

**LONGFORD MUNICIPAL DISTRICT**

**Minutes of Meeting of Longford Municipal District held in the Council Chamber Aras an Chontae and via MS Teams on Wednesday, 28 September 2022 at 3.30pm**

**CATHAOIRLEACH**: Councillor Gerry Hagan

**MEMBERS PRESENT**: Councillors – Seamus Butler, Martin Monaghan, Uruemu Adejinmi, John Browne, Peggy Nolan, and Gerry Warnock

**IN ATTENDANCE**: Mr. John Brannigan, Director of Services

Mr. Eamonn Bennett, Senior Executive Engineer

Ms. Lorraine Mc Kee, Administrative Officer

**APOLOGIES:** Ms. Anne Marie McKeon

**A/MEETINGS**

**ADMINISTRATOR:**  Mr. Gerard Dennigan

On the proposal of Councillor Peggy Nolan and seconded by Councillor John Browne the members unanimously agreed to suspend the standing orders of the meeting to discuss the correspondence received form the Minister of Housing Dara O’Brien on the social housing eligibility threshold. Following a lengthy discussion, the members unanimously agreed to write to the Minister for housing requesting a special meeting to discuss these thresholds.

**ADOPTION OF MINUTES – circulated**

On the proposal of Councillor Peggy Nolan seconded by Councillor Seamus Butler it was unanimously agreed to adopt Minutes of Meeting of Longford Municipal District Committee Meeting held on the 26 July 2022.

On the proposal of Councillor Seamus Butler seconded by Councillor Martin Monaghan, it was unanimously agreed to adopt Minutes of the Longford Municipal District Meeting held on the 26 July 2022.

**MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES**

Councillor Seamus Butler updated the meeting on the visit of Noyal Chatillon Sur Seiche Twinning which will take place in November 2022.

**DECLARATION OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS**

None.

**MANAGEMENT REPORT**

The Management Report, as circulated, was noted. Councillor John Browne complimented Longford County Council on the Longford Tenant Handbook.

**PRESENTATION -COMMUNITY WARDEN**

Suzanne Duffy provided a presentation to the member on the Community Warden. The presentation included the key functions of the Community Warden and issues to date which included;

* Littering and ASB at Garvey’s Yard/Broadens Lane/Courthouse Carpark
* Littering in estates McEoin Park, Ardnacassa Area & Gleann Riada
* Littering outside takeaways/off licenses (new bins outside Kelleher’s/Luigi’s)
* Posters in the town: damage to poles
* Electric Scooters & bikes on Footpaths
* Dog Fouling in the town, mall and canal
* Homelessness – camping in the Mall
* ASB – Public Drinking/Begging
* Parking on main street, primary schools e.g St Josephs

The members thanked Suzanne for a very informative presentation and acknowledged the work of the Community Warden to date.

**COMMUNITY GRANT SUPPORT SCHEME 2022**

**Clonguish Court Residents Association**

On the proposal of Councillor Martin Monaghan seconded by Councillor John Browne, it was unanimously agreed that €2,000 be allocated to Clonguish Court Residents Association.

**Longford Model Aero Club**

On the proposal of Councillor Gerry Hagan seconded by Councillor Martin Monaghan, it was unanimously agreed that €1,650 be allocated to Longford Model Aero Club.

**Longford Tidy Towns**

On the proposal of Councillor Gerry Hagan seconded by Councillor Martin Monaghan, it was unanimously agreed that €20,000 be allocated to Longford Tidy Towns.

**Longford Variety Group**

On the proposal of Councillor Peggy Nolan seconded by Councillor Gerry Hagan, it was unanimously agreed that €3,000 be allocated to Longford Variety Group.

**Longford Women's Link**

On the proposal of Councillor Gerry Hagan seconded by Councillor Martin Monaghan, it was unanimously agreed that €1132.38 be allocated to Longford Women’s Link.

**St. Mels Musical Society**

On the proposal of Councillor Peggy Nolan seconded by Councillor Gerry Hagan, it was unanimously agreed that €5,000 be allocated to St. Mels Musical Society.

**Teffia Park Residents Association**

On the proposal of Councillor Peggy Nolan seconded by Councillor John Browne, it was unanimously agreed that €2,000 be allocated to Teffia Park Residents Association.

**NOTICES OF MOTIONS, SUBMITTED BY COUNCILLORS:**

**Sensory room in Longford Library**

The following Notice of Motion was proposed by Councillor Uruemu Adejinmi and seconded by Councillor Martin Monaghan -

I call on Longford County Council to install a sensory room in Longford Library to make the library more inclusive for residents in Longford.

**Response -Paula Mulry, Longford Library**

All of our libraries embrace our ethos of being welcoming and inclusive spaces for all our citizens. The current open plan mezzanine layout of Longford Library would not be suitable to install another room. Longford Library will be our number one priority in the next Call for the Library Capital Funding Programme. We do have sensory facilities in Longford Library including the Tovertafel Sensory Table which is hugely popular with local schools and groups. The Magic Table ([Tovertafel](http://www.tovertafel.co.uk/)) is a fun care innovation designed for use by people with dementia, autism and learning disabilities. It consists of a series of interactive light games that are projected on to a table and infrared sensors respond to the hand and arm movement of the player. We have one in Ballymahon and Edgeworthstown Community libraries also. The Library service was also awarded a small amount of Dormant Accounts funding in 2022 for the creation of a sensory wall space (similar to the new one in our new library in Edgeworthstown) for Longford Library, Ballymahon and Granard Libraries and we look forward to having these spaces installed shortly. The sensory wall is hugely popular in our new

library and we have a dedicated sensory hour every 2nd Saturday which is hugely popular with the community, and we would hope to replicate this in Longford Library and our other libraries once the sensory wall spaces are completed.

**Road markings and signage in Farneyhoogan**

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

I call on Longford County Council to update road markings and signage in Farneyhoogan Estate for safety of motorists and residents.

**Response-**

Longford County Council will upgrade the road markings and install mandatory signage on the public roads in Farneyhoogan estate

**Radharc na Coille, Cullyfad.**

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

Following the taking in charge of the roads and lighting in this development, that Longford County Council, now take in charge the small sewerage plant that services the six houses in Radharc na Coille, Cullyfad.

**Response – Paul Newell, Senior Engineer, Water Services and Environment**

The Waste Water Treatment Plant in Radharc na Coille Estate is what is referred to as a Developer Provided Infrastructure or DPI.  A major study is currently being undertaken by Irish Water which is scheduled to be completed in 2022 of DPIs nationally. This will inform future policy considerations.

The Council will only take a treatment plant in Charge when it can subsequently be transferred to Irish Water.  This is not possible while this review is underway.

**Crossroads at Kiernan’s Forge**

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

I call on Longford Municipal Council to carry out a low-cost safety scheme at the crossroads at Kiernan’s Forge. This is one of the busiest junctions with accidents occurring on a regular a basis.

**Response -**

Longford County Councilwill refer this motion to road design, who will apply to the department of Transport for funding under a Low Cost Safety scheme to carry out this work.

**Irish Water**

The members unanimously agreed that Longford County Council would write to Irish Water requesting there attendance at a full meeting of Longford County Council to discuss issues.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

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

**Gerard Dennigan**

**A/Meetings Administrator.**

**Confirmed and adopted at Longford Municipal District Meeting held on the 26 October 2022.**

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

**Cathaoirleach.**