

Minutes of the Meeting of the Municipal District of Ardee held in the Mid Louth Civic Services Centre, Ardee on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2014

**In attendance:**

**Cathaoirleach:** Cllr. J. Tenanty

**Members:** Councillors: T. Cunningham, C. Markey, P. McGeough, D. Minogue, L. Reilly

**Officials:** Joe McGuinness, Director of Services  
G. Kelly, Senior Engineer  
P. Donnelly, Meetings Administrator

**Apologies:**

**Minute No. 25/14**

**Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> September 2014 were confirmed on the proposal of Cllr. D. Minogue and seconded by Cllr. T. Cunningham.

**Minute No. 26/14**

**Matters Arising**

Cllr. P. McGeough sought clarification in regard to the ownership of graveyards, and was advised by Mr. P. Donnelly that the list as circulated was correct and ownership was as set out in the document provided at the September meeting.

The Councillor also sought clarification in relation to the road closure notice issued in respect of Station Rd., Castlebellingham. Mr. Gerry Kelly, Senior Engineer, advised the members that road closure notices were published for longer than anticipated in order to account for any unforeseen challenge that may arise, including weather or difficulties with the work programme.

The Cathaoirleach raised the matter of the delegation from Louth Village, and clarified for the members that he had sought to meet these individuals and the matter pertained to road safety in the village. He proposed that the group now be taken at the meeting; this was seconded by Cllr. McGeough and agreed by all.

**Minute No. 27/14**

**Delegation from Louth Village**

Four members of a delegation from Louth Village, Mr. Ronnie McArdle, Mr. Brian Murphy, Mr. Brendan Finnegan and Mr. Peter Lennon, were facilitated at the meeting.

Mr. Ronnie McArdle circulated a map of Louth Village upon which was indicated a number of pedestrian crossings and traffic control measures that the group were proposing for the village of Louth. Mr. McArdle and his colleagues went on to set out the reasoning for the traffic calming measures and the installation of a number of bollards in order to ensure appropriate parking, particularly for those who would be attending the new playground currently under construction in the village centre. Mr. McArdle outlined that it was the group's intention to direct people towards the car park opposite the Church, beside the Credit Union, and using a pedestrian crossing, cross to the wider footpath that serves the centre of the village. The group addressed the members queries in relation to same.

The Cathaoirleach thanked the group for their presentation and the detail they had gone to present their wishes for the village, which he agreed were set out in an aesthetically pleasing fashion. The members would further consider the submission and would be in contact with the group at a later stage. The delegation departed.

The Senior Engineer, Mr. Gerry Kelly, agreed to forward the proposals to the Infrastructure section to have the matters costed, and to confirm that the design was in accordance with best practice and the roads design manuals. The Senior Engineer also pointed out to members that while the case presented was laudable, there were limited resources for such projects, and that as the closing date for the current low cost safety measures was next week this would not be eligible to be considered for the current year's budget and would if agreed, be going forward at a future year. Otherwise it would be required to provide funding from our own resources. Mr. Kelly agreed to revert to the members in regard to the matter at a future meeting.

**Minute No. 28/14**

**To agree a date for the Municipal District Budgetary Plan**

The members agreed that they would meet on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> October at 5.00pm in the Mid Louth Civic Services Centre to consider the budgetary plan.

**Minute No. 29/14**

**Louth Heritage Forum**

The matter was to consider and agree a representative from the Municipal District of Ardee to sit on the Louth Heritage Forum. Members were in agreement that the

Cathaoirleach, Cllr. Jim Tenanty, should be the Mid Louth representative on the Forum.

**Minute No. 30/14**

**Housing & Communities Progress Report**

Mr. Joe McGuinness, Director of Services, presented the report that had been circulated with the Agenda and outlined to the members the change in structure of the report. He advised the members that he would anticipate that the majority of key issues could be dealt with at the Municipal District, rather than having to review the matter again at the Council Meeting which would not be appropriate. Members queries in relation to the report were addressed by the Director of Services.

It was also pointed out to the members that the Housing Assistance Payment (HAP) would, from 1<sup>st</sup> October, be dealt with by the Local Authorities. This was a significant change in the way that this matter was being dealt with and would have a significant impact for those now presenting to be included on the Housing List. The Director confirmed that the Corporate Policy Group would be advised of this at their meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> October, and he expected that the matter would come before council at the October meeting.

The Cathaoirleach, Cllr. Jim Tenanty, welcomed this and said he would be proposing at Corporate Policy Group that the matter come before the full council for in-depth briefing in relation to this significant change.

**Minute No. 31/14**

**Operations, Marine & Infrastructure Progress Report**

Mr. Gerry Kelly presented the Operations, Marine & Infrastructure Progress Report and pointed out to the members that the report was in two parts, Operations and Infrastructure. He confirmed that he had responsibility for Operations and would be happy to address all queries in relation to Operations. In regard to Infrastructure, he would address the matters as far as possible, other issues may have to be reverted on following discussion with staff in the Infrastructure department.

Mr. Kelly addressed the members queries, and confirmed to Cllr. Cunningham that funding had been made available to change the lighting at Clogherhead Pier. There was a discussion around proposed alterations to the pier to protect it from the vessels using same.

Cllr. McGeough raised concerns about the work carried out at Annagassan Harbour in relation to the silting. Mr. Kelly confirmed that the works done had been in line with the funding that had been provided for same.

**Minute No. 32/14**

**Notices of Question**

The following question and response was noted by the members.

**Proposed by Cllr. Jim Tenanty**

*“What is the latest update on plans to renovate and/or improve Ardee Castle?”*

**Reply**

**Louth County Council have commissioned Fingal County Council to project manage the re-development of Ardee Castle. This work is progressing and significant progress has been made with regard to overcoming some design obstacles. A matter that has been highlighted is the need to develop an associated business plan and over the coming months there will be consultation with relevant stakeholders in this regard. In the interim work will continue to bring matters to the Part 8 process.**

There being no other business the meeting concluded.

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

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Cathaoirleach: \_\_\_\_\_

Meetings Administrator: \_\_\_\_\_