

GRANARD MUNICIPAL DISTRICT

Minutes of Meeting of Granard Municipal District held in Granard Library on Tuesday, 27 May 2025 at 3:30pm

CATHAOIRLEACH: Councillor Garry Murtagh

MEMBERS PRESENT: Councillors Turlough McGovern,
Pádraig McNamara, David Cassidy, Colin Dalton

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr. David Turbidy, Senior Engineer
Ms. Claire McNabola, Administrative Officer
Mr. David Coppinger, Senior Executive Engineer
Mr. Paul Newell, Senior Engineer
Mr. David Plunkett, Clerical Officer
Ms. Louise Connaughton, Clerical Officer

APOLOGIES Ms. Barbara Heslin, Director of Service

MEETINGS

ADMINISTRATOR: Ms. Lorraine McKee

1. ADOPTION OF MINUTES – AS CIRCULATED

On the proposal of Councillor Turlough McGovern seconded by Councillor Padraig McNamara, it was unanimously agreed to adopt the Minutes of Granard Municipal District Meeting held on 24 March 2025

On the proposal of Councillor Turlough McGovern seconded by Councillor Padraig McNamara, it was unanimously agreed to adopt the minutes of Granard Municipal District Committee Meeting held on 24 March 2025

2. MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES

None

3. DECLARATION OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS

None

4. MANAGEMENT REPORT INCORPORATING AREA ENGINEER'S PROGRESS REPORT

The members noted the Management Report.

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

- General Roadworks
 - Bitumen Macadam Works
 - Surface Dressing
 - Other Road Restoration Works
 - Climate Adaption Works
- Community Involvement Schemes 2025
- Low-Cost Safety Schemes
- Bus Stop Scheme
- Legga Cemetery Works
- Local Involvement Schemes
- Active Travel Schemes in Granard Municipal District
- Granard Car Park at Garda Station
- Other ongoing works taking place in Granard Municipal District

5. APPOINTMENT OF LEAS CATHAOIRLEACH

On the proposal of Councillor Garry Murtagh seconded by Councillor Turlough McGovern, Padraig McNamara was appointed Leas Cathaoirleach of Granard Municipal District

6. PROPOSAL: CELEBRATION OF PARAIC COLUM

Cathaoirleach Garry Murtagh outlined the details from correspondence received from Martina Needham in the libraries about the upcoming Paraic Colum celebration. The members unanimously agreed to provide funding from their Municipal District for this annual event.

7. DECLARATION OF RANAGHAN LANE ABBEYLARA AS A PUBLIC ROAD

On the proposal of Councillor Padraig McNamara seconded by Councillor Turlough McGovern, the Ranaghan Lane, Abbeylara was declared as a public road.

8. COMMUNITY GRANT SUPPORT SCHEME 2025

On the proposal of Councillor Garry Murtagh seconded by Councillor Padraig McNamara, it was agreed to transfer the surplus of €3,750 from Tidy Towns/Development Groups to Voluntary Bodies.

On the proposal of Councillor Garry Murtagh seconded by Councillor Padraig McNamara, the 2025 Community Grants were approved.

On the proposal of Councillor Garry Murtagh seconded by Councillor Turlough McGovern, it was agreed to give the surplus €1,000 to the Paraic Colum Celebration.

SPECIAL PROJECT GRANTS:

On the proposal of Councillor Turlough McGovern, seconded by Councillor Padraig McNamara, it was agreed to give €1,000 from Turlough's Special Project Grants fund to Lus Na Greine.

On the proposal of Councillor Turlough McGovern, seconded by Councillor Padraig McNamara, it was agreed to give €300 from Turlough's Special Project Grants fund to Bunlahy Area Action Group.

On the proposal of Councillor Padraig McNamara, seconded by Councillor Turlough McGovern, it was agreed to give €1,000 from Padraig's Special Project Grants fund to Lus Na Greine.

On the proposal of Councillor Garry Murtagh, seconded by Councillor David Cassidy, it was agreed to give €1,000 from Garry's Special Project Grants fund to Monaduff Senior Citizens Group.

On the proposal of Councillor Garry Murtagh, seconded by Councillor Turlough McGovern, it was agreed to give €1,000 from Garry's Special Project Grants fund to Bunlahy Area Action Group.

On the proposal of Councillor Garry Murtagh, seconded by Councillor David Cassidy, it was agreed to give €1,000 from Garry's Special Project Grants fund to the Paraic Colum Celebration.

9. PART VIII 127 – THE CONSTRUCTION OF A WALKING TRAIL/CYCLE PATH AT LEGGA (LEGGACH) TOWNLAND, MOYNE CO. LONGFORD

On the proposal of Councillor Garry Murtagh seconded by Councillor David Cassidy, the Part VIII No. 127 was approved.

