

Feed Back from Infrastructural and Environmental 20th of February 2019

Services Strategic Policy Committee

MEETINGS

ADMINISTRATOR: Anne Lee.

PRESIDING: Councillor Michael Carrigy, Chairperson

Present: Councillor Gerry Hagan and Luie McEntire,
Treaasa Kearney PPN,
Andrew McHugh,
Maria Keelty PPN,

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr. Tom Murtagh, Senior Executive Engineer.
Mr. David Tubridy, Senior Executive Engineer.
Mr Brian Kelly
Ms. Ann Marie McKeon, Administrative Officer.
Mr John Mr. John Brannigan, Director of Services

ADOPTION OF MINUTES: On the proposal of Councillor seconded by , it was unanimously agreed to adopt minutes of meeting held on the 5th September 2018, as circulated.

Matters Arising:

In relation to Taking Charge of Industrial Estates, no policy, Longford Co Co don't to adopt a draft policy in relation to industrial estate in Master Tech Business Park. (SIOBHAN Check Anne Lee's minutes)

Hedge Cutting there is only two weeks left to complete hedge cutting.

Presentation Longford Co Co proposed Policy on Footpaths and Decorative paving.

Mr Brian Kelly gave a presentation about policy on footpaths and decorative paving.

Introduction: Slips, Trips and falls account for approximately 70% of public liability claims. In recent years there has been an increasing trend of total number of public liabilities claims experienced year on year. Gave % in presentation.

The nature of these claims can be divided into two categories.

1. Incidents related to projections, depressions and unevenness of the pavement surfaces, causes these defects in pavement surfaces include
 - Settlement/heaving (poorly compacted base material, drainage problem or unstable subgrade beneath pavements).
 - Overloading of surface (Vehicles mounting footpaths)
 - Insufficient grouting or loss of grouting material over time. (relates to paving brick/slabs only).
 - Failure of lateral restraint.
 - Ingression of tree roots beneath the pavement causing distortion of the surface.
 - Poor workmanship at installation
 - "Hard Points" in paths, around manholes etc. that gave rise to differential settlement.
2. Incidents related to poor skid resistance or grip of the surface. These types of incident are prevalent with natural stone surfaces where either the inherent skid resistance of the low or has reduced over time due to lack of cleaning/poor maintenance or wearing of the surface.

In an effort to control and reduce the number of public Liability claims going forward, the following footpath policy has been drafted to promote the use of the lower risk, footpath materials and surfaces over more problematic surface which have been used in the past.

In the presentation on the pricing on different paving finishes.

Siobhan, I wasn't quick enough to the price written down.

Policy Statement

Longford County Council Proposed Policy Statement on Footpaths and Decorative

paving.

NEW FOOTPATHS and FOOTPATH REPLACEMENT PROJECTS.

Due to the quantum of public liability claims and constraints on maintenance allocations in County Longford, all footpaths (other than those located in town centres, main retail areas or at specific locations of heritage or historical interest) shall be constructed in the following materials.

- Concrete (brush finish or dimple roller finish).
- Asphalt Concrete (Bitumen bound surface)

Construction shall be in accordance with relevant TII or Department standards as may be current at the time of construction.

For footpaths within town centres, main retail areas, locations of heritage or historical interest or to preserve the character of an area, the following materials shall be considered as initial options:

- Asphalt or Imprinted Asphalt (staggered brick pattern only)
- Concrete paving brick/block, stone setts laid on a fully rigid sub-base and point bonded.

Materials other than those listed above will not be permitted without prior approval from the Director of Services.

Concrete paving brick / block on a flexible sub-base can be used for the repair / maintenance of existing brick paved footpaths.

Tactile Paving at pedestrian crossing locations, shall be laid on a fully rigid sub-base and in accordance with relevant national standards / guidance.

Brian Kelly said that they go by the existing guidelines which are used,

- ✚ I raised the issue as the PPN Ref on the SPC committee, of the height of the kerbs 25 mm as per building regulations M as the they are far too high and need to be lowered, its all very well having building regulations which aren't user friendly.

Infrastructural and Environmental Strategic Policy committee (SPC)

4. Interim update graveyard survey 20th of February 2019.

Work is currently underway to prepare Updates to the following two existing policy documents

1. " Survey and report on Longford County Council cemeteries for the period 2006 to 2025".
2. The policy agreed at the April 2011 Council Meeting with regard to "Cemetery provision and Maintenance"

The purpose of this current exercise is to provide the dated burial ground capacity information and also the review if necessary, the recommendations outlined in the February 2007 document the changing needs since 2007.

As part of the process to provide updates on these two documents the following activities have been in place for the last number of weeks:

Capacity Surveys have been completed in 20 of the council owned graveyards, which have highest numbers of burials per year.

During January and February 2019 information seminars in Aras a Chontac have be held for the following groups;

- Funeral Directors / Undertakers (2 Session)
- Headstone / Monument Erectors
- Voluntary Graveyards Caretakers

These seminars have been a source of valuable feedback and it is proposed to use this information to assist improvements in our processes and procedures.

The following aspects in Particular are currently being prepared in a proposal document for later consideration by this SPC (April 2019)

- . Provision of the greater clarity on the responsibilities of the various parties involved, e.g. Funeral Undertakers with the regard to health, and safety legislation and Bye-Laws.
- . The use of electronic communication where possible in the process e.g. with regard to the timely issue of "Right to Burial" cert in accordance with bylaws.
- . The future capacity of the open council owned burial grounds if there is a need to make provision for changing needs e.g. memorial Wall to accommodate Crematorium ashes.
- . Review if necessary, any other aspect of the two existing policy documents listed above.

(Siobhan, It was hard to hear, what this man was saying, I'll have, a lot of people just bloody mumble)

Tom Mulvey to John Brannigan.

Derelict sites act 1990 proposal to the SPC, with regard to the levy on Derelict sites

The Following is a draft policy for consideration by the Infrastructural and Environmental SPC.

The derelict sites Act 1990 contains a provision that imposes a levy on sites listed register. In the case where the costs of imposing the levy on a site listed in the derelict sites. Register is estimated by the council to be great than the financial benefit accruing to the council from the levy, the council shall have the right to exercise its discursions, as to whether it will impose the on the site.

Each case, is individually assessed, Searches have to be done, etc which puts up price on each case. It was decided to come back to at the next meeting.

5. Notice of motion deferred for the January Meeting of the Longford County Council –

Collection of refuse – Councillor S. Butler

“That Longford county Council will move to seek framework tenders for the collection of from its tenants, as Limerick Local Authorities have done.

John Brannigan, had this checked with the legal team, as Longford County Council no longer had anything to do with refuse collection. It’s a private refuse companies and cannot be told what to do or what rates to charge. The county council tenants, had to choose their own bin company, Longford Co Co. have no authority to tell their tenants which bin company to use.

The new charge was mentioned which Mulleady’s are charging their customer, it’s a new service charge of €0.92 a week, whether you put your bins out or not, which came to a total €47.84 Yearly.

Consideration of report submitted by Maria Keelty regarding disability awareness.

I gave a short synopsis of the misunderstanding, and tips around disabilities. List of Medical issues to be compiled by family members, as chairman said a better understand.

(Note to Siobhan, Disability network and Katie we’ll have to get together to put the beginning of a proposed policy document together)

I brought to their attention of issues that have been arising over the last 6 months to year:

I raised the issue of some of businesses in town, which, now seems to becoming commonplace, where there is not an accessible ramp into their premises, to make a semi-ramp to make a which leads up to the edge of the door frame, (Basically to thrown a bucket of cement at the bottom of a door) which not alone dangerous, because, the customer has to step onto this little slope, this which is quite narrow, and it causes a trip hazard.

There is the issue of wheelchair user getting into the premises, with this bucket of cement being smoothed out to make a ramp, which is totally inadequate, as the gradient is far too steep, leaving the user of the

wheelchair fall back, if the person in the wheelchair is alone or having their carer, trying to get the wheelchair inside at a very bad angle.

I did point out who would be liable, if a person tripped over this cement as it's going out onto a public footpath which is owned by the Longford county Council.

It was agreed by Michael Carrigy and John Brannigan, that Frank Hoarne Access officer would check it and come and give us a report on the issue. I informed them that in relation to work replacements of pavements, that when completed, that during icy conditions, that if salt was thrown on footpaths, the salt would break down the membrane of the asphalt and Cement. It would be an ongoing repair and a waste of county council monies, as the salt eats away at the materials used, causing holes, cracks etc back to square one trying to fix footpaths. I did state that business should be made aware of this matter do not put salt on icy footpaths as it will cause serious damage, which in the long run is going to be spending money doing repairs, which with a little bit of due care you wouldn't be trougning money at keeping it repaired.

AOB

Treasa Kearny stated that LWL Willow Trader would like to be listed on Longford waste information, have them listed as a Furniture recycler just like Revamp.

It would be listed.

Next meeting Agreed April 8th @ 4pm.