



Comhairle Contae Lú  
Louth County Council

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

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

### **In attendance:**

**Cathaoirleach:** Councillor John Sheridan (Leas Cathaoirleach)

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

**Apologies:** Dolores Minogue

**Officials:** Bernie Woods, Head of Finance  
Susan Deery, Deputy Meeting Administrator  
Moya Hodggers, Arts Officer  
Enda Murphy, Senior Executive Engineer  
Declan Grimes, Senior Engineer  
Anna Nowacka, Clerical Officer

### **Minute No. 93/25**

### **Minutes of Monthly Meeting held on Thursday, 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2025**

Minutes adopted on the:

**Proposal of:** Cllr Pearse McGeough

**Seconded by:** Cllr Bernie Conlon

**And approved.**

### **Minute No. 94/25**

### **Matters Arising**

- Cllr McGeough requested an update on the scheduling of the Public Meeting referenced in Minute No. 32/25. It was agreed to add this item to the December agenda for discussion, on the proposal of Cllr John Sheridan, seconded by Cllr Pearse McGeough.
- Cllr Pearse McGeough requested an update on Choice Based Letting (CBL) in the area. Mr. Declan Grimes confirmed that all vacancies are allocated in accordance with the Scheme of Allocations and advised that there are currently five vacant houses in the Ardee area listed on CBL. He further noted that additional allocations will become available and advertised through the CBL Scheme in the coming weeks and months

## **Minute No. 95/25**

### **Housing Progress Report**

Declan Grimes, Senior Engineer, attended the meeting and responded to queries from the Elected Members. It was noted that:

- Cllr McGeough inquired about the responsibilities of tenants and landlords in relation to properties infested with vermin, as well as any support programmes available. Mr. Declan Grimes confirmed that responsibility lies with the tenant, in accordance with the Tenant Handbook. He noted that Council assistance is provided only when an individual is unable to manage the issue independently.
- Members requested an update on the allocation of the Affordable Housing Scheme and the timeline for housing maintenance requests. Mr. Grimes advised that 50 applications had been received for a total of 11 units. The portal closed last week, and the first 8 applicants - all of whom have submitted complete documents, including mortgage approval - have been offered units, with a further 3 offers to follow.
- Mr. Grimes, further advised Members that response times to housing maintenance requests vary depending on the urgency of the issue, with water leaks and heating problems prioritised.

## **Minute No. 96/25**

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

Enda Murphy, Senior Executive Engineer, attended the meeting and responded to queries from the Elected Members. It was noted that:

- Works on the Greenway have been completed following the receipt of €15,000 in funding, and it is now open for use
- Installation of speed ramps in Annagassan is scheduled to take place for within the coming fortnight.
- Cllr Conlon requested an update regarding the ramps outside Dunleer National School that require repainting. Mr. Murphy confirmed that this work will be incorporated into the line-painting programme within the coming weeks.
- Cllr Tenanty requested an update on the installation of Christmas lights on Ardee Castle. Mr. Murphy undertook to follow up on this matter and revert with an update.
- Cllr Sheridan sought an update regarding the official naming of the Castleguard Road. Director of Services, Bernadette Woods, confirmed she would revert with an update.
- Cllr McGeough highlighted a sinkhole on Brewery Street, Castleblinham and stressed the importance of monitoring the area. Mr. Murphy noted the matter and committed to monitoring the situation.
- Cllr Tenanty raised concerns about waste spilling from livestock lorries traveling through Ardee and asked whether the local authority has powers to investigate and enforce. Enda Murphy advised that these matters may fall outside the Council's jurisdiction and may come under TII or the Department of Agriculture. He confirmed he will provide an update.

## **Minute No. 97/25**

### **Nomination of Member to Public Art Advisory Group.**

At the Council Meeting on Monday, 20 October 2025, the New Public Art Policy for Louth was noted. Arts Officer, Moya Hodggers, advised that, in line with the policy, one nomination is to be sought from each Municipal and Borough District for an elected representative to sit on the Public Art Advisory Group. Members were requested to consider the nomination of one representative from the

Municipal District of Ardee. Cllr Bernie Conlon was nominated.

**Proposed by:** Cllr Pearse McGeough  
**Seconded by:** Cllr Rachel Kerley  
**And approved.**

**Minute No. 98/25**

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

*"To avoid the traffic gridlock in Ardee, I am calling on Louth County Council to upgrade its current signposts on the N2 north of Collon to digital signage.*

*This is to encourage traffic that is merely passing through Ardee, travelling north, to utilise the R169 Collon-Dunleer Road to access M1, N33 to return to N2 and continue their journey northwards".*

**Reply from David Hanratty, Operations & Environment Delivery**

The council will approach TII, who fund signs and lines on the N2 and N33, if they can fund a digital sign(s) as suggested to reroute north-bound N2 traffic outside the town of Ardee.

**Minute No. 99/25**

**Congratulations**

Congratulations were extended to Moya Hodgers, Arts Officer, for her exemplary work in organising the Ferdia Festival.

**Minute No. 100/25**

**Condolences**

Condolences were extended to the family and friends of the following, who had recently passed away:

- Mary Capplis, The Square, Blackrock.

As there was no other business, the meeting concluded.

**The Minutes were confirmed on:**

**Date:**

4-12-2025

**Cathaoirleach:**

D. M. M. M.

**Meeting Administrator:**

J. Deacy