



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, 11th May 2026 at 4:15pm

In attendance:

Cathaoirleach: Councillor Michelle Hall

Members: Councillor(s) James Byrne, Kevin Callan, Eric Donovan Anne-Marie Ford, Debbie McCole, Paddy McQuillan, Declan Power, Pío Smith, Eijiro O'Hare Stratton

Apologies: None

Officials: David Jones, Director of Services
Sinéad Dooley, Meetings Administrator
Declan Grimes, Senior Engineer
Irene McGahon, A/Senior Executive Engineer
Anthony O'Donoghue, Senior Executive Officer
Michelle Curran, Administrative Officer
Anne D Callan, Administrative Officer
Gavin McLaughlin, Communications Officer
Sharon Keaveney, Assistant Staff Officer

Minute No. 53/26

Minutes of Meeting held on 13th April 2026

The minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on 13th April 2026 were confirmed on the:

Proposal of: Cllr. Pío Smith
Seconded by: Cllr. Michelle Hall
And Approved.

Minute No. 54/26

Matters Arising

No Matters Arising were noted.

Minute No. 55/26

Housing Progress Report

Senior Engineer, Mr. Declan Grimes, along with Senior Executive Officer, Mr. Anthony O'Donohue, responded to matters raised by Elected Members. It was noted that:

- Surface cracks have appeared at Castle Manor, reportedly arising from construction activity associated with a neighbouring housing development. The local authority is currently awaiting proposals from the developer outlining the remedial measures to be undertaken. Local authority engineers are continuing to engage with affected residents. The need for a clear timeline for the implementation of remedial works was stressed, highlighting that the situation is causing genuine distress for residents.

Minute No. 56/26

Roads & Local Services Report

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

- Ongoing engagement is taking place with landowners at Burris in relation to repair works.
- Issues relating to road verges, signage and sign maintenance would be referred to the relevant teams.
- Items at Clogherhead carpark would be examined, including the Irish Water Safety Container and emergency parking arrangements.
- Operations are liaising with residents of Marley's Court regarding clean-up for forthcoming Anniversary events.
- A list of areas where road marking requirements has been compiled and will be issued to the contractor with Killineer (IDA road) to be considered.
- Road deterioration at Marleys Lane will be reviewed for possible inclusion in the 2027 Road Works Programme.
- Potholes and subsidence at identified locations will be referred to the Roads Repair Team, with prioritisation of major routes.
- Flexi bollards on the North Road cycle lane will be reviewed with consideration for maintenance access.
- Verge overgrowth at St Mary's Villas will be referred to the Parks Team.
- Investigations are ongoing in relation to the damaged statue at Scotch Hall.
- Concerns regarding the standard of works on the Bog Road will be referred to the Roads Team.
- Parking issues at Rathmullen will be reviewed
- Reinstatement works under Uisce Éireann road opening licences will be examined.
- Queries regarding gym equipment at The Glen will be followed up.
- Traffic surveys at Ascal a Trí have been completed with a wider assessment required.
- A request was made for Parks and Environment staff to attend a future meeting.
- Traffic calming at Church Street and the nearby school will be reviewed.
- Costing will be prepared for works at Constitution Hill and a survey undertaken at Pitcher Hill.
- Issues with unfinished grass cutting at St Finians Park will be raised with contractor

Minute No. 57/26

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. Paddy McQuillan
Seconded by: Cllr. Michelle Hall
And Resolved.

Minute No. 58/26

Update on the Speed Limit Review in built up and Urban Areas

Executive Engineer, Colin Matthews delivered a workshop to the Members 5th May 2026, at which Members proposed additions and amendments to the Speed Limit Review. It was noted that these amendments have now been incorporated into the draft document, which is due to be released for public consultation.

Members approval of the amended draft document was:

Proposed by: Cllr. Kevin Callan
Seconded by: Cllr. Pio Smith
And Resolved.

Minute No. 59/26

Approval of Nominations for Mayoral Awards

Members formally approved the nominations put forward for Mayoral Awards 2025/2026.

