

**LONGFORD MUNICIPAL DISTRICT**

**Minutes of Meeting of Longford Municipal District held via MS Teams**

**on Wednesday, 23rd June 2021 at 4.30pm**

**CATHAOIRLEACH**: Councillor Uruemu Adejinmi

**MEMBERS PRESENT**: Councillors – Seamus Butler, Martin Monaghan,

John Browne, Peggy Nolan, Gerry Warnock,

Gerry Hagan

**IN ATTENDANCE**: Mr. Declan Kilcline, A/Director of Services.

Mr. Eamonn Bennett, Senior Executive Engineer.

Ms. Lorraine Mc Kee, Administrative Officer.

**APOLOGIES:** Mr. John Brannigan, Director of Services

**MEETINGS**

**ADMINISTRATOR:**  Ms. Ann Marie Mc Keon

**ADOPTION OF MINUTES – circulated.**

On the proposal of Councillor Peggy Nolan seconded by Councillor Gerry Hagan, it was unanimously agreed to adopt Minutes of Longford Municipal District Meeting held on the 26th May 2021.

Councillor Uruemu Adejinmi

All the Members joined in wishing Councillor Adejinmi every success during her term of office as Cathaoirleach.

Councillor Adejinmi thanked the members for the vote of confidence and highlighted how she has become the first Immigrant, the first African Woman to be elected as Cathaoirleach of Longford Municipal District and she hoped that her election would inspire more migrants and more women to become public representatives.

Uruemu thanked her family, friends, party colleagues and all the councillors of Longford Municipal District for their support. It's a massive privilege and an honour and a great responsibility to take on the role of Cathaoirleach and I will do it to the best of my ability for our community.

Uruemu thanked the Chief Executive, Management Team, support staff, meetings administrator and all the staff of Longford County Council

**MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES.**

Update on Grant Application Projects

Councillor Nolan asked for an update on a notice of motion that was passed at the June meeting of Longford County Council “ Update for the members on grant application projects”, Ann Marie Mc Keon explained that once the draft minutes of the June meeting were adopted that this item would be placed as a standing item on all Municipal District agendas.

Leader Park/Neary Park

Councillor Seamus Butler requested an update on Leader Park and Neary Park for the July meeting.

**SUPPLEMENTARY STANDING ORDERS – REMOTE MEETINGS**

Noted.

**DECLARATION OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS.**

None.

**MANAGEMENT REPORT INCORPORATING AREA ENGINEER’S PROGRESS REPORT – circulated.**

The Management Report, as circulated, was noted.

Eamonn Bennett detailed the Area Engineer’s Progress Report and replied to queries raised.

The members requested an update on the Battery Road/Abbeycarton Scheme for the July meeting.

**NOTICES OF MOTIONS**

Road Safety Audit

The following Notice of Motion was proposed by Councillor Gerry Warnock and seconded by Councillor Peggy Nolan -

I am calling on Longford Municipal District in tandem with our Housing Estates

Management Team to carry out a complete road safety audit on all estates within Longford

Municipal District that are taken in charge by Longford County Council, with particular mind

to the condition of existing speed ramps and the erection of signage (Slow Down, Children at

Play, etc.) as appropriate. I have received many representations on and witnessed the absolute

recklessness of some drivers within residential areas, that has actually led to some estates

erecting makeshift signs to try and get them to slow down. We should not be found wanting

in ensuring the safety of residents and their children.

**Reply**

It should be noted that Longford County Council have introduced a special speed limit of 30KpH in all public roads in housing estates. Roads have installed specific speed limit signs, and these are installed at the entrance to each estate. In the Longford Municipal District there are approximately 120 housing estates similarly in the Ballymahon Municipal District there are approximately 70 housing estates and in the Granard Municipal District there are approximately 50 housing estates. The roads department of Longford County Council do not have the resources in place to commence a programme of road safety reviews of all housing estates. If elected members receive a report on dangerous driving in housing estates then these concerns should be reported to the Gardai by the elected member and the Municipal District executive should also be informed in order that these areas can be reviewed and evaluated and where necessary appropriate measures such as signage, raised platforms etc, can be put in place.

Eamon asked the members to send them their list of estates where the ramps needed to be repaired/replaced. The policy on ramps will be discussed at the Infrastructure Strategic Policy Committee Meeting in July.

