

Municipal District of Ardee - October 2021

Minutes of the Municipal District of Ardee meeting hosted in Ardee Courthouse on Thursday 7th October at 4.30 p.m.

In attendance:

Cathaoirleach: Councillor J. Tenanty

Members: Councillors: P. Butterly, B. Conlon, D. Minogue, P. McGeough, J. Sheridan

Officials: Bryan Coughlan, Acting Director of Services for Joe McGuinness
Gráinne Tuomey, Meetings Administrator
John Lawrence, Senior Executive Officer
Declan McMahon, Senior Executive Engineer
Gerry McCormack, Assistant Engineer

Minute No. 91/21

Cllr. J. Tenanty opened the meeting and all Members took the opportunity to welcome Cllr. Bernie Conlon to her first Municipal District Meeting. Cllr. Bernie Conlon thanked Members for the kind words about Hugh at the last meeting and looked forward to working with everyone in the Municipal District.

Minute No. 92/21

Confirmation of Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 2nd September were confirmed on the proposal of Cllr. J. Sheridan and seconded by Cllr. D. Minogue.

Minute No. 93/21

Matters Arising

- Councillors requested a briefing on Flood Relief for the area.
- Members advised reps had been received from private business owners who had been instructed to obtain planning permission on own lands to install parklet type outdoor dining. Members felt this went against national promotion of outdoor dining and was unfair as others had got parklets on public lands.
- Councillors advised they awaited responses from sections on Sugar
- Members thanked officials for thumb lock and CCTV installations and were advised that contractors for these had been procured through a tender process.

Minute No. 94/21

Housing Progress Report

Members discussed the report as circulated at the meeting and Paddy Donnelly, Director of Services advised Members on all items

The following highlighted issues were clarified:

- Clonmore units had been advertised on Choice Based Letting within the last week. Expected delivery in November
- Delay in obtaining birth certificates will not result in penalisation of overcrowding applications.
- Vacant Property Scheme and Retrofit scheme two main schemes to assist vacant properties to be brought back into use.

Minute No. 95/21

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.

The following matters were noted:

- Funding request for 18 CIS applications gone to the Department
- Installation of road delineators in Castlebellingham praised, however two have been stolen and one damaged since installation
- New Casual Trading Byelaws are being drafted by Willie Walsh, Senior Executive Officer and are an agenda item with SPC
- Request made for a Village Health Check in Castlebellingham
- Request for funding for statue for Dermot O'Brien and/or guidance from officials. It was suggested a sub-committee be formed with each Member of the MD on it
- Over 100 items on the traffic calming/road safety scheme list, only €300,000 funds available

Minute No. 96/21

Allocation of Municipal Budget

Members had previously agreed to allocate €20,000 towards the purchase of an electric road sweeper for the Municipal District. While trying to obtain this machine and encountering difficulty, Operations discovered that a higher spec closed cabin articulated low emission petrol sweeper was available for €25,000 and Members were asked to consider taking this machine with the extra €5,000 funds being provided by Operations. Following discussion on this item each member agreed to do this and the decision was resolved.

Minute No. 97/21

Taking in Charge Report

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

Among the Estates raised, Members were given following updates:

- The Cornmill, Ardee - money recouped from Irish Water, contractor being engaged
- Oriel Heights, Collon - developer given deadline to end of October to commence works
- Knockfergus, Louth and Woodlands, Dunleer - water pressure issues - almost resolved

Minute No. 98/21

Notice of Motion

Proposed by: Cllr. J. Tenanty

Seconded by: Cllr. J. Sheridan

“I am asking this municipal to support my motion to invite Minister for Transport Eamon Ryan to Ardee, to see for himself the traffic mayhem, destruction, defacement of our buildings, businesses and the well-being and health of our elderly residents not to mention the pollution caused by constant traffic jams. We need our N52 bypass to proceed without any more delay or fault finding to the process.”

Reply:

This is a matter for the Members.

Cllr. D. Minogue proposed an amendment to this motion to withhold invite to Minister until after permissions had been granted by An Bord Pleanála. Following some discussion Cllr. D. Minogue withdrew her amendment.

A subsequent amendment was:

Proposed by: Cllr. John Sheridan

Seconded by: Cllr. Jim Tenanty

As follows:

“That we would write to Minister Eamon Ryan thanking him for his public commitment and support for the Ardee N52 bypass in the National Development plan and in his recent media appearances. And to invite the Minister to Ardee whenever he feels it appropriate to do so.”

And Resolved.

Minute No. 99/21

Condolences

Members extended sympathy to the family and friends of:

- Eileen Rushe, who campaigned vigorously for women to get the HPV vaccine
- George Connolly Journalist and Local Historian
- All those who had passed due to COVID 19.

Minute No. 100/21

AOB

The Cathaoirleach advised Members that it was intended to hold a Civic Reception in December before the December meeting, that Members could put forward 2 nominations each to the Director, Cathaoirleach and Meetings Administrator for review at November meeting. The reception would also cater for those nominated in 2020 when events could not take place. Family members could be invited for any posthumous awards.

A request was made to ensure Covid compliance and protocols and it was suggested that the presentations might be held outside on an in and out basis.

There being no other business, the meeting concluded.

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

Date: _____

Cathaoirleach: _____

Meeting Administrator: _____