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**Minutes of Meeting of Longford County Council  
held in the Council Chamber and via Microsoft Teams on  
Wednesday, 8 April 2026 at 4pm**

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**PRESIDING:** Councillor Garry Murtagh

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Councillors Seamus Butler, Paul Ross, Niall Gannon, Peggy Nolan, Gerry Hagan, Padraig McNamara, Colin Dalton, Uruemu Adejinmi, Mick Cahill, Pat O'Toole, David Cassidy, Turlough McGovern, Mark Casey, Kevin Hussey, Martin Monaghan, Sean Mimmagh 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. Aisling Logan Heaney, Staff Officer  
Mr. Philip McKeon, Assistant Staff Officer  
Mr. Danny Lynch, Head of IT  
Ms. Fema Flanagan, Financial Management Accountant  
Ms. Mariana Alexandrino, Vacant Homes Officer  
Ms. Anita Doherty, Staff Officer  
Ms. Mary Rose McNally, Audit Committee  
Ms. Louise Connaughton, Clerical Officer

**APOLOGIES:** None

**MEETINGS**

**ADMINISTRATOR:** Ms. Lorraine McKee

**1. ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

On the proposal of Councillor Peggy Nolan seconded by Councillor Uruemu Adejinmi the minutes of the monthly meeting of Longford County Council held on 11 March 2026, as circulated, were confirmed, and adopted.

On the proposal of Councillor Uruemu Adejinmi, seconded by Councillor Peggy Nolan the minutes of the committee meeting of Longford County Council held on 26 March 2026, as circulated, were confirmed and adopted.

**2. MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES**

None

**3. DECLARATION OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS**

None

**4. MANAGEMENT REPORT**

The Elected Members noted the management report.

Director of Services Samantha Healy updated the members on the affordable housing scheme. Currently the scheme is oversubscribed with 70 applications and 26 fully completed applications. It is anticipated there may be over 75 completed applications for this scheme.

Councillor Seamus Butler sought clarification as to whether hands-free phone systems had been installed across the Council's vehicle fleet.

**5. TO NOTE CE AND DELEGATION ORDERS**

Noted

**6. TO NOTE ADOPTED MINUTES OF CORPORATE POLICY GROUP MEETING HELD ON 11 FEBRUARY 2026**

Noted

**7. FINANCE, INNOVATION, INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND EMERGENCY SERVICES**

**(i) Audit and Risk Committee Annual Report 2025**

On the proposal of Councillor Mick Cahill seconded by Councillor Pat O'Toole the Audit and Risk Committee Annual Report 2025 was adopted.

**(ii) Annual Review of Audit and Risk Committee Charter 2024-2029 (2026)**

On the proposal of Councillor Peggy Nolan seconded by Councillor Pat O'Toole the Annual Review of Audit and Risk Committee Charter 2024-2029 (2026) was adopted.

(iii) **Consideration of Approval of Loan funding of €2,000,000 to finance Longford MD footpath programme**  
On the proposal of Councillor Peggy Nolan seconded by Councillor Uruemu Adejinmi loan funding of €2,000,000 to finance Longford MD footpath programme was approved.

(iv) **New Rent Payment App**  
Aisling Logan Heaney, made a presentation to the Members on a new app that has been developed for rent payments.  
The presentation included the following:

- What is MyCoco?
- How can tenants register for MyCoco?
- Using MyCoco
- Current uptake

Financial Management Accountant, Fema Flanagan answered questions raised by the Elected Members.

## **8. SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT**

(i) **Section 183 – Freehold Interest 26 Teffia Park, Longford**  
On the proposal of Councillor Peggy Nolan seconded by Councillor Kevin Hussey Section 183 Freehold Interest 26 Teffia Park, Longford was approved.

(ii) **Approval to the appointment of Ms. Patricia Doyle, nominee of Department of Social Protection as a member of Longford Local Community Development Committee (LCDC)**  
On the proposal of Councillor Seamus Butler seconded by Councillor Pat O’Toole Ms. Patricia Doyle, nominee of Department of Social Protection, was appointed as a member of Longford Local Community Development Committee (LCDC).

## **9. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

(i) **Consideration and adoption of Annual Report 2025**  
On the proposal of Councillor Paul Ross seconded by Councillor Mick Cahill the Annual Report 2025 was adopted.

(ii) **Consideration of Revised Protocol – Flags**  
On the proposal of Councillor Paul Ross seconded by Councillor Pat O’Toole the revised Civic Protocols were adopted.

(iii) **Vacant Homes Grant Update**  
Vacant Homes Officer Mariana Alexandrino made a presentation to the Members updating them on the Vacant Homes Grant. Mariana and Anita answered questions raised by the Elected Members.

The presentation included the following:

- Current Grant Scheme
- Overview: Applications Received to Date
- Before and After Refurbishment
- Economic Benefits
- Schemes Promotion Efforts
- New Grant Schemes
  - VPRG Expansion – Conversion of Commercial Building to Residential Use
  - Above the Shop Grant
  - Expert Advice Grant Scheme

(iv) **Consideration of Civic Reception**

This item will be referred to Granard Municipal District as agreed at the Corporate Policy Group meeting on 8 April 2026.

**10. PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT**

**(i) To note planning applications received**

Councillor Seamus Butler commended the efficiency of the Planning Enforcement Department. The Director of Services, Barbara Heslin, expressed her appreciation to the Elected Members for highlighting issues relating to unauthorised developments to the Planning Team and advised that she would convey the Members' compliments to the staff.

**11. GENERAL**

**Notice of Motions**

**The following Notice of Motion was proposed by Councillor Paul Ross and seconded by Councillor Padraig McNamara**

We call on Longford County Council to identify a funding source for the appointment of a dedicated, full-time and fully resourced Access and Inclusion Officer.

**Response:**

Funding will be required from Central Government to fund a full-time Access and Inclusion Officer.

**12. CORRESPONDENCE**

- (I) **Correspondence from Minister Browne**  
Noted
- (II) **Correspondence from Minister Troy**  
Noted
- (III) **Resolution Clare County – Disability Payment**

- Noted
- (IV) Correspondence from Sorca Clarke TD**  
Noted
- (V) Correspondence from Minister Higgins**  
Noted
- (VI) Correspondence from Minister Carroll MacNeill**  
Noted

**13. TRAINING FOR APPROVAL**

On the proposal of Councillor Peggy Nolan seconded by Councillor Paul Ross, the training circulated was approved.

**14. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of Longford County Council will take place on Wednesday, 13 May 2026 at 4pm in the Council Chamber.

**Confirmed and adopted at Meeting of Longford County Council held on 13 May 2026.**