



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 4th September 2025 at 4:30 pm

In attendance:

Cathaoirleach: Councillor Dolores Minogue

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

Apologies:

Officials: Bernie Woods, Head of Finance
Susan Deery, Acting Meeting Administrator
John Lawrance, Senior Executive Officer
Enda Murphy, Senior Executive Engineer
Michelle Curran, Administrative Officer
Paula Keenan, Administrative Officer
Anna Nowacka, Clerical Officer

Minute No. 70/25

Minutes of Monthly Meeting held on Thursday 3rd July 2025

Minutes adopted on the:

Proposal of: Cllr. Rachel Kerley
Seconded by: Cllr. Pearse McGeough
And approved.

Minute No. 71/25

Minutes of Special Meeting held on Friday 22nd August 2025

Minutes adopted on the:

Proposal of: Cllr. Jim Tenanty
Seconded by: Cllr. Rachel Kerley
And approved.

Minute No. 72/25

Matters Arising

- Members sought an update on Minute No. 18/25 in respect of signage on Ballyoran Road, with Enda Murphy confirming that the signage will be installed before the next meeting.
- Members sought an update on Minute No. 32/25 concerning the convening of a Public Meeting to discuss the ongoing traffic issues within Ardee. Cllr Minogue will revert to Members with a date and time of this meeting.
- A burst watermain at St John's Street was highlighted. Enda Murphy confirmed that a meeting is scheduled with Uisce Éireann to discuss minimising disruption during the replacement of a 355-meter watermain on St John's Street.
- Members were also reminded that St. John's Street will not be resurfaced this year and that the funding will now be allocated to repair Stoney Lane. An update was also sought on the delivery of Affordable Housing Scheme units at Quarry Court, Ardee. John Lawrence advised the Members of their incoming launch which will offer 11 three-bedroom units. An open viewing day is yet to be scheduled, where prospective clients will be able to view the units, and the scheme criteria will then be circulated to Council Members in due course.

Minute No. 73/25

Housing Progress Report

John Lawrence, Senior Executive Officer, attended the meeting and responded to queries from the Elected Members. It was noted that:

- Members acknowledged the ongoing challenges in the Ardee Municipal Area, including significant rent arrears and a shortage of available housing units. They expressed support for future legislative changes which would enhance the powers of Local Authorities to address non-payment of rent more effectively.
- John Lawrence agreed to clarify with Members whether individuals on the social housing list are permitted to apply for housing outside their selected areas of preference through the Choice-Based Letting (CBL) scheme.

Minute No. 74/25

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:

- Members expressed appreciation for the public consultation on speed limits but raised concerns regarding road safety on the N52, specifically the stretch from Barretts Lane to Jervis Street. They enquired about implementing a single white line, citing issues with traffic congestion and vehicles overtaking despite oncoming traffic. Members noted that enforcement is limited due to the presence of a broken white line. Enda Murphy will assess the situation and revert with a response in due course.
- Members requested updates on gully clearance, hedging, and tree cutting, and enquired if the executive could compile a list of trees requiring attention, particularly within housing estates. Enda Murphy confirmed that private landowners will continue to be reminded of their responsibilities to maintain hedgerows through regular cutting.
- Members requested an update on the proposed right-turn onto the bypass at the Castleguard Road Junction with Enda Murphy confirming that views from TII are awaited following a request from the executive, to consider.
- Enda Murphy informed Members that a survey of all digital signage is currently underway and that he will provide an update on the findings once available.

- Members noted the faded pedestrian crossing near Louth Village School (R171) and suggested repainting it to encourage use, especially with new developments nearby.
- Members requested an update on the recent tendering process for the Local Improvement Scheme (LIS). Enda Murphy confirmed that the tenders are currently being opened and that the list of tenderers will be shared with Members once it becomes available.

Minute No. 75/25

Physical Development Report

No concerns were raised.

Minute No. 76/25

To agree the inclusion of additional works under the Road Works Programme 2025

Minutes adopted on the:

Proposal of: Cllr. Jim Tenanty
Seconded by: Cllr. Dolores Minogue
And approved.

