



Comhairle Contae Lú  
Louth County Council

## **Cruinniú Bardasach Dhún Dealgan / Municipal District of Dundalk – July 2024**

Minutes of Municipal District of Dundalk Meeting - Town Hall, Dundalk - Tuesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2024  
at 5:15pm

**In attendance:**

**Cathaoirleach:** Councillor Seán Kelly

**Members:** Councillor(s) Ciarán Fisher, Sionainn McCann, Andrea McKeivitt, Fiona Mhic Conchoille, Kevin Meenan, Robert Nash, Antóin Watters, Maeve Yore

**Apologies:** Councillor(s) Marianne Butler, Emma Coffey, Shane McGuinness, John Reilly

**Officials:** Colette Moss, A/Director of Services  
Gráinne Tuomey, Meetings Administrator  
John Lawrence, Senior Executive Officer  
Paddy Connolly, Senior Executive Engineer  
Keith McArdle, Assistant Engineer

**Apologies:** Thomas McEvoy, Director of Services

### **Minute No. 77/24**

#### **Minutes of Meeting held on Tuesday 4th June 2024**

The minutes of the monthly meeting held on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> June 2024 were confirmed on the

**Proposal of -** Cllr Emma Coffey

**Seconded by -** Cllr Maeve Yore

**And approved.**

### **Minute No. 78/24**

#### **Allocation of Members Community Grants provided for under Section 66 of the Local Government Act 2001**

Members considered the proposed dispersal of Community Grants from Dundalk Municipal District Allocations, and approval of same was

**Proposal of -** Cllr Andrea McKeivitt

**Seconded by -** Cllr Antoin Watters

**And resolved.**

## Minute No. 79/24

### Housing Progress Report

Members noted the report as circulated at the meeting. John Lawrence, Senior Executive Officer responded to all queries raised.

The following items were clarified:

- Leaflets to residents regarding the construction of units for homeless accommodation at Barrack Street were distributed by the Dublin Simon Community in advance of the planning process. Members expressed dissatisfaction with the number of streets which were leafleted contending that rumors are building and that more houses being leafleted might help dissuade same. John Lawrence advised that he will mention same to Simon but that under the planning process the application is available to anyone who wants to view it and make a submission
- Disappointment was expressed at a delay in unit completion of Respond Housing Association units on the Dublin Road which were due to complete at end of June
- Another appeal was made for greater communication to elected representatives where maintenance is being carried out to houses
- The retrofit scheme of 140 units is hoped to be completed by September. An update will issue to Members on same

## Minute No. 80/24

### Roads and Local Services Report

Members discussed the report as circulated at the meeting. Paddy Connolly, Senior Executive Engineer addressed matters raised.

The following items were highlighted:

- Appointment of contractors to the Road Works Program Emergency Flood Programme is advancing, with works expected to commence from the end of July beginning of August in the Cooley area. General works to North Louth will follow thereafter
- Thanks were given for the construction of showers at Templeton however hot water was requested
- Members were advised that cutting of hedges is the responsibility of the land owner
- There is a limited budget for line markings
- Works has commenced on gully and drain clearing
- Funding for works to the Ramparts River is with the Environment Department
- Members expressed dissatisfaction with the process for assessing traffic calming measures contending that other measures should be considered as accident data has not been shared by An Garda Síochána in some time. Paddy Connolly advised that while they are using the 2020 accident data it is still considered the fairest way to assess works required as it is county wide data. He further advised that resolution to the data sharing element is shortly expected.
- Cllr Meenan suggested that the elected members should compile their own list of estates and areas requiring traffic calming and combine this for the council. Cllr Yore suggested that planning section should ensure that conditions are being adhered to and referenced Meade Bawn
- Concerns about public realm works to Omeath affecting access and parking will be passed on to the team
- A lengthy discussion took place around lack of grass cutting with a future review on 'No Mow May' called for, the discussion also included a call for removal of overgrowth of vegetation at various roads and rivers including at the Navvy Bank and Ramparts River.

- A call for a proper carpark at O'Mahoney's to allow parking for the Navy Bank, and funding to create a new car park beside the pitch and putt pitch, and further widen and expand the footpath at the Navy Bank to include a cycle lane was made.
- A claim that overgrowth covered and encouraged illegal dumping was made. Paddy Connolly advised Members of removing 60 cubic meters of dumped materials in the last month which was not in overgrown grass. Members were also advised that Landowners are responsible for rivers that flow through their lands and that cleaning and clearing of rivers requires an appropriate assessment screening report, and submission of an environmental impact statement to An Bord Pleanala
- An update on LCC works on Dowdallshill Graveyard was requested and to include any planned future works
- An update on a suggestion that a second JCB Pro be purchased was requested
- A report on the percentage of time the JCB Pro was in North Louth versus South Louth was requested
- CCTV was requested to be installed at Aisling Park and gates locked nightly following Anti-social behaviour where a car was burnt out
- Graffiti removal was requested at Farndreg
- A pot hole tracker was requested where members could log potholes over a GIS system with further suggestions made that DKIT could create a mapping system for logging issues. Members were reminded that the Sugar System is in place
- It was suggested that seasonal staff should be kept all year round and a reason requested on why they were not
- One to one consultation and communication with local business owners and residents on upcoming works to Bridge Street was requested

A lengthy discussion took place on water quality in the Dundalk Area, and communication from Uisce Eireann which was described as diabolical. It was considered that the water colour could affect tourism and economic development, it was not accepted that Louth County Council had nothing to do with Uisce Eireann while the water staff sit in Council Offices.

#### **Minute No. 81/24**

#### **Taking in Charge Report**

Members noted the report as circulated at the meeting. Keith McArdle, Assistant Engineer addressed matters raised. Responding to a request on how long the Taking in Charge process takes, Keith McArdle advised that in the first instance a plebiscite needs to be in place and once the application is in, the length of time depends on the condition of the estate. If it is fully finished and compliant with all planning conditions it can be a very quick process but if anything is outstanding this will delay it.

#### **Minute No. 82/24**

#### **AOB**

The Cathaoirleach suggested that Civic Awards be held in September with Members to meet themselves online before that. He suggested that each member nominate up to 3 persons and consensus will be made to whittle this down to circa 12 award nominations. The Meetings Administrator Gráinne Tuomey advised that the final list would have to go to the CPG in advance of the awards and she would send out the protocol to members in coming days.

The Cathaoirleach also advised the new members that at end of meetings Members have an opportunity to offer condolences and congratulations but these should be sent in to the Meeting

Administrator and Cathaoirleach in advance of the meeting. The Meeting Administrator advised that she would send out the condolences protocol to Members.

As there was no other business the meeting concluded.

**The Minutes were confirmed at a meeting of the Municipal District held on:**

**Date:**

10/9/24

**Cathaoirleach:**

[Signature]

**Meeting Administrator:**

[Signature]