Proposed by: Cllr. Kevin Callan
Seconded by: Cllr. Pio Smith
And Resolved.

Minute No. 60/26

Notice of Motion – Cllr. Michelle Hall

Seconded by: Cllr. Pio Smith

“That this council will support the construction of a new landmark pedestrian/cycle ‘Skywalk’ bridge adjoining the Boyne Viaduct and support a feasibility study to begin the process. This would not only serve to reduce congestion from both sides of the river, and be an active travel link to the train station, it would also link medieval Drogheda to the planned Boyne Greenway and enhance Drogheda’s Destination Town experience becoming a tourist attraction in its own right”

Reply: David Jones, Director of Major Capital Projects and Infrastructure Delivery

Engagement has already taken place with Drogheda Cycling Alliance on their vision of a pedestrian/cycle ‘skywalk’ bridge along the Boyne Viaduct.

Following said engagement, the concept has been forwarded to the consultants who are currently preparing the draft Drogheda Local Transport Plan in order to explore its possibility as part of the

Options Development Section within the Plan.

The matter of its progression will be considered, along with all other transport options, on completion of the Local Transport Plan, which is due to be finalised in quarter 3 2026, whilst also mindful of the potential tourism dividend associated with the proposal and funding opportunities that may arise in that context.

Minute No. 61/26

Notice of Motion – Cllr. Michelle Hall

Seconded by: Cllr. Declan Power

“That this council will install seating along the PANCR of innovative, sustainable and multi-use design. This council will commemorate this seating to past council members, living and deceased, who promoted and planned for this significant road infrastructure that has allowed the building of much needed homes in Drogheda and promotes active travel of walking and cycling in a safe manner. Installing seating will help support families, people with mobility issues and additional needs to walk this popular route with rest points along the way.”

Reply: David Jones, Director of Major Capital Projects and Infrastructure Delivery

While there are no plans at present to provide public seating along the Port Access Northern Cross Route, the matter of commemorating past Council members can be considered in the context of the pending Memorial Policy which is to be brought forward by the Community & Placemaking Strategic Policy Committee as part of their 2026 Work Programme.

Minute No. 62/26

Notice of Motion – Cllr. Pio Smith

Seconded by: Cllr. Kevin Callan

“Asking that LCC consider constructing a footbridge across the river Boyne at Oldbridge. There is significant pedestrian movements and vehicle traffic across the Obelisk Bridge at Oldbridge. The narrow road network at this location is used by cyclists, pedestrians and vehicles and many people feel very uneasy travelling this route. A new footbridge could be either a stand alone construction or attached to the Obelisk Bridge. Funding might be achieved through the OIRS”.

Reply: David Jones, Director of Major Capital Projects and Infrastructure Delivery

The Council acknowledges the rationale for the request for a footbridge at Oldbridge and notes that a high-level assessment of the proposal has been conducted.

Unfortunately, there are a number of constraints to the development of such a piece of infrastructure at this location including those associated with being located within a Special Conservation Area, Special Protection Area as well as a Special Area of High Scenic Quality, while the Obelisk Bridge is both a protected structure and a recorded National Monument, thus prohibiting any physical alterations to the structure.

The absence of pedestrian/cycling infrastructure in the adjoining road network of any proposed footbridge at this location would also highlight road safety concerns in the context of pedestrians transitioning from what would be a dedicated space to the current shared rural local road network arrangement.

It is considered that the above limiting factors would significantly impact on overall project feasibility.

Discussion:

In proposing the motion, Cllr Smith expressed the view that the response received was a standard one and indicated his intention to resubmit the motion. Members generally supported this view.

Director of Services, David Jones, respectfully disagreed, stating that the response had acknowledged the merits of the proposal while appropriately outlining the constraints. Mr Jones advised that he would reflect on Members' comments and consider whether a preliminary feasibility study could be undertaken, subject to funding constraints and the requirement for approval from the Department and the NTA.

Minute No. 63/26

Any Other Business

As there was no other business the meeting concluded.

The Minutes were confirmed on:

Date:

8TH JUNE 2026

Mayor:

David Jones

Meeting Administrator:

Sinead Dooley