

## Municipal District of Ardee - May 2022

Minutes of the Municipal District of Ardee meeting hosted in the Dermot O'Brien Room, Ardee Civic Offices, Ardee on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2022 at 4.30 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  
Brona O'Reilly, Administrative Officer  
Declan McMahon, Senior Executive Engineer  
Willie Walsh, Senior Executive Officer  
Aoife Lawler, Senior Executive Officer  
Terry Hamilton, Public Realm Officer  
Joanna Kelly, Senior Planner

### Minute No. 41/22

### Motion for Purpose of Dealing with Urgent Business

In accordance with Standing Order 20, the Cathaoirleach advised Members of a request received to deal with urgent business relating to 'constituent concern on the surge in robberies in the area', and that a vote was required. It was suggested that if the vote was passed that this matter be heard after statutory business.

A roll call vote was held as follows:

Councillor	For	Against	Abstain
Paula Butterly	1		
Bernie Conlon	1		
Pearse McGeough	1		
Dolores Minogue	1		
John Sheridan	1		
Jim Tenanty			1
<b>Total Votes</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>

And the motion was agreed.

## **Minute No. 42/22**

### **Confirmation of Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> April 2022 were confirmed on the proposal of Cllr. Dolores Minogue and seconded by Cllr. Pearse McGeough.

## **Minute No. 43/22**

### **Matters Arising**

- Footpath at Lennon's Pub to Tallansfield Manor. Advised works are being addressed.
- Update given on motion raised by Cllr McGeough at April meeting was that TII had been contacted by the operations department, but no reply had been received to date. Members were then given details of traffic data at Hunterstown from the TII website which raised queries on traffic calming at the GAA club and environs. Following a discussion, it was agreed to refer this to the Director of Services for Operations.

## **Minute No. 44/22**

### **Housing Progress Report**

Members discussed the report as circulated at the meeting, and Brona O'Reilly, Administrative Officer answered queries raised:

- An update on Energy Efficiency measures will issue to Councillors
- It is hoped to accommodate 30 transfer applications this year, with a focus on disability / overcrowding. Matching transfer needs with suitable properties was problematic. Where downsizing requests were made, matching locations of smaller properties was an issue.
- An update would issue on housing Ukrainians in the area soon.

## **Minute No. 45/22**

### **Operations and Marine Progress Report**

Members were requested to limit the issues raised under this item and reminded of the reporting procedure over the Sugar call management system by emailing to [electdreprs@louthcoco.ie](mailto:electdreprs@louthcoco.ie)

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

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

- A brief overview of road opening licence procedures was given to Members
- CIS funding of tertiary roads was discussed, and Members were advised that only those who had submitted a valid CIS application would qualify for consideration of interim works in exceptional circumstances pre any full approval
- Road safety concerns were raised, including again at Annagassan Road Junction at R132 in Kilsaran. Members were again advised this junction had been looked at and was considered adequate. This was again disputed.
- A report on grass cutting was requested for all villages any any estates. A comment was made that CE schemes will no longer be allowed to cut grass in estates which will affect several estates in the Ardee area.
- Steep embankment drop on each side of road at Ardee Celtic on the Bog Road at Townspark was raised as an item of concern.

The following matters were noted:

- Derelict sites update forthcoming from planning enforcement, draft was prepared
- Ardee Pedestrian Crossing update to be raised at next Infrastructure meeting attendance

### **Minute No. 46/22**

#### **Litter and Bring Banks**

Members discussed the report as circulated at the meeting and Willie Walsh, Senior Executive Officer responded on all Matters.

Discussions took place around:

- The difficulties in enforcing fines on dog fouling
- A query on the possibility of door-to-door glass collection
- The successful campaign of allowing dog owners put foul bags in ordinary bins
- Solar bins and possible further provision
- The replacement of bottlebanks in the Philipstown area

An item was raised on works required to a foot bridge in the town which had been funded by Leader and installed by the Tidy Towns, but which may have been subsequently taken in charge by the Council. The structural safety and replacement of boards was queried.

## Minute No. 47/22

### Part 8 - Ardee Castle

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. Dolores Minogue

**Seconded by:** Cllr. Pearse McGeough

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

## Minute No. 48/22

### Urgent Business Item Heard

Following earlier vote, the motion of Cllr. Paula Butterly was now heard as follows:

*'In light of the recent robberies which apparently seem to be on the increase and the heightened tension and fear within the communities both rural and villages, I propose a discussion is held with a view to writing to the Garda Commissioner for Louth requesting that in advance of the JPC meeting in May that a fully prepared answer is presented to the Ardee Municipal Councillors on how we can work together to allay fears and prevent crime in addition to requesting to additional resources, such as extra patrol cars.'*

Members engaged in a discussion on this item, with all supporting finding a solution on tackling rural crime. It was suggested that this might be brought up at Ardee JPC on Thursday at 4p.m.

## Minute No. 49/22

### Condolences

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

## Minute No. 50/22

### Proposal to Suspend Standing Orders and Resolution to meet in committee

It was proposed by Cllr. Jim Tenanty and seconded by Cllr. Dolores Minogue to hold the remainder of meeting 'in committee', as provided under Standing Order Number, 50, to discuss Ardee Municipal Discretionary Budget

As all members were in agreement, the proposal to suspend standing orders was resolved.

There being no other business, the meeting concluded.

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

**Date:**

2 June 2022

**Cathaoirleach:**

Paula Buttaly

**Meeting Administrator:**

Aisling