delivery plan which includes Affordable Housing targets.

Following a brief discussion around the legal process on Variations to the County Development Plan, it was proposed to write to the Department to move all housing delivery to Phase 1 of the County Development Plan. This was:-

Proposed by: Cllr. Dolores Minogue

Seconded by: Cllr. Paula Butterly

And agreed.

Minute No. 32/22

Standing Order 13 Order of Business Sequence

The Cathaoirleach requested that a motion submitted by Cllr. Pearse McGeough be heard under the Operations and Marine Progress Report agenda item due to relevance. In accordance with Standing Order 13, all Members were asked if they were in agreement with taking the item out of sequence and all agreed.

Minute No. 33/22

Notice of Motion

Proposed by: Cllr. Pearse McGeough

Seconded by: Cllr. John Sheridan

To avoid congestion/gridlock in Ardee, Louth County Council in conjunction with TII to install an electronic road sign south of the junction of N2 with the R169 at Collon for north bound traffic.

Vehicles that are merely passing through Ardee could be encouraged to detour by R169, enter north-bound motorway, exit at Junction 14, enter N33 and travel to N2 thus avoiding Ardee and relieving congestion at certain times of the day.

Reply from Ms. Catherine Duff, Director of Services, Operations

This will require a 9km additional journey length, will require network of permanent follow up detour signs in both northbound and southbound directions. It can be costed and considered but will require engagement with and prior approval from TII.

Speaking on this motion, Cllr. Pearse McGeough advised that the current congestion levels were detrimental to the town. Members spoke in favour of the motion.

Operations and Marine Progress Report

Members discussed the report as circulated at the meeting and Declan McMahon, Senior Executive Engineer responded on all Operations Matters.

Joe McGuinness, Director of Services advised that there was a fundamental review of Annagassan Harbour pipe/tidal works underway.

Updates were given on previously raised items. Requests for attention to new items were also raised including:

- Road safety concerns were raised, including at Annagassan Road Junction at R132 in Kilsaran. Members were advised this junction had been looked at and was considered adequate. This was disputed.
- Referring to a motion on tertiary road works brought to the council meeting, Members advised they welcomed remarks of the Chief Executive that works could be carried out in exceptional circumstances and requested works to various.
- Grant fund application has been made for maintenance of Annagassan Harbour amounting to €209k
- Footpath repairs, line painting, traffic calming, signage clearing/cleaning and installations were called for at various locations
- Reports of rats nests at bottle banks.

The following matters were noted:

- Lights at Dorians Pub a matter for Infrastructure
- Upgrade to Railway Line walkway works could possibly be raised with Oriel Wind Farm as on the route.

Minute No. 34/22

Taking in Charge

Members discussed the report as circulated at the meeting and Gerry McCormack, Assistant Engineer responded on all matters.

Minute No. 35/22

Part 8 - Ardee Bypass

Following some discussion on the item, in accordance with Section 179 (4)(c) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended), it was

Proposed by: Cllr. John Sheridan

Seconded by: Cllr. Dolores Minogue

And resolved that the proposed development may be carried out as recommended in the Chief Executive Report.

Minute No. 36/22

Part 8 – School Lane, Dunleer

Members were advised that the land was in the ownership of Louth County Council and that one unit of accommodation for disabled persons was proposed.

In accordance with Section 179 (4)(c) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended), it was

Proposed by: Cllr. Pearse McGeough

Seconded by: Cllr. John Sheridan

And resolved that the proposed development may be carried out as recommended in the Chief Executive Report.

Minute No. 37/22

Strategic Housing Development (SHD) - Bridgegate, Rathgory, Mulladrillen, Drogheda Road, Ardee, Co Louth

Members received a briefing on the SHD from Patricia Hughes, A/Senior Executive Planner and were advised that as part of the legislation members could make observations or comments either individually to An Bord Pleanála by 16th April 2022 or could raise there and Planning would note. It was:-

Proposed by: Cllr. Jim Tenanty

Seconded by: Cllr. Dolores Minogue

That sufficient provision for community services such as schools, doctors surgeries, medical centres be required to serve the development by An Bord Pleanála. This was noted by Planning.

Minute No. 38/22

Proposed Taking in Charge of Clonmore, Ardee

In accordance with S180 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) and with Section 11(1) of the Roads Act, 1993, Members were asked to consider the taking in charge of Clonmore, Ardee, to include any public open spaces, public lighting, unallocated car parks, sewers, watermains, or drains within the attendant grounds of the development and the declaration the roads within the development as Public Roads.

Approval of the taking in charge and declaration of Public Roads within the development was:-

Proposed by: Cllr. Jim Tenanty

Seconded by: Cllr. Dolores Minogue

And resolved.

Clarity on the legislation around Taking in Charge and Registration of Title once taken in charge was requested.

Minute No. 39/22

Condolences

Condolences were extended to the family and friends of all those who had died in the area.

Minute No. 40/22

Congratulations

Congratulations were offered to the Louth Team for winning Division 3 and those who organised and took part in the St. Patricks Day Parade

Any Other Business

The housing and emergency accommodation efforts for Ukrainian Refugees was discussed. It was suggested that St. Brigid's Hospital might be suitable.

It was noted that the German Ambassador was visiting Dunleer on Thursday and Members were invited to attend.

There being no other business, the meeting concluded.

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

Date:

5-15-2022.

Cathaoirleach:

[Signature]

Meeting Administrator:

[Signature]