Comhairle Contae Lú
Louth County Council

Cruinniú de Cheanta Bhaile Átha Fhirdia / Municipal District of Ardee

Minutes of Municipal District of Ardee meeting – hosted in the Dermot O'Brien Room, Ardee Civic Offices, Ardee on Thursday, 1st October 2026 at 4:30 pm.

In attendance:

Cathaoirleach: **Councillor** Jim Tenanty

Members: **Councillor(s)** Pearse McGeough, John Sheridan, Rachel Kerley, Dolores Minogue, Bernie Conlon

Apologies: **Councillor(s)**

Officials: David Conway, Chief Executive
Bernadette Woods, Director of Finance
Anne D Callan, Deputy Meetings Administrator
Olivia Gaskin, A/Administrative Officer
Ben Holland, Assistant Engineer
Anna Nowacka, Clerical Officer
John Stewart, Clerical Officer

Minute No. 72/26

Notice of Motion for Purpose of Dealing with Urgent Business

In compliance with Standing Order No. 20, Cllr. McGeough sought the consent of the Members to consider the following Emergency Notice of Motion as urgent business:

"The members of the Municipal District of Ardee express their serious alarm and concern at the determination of the Parades Commission in relation to the Drumcree Parade along the Garvaghy Road in Portadown. The members request that these concerns be conveyed to the Taoiseach and Tánaiste and call on the Government, in the context of its role as co-guarantor of the Good Friday Agreement, to raise the matter with the British Government and seek to ensure that the concerns of the Garvaghy Road community are fully respected."

The proposal to consider the matter as urgent business was:

Proposed by: Cllr. Pearse McGeough
Seconded by: Cllr. Jim Tenanty

A roll call vote took place on the proposal to admit the motion as urgent business.

Councillors	For	Against	Abstain	Absent
Conlon, Bernie	1			
McGeough, Pearse	1			

Minogue, Dolores	1			
Sheridan, John	1			
Tenanty, Jim	1			
Kerley, Rachel	1			
Result	**6**	-	-	-

The proposal was carried and the motion was admitted for consideration as urgent business.

The Emergency Motion was subsequently considered and supported.

Minute No. 73/26

Minutes of Monthly Meeting held on Thursday, 3rd September 2026

The minutes from the 3rd September 2026 meeting were:

Proposed by: Cllr. John Sheridan
Seconded by: Cllr. Pearse McGeough
And Approved.

Minute No. 74/26

Matters Arising

- Members were advised that the proposed improvements at the Castleguard Junction remain under review and that alternative options are being explored in consultation with TII.
- Members were advised that, as part of the Town Centre First initiative, proposals are being considered for the demolition of the former public toilets in Dunleer and the development of a public realm space at the location.
- Members raised a number of operational matters relating to roadworks, N2 digital signage, manhole on Sean O'Carroll Street, footpath repairs in Annagassan, blocked gullies on Kells Road, the marking of disabled parking bays, public lighting and estate maintenance. Officials undertook to examine the matters raised and provide updates where appropriate.

Minute No. 75/26

Taking in Charge Report

Members noted the report as circulated in advance of the meeting. Assistant Engineer, Mr. Ben Holland, addressed matters raised by members. The following points were noted:

- The process for taking housing estates in charge was discussed, including survey requirements and associated funding implications.
- Limited funding has been allocated to undertake condition surveys within the Rockfield development.
- The developer may proceed with the submission of a Taking in Charge application for Phase 1 of Oriel Heights, Collon, pending the commencement of Phase 2.
- The Orchard, Dunleer is subject to a limited bond and the status of the bond relating to Cloughan Bridge, Stoney Lane would be examined and reported upon.

Minute No. 76/26

Housing Progress Report

A/Administrative Officer, Ms. Olivia Gaskin, attended the meeting and responded to queries from the Members. It was noted that:

- Allocations are currently being made in respect of housing units at An Mullach, Louth Village.
- The criteria for the allocation of social housing is determined under the Scheme of Allocations and is based primarily on applicants' time on the housing waiting list. Provision is also made for the prioritisation of applicants with disabilities.
- Housing units at Ravel Drive, Dunleer, are expected to be completed by December 2026.

Minute No. 77/26

Roads and Local Services Report

Director of Finance, Ms. Bernadette Woods, presented the Roads and Local Services Report on behalf of Mr. Mark Johnston, Senior Engineer, who was unavailable to attend the meeting.

The following points were noted:

- Concerns were raised regarding traffic obstructions caused by delivery vehicles at Brophy's Corner and the access from Kells Road to Main Street.
- Members requested consideration of measures to address unauthorised posters on Council property at Fair Green.
- Tree and hedge maintenance works will be progressed as a seasonal priority.

Minute No. 78/26

Taking in Charge – Quarry Court, John Street & Stoney Lane, Ardee

A report on the Declaration of Roads to be Public Roads, in the development known as Quarry Court, John Street & Stoney Lane, Ardee was presented under Section 11 of the Roads Act 1993 and approved on the:

Proposal of: Cllr. Rachel Kearly
Seconded by: Cllr. Dolores Minogue
And approved.

Minute No. 79/26

Draft Budgetary Plan for 2027

Director of Services, Ms. Bernadette Woods, presented the Draft Budgetary Plan for 2027 and advised that an allocation of €100,000 is available to each Municipal District. She noted that the budget is still at an early stage and will be subject to further review.

The allocation of €100,000 for the Municipal District of Ardee for 2027 was approved on the:

Proposal of: Cllr. Bernie Conlon
Seconded by: Cllr. John Sheridan
And Approved.

Minute No. 80/26

Congratulations

- Members extended their congratulations on the retirements of Sarah Curran from the Fabric Shop and Mary McGahon from Moods Boutique, Ardee, expressing their very best wishes for the future.
- Members thanked V&W Recycling for the mattress collection and LCC for organising the initiative, recognising the excellent work carried out.

Minute No. 81/26

Condolences

Members reflected on the one-year anniversary of the tragic loss of Louise, Mark and Evan O'Connor and acknowledged the community's efforts to honour their memory through commemorative events, including a candlelit vigil and the Stonetown 5K Road Race.

Minute No. 82/26

Any other Business

- Date to be agreed for the Annual Municipal District of Ardee Civic Awards and Nomination Forms to be circulated to Members.
- An In-Committee Teams Meeting was scheduled for 14th October at 6:30 pm to discuss the Municipal District of Ardee Discretionary Fund Allocations.

As there was no other business, the meeting concluded.

The Minutes were confirmed on:

Date: 05/11/2026

Cathaoirleach:

Meeting Administrator: