

GRANARD MUNICIPAL DISTRICT

Minutes of Meeting of Granard Municipal District held in The Council Chamber on Monday, 27
January 2025 at 3:30pm

CATHAOIRLEACH: Councillor Garry Murtagh

MEMBERS PRESENT: Councillors Turlough McGovern,
Pádraig McNamara, David Cassidy and Paraic Brady

IN ATTENDANCE: Ms. Barbara Heslin, Director of Services
Ms. Claire McNabola, Administrative Officer
Mr. David Coppinger, Senior Executive Engineer
Lorraine O'Connor, A/ Senior Planner
Donagh MacArtain, Consultant

APOLOGIES None

MEETINGS

ADMINISTRATOR: Ms. Lorraine McKee

Cathaoirleach Garry Murtagh expressed his sympathy on the passing of Kevin Dempsey, former employee of Longford County Council, and Paddy McNamara, father of Councillor Padraig McNamara. May they rest in peace.

1. ADOPTION OF MINUTES – AS CIRCULATED

On the proposal of Councillor Pauric Brady seconded by Councillor Turlough McGovern, it was unanimously agreed to adopt the Minutes of Granard Municipal District Meeting held on 16 December 2024.

On the proposal of Councillor Paraic Brady seconded by Councillor Turlough McGovern it was unanimously agreed to adopt the Minutes of Granard Municipal District Committee Meeting held on 16 December 2024.

2. MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES

Councillor Turlough McGovern proposed that Longford County Council write to the Superintendent requesting the appointment of a Community Guard for Granard and to have a garda presence in Granard at all times. Councillor Garry Murtagh seconded this proposal.

3. DECLARATION OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS

None

4. MANAGEMENT REPORT INCORPORATING AREA ENGINEER'S PROGRESS REPORT

Barbara highlighted the following from the Management Report and responded to queries raised by the Elected Members:

- Age friendly
- Archives and record management
- Arts Office
- Creative Ireland
- Healthy Ireland
- Health and Safety
- Heritage
- Libraries
- Integration
- LEO
- Town Centre First
- Regeneration
- Active Travel
- Housing – Social Housing Applications, Housing List, New Tenancies, Summary of Social Housing Assessment 2024
- Community Development

The members thanked the Director of Services Barbara Heslin and her staff and all those involved for keeping the members updated during storm Éowyn. They complemented the response by the Council to fallen trees and the humanitarian response. They highlighted the costs associated with the storm and the issues experienced with the restoration of power, water and broadband. They suggested that generators be provided by Uisce Eireann in the water treatment plants, ESB maintain the corridor through the forestry for power lines and consideration be given to undergrounding cables.

David Coppinger gave a detailed update on the Area's Engineer Progress Report and responded to queries raised by Elected Members –

- General Roadworks
- Road Programme for 2024
- Financial Expectations

- Local Improvement Schemes
- Granard Car Park Barrack Lane

Councillor Turlough McGovern complemented the Pathway to Funding event held in Granard.

5. TOWN TWINNING

Noted circulated correspondence and report received from Granard Town Twinning committee.

On the proposal of Councillor Turlough McGovern and seconded by Councillor Paraic Brady the members unanimously agreed to approve an allocation of €3,000 to both Granard Town Twinning and Ballinamuck Town Twinning in 2025.

6. UPDATE ON ESTABLISHMENT OF GRANARD TOWN TEAM

Donagh MacArtain gave a presentation on the establishment of the Granard Town Team. The focus of this team would involve the revitalisation and regeneration of the town centre. This team would work with the Council and external agencies to form an inclusive society for the people of Granard. The first public meeting will take place on Tuesday 4 February. The members agreed that the Granard Town Team was welcomed. The Members raised questions on their concerns to Mr. MacArtain, Consultant and Lorraine O'Connor A/Senior Engineer who both responded to their queries.

7. NOTICE OF MOTIONS

The following Notice of Motion was proposed by Councillor Pdraig McNamara and seconded by Councillor Turlough McGovern

I call on Longford County Council to have a 3-year footpath plan, similar to the 3-year road plan.

Response:

The repair and upgrade of footpaths is funded from Longford County Council's limited own resources, or the Discretionary Maintenance funding provided by the Department of Transport. However, at the Finance meetings in 2024, the Elected Members approved the 5 year Strategic Business Plan. This plan commits to the funding of footpath repairs in the Longford Municipal District which will be funded from a specific loan. A commitment was also given that any funding arising from the IPB Capital Redistribution Fund over the period will be used to fund works in Granard and Ballymahon Municipal Districts. Once this funding is confirmed, the team in the Granard MD will prepare and prioritise a work programme. This will be done in consultation with the MD members.

8. SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS FOR 2025

Noted

9. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

24 March at 3:30pm

Signed:



Lorraine McKee

Meetings Administrator

Confirmed and adopted at Granard Municipal District Meeting held on the 24 March 2025

Signed:


Cathaoirleach