Minute No. 77/25

Community Safety Partnership – Local Authority Membership

Following discussion on the number of Members which would be nominated, it was established that Cllrs Tenanty, McGeough, Kerley & Conlon all sought inclusion on this group. A rollcall vote was then taken to ascertain if the Municipal District of Ardee would nominate two or four members for final resolution at the Council Meeting of 15th September 2025.

The results of the roll call vote to nominate two members from the Municipal District of Ardee were:

Name	For	Against	Abstain	Absent
Bernie Conlon	1	-	-	-
Pearse McGeough	1	-	-	-
Dolores Minogue	-	1	-	-
John Sheridan	1	-	-	-
Jim Tenanty	1	-	-	-
Rachel Kerley	1	-	-	-
	5	1	-	-

And resolved.

Members proceeded to vote on the nominated members as follows:

Name	Cllr Tenanty	Cllr McGeough	Cllr Kerley	Cllr Conlon
Bernie Conlon	1	1	-	-
Pearse McGeough	1	1	-	-
Dolores Minogue	-	-	1	1
John Sheridan	1	1	-	-
Jim Tenanty	1	1	-	-
Rachel Kerley	1	-	1	-
	5	4	2	1

Resolving that Cllr. Pearse McGeough and Cllr. Jim Tenanty would be put forward to full Council as the nominated Community Safety Partnership representatives for the Municipal District of Ardee.

Minute No. 78/25

Notice of Motion: Cllr Dolores Minogue

Secinded: Cllr Rachel Kerley

“The Louth County Council, in recognition of the long-standing cultural, educational, and musical contributions of the Ardee Concert Band to the town and wider community, supports the development and installation of a permanent bandstand in Ardee. This structure would serve as a public performance space for the Ardee Concert Band and other local groups, enhancing community engagement, promoting the arts, and providing a focal point for musical and civic events in the town”.

Reply from David Jones, Capital Projects & Infrastructure Delivery

As part of the Ardee 2040 project, a performance/events space is proposed within the overall development of the railway lands as a public amenity space for Ardee.

The planning submission for Ardee 2040 is to be lodged shortly with An Coimisiun Pleanala, and upon the necessary consents being in place, the Council will pursue all funding opportunities to realise the ambition of the overall project, including the performance space as referenced.

Minute No. 79/25

Notice of Motion: Cllr John Sheridan

Secinded: Cllr Jim Tenanty

“That the Ardee Municipal District would have an update on how many valid CIS applications (Community Involvement Scheme for resurfacing public tertiary lanes) are on the file in the district, and the listing of the lanes that have valid applications in the district, including the lane or townland and the LT road number of the lane application.

This listing would assist councillors in providing guidance to constituents if they have valid applications or not”.

Reply from David Hanratty, Operations & Environment Delivery

There are currently two roads on the existing CIS waiting list within the Ardee Municipal District which are not included in the scheduled works for 2025. The roads are listed below in alphabetical order.

The assessment and ranking of each road is reviewed on an annual basis, along with any new applications received. We do not release the position numbers on the waiting list as the roads are reassessed annually, and due to varying road conditions, can move up and down the Ranking List annually.

Drumard, Killanny	LT51511
Lannatt, Killanny	LT11532

Minute No. 80/25

Congratulations

Congratulations and best wishes were extended to athlete Abbie Sheridan on her outstanding achievement in winning her first national senior track title in the 3000m steeplechase at the Santry Stadium, Dublin in August. Members commended her dedication, talent, and hard work.

Minute No. 81/25

Condolences

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

Briege Agnew, Dundalk Road, Castlebellingham
Hugh Brennan, Ballybonia, Reaghstown, Ardee
Orla Carroll, Brewery Houses, Kilsaran, Castlebellingham
Ollie Farrell, Dundalk Road, Ardee
Margaret Kearney, Castle St., Ardee
Pat Martin, Loreto, Tierney St., Ardee

Minutes No.82/25

Any Other Business

- Members expressed a desire to commence arrangements for the Municipal District of Ardee's annual conferring of Civic Awards and as an initial step, Susan Deery, A/Meetings Administrator asked that the Members complete the necessary nomination form and return at their earliest convenience. Ms Deery undertook to ascertain the availability of the Court House for some time in the month of December before finalising a suitable date.

As there was no other business, the meeting concluded.

The Minutes were confirmed on:

Date: 2-10-25
Cathaoirleach: D. Murphy
Meeting Administrator: Susan Deery