

Municipal District of Ardee – January 2021

Minutes of the Municipal District of Ardee meeting hosted in The Council Chamber County Hall, Dundalk on Thursday 14th January at 4.30 p.m. and attended remotely over MS Teams.

In attendance:

Cathaoirleach: Councillor John Sheridan (present in Chamber)

Members: Councillors: H. Conlon, D. Minogue, P. McGeough, J. Tenanty (attending remotely over MS Teams)

Officials: Paddy Donnelly, Director of Services
Joe McGuinness, Director of Services
Gráinne Tuomey, Meetings Administrator (present in Chamber)
John Lawrence, Senior Executive Officer
Declan McMahon, Senior Executive Engineer
Mark Bagnell, Head of Information Systems (present in Chamber)

Minute No. 1/21

Confirmation of Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 3rd December 2020 were confirmed on the proposal of Cllr. D. Minogue and seconded by Cllr. P. McGeough

Minute No. 2/21

Matters Arising

- Cllr. D. Minogue advised that Members were emailing regarding a commemoration for the late Liam Reilly, Singer/Songwriter with Bagatelle, which she was in favour of, however locally in Ardee there is a call for commemoration of the late Dermot O'Brien and she requested that both items be raised at the next CPG.
- Cllr. H. Conlon referred to items raised on the operations tracker regarding the Town Wall and reference to a Ministerial Order being broken.
- Further reference was made to details on tracker on reassignment of funds for bollards.

Joe McGuinness, Director of Services advised that the tracker should not be used to comment on motions or items in agenda, that the status of the wall was that a tendering process received no candidates qualified in conservation construction and that a new tendering process for repairs has commenced. A Motion could be raised on this item in the next meeting.

Minute No.3/21

Housing Progress Report

Members discussed the report as circulated at the meeting and the following points were noted:

- Completion of 17 Units at Fr. Finn estate was designated as Critical Construction and delivery of units was on schedule for 28th February.
- Processing of HAP applications were not subject to delay as all housing staff are working from home where possible.
- A query on heating problems raised at the Women's Refuge was a matter for the operator of the Refuge.
- Planned construction of further units in Clonmore is delayed due to Covid.
- No proactive maintenance programme is in place, reactive maintenance is being done.
- Vacant OPDs at Dunleer are on Work Programme for restoration.

Members commended the great work done by Housing Staff. Paddy Donnelly, Director of Services advised Members on all items and said he would relay the praise to staff members.

Minute No. 4/21

Operations and Marine Progress Report

Members discussed the report as circulated at the meeting and the following points were highlighted as outstanding:

- The following junctions were highlighted as problematic:
 - Kells/Drogheda Rd Junction at Collon
 - Slán's, Annagassan
 - Dillonstown Church Cross very slippery
- Speed Safety issues:
 - A request for a speed review by TII was made and further to this a speed van was requested to deter speeding on the N2 at Collon
 - The N52 at Lambtown to Maplestown had a double white line replaced with single line, request was made to revert this back due to danger of overtaking
 - A clean up of mud on road needed following works at Salterstown
- The issue of illegal dumping was highlighted at various locations including at the Bottle banks in Ardee & other locations. A conversation took place around national issues on use of CCTV from GDPR. Members requested publication of enforcement actions as deterrent.
- Pothole repairs requested at various locations including
 - On the entire road from the turn on the Kells Road from Ardee to Silverhill
 - On old Coach Road, South of Dunleer
 - At Church Road
 - Fieldstown Road – residents filled themselves

- Footpath repairs required in various locations including
 - St. Brigids Terrace & Ardee Rd Dunleer
- An overview on the process for application for parklets was sought

Members expressed disappointment with allocation of €376,000 for town and village funding and compared it with the allocation received in the Cavan Monaghan region. Paddy Donnelly, Director of Service for Community, advised that 10 projects had been submitted for the Town and Village Fund, four of which were successful but these were continuation projects to existing schemes. The format of submitted unsuccessful applications process was being reviewed.

Declan McMahon, Senior Executive Engineer responded on all Operations Matters.

