



Comhairle Contae Lú
Louth County Council

Cruinniú de Cheanta Bhaile Átha Fhirdia / Municipal District of Ardee – January 2025

Minutes of Municipal District of Ardee meeting – hosted in the Dermot O'Brien Room, Ardee Civic Offices, Ardee on Thursday 6th February 2025 at 4:30pm

In attendance:

Cathaoirleach: Councillor John Sheridan

Members: Councillor(s) Rachel Kerley, Pearse McGeough,

Apologies: Councillor(s) Bernie Conlon, Dolores Minogue, Jim Tenanty

Officials: Bernie Woods, Head of Finance
Declan Grimes, Senior Engineer
Keith McArdle, Assistant Engineer
Olivia McCormack, Senior Executive Officer
Enda Murphy, Senior Executive Engineer
Sinéad Dooley, Meeting Administrator

Minute No. 8/25

Minutes of Meeting held on Thursday 9th January 2025

Minutes adopted on the:

Proposal of: Cllr. Pearse McGeough

Seconded by: Cllr. Rachel Kerley

And approved.

Minute No. 9/25

Matters Arising

- Cllr. McGeough sought clarity on the commencement of works at Mullavalley and queried if penalties would be imposed in recognition of the stipulation requiring commencement of works by end 2024. Declan Grimes, Senior Engineer, advised that site preparation/'stripping' works were carried out in December which was sufficient for the purpose of meeting the stipulation that works commence by end 2024.
- Cllr. McGeough sought an update on the advancement of works on the 91 Units currently captured under the Energy Retrofit Programme. Declan Grimes, Senior Engineer, advised that energy assessments were currently underway. Declan undertook to develop, and share with Members, a list of works to be undertaken throughout the year.

Minute No. 10/25

Housing Progress Report

Members discussed the report as circulated in advance of the meeting. Declan Grimes, Senior Engineer provided further updates and addressed matters raised.

The following items were noted:

- Declan Grimes to recirculate to Members the Affordable Housing Scheme Survey conducted in 2024.
- Central Government determines energy retrofitting budget allocation.
- Members were invited to send through to Elected Reps any matters of maintenance work which may not be addressed under the Energy Retrofitting Scheme.
- Cllr. Sheridan asked that consideration be given to the 2025 Programme for Government Commitment in respect of the development of serviced sites to facilitate the construction of 3-10 housing units through the Ready to Build Scheme. Cllr. Sheridan suggested that a survey be conducted to explore interest in such serviced sites.

Minute No. 11/25

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:

- Compliments were extended to LCC Staff for their response to Storm Éowyn and it was noted that works were ongoing in respect of the clearing trees.
- It was queried if LCC maintained an inventory of trees that may pose a threat and if Ash dieback was also factored into considerations. Enda Murphy indicated that while an inventory was not currently maintained it is anticipated that National Guidelines will follow on foot of the recent storm.
- At the request of Cllr. McGeough, Enda Murphy committed to determining if hedge growth on ditches at St Oliver's Park, Kilsaran and along Mosstown Road would be cut, as would traditionally be the case at this time of year.
- Subject to the availability of funding, it is intended that advance warning signage will be erected, at R132 White House Cross and low-cost safety measures will be installed along the R166.
- Phase 3 – Design and Agreement - of the Active Travel Scheme will be conducted throughout 2025 with construction to commence in 2026.

Minute No. 12/25

Placemaking Report

Members discussed the report as circulated in advance of the meeting. Olivia McCormack, Senior Executive Officer, addressed matters raised and also provided a presentation on Ardee 2040.

The following items were noted:

- Phase one of the tender assessment process in respect of the refurbishment of Ardee Castle is complete.
- Engagement is ongoing with TII in relation to Ardee 2040 and pre-planning approval for the Main Street. Once approval from TII is issued, the planning pack will be submitted to An Bord

Pleanala.

- It was suggested that it would be beneficial if a Public Consultation was conducted in respect of the proposed development under Ardee 2040.

Minute No. 13/25

Taking in Charge Report

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

- Progress will be made at Mullavalley subject to ESB commissioning connection.
- Keith McArdle will follow up with relevant Officials for updates in respect of works at Knockfergus, Oriel Heights Collon and Fosters Close.

Minute No. 14/25

Notice of Motion: Cllr John Sheridan's Motion

Deferred: March Meeting

Proposed: Cllr. Pearse McGeough

Seconded: Cllr. Rachel Kerley

Minute No. 15/25

Any Other Business

- Cllr. Sheridan noted the good publicity received in respect of the recent Ardee Civic Awards and congratulated all involved in the success of the occasion.
- Cllr. Sheridan requested that proposals in respect of the 2025 Municipal Discretionary Budget be submitted by 28th February for collation and subsequent consideration on March 6th.

As there was no other business the meeting concluded.

The Minutes were confirmed on:

Date:

Cathaoirleach:

Meeting Administrator:

6.3.25
[Signature]
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