10. NOTICE OF MOTIONS

The following Notice of Motion was proposed by Councillor Colin Dalton and seconded by Councillor Turlough McGovern

I am calling on Longford County Council for an update for the local committee, school principal and landowners on the Safe Routes to school project which I had been working on in Mullinalaghta through the St Columbas National school.

Response:

St. Columbas NS Mullinalaghta was accepted into the SRTS programme as one of the 9 schools that applied from Longford in 2021.

To date 6 of the 9 successful schools in Longford have been selected to progress over rounds 1-3 of funding (2 per year).

It is expected St. Columbas will be announced to progress in Q4 2025, (if in Round 4) or Q4 2026 (if in round 5).

The following Notice of Motion was proposed by Councillor Garry Murtagh and seconded by Councillor David Cassidy

I call on Longford County Council to implement a raised pedestrian crossing and junction tightening & traffic calming measures in the Village of Aughnacliffe via Low Cost Safety scheme or Active Travel. This will provide a safe crossing for pedestrians, school children, and visitors within the village environs.

Response:

As always with requests for Pedestrian Crossings and/or Traffic Calming requests, the issue of funding arises. The only funding sources available to the Roads Section at present for these types of safety measures is the Low Cost Safety Schemes and the Council's current LCSS list is quite extensive.

The proposal will be forwarded to the Active Travel Section who may consider it for an application for funding through the NTA.

The following Notice of Motion was proposed by Councillor David Cassidy and seconded by Councillor Garry Murtagh

I call upon Longford County Council to install LED Street lighting in Kellegher Court Estate in Drumlish. Part of this estate is not serviced with public lighting.

Response:

There is some existing Public Lighting already in this old estate, but the request has been forwarded to the Road Design Section who will get an assessment of this lighting carried out to see if it is up to standard.

The following Notice of Motion was proposed by Councillor David Cassidy and seconded by Councillor Colin Dalton

I call upon Longford County Council to apply for a Specific Improvement Grant from the Department of Transport in relation to the urgent need of Safety Barriers at Monaduff, Drumlish & Gague, Ballinamuck.

Response:

Roads Section have discussed this with the Department of Transport Inspector, and he has agreed that the Council can make an application later this year when budgets for 2026 are being drafted. However, the submission of an application does not guarantee funding. Decisions on this type of funding must be fully justified before the Department will consider funding them.

The following Notice of Motion was proposed by Councillor David Cassidy and seconded by Councillor Garry Murtagh

I call upon Longford County Council to explore the possibility of constructing a safe walking route connecting Moyne Community School and St. Patrick's NS to the Latin School in Moyne. Various activities take place in the Latin school as part of their curriculum and students and staff and teachers are being forced to walk on the R198 for 600m.

Response:

Longford County Council will explore the possibility of developing this project and seek funding streams.

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

I call on Longford County Council's Regeneration Section to explore the feasibility of establishing an off-street car park at the Dublin end of Granard Town to address several critical needs. Additional parking would ease congestion in the town centre, particularly during peak hours or local events. By providing a designated area for business owners, staff, and residents to park during the day, it would free up Main Street for customer parking, enhancing accessibility and supporting local commerce. Strategically placed at the Dublin end of Granard, the car park would serve as a convenient amenity for commuters and visitors, encouraging longer stays and benefiting businesses. While I welcome the recent car park at the Garda Station end of the town, a facility at the Dublin end may better serve the needs of residents and businesses. This initiative would complement ongoing regeneration efforts, boosting

economic growth and enhancing Granard's appeal as a destination, making it an essential step in ensuring the town's continued development and accessibility.

Response:

Longford County Council will look at the feasibility of an off street carpark at the rear of the Library. There is land already in Council ownership at the rear of the Library and the Butter Market that could be the starting point to develop plans for a carpark. The Council is currently at preliminary design stage for enhancement works / public realm on the Main Street from the corner of Moxham Street to the Garda Station and an Off Steet Carpark would complement this plan.

11. VOTES OF SYMPATHY

The members extended their sympathies to Director of Service Barbara Heslin on the death of her mother Anne Heslin and to Councillor Gerry Hagan on the death of his mother Rose Hagan.
May they rest in peace.

Cathaoirleach Garry Murtagh extended his gratitude to his fellow members and the staff of Granard Municipal District for working with him over the past year.

12. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The Annual General Meeting of Granard Municipal District will take place on Monday, 23 June at 3:30pm

Signed: Lorraine McKee
Lorraine McKee
Meetings Administrator

Confirmed and adopted at Granard Municipal District Meeting held on the 28 July 2025

Signed: [Signature]
Cathaoirleach