Minute No. 5/21

Infrastructure Report

Members discussed the report as circulated at the meeting and requested updates on the following items:

- Resurfacing of N33 and status of TII funding application
- N23 Junction to Slane - Castleguard Road request made for left turn only signage
- Ardee Bypass works

John O'Hagan, Senior Engineer responded on all matters raised.

Minute No. 6/21

Taking in Charge Report

Members thanked officials for work to date on Cherrywood and requested updates on the following estates:

- Beechgrove, Castlebellingham
- Mullary Manor, Tinure
- Rockfield, Ardee
- Woodlands & The Orchards, Dunleer

James Searson, Assistant Engineer updated Members on all queries raised.

Minute No. 7/21

Dublin/Belfast Economic Corridor

Cllr. H. Conlon was nominated by Cllr J. Tenanty and seconded by Cllr P. McGeough to the governance/oversight committee of the Dublin/Belfast Economic Corridor, there were no objections

to this nomination. Cllr. H. Conlon thanked members for the nomination and highlighted some key priorities he hoped to bring to the group for consideration.

Minute No. 8/21

Notice of Intention to Review the School Periodic Bye-Laws

John O'Hagan, Senior Engineer advised members of a delay to bye-laws due to Covid restricting plans to put on public display.

Minute No. 9/21

Notice of Motion

Proposed by: Cllr. Dolores Minogue

Seconded by: Cllr. Jim Tenanty

“Following the great work done to roads by LCC at Cherrybrook Ardee, that this council provide funding ASAP to upgrade footpaths in same estate especially footpaths on the left hand side leaving the estate.”

Reply from Ms. C. Duff, Director of Services, Operations:

There is no funding stream currently due to the large number of estates on the taken in charge list that currently require works.

The members noted the reply.

Minute No. 10/21

Notice of Motion

Proposed by: Cllr. Dolores Minogue

Seconded by: Cllr. Pearse McGeough

“That a survey to be carried out on footpaths in Dunleer and Collon and upgrade where needed and timeframe for this survey.”

Reply from Ms. C. Duff, Director of Services, Operations:

A section of 50m footpath in St Bridgid Tce, and 150m on Barn Road Dunleer is planned for 2021. There is no funding stream currently to fund additional works at these locations. The area engineer will confirm if there are any hotspots and should funding come available these would be prioritized.

The members noted the reply.

Minute No. 11/21

Notice of Motion

Proposed by: Cllr. Jim Tenanty

Seconded by: Cllr. Dolores Minogue

Motion: Cllr. Jim Tenanty

“That this council request the urgent upgrade of our pedestrian crossings as part of the announcement of funding in December as they have become dangerous as a result of the replacement of the street lighting to LED.”

Reply from Mr. F. Pentony, Director of Services, Planning, Infrastructure and Economic Development:

In relation to the Pedestrian Crossing a “Feasibility and Options Report” was prepared in accordance with the TII Guidance notes under the HD17 schemes, including a Road Safety Audit and a request for funding was submitted to TII safety Section in August 2020. We await confirmation from TII that this funding request will form part of the allocations under HD17 for 2021. In relation to the TII LED replacement funding the Public Lighting was installed at the end of October which are compliant to lighting standards.

Cllr. J. Tenanty expressed dissatisfaction with response to the motion and advised that there is urgency to this matter due to the danger to life and limb. Members agreed and highlighted areas that require review including possible relocation of the pedestrian crossing at Castle Street Junction which was cited as being too near the turn.

Minute No. 12/21

Sympathies

Sympathy was extended to:

- The family and friends of Mr. Lanney, Super Valu, Ardee who was very involved in community work.
- All those affected by the Mother and Baby report. Members acknowledged the apology given by Government but expressed hope that this was just the first step towards restitution.
- The families and friends of all those deceased from Covid.

Minute No. 13/21

Congratulations

Congratulations were extended to

- Council staff on excellent work on footpaths during recent icy weather
- All council staff working remotely and maintaining services

There being no other business, the meeting concluded.

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

Date:

Cathaoirleach:

Meeting Administrator:
