

## **District council meeting of 20 October 2021**

### **Convened and announced on 14 October 2021**

**Present:** ZOVILÉ-BRAQUET Marion (*MZB*) (CSV), Mayor, SCHILTZ Fernand (*FS*) (LSAP), Deputy Mayor, JUNGBLUT Tom (*JT*) (CSV), Deputy Mayor, EIFES Eric (*EE*) (DP), ZHU Dali (*DZ*) (DP), DI GENOVA Jean-Pierre (*JPD*) (CSV), LAKAFF Laurent (*LL*) (CSV), SCHMITZ Jean-Pierre (*JPS*) (CSV), ARRENSDORFF Jean-Jacques (*JPS*) (Déi Gréng), WEYMERSKIRCH Patrick (*PW*) (LSAP). Councillors: TAZIAUX Tim, Acting Municipal Secretary, REIFFERS Cindy, Secretary, GASPARD Alix, Secretariat.

**Apologies:** WOLTER Laurence (*LW*) (Déi Gréng)

#### **1. Determination of venue for the district council meeting**

The district council unanimously approved the Cultural Centre in Moutfort as the venue for this district council meeting. It was also decided to hold the next district council meetings as CovidCheck events.

#### **2. HR matters**

In closed session

#### **3. Approval of a supplementary agreement – CIPA Niederanven**

The district council unanimously approved a supplementary agreement relating to the integrated residential and nursing home for the elderly, CIPA Niederanven. The Mayor explained that this related to two changes concerning voting procedure and investments. She also advised that Contern district council has secured two additional rooms in the “Rousegärtchen” section, which is equipped to care for people with dementia and is currently being expanded.

Jean-Jacques Arrensdorff inquired as to the costs being incurred for these rooms and for the expansion of the CIPA. The Mayor explained that as yet no precise figures are available. Jean-Pierre Schmitz and Deputy Mayor Fernand Schiltz commented that elderly residents felt very much at home in the CIPA Niederanven and that no economies should be made regarding their accommodation and care. The Mayor explained that as soon as the definitive figures and all the details were set out in a new agreement, this would of course be submitted to the district council for approval.

#### **4. Approval of an agreement – Pacte Logement 2.0.**

Deputy Mayor Fernand Schiltz presented the benefits of Pacte Logement 2.0. Under it, an external consultant is being made available to the district council by the Ministry. He also stressed the urgent need to develop a local action programme to implement the agreement, with particular emphasis to be placed on affordable housing. Jean-Jacques Arrensdorff expressed his appreciation for these moves.

The Pacte Logement 2.0 agreement was unanimously approved by the district council.

#### **5. Special development plan for “Op Horbett” in Moutfort – Approval of the implementation agreement (“Convention d’exécution”) and implementation design (“Project d’exécution”)**

The district council unanimously approved both the implementation agreement and the implementation design for the special development plan (PAP) “Op Horbett” in Moutfort.

Jean-Jacques Arrensdorff asked whether the relatively high state allowance given for drainage works might possibly be used for a play area, for example. Deputy Mayor Tom Jungblut explained that this allowance can only be used for specific construction works, and in this case it was being used for separations in the drainage system. Jean-Jacques Arrensdorff asked whether costs incurred as part of implementing the PAP might be met by the Ministry. The Mayor commented that the district council would itself meet some part of the costs of connecting to the public grid, but that all works will be listed in detail before they are invoiced by the companies.

#### **6. Amendment to articles of association – SEC**

The district council unanimously approved the amendment to the articles of association of the central district water board (Syndicat des Eaux du Centre, SEC). Deputy Mayor Tom Jungblut commented that the directory of members and of their respective quantities of water needed to be brought up to date.

Jean-Jacques Arrensdorff asked about the original water quantities for the Contern district. Deputy Mayor Tom Jungblut stated that additional volumes had been purchased twice, in order to avoid a high penalty for exceeding the threshold limit. He added that the samples taken at the water source had been problematic, but that the Cabinet had already authorised studies and was searching for solutions together with the water management agency, AGE.

#### **7. Approval of a document – “Cession gratuite” in Contern**

The district council unanimously approved a document for a free transfer (“Cession gratuite”) in Contern. This related to individual small parcels of land used for the construction of roads and pavements.

#### **8. Approval of a document – Purchase of land in Contern**

The district council unanimously approved a document for the purchase of land in Contern. This related to three parcels of forest. The district council already owned adjoining properties and wanted to purchase additional parcels here, to maintain a walking path and also to protect the water source.

#### **9. Approval of a document – Purchase of land in Contern – Milbech**

The district council unanimously approved a document for the purchase of land in Contern Milbech. This related to parcels along the path leading up to the water basin. This was to be used again.

#### **10. Approval of several statements of accounts (“Décomptes”) – Jim Schmitz left the room**

The district council unanimously approved three statements of accounts. The first related to replacement of the water supply in the Route de Remich in Moutfort, the second to studies for construction of a primary school in Contern, and the third to conversion works to the rail underpass in Moutfort.

#### **11. Opinion of the district council – “Projet du 2ième plan de gestion des risques d’inondation du Luxembourg” (“Proposed second Luxembourg flood risk management plan”) – Jean-Pierre Schmitz entered the room**

The Mayor outlined the meeting with the water management agency AGE (Administration de la gestion de l'eau), which involved extensive discussion of the floods of 14 July. The Cabinet was hoping for proposed solutions from the AGE, which should then be implemented as quickly as

possible. As soon as the AGE analysis is finished, it will present it to the Cabinet. A further meeting was arranged for January 2022.

Jean-Jacques Arrensdorff was finding the opinion difficult to assess, as it was a highly technical document. Deputy Mayor Tom Jungblut conceded that the meeting with AGE had also been disappointing in that regard. The Cabinet had put forward a lot of good suggestions, but the AGE did not seem very determined to implement them. Protecting nature and species conservation were repeatedly given as reasons why concrete changes were not possible.

Eric Eifes asked about management of the water basin in Ieselslach. The Mayor explained that the district council had no access to it. Deputy Mayor Tom Jungblut explained that retention basins were not flood protection, but are there to relieve the sewage system and thus to protect natural watercourses.

The district council unanimously approved the "Projet du 2ième plan de gestion des risques d'inondation du Luxembourg".

### **12. Grants to clubs and associations 2021**

The district council unanimously agreed to give grants to various clubs and associations. In total, these amounted to € 36,386.30.

Deputy Mayor Tom Jungblut advised that the regulations concerning grants needed to be applied differently than was previously the case in respect of the "forfait officiels licenciés" (fixed fee for licensed officials). To support the volunteers, this sum should be paid per licence, not as a one-off grant. In view of this, some sports clubs will receive compensation in arrears, and the regulations are being amended.

### **13. Approval of income**

Income totalling € 1,538,811.89 was unanimously accepted for the financial year 2021.

### **14. Announcements and councillor questions**

The Mayor mentioned the individual letters of thanks received by the Cabinet in respect of donations. The Mayor announced forthcoming events, public meetings and dates. These include a visit from the Ministry of Equality between Women and Men on 22 October 2021. Minister Taina Bofferding is visiting our district as part of a campaign on equal opportunities, since our staff comprises 50% women and 50% men.

The Mayor proposed holding the next district council meeting as a CovidCheck event, back in the district council offices. Jean-Pierre Schmitz advised caution, and Patrick Weymerskirch expressed a similar view. It was therefore decided to continue to arrange the meetings in the Moutfort Cultural Centre.

Jean-Pierre Di Genova gave a reminder regarding Environmental Week and the "Faire Genoss um Kaffisdësch" event being held on 31 October 2021. Proceeds were going to the "Gemeng Conter Hëlleft" association.

Eric Eifes asked whether the committee membership lists available online were up to date. The Mayor said that she fundamentally assumed the website was always current, but that she would check this.

Jean-Jacques Arrensdorff had noticed that the district's road-sweeping machine was sweeping the roads more often. The Mayor stated that due to the many construction sites in the district, it was necessary to operate more runs, in order to ensure that the roads and gutters were kept clean. Deputy Mayor Tom Jungblut commented that regular sweeping was also good for protecting the

environment, as fewer cigarette stubs and face masks found their way into the wastewater and into the surrounding nature.

Jean-Jacques Arrensdorff asked who had approved the works on the vicarage in Moutfort. Deputy Mayor Fernand Schlitz explained that only one wall along the house was being repaired, and that the property belongs to the state, which is allowing these works to be carried out.