

Municipal District of Ardee – September 2016

Minutes of Municipal District of Ardee meeting held in the Mid Louth Civic Services Centre, Ardee on Thursday, 1st September, 2016 at 5.30 p.m.

In attendance:

Cathaoirleach: Councillor D. Minogue

Members: Councillors: T. Cunningham, P. McGeough, J. Tenanty, C. Markey & L. Reilly

Officials: Alan Sherry, Meetings Administrator
Martina Sheeran, A/Senior Engineer
Fiona Downes, Administrative Officer

Apologies: Joe McGuinness, Director of Services.

Minute No. 60/16

Votes of Sympathy

Votes of sympathy were extended to the family and friends of Craig Byrne, Liam Staunton, Tom Higgins and the victims of the recent earthquake in Italy.

Minute No. 61/16

Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 7th July, 2016, were confirmed on the proposal of Cllr. T. Cunningham and seconded by Cllr. P. McGeough.

Minute No.62/16

Matters Arising

- Cllr. P. McGeough highlighted the poor condition of the verge approaching Drumcar Bridge, coming from Dorian's Pub direction, for attention.

Minute No.63/16

Housing and Communities Progress Report

As the Director of Housing was delayed at another appointment this matter was moved to the end of the agenda and when he had not arrived when the meeting concluded it

was agreed that any queries in relation to the report could be raised by the members at the next meeting.

Minute No 64/16

Operations, Marine and Infrastructure Report

Members discussed the report circulated with the Agenda and the following issues were raised:

- It was agreed to carry out further hedge trimming at the De La Salle School as the foliage is obscuring the public lighting.
- It was also agreed to carrying out trimming works at Lamb's Terrace and Townspark, Ardee.
- The need to investigate the necessity for traffic calming measures at the Gort Nua housing estate was accepted.

Minute No.65/16

Notice of Motion

Proposed by Cllr. D. Minogue

Seconded by Cllr. C. Markey

"I call for a meeting between the TII, Louth CC and the members of this municipal district to discuss the Ardee bypass and how it can be progressed and to find out what stage it is at."

REPLY:

This is a matter for the member. Preliminary design and land acquisition for the proposed by pass has been completed but due to lack of funding the Council is unable to proceed with the construction of the road.

The Cathaoirleach, Cllr. Minogue undertook to contact Transport Infrastructure Ireland to request a meeting.

Minute No.66/16

Notice of Motion

Proposed by Cllr. D. Minogue

Seconded by Cllr. L. Reilly

"I call on Louth CC to seek funding under the recently announced €10m towns and villages renewal scheme for the re-opening of the public toilets in Dunleer"

REPLY:

Louth County Council maintains public conveniences in the county at locations of tourist activity and of significant urban commercial/shopping activity characterised by a notable transient footfall.

Such facilities are the subject of significant ongoing vandalism and abuse, and require ongoing expenditure for maintenance and repair (including the hiring of caretakers).

There were public toilets in Dunleer, but these were closed some 10 years ago. While Dunleer is one of the county's successful smaller urban areas, it does not attract a very high transient footfall from visitors to the village and consequently there is not as high a demand for public toilets as elsewhere in the County.

Accordingly, it is the view of the council that the demand for the facility is not sufficient to justify the resources and budget to cover the ongoing expenditure that the facility would require.

Several points were raised including the lack of a provision for their maintenance in the current budget, the willingness of the local tidy towns committee to maintain the toilets for a small fee and whether the toilets would fulfil the criteria for the scheme, which also requires match funding of 15%. The assertion of low footfall was also questioned.

Minute No.67/16

Any other Business

- Gerry Kelly, Senior Engineer was wished well on his retirement
- Fiona Downes was thanked for her service to the committee
- The need for traffic management measures at the Educate Together school was highlighted
- The issue of fireworks at Halloween was raised and it was agreed that this was a matter for the Joint Policing Committee.

There being no other business, the meeting concluded.

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

Date: _____

Cathaoirleach: _____

Meeting Administrator: _____