

LONGFORD MUNICIPAL DISTRICT

Minutes of Meeting of Longford Municipal District held in the Council Chamber Aras an Chontae and via MS Teams on Wednesday, 22 July 2026 at 4pm

CATHAOIRLEACH:

Councillor Kevin Hussey

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Councillors Peggy Nolan, Niall Gannon, Uruemu Adejinmi, Gerry Hagan, Seamus Butler

IN ATTENDANCE:

Mr. John Brannigan, Director of Services
Mr. Peter Brady, Senior Executive Engineer
Ms. Anita Doherty, Staff Officer
Ms. Louise Connaughton, Clerical Officer

MEETINGS

ADMINISTRATOR:

Ms. Lorraine McKee

APOLOGIES:

Councillor Martin Monaghan

Backstage Theatre Presentation

Representatives from the Backstage Theatre, Hannah, Margel, Sasha, and Paul made a presentation to the Elected Members informing them on the Backstage Youth Theatre in Longford.

The presentation included the following:

- Background
- Our Impact
- On Stage
- Youth Theatre Ireland Member's Survey 2026
- Working with Professionals

- Barriers
- Youth Theatre Ireland
- Youth Theatre Ireland Young Critics
- BYT Members who have performed at the Abbey Theatre
- Community and Creativity
- Testimonials
- How Backstage Youth Theatre Works
- Making it Sustainable

The Elected Members thanked the representatives from the Backstage Theatre for their detailed presentation, and they will support them, through the Arts Officer of Longford County Council, in seeking funding to hire an artistic director.

1. ADOPTION OF MINUTES – CIRCULATED

- I. On the proposal of Councillor Kevin Hussey seconded by Councillor Seamus Butler it was unanimously agreed to adopt the Minutes of Meeting of Longford Municipal District held on 27 May 2026 as circulated.
- II. On the proposal of Councillor Uruemu Adejinmi seconded by Councillor Seamus Butler it was unanimously agreed to adopt the Minutes of Committee Meeting of Longford Municipal District held on 27 May 2026 as circulated.
- III. On the proposal of Councillor Uruemu Adejinmi seconded by Councillor Peggy Nolan it was unanimously agreed to adopt the Minutes of Committee Meeting of Longford Municipal District held on 24 June 2026 as circulated.
- IV. On the proposal of Councillor Seamus Butler seconded by Councillor Peggy Nolan it was unanimously agreed to adopt the Minutes of Meeting of Longford Municipal District held on 24 June 2026 as circulated.

2. MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES

At the last Longford Municipal District meeting it was agreed by the members to refer Longford South & Town Community Games Community Grants application 2026 to Sports Partnership for consideration

The Members considered and unanimously agreed to recommend €900 to this group and refer them to the July meeting of Longford MD for their consideration.

On the proposal of Councillor Uruemu Adejinmi seconded by Councillor Seamus Butler, €900 was awarded to Longford South & Town Community Games.

At the last Longford Municipal District meeting it was agreed by the members to refer Camlin Brownies Community Grants application 2026 to the July meeting of Longford Municipal District.

On the proposal of Councillor Peggy Nolan seconded by Councillor Seamus Butler, €500 was awarded to the Camlin Brownies.

3. DECLARATION OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS

None

4. ENGINEERS REPORT – as circulated.

Peter Brady updated the members on the Engineers Report, which was noted, and he answered any questions and concerns raised by the Elected Members.

Councillor Seamus Butler highlighted that the works on the footpaths in Templemichael was not completed, as stated in the Management Report.

Councillor Uruemu Adejinmi requested that the Council consider widening the road on Great Water Street when resurfacing is underway.

Councillor Peggy Nolan thanked the Tidy Towns and the Environment Section of Longford County Council for their work carried out along the Camlin River.

Councillor Niall Gannon thanked Peter Brady and his team, along with the staff of Longford County Council for the help and guidance shown to him while organising Longford Family Fest 2026.

Councillor Seamus Butler informed the members that he is looking forward to welcoming visitors from Noyal-Châtillon-sur-Seiche, France, to Longford over the coming days. A packed programme of events has been organised across the county, providing an excellent opportunity to strengthen friendships, celebrate cultural connections, and showcase all that Longford has to offer.

5. CORRESPONDENCE FROM COURTS SERVICES

The Elected Members noted the correspondence from the Courts Services.

Councillor Seamus Butler requested that Longford County Council write to the new Superintendent Tomás Waters seeking records of instances over the last 5 years on or in the vicinity of the entrance to the Courthouse in Longford Town. The Members unanimously agreed.

6. NOTICE OF MOTIONS

The following Notice of Motion was proposed by Councillor Kevin Hussey seconded by Councillor Uruemu Adejinmi

That Longford County Council carries out a review of the current taxi rank arrangements on Ballymahon Street with a view to establishing a permanent 24-hour taxi rank in one designated location, to improve road safety, accessibility and the efficient operation of taxi services within Longford Town.

Response:

Longford County Council will review the current taxi rank arrangements on Ballymahon Street, including the feasibility of providing a permanent 24-hour taxi rank in a single designated location. The review will consider road safety, accessibility, traffic management, parking requirements, the operational needs of

taxi service providers, and the needs of businesses in the area. Any proposal will seek to balance the provision of an effective taxi service with maintaining access, visibility, and convenience for local businesses and their customers before recommendations are brought forward for consideration.

The following Notice of Motion was proposed by Councillor Kevin Hussey seconded by Councillor Uruemu Adejinmi

That Longford County Council assesses the existing zebra crossing on Park Road, opposite the former Steele's premises, with a view to replacing it with a raised zebra crossing to improve pedestrian safety and assist with traffic calming in this increasingly busy area.

Response:

It is noted that the existing crossing serves a busy area of the town with significant pedestrian movements. Upgrading the crossing to a raised zebra crossing would encourage lower vehicle speeds and strengthen pedestrian priority at this location. Following engagement with our Active Travel Department, it will be included in the Active Travel Programme for 2027/2028. The delivery of this work is subject to funding availability.

The following Notice of Motion was proposed by Councillor Kevin Hussey seconded by Councillor Seamus Butler

That Longford County Council approves the lighting of the Council Offices in pink and blue on 15th October 2026, subject to the approval of the Corporate Policy Group (CPG), in support of the 'Wave of Light' ceremony taking place at the Memorial Garden, Great Water Street, Longford, to mark International Pregnancy and Infant Loss Remembrance Day and to remember all babies lost through miscarriage, stillbirth and neonatal death.

Response:

This Notice of Motion will be forwarded to the CPG for consideration.

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

I call on the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation and the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to urgently increase the State subsidy available for local authority affordable housing schemes in light of escalating construction and development costs which are driving up house prices and reducing affordability for working individuals and families.

The Council further calls on Government to provide additional capital funding to reduce the financial burden placed on Longford County Council through its equity contribution to affordable housing projects, ensuring that affordable homes remain genuinely affordable and that future housing developments are not jeopardised by funding shortfalls.

Response:

Longford County Council will write to Minister Jack Chambers and Minister James Browne in this regard.

7. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of Longford Municipal District will take place on Wednesday, 23 September 2026 in the Council Chamber.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Confirmed and adopted at Longford Municipal District Meeting held on the 23 September 2026.