



Comhairle Contae Lú
Louth County Council

Cruinniú Bardasach Dhún Dealgan / Municipal District of Dundalk

Minutes of Municipal District of Dundalk Meeting – Council Chamber, Town Hall, Dundalk -
Tuesday, 8th July 2025 at 5:15pm

In attendance:

Leas Cathaoirleach: Councillor Andrea McKevitt

Members: Councillor(s) Marianne Butler, Ciarán Fisher, Séan Kelly, Sionnain McCann, Shane McGuinness, Fiona MhicConchoille, Kevin Meenan, Antóin Watters (online)

Apologies: Councillor(s) Emma Coffey, Robert Nash, John Reilly, Maeve Yore,

Officials: Thomas McEvoy, Deputy Chief Executive, Director of Services
Susan Deery, Meetings Administrator
Declan Grimes, Senior Engineer
Keith McArdle, Assistant Engineer,
Lorraine Quigley, Administrative Officer
Paula Keenan, Administrative Officer
Gavin McLaughlin, Communications Officer

Minute No. 59/25

Minutes of Annual Meeting held on 10th June 2025

Minutes adopted on the;

Proposal of: Cllr. Marianne Butler

Seconded by: Cllr. Kevin Meenan

And resolved

Minute No. 60/25

Minutes of Monthly Meeting held on 10th June 2025

Minutes adopted on the;

Proposal of: Cllr. Marianne Butler

Seconded by: Cllr. Antóin Watters

And resolved

Minute No. 61/25

Housing Progress Report

Members noted the report as circulated in advance of the meeting and Declan Grimes, Senior Engineer addressed matters raised at the meeting. The following items were noted:

- It has been confirmed that the LCC engages with tenants who are in rent arrears to establish appropriate payment plans. When maintenance or retrofit applications are submitted for a property with outstanding rent, LCC will consider all relevant circumstances surrounding the tenant(s) before proceeding.
- Dumping of building materials at a private property in Muirhevnamor was highlighted and confirmed it will be followed up by officials.
- The matter of dangerous dogs in private and social housing was discussed and Members were advised that Dog Wardens are employed by LCC to investigate any instances which may arise. It was also noted that the tenant handbook outlines tenant/s responsibilities in respect to the control of pets/dogs.
- Maintenance of vacant properties was discussed, and confirmation was received that there are currently 20 vacant properties in Dundalk with a contractor procured to carry out improvement works.

Minute No. 62/25

Roads and Local Services Report

Members discussed the report as circulated in advance of the meeting. Lorraine Qugley, Administrative Officer, noted the issues raised by Elected Members. The following was noted:

- Cllr Fisher requested that the council reinstate the bollard at Earl Street to eliminate cars parking on the pedestrianised street and to limit the damage to the paving.
- Members requested that there was a need for greater clarity and the development of a formal policy regarding 'No Mow May', including the identification of specific areas that should continue to be maintained throughout the period. This follows concerns that verges and hedgerows have become noticeably overgrown in recent times.
- Confirmation was requested as to how long CCTV units are to be retained in specific areas, prior to being relocated to other areas. CCTV was also requested to be installed in Edentubber.
- An update was requested on the work to the tap at Templetown which has been vandalised numerous times in recent weeks.
- Information was requested on any grant assistance which may be available to replace septic tanks and percolation systems upon planning permission to refurbish buildings.
- A bus shelter or a safe space to stand was requested at the Rock Road, Blackrock.
- Road conditions were highlighted at the junction of Park Street & Dublin Street, Dundalk.
- Cllr Mhic Conchoille requested that the council assess whether the lampposts in Dundalk could be repainted.
- An update on the opening of the tennis courts in Muirhevnamor was requested.
- Updates on traffic calming measures was requested at The Ferns, Blackrock and Dunmahon Cross.

Minute No. 63/25

Provision of Assistance for the promotion of interests of local community groups or projects provided under Section 66 of the Local Government Act 2001

Members considered the Community Grants as presented to them and approval was;

Proposed by: Cllr. Siobhán McCann
Seconded by: Cllr. Andrea McKeivitt
And resolved.

Minute No. 64/25

Notice of Motion – Cllr. Maeve Yore

“That Dundalk MD as part of road works programme/resurface works on Stapleton Place install a pedestrian crossing to ensure safety for pedestrian crossing from Hill Street Bridge side over to Dublin St where there’s clear visibility and safety for motorists and cyclists.”

Due to Cllr Yore’s absence the Notice of Motion was deferred to September meeting.

Minute No. 65/25

Notice of Motion – Cllr. Antóin Watters

Seconded by: Cllr. Fiona Mhic Conchoille

“Call on Louth County Council to carry out a road safety audit at the junction of the LP3097 Jonesborough Road and the LS7100-0 Faughart National School Road, adjacent to the railway bridge. Can I request that the location is assessed as part of Phase II of the Countywide Speed Limit Review and for appropriate traffic calming measures and renewed line markings. Can I also request an approximate timeline for this audit”.

Reply from David Hanratty, A/Director of Services, Operations & Environmental Delivery

Louth County Council is committed to improving road safety across the county. However, the demand for road safety measures continues to exceed the available resources, and projects must be prioritised based on objective, evidence-led assessments. This particular location was not identified in the Department of Transport’s recent “Regional and Local Road Network Safety Analysis (Round 2)” as a Location of Interest (LOI). The LOI process is designed to highlight sites where evidence-based investment, such as Low-Cost Safety Improvement Works (LCSIW), would yield the most effective outcomes based on national collision data. As such, this junction is currently outside the Department’s targeted safety investment programme.

Nevertheless, this location will be reviewed as part of **Phase II of the Countywide Speed Limit Review**, which is scheduled to commence later in 2025. While Phase I (completed in February 2025) applied a blanket 60 km/h limit to rural local roads, Phase II will focus on environments where lower speed limits (e.g., 30 km/h) may be more appropriate.

Pending further analysis, the Council will also consider:

- Renewal of line markings, subject to routine maintenance scheduling;
- The feasibility of traffic calming measures, subject to funding and design constraints.

At present, a Road Safety Audit at this location is not programmed under existing work plans. However, the location will continue to be monitored, and if future data or risk assessments indicate a safety concern, it may be considered for inclusion in future safety programmes

Minute No. 66/25

Notice of Motion – Cllr. John Reilly

“That Louth County Council investigate any available funding streams to repair a short section of the Ring of Gullion walkway in Dungooley, which has fallen into disrepair.”

Reply from Thomas McEvoy, Economic Delivery Directorate

The Council’s engineering, heritage and tourism teams have inspected the site and are aware of

the condition of this footpath, which provides a historic and cross-border pedestrian route between Forkhill, County Armagh and the old graveyard at Urney, County Louth.

The Council would welcome a community led proposal to improve the quality of the path which would include the consent of landowners and will provide advice on funding (e.g. LEADER, ORIS, PEACE) and technical issues should a proposal from the community emerge.

The Notice of Motion from Cllr Reilly was postponed due his absence from the meeting.

Minute No. 67/25

Condolences

Condolences were extended to the family and friends of:

Kofi Owusu, Rockfield Court, Hoey's Lane, Dundalk,

Minute No. 68/25

Congratulations

Congratulations were extended to Mr. Paddy Connolly, Senior Executive Engineer upon his retirement from Louth County Council.

Minute No. 69/25

Any Other Business

The Minutes were confirmed at a meeting of the Council held on:

Date:

9/9/2025

Cathaoirleach:

[Signature]

Meeting Administrator:

[Signature]