



Comhairle Contae Lú  
Louth County Council

### **Cruinniú de Cheanta Bhaile Átha Fhirdia / Municipal District of Ardee – April 2025**

Minutes of Municipal District of Ardee meeting – hosted in the Dermot O’Brien Room, Ardee Civic Offices, Ardee on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2025 at 4:30pm

#### **In attendance:**

**Cathaoirleach:** Councillor John Sheridan

**Members:** Councillor(s) Bernie Conlon, Rachel Kerley, Pearse McGeough, Jim Tenanty

**Apologies:** Councillor(s) Dolores Minogue

**Officials:** Bernie Woods, Head of Finance  
John Lawrence, Senior Executive Officer  
Keith McArdle, Assistant Engineer  
Enda Murphy, Senior Executive Engineer  
Sinéad Dooley, Meeting Administrator

#### **Minute No. 26/25**

#### **Minutes of Meeting held on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2025**

Minutes adopted on the:

**Proposal of:** Cllr. Bernie Conlon  
**Seconded by:** Cllr. Pearse McGeough  
**And approved.**

#### **Minute No. 27/25**

#### **Matters Arising**

- Under Minute No. 17/25 a response remained outstanding in respect of queries raised on the refusal of maintenance requests for 67 social housing units. John Lawrence, Senior Executive Officer, understood that a response had issued via email but undertook to follow-up.
- Under Minute No. 18/25 an update was sought on a request for signage for walkers on road outside Louth Village.
- The cutting of hedges along the R132 was welcomed and it was requested that areas around Dunleer Cemetery be included. While Enda Murphy, Senior Executive Engineer, understood that the area had been included he undertook to follow-up.

## **Minute No. 28/25**

### **Housing Progress Report**

Members discussed the report as circulated in advance of the meeting. John Lawrence, Senior Executive Officer, provided further updates and addressed matters raised.

The following items were noted:

- With reference to the Vacant Property Refurbishment Grant, it was queried if anything could be done in respect of vacant units above shops. John Lawrence committed to raising the query with the Vacant Homes Officer.
- Of the 20 Units at Quarry Court, John Street/Stoneylane, Ardee, it is intended that 6 units will be made available on Choice Based Letting shortly, 3 ground floor units are reserved for people with disabilities while the remaining 11 units, subject to Departmental approval, may be made available under the Affordable Purchase Scheme. Should there be no uptake the units will revert to Social Housing. John Lawrence undertook to get figures in respect of Ardee expressions of interest and share with Members.

## **Minute No. 29/25**

### **Roads and Local Services Report**

Members discussed the report as circulated in advance of the meeting. Enda Murphy, Senior Executive Engineer addressed matters raised.

The following items were highlighted:

- Enda Murphy to revert with detail of the nature of works carried out by ESB along the Riverside Walkway.
- Details of application made under the Community Involvement Scheme for Public Roads Improvements to be shared with Enda Murphy.
- TII has indicated that due to unavailability of funds works required along the N2, Ardee to Cookstown, will not be completed in 2025.
- It was suggested that surface works be carried out along the Greenway/Riverside Walkway with a view to getting tarred similar to the Carlingford Greenway. Members undertook to consider the feasibility of providing an allocation, to contribute to the costs of such proposed works, from their 2025 Discretionary Funding allocation.

## **Minute No. 30/25**

### **Taking in Charge Report**

Keith McArdle, Assistant Engineer, attended the meeting and responded to queries from the elected members. It was noted that:

- Site inspections to be conducted at 8 houses at Darver and at The Orchard in Dunleer. Progress will be made at Mullavally subject to ESB commissioning connection.
- While possibly a matter for Operations, Keith McArdle undertook to look into the matter of lights and footpath at White River Manor.

### **Minute No. 31/25**

**Notice of Motion – Cllr John Sheridan**  
**Seconded: Cllr Jim Tenanty**

"That Louth County Council convene a meeting of relevant stakeholders (incl An Garda Síochána) to discuss a safety action plan for the N33 junction with the Castleguard road in Ardee.

The junction is incredibly dangerous especially between 4pm and 6pm on weekdays. Previous motions at this Municipal have suggested solutions including a 'no right turn' onto the N33 from the Castleguard road but have not yet been implemented. "

**Reply from D. Jones, Director of Services, Placemaking and Physical Development:**

The matter of a proposed safety scheme for the junction of the N33 with the road from Castleguard Manor was raised by the Council with Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) during 2024, and in particular a proposal to make access onto the N33 as a left turn only at this location.

The Council has recently requested a meeting with TII's Safety Section to discuss a number of proposed safety schemes in the County for 2025 that affects national roads, including the location that is subject to this Notice of Motion.

Once further engagement has taken place with TII on the matter as outlined, which is expected shortly, the Council will be in a position to consult with other relevant stakeholders, including An Garda Síochána as part the process, with a view to implementing a safety scheme at this location.

### **Minute No. 32/25**

**Notice of Motion – Cllr Pearse McGeough**  
**Seconded: Cllr Jim Tenanty**

"That this municipal Council organises a meeting of all stakeholders with a view to establishing a forum to explore solutions to the on-going traffic gridlock that blights the town of Ardee".

**Reply from D. Jones, Director of Services, Placemaking and Physical Development:**

The Council is aware of the concerns at local level in relation to the ongoing delay in respect of the delivery of the proposed N52 Ardee Bypass and the resultant impact on the volume of traffic through the town.

Meetings have taken place lately between the Council and the recently formed 'Get Ardee Moving Again' group, where the issue of traffic congestion and related matters have been discussed.

The Council is committed to ongoing engagement with this group on the matter, whilst in parallel the legal challenge to the proposed Bypass is decided upon by the Courts.

### **Minute No. 33/25**

**Any Other Business**

- An online meeting to discuss 2025 Municipal Discretionary Budget to be arranged for Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> April at 3pm.

As there was no other business the meeting concluded.

**The Minutes were confirmed on:**

**Date:** 01 May 2025  
**Cathaoirleach:** Seán Ó Stóradáin  
**Meeting Administrator:** Sinead Doolan