



Comhairle Contae Lú
Louth County Council

Cruinniú Ceantar Buirge Dhroichead Átha - Borough District of Drogheda Meeting

Minutes of the Borough District of Drogheda Meeting held at Fair Street, Drogheda –
Monday, 2nd March 2026 at 4:15pm

In attendance:

Cathaoirleach: Councillor Michelle Hall

Members: Councillor(s) James Byrne, Eric Donovan, Anne-Marie Ford, Pio Smith, Ejiro O'Hare Stratton

Apologies: Councillor(s) Debbie McCole, Declan Power, Kevin Callan

Officials: Bryan Coughlan, Senior Executive Officer
Susan Deery, Deputy Meetings Administrator
Declan Grimes, Senior Engineer
Irene McGahon, A/Senior Executive Engineer
Paula Keenan, Administrative Officer
Aine Roddy, Assistant Communications Officer
Sharon Keaveney, Assistant Staff Officer

Minute No. 26/26

Constitution of Meeting (Standing Order No. 10)

In accordance with Standing Order No. 10, and, following general agreement of the Members present, Councillor Pio Smith assumed the role of Chair upon notification that the Mayor, Councillor Michelle Hall would be arriving late to the meeting.

Minute No. 27/26

Minutes of Meeting held on 9th February 2026

The minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on 9th February were confirmed on the:

Proposal of: Cllr. Ejiro O'Hare Stratton
Seconded by: Cllr. James Byrne
And Approved.

Minute No. 28/26

Minutes of Special Meeting held on 16th February 2026

The minutes of the Special Meeting held on 16th February were confirmed on the:

Proposal of: Cllr. James Byrne
Seconded by: Cllr. Anne-Marie Ford
And Approved.

Minute No. 29/26

Matters Arising

No Matters Arising were noted.

Minute No. 30/26

Housing Progress Report

Senior Engineer, Mr. Declan Grimes, responded to matters raised by Elected Members. It was noted that:

- In February, 116 letters were issued to housing tenants in rent arrears, and this figure is expected to increase in the coming months due to enhanced staffing resources.
- Essential maintenance is undertaken on a case-by-case basis where arrears exist; however, maintenance requests are processed as standard where a Payment Plan is in place.
- 32 social housing units in Boice Court are due to advertised via Choice Based Lettings in the coming weeks.

Minute No. 31/26

Constitution of Meeting (Standing Order No. 10)

As per Standing Order No. 10, and upon arrival of the Mayor, Councillor Michelle Hall to the meeting, she assumed the role of Chair, with Cllr. Smith returning to his position as a participating Member.

Minute No. 32/26

Update on New Tenant Engagement and ASB Strategy

Administrative Officer, Paula Keenan, provided an update on the development of a New Tenant Engagement and Anti-Social Behaviour Strategy indicating that:

- The Strategy is being developed under the Housing (Misc. Provisions) Act 2009, aligned with the Housing Acts 1966–2014 and the Housing (Misc. Provisions) Acts 1997 & 2014.
- It applies to all council-managed housing,
- Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) is defined in law as drug-related activity or behaviour causing significant or persistent harm, intimidation, damage, or interference with a person's home.
- The council addresses ASB through civil housing law, while An Garda Síochána manages criminal matters.
- Consultation on the draft Strategy will take place between (Feb–Oct 2026) and will include: Three public consultation events in Drogheda, Ardee, and Dundalk; Targeted

engagement with residents, community groups, Gardaí, HSE, youth services, Traveller groups, and others; A dedicated workshop for all councillors.

- The overall goal is to create a collaborative, evidence-based Strategy that reflects tenant voices and community needs across County Louth.

Minute No. 33/26

Roads & Local Services Report

A/Senior Executive Engineer, Ms. Irene McGahon, responded to matters raised by Elected Members. It was noted that:

- In respect to instances of water discharge from construction sites, it was confirmed that all planning permissions explicitly prohibit the discharge of water onto public roads. Any such occurrences are to be reported immediately to Planning Enforcement for investigation.
- Public lighting issues at Beaulieu Village would be reported to the relevant engineer for follow up along with queries regarding the wattage of recently installed lighting at Yellowbatter.
- A survey will be conducted to inform provision of additional bins at Lourdes Square to address littering issues.
- A road-marking contractor has now been appointed, and any outstanding projects will be completed over time.
- The location of Bus Shelters are driven by the National Transport Authority, however, locations such as the Lourdes Hospital were noted for future consideration. Members requested a list of bus shelters within the County.

Minute No. 34/26

Physical Development Report

Members agreed to defer this report to the April meeting.

Minute No. 35/26

Placemaking Report

Senior Executive Officer, Mr. Bryan Coughlan, responded to matters raised by Elected Members. It was noted that:

- The Executive continues to actively engage with the OPW and National Monuments Service on the proposed of the St. Laurence's Gate Plaza. A Part 8 planning application is expected to be brought forward by end of Q3 2026.
- Future plans for the development of West Street, West Gate House and The Tholsel will be provided to the Members in advance of the next meeting.
- A phased programme of essential maintenance along St. Dominic's Park and the Boyne Greenway will be implemented to minimise disruption for walkers and visitors between April and September 2026.

Minute No. 36/26

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. Pio Smith
Seconded by: Cllr. Eric Donovan
And Approved.

Minute No. 37/26

Request approval to commence The Statutory Consultation Process for Speed Limit Review in built up and Urban Areas

Members agreed to defer this item to the April meeting.

Minute No. 38/26

Condolences

Condolences were extended to the families and friends of:

- Peter Anthony Smith, Termonfeckin

As there was no other business the meeting concluded.

The Minutes were confirmed on:

Date:

11TH MAY '26

Mayor:

Michelle Hall

Meeting Administrator:

Sinead Dooley