



Comhairle Contae Lú
Louth County Council

Cruinniú Ceantar Buirge Dhroichead Átha - Borough District of Drogheda Meeting
- Seomra na Comhairle, Sráid an Aonaigh, Dhroichead Átha - The Council
Chamber, Fair Street, Drogheda - Dé Luain, 3ú Samhna 2025 ag 4:15in -
Monday, 3rd November 2025 at 4:15pm

Clár Oibre / Agenda

- 1.0 Minutes of Meeting held on the 6th October 2025
- 2.0 Minutes of Special Meeting held on the 14th October 2025
S. Dooley

Tuarascálacha / Reports

- 3.0 Housing Progress Report
D. Grimes
- 4.0 Roads & Local Services Report
M. Johnston, Senior Engineer

Gnó Reachtúil / Statutory Business

- 5.0 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 Community Grants

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- 6.0 Nomination of Member to Public Art Advisory Group

Fógraí Foriarratais / Notices of Motion

- 7.0 Notice of Motion - Cllr Declan Power

That this Council supports the introduction of a 'Chatty Bench' initiative across Drogheda's public spaces, aimed at reducing loneliness, fostering community connection, and promoting mental wellbeing. These benches will be clearly marked with inviting signage, encouraging residents, visitors and the elderly to sit and engage in friendly conversation. The initiative can be piloting in high-footfall areas such as our parks, and riversides.

Background / Rationale:

- Tackles social isolation in a low-cost, high-impact way
- Aligns with national wellbeing strategies and age-friendly goals

- Offers a visible and inclusive solution for dealing with loneliness
- Chatty Benches have been installed in other local authorities such as Fingal County Council

8.0 Notice of Motion - Cllr Pio Smith & Cllr Paddy McQuillan

The LECP 2024-2029 recognizes the lack of sporting facilities in the county and the need to encourage more citizens of the county to lead an active life. The LECP 2024-2029 SCOT Analysis identified the following Constraint: Lack of sports facilities in certain areas (incl. in rural areas and new estates) as well as a lack of alternative sporting options (i.e. other than GAA, soccer, etc.) LECO 6.2.4 Community and Quality of Life: states that 'The county is highly successful in sports considering its small size (including two League of Ireland clubs). However, there is still a need for sports amenities and facilities, as well as alternative recreational options' Also, LECP 2024-2029 Goal 3: Objective 3.4: Increase the rate of participation in physical activity. Based on the above, we are asking that the Local Authority consider developing the publicly owned green space (adjacent to the Boyne River) at Mell, into a community sports facility that will allow a number of soccer clubs from the town, as well as schools in Mell to share the ground. Also, that the facility will cater for alternative recreational options, and that a portion of the building levies from the significant number of houses being built in the area will be allocated to the project.

9.0 Notice of Motion - Cllr Michelle Hall

That this Council recognises the importance of creating an attractive, accessible, and pedestrian-friendly public realm within Drogheda town centre and calls for a review and rationalisation of existing street furniture and infrastructure, including but not limited to bollards, signage poles, bins, guardrails, and redundant utility equipment. The Council further resolves that: A coordinated audit be undertaken of all street furniture and related infrastructure within Drogheda town centre to identify items that are unnecessary, redundant, visually intrusive, or obstructive to pedestrians and people with disabilities; The findings of the audit inform a phased programme of removal, relocation, or consolidation of such items, with the goal of improving accessibility, sightlines, and overall visual coherence of the public realm; Future installations of public infrastructure, including signage and street furniture, be guided by a "clutter-free streets" policy, prioritising high-quality design, multifunctionality, and consistency of style and placement; and be coordinated with regeneration plans.

Background/Rationale

Excess and poorly coordinated street furniture contribute to visual clutter, hinder accessibility, and diminish the overall appearance of Drogheda's historic town centre. A strategic and design-led approach to public infrastructure will enhance the experience for residents, visitors, and businesses, reinforcing Drogheda's identity as a vibrant and welcoming urban centre.

10.0 Notice of Motion - Cllr Michelle Hall

That this Council recognises the benefits of adopting a holistic, evidence-based approach to improving health and wellbeing through urban planning and community development, and calls for the implementation of a Healthy Cities Framework for Drogheda. The council further resolves that: A Healthy Cities Framework - in line with the World Health Organization (WHO) model - be developed for Drogheda to embed health, wellbeing, and equity considerations across all local policy areas including housing, transport, environment, public realm, and community services; The Council undertake the collection of baseline data on key health determinants (including air quality, active travel, access to green space, housing conditions, social participation, and public safety) to inform and guide the framework; Based on this evidence, the Council prepare a Healthy Drogheda Action Plan setting out measurable objectives, targets, and timelines to improve population health and reduce inequalities; and The process be developed in collaboration with relevant stakeholders, including the HSE, local community and voluntary groups, educational institutions, and local businesses, ensuring broad participation and alignment with regional and national health and wellbeing strategies.

Background/ Rationale

The WHO Healthy Cities approach promotes integrated local action to improve health, sustainability, and quality of life. Establishing a Healthy Cities Framework for Drogheda will support data-driven decision-making, strengthen inter-agency cooperation, and ensure that future development enhances the physical, social, and environmental wellbeing of all residents.