

LONGFORD MUNICIPAL DISTRICT

Minutes of Meeting of Longford Municipal District held in the Council Chamber Aras an Chontae and via MS Teams on Tuesday, 25 February 2025 at 11am

CATHAOIRLEACH:

Councillor Seamus Butler

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Councillors Peggy Nolan, Uruemu Adejinmi, Niall Gannon, Martin Monaghan, Kevin Hussey, Gerry Hagan

IN ATTENDANCE:

Mr. Paul Newell, Senior Engineer
Mr. David McNiff, Senior Executive Engineer
Ms. Anita Doherty, Staff Officer

MEETINGS

ADMINISTRATOR:

Ms. Lorraine McKee

APOLOGIES:

1. ADOPTION OF MINUTES – circulated

- I. On the proposal of Councillor Seamus Butler seconded by Councillor Peggy Nolan it was unanimously agreed to adopt Minutes of Meeting of Longford Municipal District held on 28 January 2025 as circulated.
- II. On the proposal of Councillor Seamus Butler seconded by Councillor Uruemu Adejinmi it was unanimously agreed to adopt Minutes of Committee Meeting of Longford Municipal District held on 28 January 2025 as circulated.

2. MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES

None

3. DECLARATION OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS

None

4. MANAGEMENT REPORT – as circulated.

David McNiff updated the members with the Management Report, which was noted.

5. CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT ANNUAL REPORT SUBMISSION FROM LONGFORD MUNICIPAL DISTRICT

On the proposal of Councillor Martin Monaghan seconded by Councillor Peggy Nolan the members agreed to adopt the Draft Annual Report Submissions from Longford Municipal District.

6. PRESENTATION OF THE 2025 ROADS PROGRAMME

David McNiff presented the 2025 Roads Programme to the Elected Members. The members raised questions on the programme which were responded to by David. The members thanked David for all his work in the preparation of the roads programme. On the proposal of Councillor Gerry Hagan and seconded by Councillor Peggy Nolan the members agreed to adopt the 2025 Roads Programme.

7. NOTICE OF MOTIONS

The following Notice of Motion was proposed by Councillor Gerry Hagan and seconded by Councillor Niall Gannon

I call on Longford County Council to include the road from Melview cross to Kiernans forge cross on the salting programme with immediate effect.

Response:

The objective of the winter maintenance programme is to provide so far as is reasonably practical for the safe movement of road users on the National Roads and other strategic routes identified, during adverse weather conditions. As it is not feasible to treat all public thoroughfares, it is necessary to create a schedule of route prioritisation. Routes are designated a priority rating of between 1 and 3 based upon the road classification, the traffic volume carried, public transport usage etc and the importance of the route on a national, regional, or local level.

Priority 1 Routes (National) and Priority 2 Routes Regional & some Local Roads are pre-salted. They receive precautionary treatment, where salt is spread following warnings of expected low temperatures, to reduce the likelihood of frost and ice forming on the road. Priority 3 routes are only treated post event in periods of extreme cold weather. In general, all houses are with 4km approx. of a salted Priority

1 or 2 road.

Longford County Council are currently salting in excess of 23% of the road network in the County and do not have the capacity to take on any additional salting works. The request can be considered for the 2025-2026 Winter Maintenance Programme should additional resources and funding become available.

The following Notice of Motion was proposed by Councillor Seamus Butler and seconded by Councillor Uruemu Adejinmi

I call on Longford Municipal District to commence the first year of the multiple year footpath rehabilitation programme with the funds from parking fees and fines.

Response:

I acknowledge that the finance department is working to secure funding for a footpath program. However, I have not yet received specific information regarding the amount of funding that will be allocated for 2025. Once I have confirmation of the funding level, a work plan for 2025 will be created. This plan will then be shared with the elected members for their feedback before any construction begins.

The following Notice of Motion was proposed by Councillor Martin Monaghan and seconded by Councillor Kevin Hussey

On N63 – would it be possible to remove bollards and install a left turn filter lane from Longford town side after the Railway bridge into the Farneyhoogan area, which accommodates a large housing estate, numerous industrial units, retail units and office buildings.

Response:

As part of pavement resurfacing works on the N63 in 2020/2021, the filter lane at this location was removed and line marking was laid in accordance with current TII (Transport Infrastructure Ireland) standards.

The bollards were later installed as the wide hard shoulder was being used as a filter lane and this led to a number of near miss incidents at the junction.

The improvement works planned for the N63, as presented in the Part VIII process in November, should it proceed to construction, will involve further realignment of this junction and the wide hard shoulder space will be reallocated to facilitate this scheme. The new design will take into account the needs of all road users, ensuring that any modifications enhance safety and accessibility for both vehicles and pedestrians.

As such it is not recommended that the left turn filter lane be reinstated.

The following Notice of Motion was proposed by Councillor Martin Monaghan and seconded by Councillor Uruemu Adejinmi

I call on Longford County Council to clear/cut back the roundabout at McDonalds to enable better traffic sightlines on entrances.

Response:

Improvements to the road surface at this location are scheduled as part of the 2025 roads program. During these works, we will also perform some minor maintenance on the centre of the roundabout to improve the aesthetics.

8. SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS 2025

Noted

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed: Lorraine McKee

Lorraine McKee

Meetings Administrator

Confirmed and adopted at Longford Municipal District Meeting held on the 25 March 2025.

Signed: 
Cathaoirleach