

Municipal District of Dundalk – October 2016

Minutes of the Meeting of the Municipal District of Dundalk held in the Town Hall, Dundalk on Tuesday, 4th October, 2016 at 5.15 p.m.

In attendance:

Cathaoirleach: Councillor Mark Dearey

Members: Councillors: M. Butler, E. Coffey, E. Corrigan, M. Doyle, J. Green, C. Keelan, K. Meenan, P. Savage & M. Yore

Officials: Frank Pentony, Director of Services
Martina Sheeran, A/Senior Engineer
Pat Finn, Senior Engineer
Aoife Lawler, Senior Executive Officer
Alan Sherry, Meetings Administrator

Apologies: Cllr. J. Loughran & J. McGahon

Minute No.96/16

Minutes

Minute No. 89/16 was amended as follows:

- A Brexit working group will be established jointly by Newry and Mourne District Council and Louth County Council. The members will be kept informed of progress in relation to this matter.

Is deleted and replaced with:

- A strategic assessment in relation to Brexit will be undertaken by Newry and Mourne District Council and Louth County Council. The members will be kept informed of progress in relation to this matter.

The amended minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday, 6th September 2016 were confirmed on the proposal of Cllr. M. Doyle and seconded by Cllr. M. Yore.

Minute No. 97/16

Matters Arising

It was agreed that members should be brought on a visit to the former landfill site at Newry Road and that information in relation to the levels of gas being produced on the site be provided. Members were advised that plans and specifications would have to be prepared before contacting the EPA in relation to any proposal for the redevelopment of the site.

It was agreed that the members would be updated in relation to the design proposal for the Castle Heights/Marion Road illegal right of way at the next meeting.

Minute No. 98/16

Housing and Communities Report

Members discussed the report as circulated at the meeting and the following points were addressed:

- Members were advised that they would be provided with a breakdown of the applicants who were being removed from the housing list as a result of the HNA when that information is available.
- Members were advised that a presentation would be made to them in relation to the redevelopment of Cox's Demesne when the design team is put in place.
- It was suggested that members should visit some council houses that have been handed back to the Council in order to have a greater understanding of the level of work required to bring them to tenable condition.
- Members were assured that housing applicants or tenants would not be negatively affected by the recent postal delivery problems.
- Member were informed that HAP tenants would be included on the transfer list and not the housing list in future and HAP tenants who had not expressed a desire to be on the transfer list were being contacted to check this was their intention.

Minute No. 99/16

Infrastructure, Operations & Marine Progress Report

Members discussed the report as circulated at the meeting and the following points were addressed:

- Members were informed that the tender process for the appointment of consultants for the European Regional Development Fund application should take place by the end of October.
- It was agreed to provide members with details of the green areas where grass is cut/maintained by the Council.

- It was agreed to monitor the effectiveness of the street sweeping in the town centre.
- It was agreed to provide a written report to the members in relation to changing the priority at the Red Cow junction.
- The Council was requested to provide a copy of the feasibility study carried out in the 1990s in relation to the proposed Castletown River Weir.
- It was agreed that pedestrian demand would be examined and options considered in relation to road safety measures on the Castletown Road/Bridge Street junction.

Minute No. 100/16

Appointment of Vice Chairperson for Joint Policing Committee

The members reported that Cllr. McGahon had been elected to the position of Vice Chairperson of the committee at one of its meetings earlier in the year.

Minute No. 101/16

County Awards Event

Following a discussion it was proposed by Cllr. M. Yore, seconded by Cllr. M. Doyle and agreed by the members that the holding of a county-wide civic awards ceremony be progressed as a matter of urgency. The Cathaoirleach agreed to raise the issue at the next Corporate Policy Group meeting.

Minute No. 102/16

Notice of Motion:

Proposed by: Cllr. M. Dearey

Seconded by: Cllr. M. Butler

"That Louth County Council engage with the National Monument Service to nominate the grave of Edward Bruce in Faughart Graveyard and any structures on the adjacent Battle of Faughart or Battle of Dundalk site as a National Monument".

REPLY:

The Council notes the public concern about the condition of this site and suggestions that it might be better presented to attract tourists.

Louth County Council has no proprietarily or legal responsibility for the management of this site.

While the ancient site of Faughart is clearly of national importance, whether or not it should be listed as a 'National Monument' and responsibility for its

management be assumed by the State is a matter for determination by the relevant Ministers.

Requesting the Minister/s to designate Faughart Graveyard as a National Monument is a matter for the members.

Frank Pentony, Director of Services undertook to seek advice from the OPW in relation to this issue.

Minute No. 103/16

Notice of Question – Cllr. M. Dearey

The following notice of question was noted by the members:

"Could the members be updated on our engagement with Oxygen and the EPA regarding persistent strong odours from the Oxygen facility on Coes Road".

REPLY:

Louth County Council does not have any regulatory function in respect of the Oxigen facility on the Coes Road as it is an EPA licenced facility. All complaints received by the Council regarding this facility are passed on to the EPA for investigation.

There being no other business, the meeting concluded.

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

Date: _____

Cathaoirleach: _____

Meeting Administrator: _____