Footpath at Silver Birches to Grattan Og GAA

The following Notice of Motion was proposed by Councillor Gerry Warnock and seconded by Councillor Gerry Hagan -

I'm requesting that Longford Municipal District explore the possibility of providing a

footpath or a designated coloured pedestrian lane (if cost prohibitive) between Silver Birches

and the Grattan Og GAA Clubhouse at Stone Park. I am also requesting that a speed survey

be carried out with a view to implementing speed control measures on that stretch between

the said housing estate and Stonepark National School.

**Reply**

The project involves the construction of 800m on the south side of the L – 5213. This project would involve installing footpaths at least 2m wide. This work will require land purchase with road widening, drainage works, as well as ducting for Eircom, ESB, public lighting and broadband. The costs to extend the footpath from Silver Birches and the GAA club at Stonepark could be at least €350 per metre.   The estimated project costs will be in the region of €300,000.00. This scheme would be considered for an active travel funding application in due course. We will request the road design office to carry out a speed survey on the road between Silver Birches and Stonepark school.

Dumping at Templemichael Terrace

The following Notice of Motion was proposed by Councillor Martin Monaghan and seconded by Councillor Peggy Nolan -

That our Environmental Department place a camera at the back of Templemichael Terrace

deter the constant dumping which is occurring there.

**Reply**

This proposal has been referred to the Wate Enforcement Team in Environment for action.

Heavy Goods Vehicle

The following Notice of Motion was proposed by Councillor Seamus Butler and seconded by Councillor Gerry Warnock -

‘That Longford Municipal District puts in place a Heavy Goods Vehicle traffic plan that will

exclude the use of Teffia Park and Park Road for HGVs by directing western bound traffic to

the N4 by-pass to access the N5 and then the N63 through Ballyminion. The reverse route

should also be from the N63 through Ballyminion and the N5 to the N4. This is to ensure that

the town is largely free of HGVs except for access.’

**Reply**

The current diversion route through and around Longford was put in place by the Transport Infrastructure Ireland at the time of the N5 Longford By-Pass. At that time the link road through the Flancare Estate was not a public road. However, this is now a public road and that offers an opportunity to re-evaluate the heavy goods vehicle diversion route and potentially remove some of the heavy good vehicle diversion from Longford Town. Longford County Council will engage with the Transport Infrastructure Ireland to seek to have this route redesigned and a new diversion route implemented.

Caravan

The following Notice of Motion was proposed by Councillor Seamus Butler and seconded by Councillor Gerry Warnock -

‘That Longford Municipal District will explore every avenue and leave no stone unturned to

see that the caravan on Richmond Street is permanently removed’

**Reply**

The Housing Department are currently engaging with the occupants of the Caravan.

Councillor Butler requested an update for the July meeting.

Hedgecutting

The following Notice of Motion was proposed by Councillor Gerry Hagan and seconded by Councillor Martin Monaghan -

I call on Longford Municipal District with the interest of safety for all road users, to carry out

hedge cutting and grass cutting at all road junctions with immediate effect. The recent spurt

of growth over the past two weeks has left junctions in a very hazardous dangerous and state.

**Reply**

Hedge cutting works on national, regional and local roads is carried out on an annual basis. Longford County Council tender for hedge cutting works throughout the county before the end of June. The successful contractor is appointed in July and hedge cutting works will start shortly thereafter.

The members unanimously agreed that this tender should be advertised in March and works commenced in June every year.

Footpaths Melview School to Drumlish Road

The following Notice of Motion was proposed by Councillor Gerry Hagan and seconded by Councillor John Browne -

I call on Longford Municipal District to install a footpath to join up the path from Melview

school to the Drumlish road.  This is due to the increased numbers of people walking this

road as well as the increasing numbers of children who are now walking and cycling to

Melview national school.

**Reply**

This work would involve installing footpaths at least 2m wide with public lighting for approximately 900m from Melview N.S. along the L-1018 and L-10182to the R- 198 at Melview. Almost 200m of footpath will lie within the proposed route corridor for the N4 realignment between Mullingar and Tomiskey.

The work will require land purchase with road widening and embankments as well as ducting for public lighting and broadband. Typical costs to carry out this type of work will be €250 per metre.   The project will require funding of approximately €250,000.00 including contingencies. This scheme would be considered for an active travel funding application in due course after construction of the N4 realignment.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

**Ann Marie Mc Keon**

**Signed: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Ann Marie Mc Keon**

**Meetings Administrator.**

**Confirmed and adopted at Longford Municipal District Meeting held on the 28th July 2021.**

**Uruemu Adejinmi**

**Signed: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Cathaoirleach.**