

**Minutes of Meeting of Longford County Council
held in the Council Chamber and via Microsoft Teams on
Wednesday, 14 January 2026 at 4pm**

PRESIDING: Councillor Garry Murtagh

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

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr. John Brannigan, A/Chief Executive
Ms. Barbara Heslin, Director of Services
Mr. John McKeon, Director of Finance
Ms. Samantha Healy, Director of Service
Mr. Danny Lynch, Head of IT
Ms. Siobhan Grealy, STEM Engagement Officer
Ms. Christine Collins, Broadband Officer
Mr. Joseph Murphy, Senior Staff Officer
Ms. Louise Connaughton, Clerical Officer

APOLOGIES: Mr. Paddy Mahon, Chief Executive

MEETINGS
ADMINISTRATOR: Ms. Lorraine McKee

The members unanimously expressed their sympathies on the passing of former Councillor Maura Kilbride-Harkin and Councillor Seamus Finn. Deputy Chief Executive John Brannigan extended his sympathies on behalf of Longford County Council. Cathaoirleach Councillor Garry Murtagh suspended Standing Orders as a mark of respect to former Councillor Maura Kilbride-Harkin and former Councillor Seamus Finn.

The Cathaoirleach suspended standing order for ten minutes as a mark of respect for the late Councillor Maura Kilbride-Harkin and Councillor Seamus Finn.

1. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

On the proposal of Councillor Pat O'Toole, seconded by Councillor Peggy Nolan the minutes of the monthly meeting of Longford County Council held on 5 December 2025, as circulated, were confirmed, and adopted.

2. MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES

None

3. DECLARATION OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS

None

4. MANAGEMENT REPORT

The members discussed in details issues with water throughout the county. On the proposal of Councillor Turlough McGovern, seconded by Councillor Mark Casey, it was agreed to write to Uisce Eireann urgently requesting a meeting.

Councillor Peggy Nolan requested that the CEO's in Longford, Leitrim and Sligo arrange a meeting with Iarnrod Eireann to discuss the possibility of a fast-track rail line to Connolly station.

5. TO NOTE ADOPTED MINUTES OF CORPORATE POLICY GROUP MEETING HELD ON 12 NOVEMBER 2025

Noted

6. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

(i) Political Donations – Local Elections (Disclosure of Donations and Expenditure) Act 1999, as amended – Members of Local Authorities.

Noted

(ii) Political Donations – Local Elections (Disclosure of Donation and Expenditure) Act 1999, as amended – Third Parties.

Noted

7. PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

(i) TO NOTE PLANNING APPLICATIONS RECEIVED

Noted.

8. FINANCE, INNOVATION AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

(i) Longford County Council Digital & ICT Strategy

Head of IT, Danny Lynch made a detailed presentation to the members on the final update on Longford's Digital & ICT Strategy. The presentation included the following:-

- Dream Space

- Stem Passport Inclusion
- Post Primary Tech Awards
- Working with industry and school network

The members thanked Danny and his team for the excellent work they are doing across the county to promote computer science among young students in our schools.

(ii) **Midlands STEM EUJT Project – From Classroom to Community: Ready for 2030**
 Christine Collins, Digital Broadband Officer, and Siobhan Grealy, STEM Engagement Officer made a detailed presentation to the members on Midlands Ireland EUJTF Project. The presentation included the following:

- Developing STEM in our Schools
- Key STEM Programmes
- Dream Big TY Programme
- Longford Dream Space
- VEX Robotics
- Other STEM initiatives including, Lego League, Hydrogen Cars, Drones and VR Headsets
- Supporting: Ericsson's TY Infuse Programme & STEM Passport for Inclusion
- Midlands Showcase
- STEM Passport for Inclusion
- Awards and Recognition
- Looking forward
- The results and impact
- Alignment with Ireland's national and EU digital policies

The members thanked Christine and Siobhan for their presentation and for their continued dedication to the work they are doing in the community.

9. SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

(i) **Section 183 Notice – 10 Golf View, Glack, Longford**

On the proposal of Councillor Kevin Hussey seconded by Councillor Seamus Butler, the section 183 Notice 10 Golf View, Glack, Longford was approved.

10. GENERAL

None

11. CORRESPONDENCE

(I) **Correspondence from Limerick City and County Council**

Noted

(II) **Correspondence from Luke Ming Flanagan**

Noted

(III) **Correspondence from Sorca Clarke**
Noted

(IV) **Correspondence from TII**
Noted

(V) **Correspondence from Carlow County Council**
Noted

(VI) **Correspondence from Nina Carberry**
Noted

(VII) **Correspondence from Maria Walsh**
Noted

12. TRAINING FOR APPROVAL

None

13. VOTES OF SYMPATHY

The Elected Members unanimously paid tribute to Councillor Maura Kilbride-Harkin and Councillor Seamus Finnegan on their recent passing. The Elected Members extended their condolences to the family and friends of the deceased RIP.

14. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of Longford County Council will take place on Wednesday, 11 February 2026 at 4pm in the Council Chamber.

Confirmed and adopted at Meeting of Longford County Council held on 11 February 2026.