

Municipal District of Ardee – March 2021

Minutes of the Municipal District of Ardee meeting hosted in The Council Chamber, County Hall, Dundalk on Thursday 4th March at 4.30 p.m. and attended remotely over MS Teams.

In attendance:

Cathaoirleach: Councillor John Sheridan (Present in Chamber)

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

Officials: Joe McGuinness, Director of Services (Present in Chamber)
Gráinne Tuomey, Meetings Administrator (Present in Chamber)
John Lawrence, Senior Executive Officer (Remote)
Declan McMahon, Senior Executive Engineer (Remote)
John O'Hagan, Senior Engineer (Remote)
Brendan McSherry, Heritage Officer (Remote)
David Hanratty, Senior Engineer (Remote)
Mark Bagnell, Head of Information Systems (Present in Chamber)
Emma Eaton, Staff Officer Corporate Services (Present in Chamber)

Minute No. 22/21

Confirmation of Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 4th February were confirmed on the proposal of Cllr. J. Tenanty and seconded by Cllr. P. McGeough.

Minute No. 23/21

Confirmation of Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 18th February were confirmed on the proposal of Cllr. P. Butterly and seconded by Cllr. H. Conlon.

Minute No. 24/21

Matters Arising

No matters concerning the accuracy of previous minutes were raised.

Minute No. 25/21

Suspension of Standing Orders

A motion to Suspend Standing Order No. 20 to receive an update on the urgent matter of the Old Town Wall, Cappocksgate and other associated conservation works from Brendan McSherry was tabled.

A roll call vote saw all members in favour of suspension of standing orders.

Brendan McSherry, Heritage Officer updated Members and answered all queries raised on Old Town Wall and Cappocksgate. It was agreed that ideally an itinerary of all Ardee MD

Structures and system of inspections was needed to establish a preventative maintenance schedule. However it was not agreed how this could be established.

Minute No. 26/21

Suspension of Standing Orders

A motion to Suspend Standing Order No. 20 in order to discuss the urgent business of the closure of Dunleer branch of Bank of Ireland, along with other Bank of Ireland branches was tabled.

A roll call vote saw all members in favour of suspension of standing orders.

Members discussed this matter extensively and the following actions were agreed:

- A letter to issue from the Meeting Administrator to the Minister of Finance on behalf of Members requesting the Minister to intervene on the matter, and publicly call on Bank of Ireland to reverse the decision, and to detail the disappointment given the history of the Irish tax payer bailing out Bank of Ireland when it was required to the tune of over €4.5bn and the 14 percent shareholding the Irish state continues to hold in the bank. Further wording to be drafted by Chair and forwarded.
- Members to request Zoom meeting on matter with Bank of Ireland County Manager with local TD's and Senators and CE to be invited if she wished to attend.

Minute No. 27/21

Nomination of Member to Association of Irish Local Government

Members discussed the legality of proposing the nomination for this group at Municipal District level, as it had been initially tabled at the Council Meeting. It was suggested that as each of the three Municipal Districts were represented that it should fall to each MD to nominate and the Council to ratify. Following discussion, the Cathaoirleach proposed that as there was no clear written direction on this that it should be referred to full council meeting to nominate an Ardee MD candidate. This was seconded by Cllr Tenanty, and resolved.

Minute No. 28/21

Housing Progress Report

Members discussed the report as circulated at the meeting. John Lawrence, Senior Executive Officer advised Members on all items and noted the following to revert back on:

- Whether tenants could contribute towards maintenance through additional rents

Minute No. 29/21

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 with Joe McGuinness, Director of Service responding also on some matters. The following matters were noted:

- Members were requested to refer all reps to Sugar system for proper tracking
- Members had not received maps of area in order to log calls on Sugar
- Slán's Annagassan to be referred to appropriate engineer for review
- Disabled parking bay in Dunleer has restricted passenger access
- Repairs to Dromin Graveyard wall which is not vested in LCC will be considered
- Gallstown Road to be assessed for markings and gullies

Minute No. 30/21

Infrastructure Report

Members discussed the report as circulated at the meeting.

John O'Hagan, Senior Engineer, Infrastructure provided an update on the following items:

- Ardee Pedestrian Crossing Funding
- Ardee Bypass
- Ardee 2040 Project
- NTA expected funding on cycle lanes and Footpaths

And responded on all matters raised.

The following items were noted for consideration:

- Request for possible provision of a Park and Ride facility on the N2

Minute No. 31/21

Climate Action Video

The Cathaoirleach noting the time remaining in the meeting under Standing Orders and the length of the Climate Action Video requested that this be referred to the next MD meeting.

Minute No. 32/21

Notice of Motion

Motion: Cllr. John Sheridan
Seconded by: Cllr. Jim Tenanty

"That Councillors receive an update on the proposed footpath, pedestrian crossing and traffic calming measures in Annagassan village that was planned and put on public display in May 2019."

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

The tenders for Phase I of Annagassan Town & Village renewal were returned to LCC on December 23rd 2020. 4 contractors responded to the online procurement process by LCC.

The tenders were examined and there is a funding shortfall between the allocated grant and the most economically advantageous tender submitted. Options for delivering the proposals or additional funding for the project are being examined and the contractor will be appointed in due course.

That Councillors receive an update on the proposed footpath, pedestrian crossing and traffic calming measures in Annagassan village that was planned and put on public display in May 2019.

Minute No. 33/21

Notice of Motion

Motion: Cllr. Pearse McGeough
Seconded by: Cllr. John Sheridan

“That Louth County Council take in charge the lane running at north end of Killanny Graveyard. To access the five houses and one business on this lane that are in County Louth you have to traverse 50 yards in Co Monaghan.”

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

The road in question begins in and transverses approx. 155m in Co. Monaghan before entering Co. Louth. The section of road in Co. Louth is under the control of Louth County Council and has a road number of L-11531-0. The question of taking in charge this section does not arise as it is already a public road.

That Louth County Council take in charge the lane running at north end of Killanny Graveyard. To access the five houses and one business on this lane that are in County Louth you have to traverse 50 yards in Co Monaghan.

J. McGuinness sought clarification on this motion and it was noted that the motion tabled was not intended to be a taking in charge item but a request for Louth County Council to take over full maintenance of the road by agreement of Monaghan County Council. He advised he would investigate this item and revert back to Members at the next meeting.

Minute No. 34/21

AOB

The Cathaoirleach, John Sheridan asked if there was any update to the list of items discussed in committee for funding under the MD allocations, and Members agreed to reconvene when those became available.

There being no other business, the meeting concluded.

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

Date: _____

Cathaoirleach: _____

Meeting Administrator: _____