

**Minutes of Annual General Meeting of Longford County Council
held in the Council Chamber and via Microsoft Teams on
Friday, 19 June 2026 at 4pm**

PRESIDING: Councillor Garry Murtagh

MEMBERS PRESENT: Councillors Seamus Butler, Paul Ross, Niall Gannon, Gerry Hagan, Padraig McNamara, Colin Dalton, Uruemu Adejinmi, Pat O'Toole, David Cassidy, Turlough McGovern, Kevin Hussey, Martin Monaghan, Sean Mimmagh, Peggy Nolan, Mark Casey and Martin Skelly

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr. Paddy Mahon, Chief Executive
Mr. John Brannigan, Director of Services
Mr. John McKeon, Director of Finance
Ms. Barbara Heslin, Director of Services
Ms. Samantha Healy, Director of Services
Ms. Louise Connaughton, Clerical Officer
Deputy Micheal Carrigy
Senator Paraic Brady

APOLOGIES: Councillor Mick Cahill

MEETINGS

ADMINISTRATOR: Ms. Lorraine McKee

CATHAOIRLEACH'S ADDRESS

As he concluded his term as Cathaoirleach of the Council, Councillor Garry Murtagh reflected on what he described as a great honour and privilege to have served in the role. He expressed his sincere appreciation to his fellow Elected Members for their support and cooperation throughout the year. He also thanked the Chief Executive, the Directors of Services, the Meetings Administrator and all Council staff for their guidance, professionalism and assistance during his term of office. Councillor Murtagh acknowledged the support of the Leas Cathaoirleach, Councillor Niall Gannon, and thanked the local media for their continued coverage of the Council's work. In closing, he paid a special tribute to his family Lorraine,

Moya and Ben for their encouragement, patience and support throughout his year as Cathaoirleach.

1. ELECTION OF CATHAOIRLEACH

It was proposed by Councillor Paul Ross seconded by Councillor Turlough McGovern that Councillor Gerry Hagan be appointed Cathaoirleach of Longford County Council.

As there was no other nomination, Councillor Gerry Hagan was, thereby, elected Cathaoirleach of Longford County Council until the Annual Meeting in 2027.

The Chain of Office was formally conferred on Councillor Hagan.

Longford County Council Chief Executive Paddy Mahon said that it is a huge honour for Cllr Hagan and his family, and it is a great opportunity to build on the notable work being undertaken in the county. He outlined that Councillor Hagan has set out a number of challenges for the year ahead and he can assure him that the Council Executive and employees will work with him to ensure that as much as possible will be achieved under his tenure.

Councillor Hagan expressed his sincere thanks to his proposer, seconder and fellow Elected Members for the honour and trust they had placed in him by electing him to serve as Cathaoirleach of Longford County Council for the next twelve months. He described the occasion as one of the proudest moments of his life, noting that while it was a privilege to be elected by the people to represent his community, it was an even greater honour to be chosen by his colleagues to serve as the County's first citizen. He said he was delighted to share the occasion with his family and friends.

Councillor Hagan paid tribute to his sisters for their constant encouragement and support throughout his political journey. He also acknowledged the support of the Fine Gael branch in Killoe, with particular thanks to Jim McGoldrick for his guidance and encouragement over the years. He took the opportunity to remember the late Victor Kiernan, recognising his valued contribution and influence.

He expressed his appreciation to the Mercy Secondary School, Kilbeggan, and its Principal, Garrett Farrell, for their support and understanding in facilitating his leave from teaching to allow him to devote his full attention to the role of Cathaoirleach.

Looking to the year ahead, Councillor Hagan outlined several priorities that he hopes to advance during his term of office and reaffirmed his commitment to working collaboratively with the Elected Members, the Chief Executive, Council staff and the wider community to deliver on these objectives. He concluded by acknowledging the dedication and leadership shown by the outgoing Cathaoirleach, Councillor Garry Murtagh, and thanked him for his service and stewardship of the Council over the past year.

Cathaoirleach Councillor Gerry Hagan wished to acknowledge Councillor Mick Cahill's absence from the meeting and he wished him a speedy recovery, hoping to see him back in the Chamber soon.

2. ELECTION OF LEAS CATHAOIRLEACH

It was proposed by Councillor Paul Ross seconded by Councillor Turlough McGovern that Councillor Mark Casey be appointed Leas Cathaoirleach of Longford County Council.

As there was no other nomination, Councillor Mark Casey was, thereby, elected Leas Cathaoirleach of Longford County Council until the Annual Meeting in 2027.

Councillor Mark Casey thanked his proposer Councillor Paul Ross and his seconded Councillor Turlough McGovern for nominating him for the position of Leas Cathaoirleach for the next 12 months.

Councillor Casey expressed that he is delighted to be Leas Cathaoirleach of Longford County Council for the next 12 months and he is looking forward to working closely with Cathaoirleach Councillor Gerry Hagan.

Chief Executive Paddy Mahon extended his congratulations to Councillor Hagan and Councillor Casey and he wished them both the best of luck in their roles for the year ahead.

3. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of Longford County Council will take place on 8 July 2026 at 4pm in the Council Chamber.

Confirmed and adopted at Meeting of Longford County Council held on 8 July 2026.