

Municipal District of Dundalk – September 2017

Minutes of the Meeting of the Municipal District of Dundalk held in the Town Hall, Dundalk on Tuesday, 5th September 2017 at 5.15 p.m.

In attendance:

Members: Councillors: M. Butler, E. Coffey, E. Corrigan, M. Dearey, M. Doyle, C. Keelan, T. Sharkey, A. Watters & M. Yore

Officials: Frank Pentony, Director of Services
Pat Finn, Senior Engineer
Vincent Toner, Senior Executive Engineer
Aoife Lawler, Senior Executive Officer
Alan Sherry, Meetings Administrator

Apologies: Councillor J. McGahon,

Minute No. 65/17

Minutes

The minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday, 4th July 2017 were confirmed on the proposal of Cllr. M. Doyle and seconded by Cllr. M. Yore.

Minute No. 66/17

Matters Arising

- Members were informed that the report in relation to progress on previous motions passed would be completed shortly.
- A further update in relation to the walkway between Marion Park and Castle Heights was requested.
- It was agreed to revert back to the members in relation to the taking in charge of Schomberg Close.
- The need for a 2nd designated parking space at the E charging station in Carlingford was raised.

Minute No. 67/17

Housing and Communities Progress Report

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

- Information was requested in relation to an alleged attack on a Council house in Blackrock.

Minute No. 68/17

Operations, Marine and Infrastructure Report

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

- Pat Finn answered questions from the members following a brief presentation in relation to LIHAF funded access road at Mount Avenue.
- Members were informed that 75% of the first phase of a phased development must be completed before the next phase can commence but it was agreed to check that figure.
- Members were informed that the capital programme for 2018/2019 would be ready in late 2017.
- Concern was raised at the number of falls in the town centre, possibly as a result of the poor condition of the pathways.

Minute No. 69/17

Allocation of Community Grants to 24th August 2017.

The Allocation of Community Grants to 24th August 2017, were confirmed on the proposal of Cllr. M. Butler and seconded by Cllr. T. Sharkey.

Minute No. 70/17

Date of Budget Meeting

Proposed by: Cllr. M. Butler
Seconded by: Cllr. E. Corrigan

It was agreed by the members to include the draft budget for the Municipal District as an item on the November meeting Agenda.

Minute No. 71/17

Notice of Motion:

Proposed by: Cllr. M. Dearey
Seconded by: Cllr. M. Butler

" That this Municipal District Committee recommends the establishment of a Local Public Transport Partnership in line with the key public transport strategy recommendation in our Smarter Travel Plan 2010,(2.4 page 17) bringing together the

various stakeholders, i.e. representatives from each of the local bus operators, the business community, bus user representatives and Louth County Council."

REPLY:

The establishment of a Local Public Transport Partnership (LPTP) was one of the suggestions in the Council's submission under the Smarter Travel Areas Competition in April 2010. One of the functions of the LPTP was to commission an independent service review of local bus operations. Unfortunately, the Council was unsuccessful in its application and no funding was allocated by the Dept. and this suggestion was not implemented.

Members agreed the motion.

Minute No. 72/17

Notice of Motion:

**Proposed by: Cllr. M. Doyle
Seconded by: Cllr. M. Butler**

"That the Council make adjustments to the traffic lights at the junction of Tom Bellew Avenue and the Avenue Road so that the green light allowing pedestrians to cross lights up only when activated by someone wishing to cross."

REPLY:

Operations staff will together with the specialist contractor review the operation of the traffic lights and where possible improvements to the use of lights by way of altered sequencing this will be actioned.

Members noted reply.

Minute No. 73/17

Notice of Motion:

**Proposed by: Cllr. C. Keelan
Seconded by: Cllr. M. Yore**

"In light of the retrograde abolition of local burial boards that this Council support the creation of a Graveyard Sub-Committee made up of Municipal District Members, Council Officials, representatives of the Clergy and local Undertakers to discuss and contribute to the operations of St. Patrick's Cemetery Dowdallshill with a particular focus on the administration of the annual Patrun Sunday in the Cemetery."

REPLY:

There are a number of graveyards throughout the county which are vested in Louth County Council and for which the Council accordingly carries operational responsibility. Responsibility for these vested graveyards is included in the executive functions of the council and is not subject to the supervision of an

oversight committee. Nevertheless, the council executive is always open to representations and suggestions from council members, members of the clergy and of the public and local undertakers in relation to these graveyards. Accordingly it is not considered appropriate or necessary to convene an oversight committee for the supervision of one of these graveyards in Dundalk.

Members noted reply.

Minute No. 74/17

Notice of Motion:

Proposed by: Cllr. T. Sharkey
Seconded by: Cllr. A. Watters

"That this meeting acknowledges the importance of an adequate Public Address system at the annual Blessing of the Graves event in St Patrick's Cemetery Dundalk. This meeting also notes the LLA Event Management Guide & Handbook and resolves to ensure a public address system is in place for the 2018 event."

REPLY:

Louth County Council each year facilitates and supports the organisers of the annual Blessing of the Graves event in St. Patrick's Cemetery and will support the organisers again in 2018 as they address the need for a suitable public address system for the event.

Members noted reply.

Minute No. 75/17

Notices of Question- Cllr. C. Keelan

"What has been the reduction applied to the roadsweeper budget for this calendar year across the Dundalk urban district area in a) specific monetary terms and b) actual visits to estates and main streets?"

REPLY:

The overall budget for Dundalk urban street cleaning benefited from an increase of €55,780 or 12% in 2017 over the previous year to cover increased costs. While certain specific savings were applied to the cost to LCC of the current Dundalk Street Sweeping contract, these savings were not applied to and did not impact on the frequency of street cleaning.

Members noted the reply.

There being no other business, the meeting concluded.

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

Date: _____

Cathaoirleach: _____

Meeting Administrator: _____