

GRANARD MUNICIPAL DISTRICT

Minutes of Meeting of Granard Municipal District held in Granard Library on Monday, 11 May 2026 at 4pm

CATHAOIRLEACH: Councillor Turlough McGovern

MEMBERS PRESENT: Councillors Garry Murtagh,
Pádraig McNamara, David Cassidy, Colin Dalton

IN ATTENDANCE: Ms. Barbara Heslin, Director of Services
Ms. Claire McNabola, Administrative Officer
Mr. David Coppinger, Senior Executive Engineer
Mr. Richard Smith, Senior Executive Engineer
Ms. Louise Connaughton, Clerical Officer
Mr. David Plunkett, Clerical Officer

APOLOGIES None

MEETINGS

ADMINISTRATOR: Ms. Lorraine McKee

1. ADOPTION OF MINUTES – AS CIRCULATED

On the proposal of Councillor Colin Dalton seconded by Councillor Pádraig McNamara, it was unanimously agreed to adopt the Minutes of Granard Municipal District Committee Meeting held on 23 March 2026.

On the proposal of Councillor Turlough McGovern seconded by Councillor Pádraig McNamara, it was unanimously agreed to adopt the minutes of Granard Municipal District Meeting held on 23 March 2026.

On the proposal of Councillor Turlough McGovern seconded by Councillor Garry Murtagh, it was unanimously agreed to adopt the minutes of Granard Municipal District Meeting held on 20 April 2026.

2. MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES

None

3. DECLARATION OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS

None

4. MANAGEMENT REPORT INCORPORATING AREA ENGINEER'S PROGRESS REPORT

The members noted the Management Report.

Barbara Heslin, Director of Services provided the members with an update on the following from the Management Report and answered questions raised by Elected Members:

- Libraries and Archives
- Bealtaine Festival
- Bosca Beo
- Archives
- Creative Ireland
- Healthy Ireland at Your Library
- Right to Read
- Ireland Reads
- Regeneration
- Town Centre First
- Derelict Sites
- Vacant Homes Unit
- Croi Conaithe
- Housing
- Pre let and voids programme
- Affordable Housing Scheme

David Coppinger, Senior Executive Engineer, highlighted the following from the Area Engineers Report and responded to queries raised by Elected Members:

- General Roadwork
- Bitumen Macadam Works
- Surface Dressing
- Other Road Restoration Works
- Community Involvement Schemes 2026
- Low-Cost Safety Schemes
- Local Improvement Schemes
- Active Travel Schemes Granard Municipal District

The Members unanimously congratulated the committee of Granard Booktown Festival on the success of the 2026 festival and are looking forward to a bigger and better festival in 2027.

The Members unanimously called for North Longford to be considered for the next Affordable Housing Scheme in the County, due to the success of the current scheme

in Longford Town.

Councillor Garry Murtagh requested a presentation be provided to the Members on the Bridle Trail.

Councillor Colin Dalton asked was there an update from Coillte regarding the forestry in Glенаughil.

Councillor Turlough McGovern welcomed the contract signing for 7 new social homes in Granard Town.

Senior Executive Engineer, David Coppinger welcomed Eddie Moffit Executive Engineer on joining the team in North Longford. The members welcomed Eddie.

The members commended Jordan and Cian Adams who are undertaking an extraordinary challenge to raise awareness and funding for research into finding a cure for Frontotemporal Dementia, known as “The FTD Brothers”, they are currently completing 32 marathons in 32 days across Ireland.

The members unanimously congratulated both schools, Moyne Community School and Cnoc Mhuire Secondary School on the recent Civic Recognition.

5. COMMUNITY GRANTS

On the proposal of Councillor Garry Murtagh seconded by Councillor Padraig McNamara, the community grants as circulated were approved.

On the proposal of Councillor Garry Murtagh seconded by Councillor Padraig McNamara €4000 was awarded to Colmcille Area Development Group.

On the proposal of Councillor Garry Murtagh seconded by Councillor Padraig McNamara €1000 was awarded to Dromard Development Group.

On the proposal of Councillor Colin Dalton seconded by Councillor Garry Murtagh €500 was awarded to Hillside Club Ballinalee.

On the proposal of Councillor Colin Dalton seconded by Councillor Garry Murtagh €2,500 was awarded to Killoe Development Group.

On the proposal of Councillor Turlough McGovern seconded by Councillor Padraig McNamara €500 was awarded to Bunlahy Parents Association.

On the proposal of Councillor Turlough McGovern seconded by Councillor Padraig McNamara €500 was awarded to Street Wildlife.

6. CASUAL TRADING BYE-LAWS PITCH LOCATIONS

On the proposal of Councillor Padraig McNamara seconded by Councillor Turlough

McGovern, the pitch locations for Granard Municipal District outlined in the casual trading bye-laws were approved.

7. GRANARDKILE CEMETERY – CONCESSIONARY BURIAL PLOT FEE

On the proposal of Councillor Padraig McNamara seconded by Councillor Turlough McGovern, the concessionary burial plot fees for Granardkile Cemetery were approved.

8. NOTICE OF MOTIONS

The following Notice of Motion was proposed by Councillor Garry Murtagh seconded by Councillor David Cassidy

I call on Granard Municipal District to implement a Low Cost Safety scheme on the R198 beside Annagh Swimming Pool adjacent to the L-10262-0.

Response:

Longford County Council are aware of the situation at this location, and we have been working with local landowners with a view to carrying out Low-Cost Safety works at this location in either 2027 or 2028.

The following Notice of Motion was proposed by Councillor Turlough McGovern seconded by Councillor Padraig McNamara

I call on Granard Municipal District to implement a Low cost safety scheme at Ardagullion cross on the N55 at the earliest access to funding. There is a serious accident waiting to happen here due to the poor sight lines.

Response:

As this is a National Secondary Road junction under the management of the TII, it is not possible to use Low Cost Safety scheme funding at this location. However, Longford County Council will review the issues at this location and will discuss with the relevant Transport Infrastructure Ireland inspectors. Improvements at this location will be subject to support and funding of Transport Infrastructure Ireland.

The following Notice of Motion was proposed by Councillor David Cassidy seconded by Councillor Garry Murtagh

I call on Longford County Council to allocate two disabled parking bays on Mary Street, Drumlish on both sides of the R198 close to the existing traffic lights in the centre of the village.

Response:

Longford County Council will examine this request and subject to funding we will try to install Disabled Spaces on this street. We will also need to ensure that there is local agreement and buy-in on the location of these spaces.

The following Notice of Motion was proposed by Councillor David Cassidy seconded

by Councillor Colin Dalton

I call on Longford County Council to install a raised pedestrian crossing on the R198 in Drumlish directly after the Mill heading in the direction of Arva.

Response:

Longford County Council are currently examining what type of crossing is feasible at this location. We are aware of an issue regarding Wheelchair access to the footpath on the Cloone Road and hope to combine a solution to this issue and some form of Traffic Calming in one project, again as always subject to the availability of funding.

The following Notice of Motion was proposed by Councillor David Cassidy seconded by Councillor Garry Murtagh

I call on Longford County Council to install a footpath from Main Street (Mohill Road) on the L-10102-0 connecting Currabaun Park housing estate to the existing footpath in the village and also a connecting footpath on the L-1016-0 towards Derawley.

Response:

Longford County Council are aware of the need for paths at these locations as well as a number of other footpath requirements in Drumlish and other villages. The provision of these paths is as always subject to the availability of funding and priorities. We will examine this location and see what can be provided.

9. CORRESPONDENCES

The Members acknowledged the correspondences received.

10. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of Granard Municipal District will take place on 27 July 2026 at 3:30pm in Granard Library.

The AGM will take place on 22 June 2026 in Áras an Chontae, Great Water Street.

Confirmed and adopted at Granard Municipal District Meeting held on the 27 July 2026.