



Comhairle Contae
Ros Comáin
Roscommon
County Council



**MINUTES OF MONTHLY Meeting OF ROSCOMMON COUNTY COUNCIL
COUNCIL Chamber, Áras an Chontae, Roscommon
MONDAY, 22ND JUNE, 2026 AT 3.00 pm.**

PRESENT:	Councillor Domnick Connolly	PRESIDED
MEMBERS:	Cllr L. Brennan, Cllr V. Byrne, Cllr L. Callaghan, Cllr R. Conboy, Cllr T. Crosby, Cllr L. Cull, Cllr N. Dineen, Cllr V. Duffy, Cllr L. Fallon, Cllr P. Fitzmaurice, Cllr M. Frain, Cllr M. Holland, Cllr E. Kelly, Cllr J. Keogh, Cllr S. Moylan and Cllr T. Ward.	
OFFICIALS:	Shane Tiernan, Chief Executive Caitlín Conneely, Director of Services Chris Flynn, Director of Services Mark Keaveney, Director of Services Sean Mullarkey, Director of Finance Karen Hanley, Meetings Administrator Claudette Collins, Staff Officer Michaela Finneran, Assistant Staff Officer	

Apologies:

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83.26 DISCLOSURE OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST (SECTION 177 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2001 AS AMENDED)

There were no Disclosures of Conflict of Interest declared by Members.

84.26 ADOPTION OF MINUTES

On the **PROPOSAL** of Cllr. Brennan

SECONDED by Cllr. Fallon

It was **AGREED** to adopt the minutes of the Plenary Meeting of 25.05.2026

85.26 MATTERS ARISING

Cllr. Fitzmaurice sought an update on his previous query regarding 3-tonne vehicles, which was raised at the May Plenary meeting. Director of Services, Mr. Mark Keaveney, advised that the roads department is currently reviewing the matter and will provide an update once the review is complete.

86.26 MANAGEMENT REPORT

- Management Report for May 2026 noted.

87.26 DISPOSAL OF LANDS - ASSETS

On the **PROPOSAL** of Cllr. Dineen

SECONDED by Cllr. Fitzmaurice

It was **AGREED** that the Council consent to the lease of property pursuant to the provisions of Article 206 of

the Planning and Development Regulations 2001, Section 211 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended) and Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001 of particulars of property which it is proposed to lease of at the location in County Roscommon and to the persons set out in the schedule hereunder. Particulars of the property which the County Council proposes to lease:

The Property: Site comprising 0.0605 hA (0.150 acres) at Demesne, Castlerea, Co. Roscommon

The person(s) from whom the land was acquired: Unknown (First registration to Roscommon County Council)

The person(s) to whom the land is to be leased to: Trustees of the Castlerea Musical Society: John Mitchell, Corrastrona, Ballintubber, Castlerea, Mary Heaney, Cloontrask, Castlerea, Frances Cooke, Highfield Road, Knockroe, Castlerea, Connie Gannon, 23 Cashel Park, Castlerea.

The consideration proposed in respect of the lease: €1 per annum for 25 Years

88.26 CORRESPONDENCE

Noted as circulated in advance of the meeting.

89.26 ROSCOMMON LCDC ANNUAL REPORT 2025

The report was noted.

Chairperson of the Roscommon LCDC, Cllr. Fallon, noted that the Annual Report 2025 has been prepared to deliver on the requirement set out in Chapter 2 Section 128 B(1)(i) of the Local Government Act 2001, as inserted by the Local Government Reform Act 2014, which states that one of the functions of a LCDC is to prepare, adopt and submit to the local authority, a report in relation to the performance of its functions during the year, immediately preceding the year in which the report is submitted.

He further advised that the report outlines progress in respect of the various functions of the LCDC during 2025. The past year has seen the successful implementation of a number of strategic programmes, including the rollout of the Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP) 2023–2029, the continuation of the SICAP Programme 2024–2028, and the ongoing delivery of the LEADER Rural Development Programme.

He noted the committee also administered vital supports through initiatives such as the Local Enhancement Programme, Community Recognition Fund (CRF) and Healthy Ireland, ensuring that local needs and priorities were met in a responsive and inclusive manner. He added that he looked forward to progressing the objectives and goals set out in the report and expressed his appreciation to the Director of Services, Mr. Chris Flynn, Ms. Fiona Ní Chuinn and Ms. Bridie McHugh for their work.

90.26 CAPITAL ASSISTANCE SCHEME -TUATH HOUSING ASSOCIATION

Director of Services, Mr. Chris Flynn, advised that the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage have approved a revised budget of €1,564,282 for the construction of 6 new social homes at the Meadows, Longford Lower, Castlerea, Co. Roscommon by Tuath Housing Association for the purpose of assisting the provision of housing accommodation under Section 6 of the Housing (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1992. This is an increase of €48,497 on the initial CAS Loan approved by the Elected Members on 28th April 2025. The increased loan was for the following:

1. Road Reinstatement
2. Road Opening Licence Conditions
3. Utility Provider Requirements

The Scheme involves the construction of 6 no. 2-bedroom age-friendly bungalows currently being built in 3 semi-detached blocks within the existing The Meadows Estate in Castlerea meet elderly needs.

On the **PROPOSAL** of Cllr. Conboy
SECONDED by Cllr. Dineen

It was **AGREED** that Roscommon County Council approve the making of a loan of €1,564,282 to Tuath Housing Association, 33 Lesson Street Lower, Dublin 2 D02 KD68 pursuant to the provisions of Section 6 of the Housing (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1992 and in accordance with the terms of Circular/Memorandum VHU2/02 for the construction of 6 new age-friendly social homes at the Meadows, Longford Lower, Castlerea, Co. Roscommon to meet elderly social housing needs.

Cllr. Dineen queried the timeline of the project, Mr. Flynn advised that it was due to start at the end of July or start of August.

91.26 SPC CHAIRPERSON

Cathaoirleach Cllr. Connolly advised that, following his election as Cathaoirleach of Roscommon County Council, he was resigning from his position as Chairperson of the Housing, Integration, Community and Culture Strategic Policy Committee. He then invited proposals for the appointment of a new Chairperson.

On the **PROPOSAL** of Cllr. Conboy
SECONDED by Cllr. Keogh

It was **AGREED** to appoint Cllr. Liam Callaghan as Chairperson of the Housing, Integration, Community and Culture Strategic Policy Committee.

92.26 NOTICE OF MOTION

92.26a CLLR. FITZMAURICE - M9:26 - SPEED RAMPS

Notice of motion calling on Roscommon County Council to install speed ramps in the vicinity of all schools in Towns and Villages over the next 3 years and allocated funding through the annual budget and low-cost safety schemes.

The Meetings Administrator read the following reply:

The Roads and Transportation Section acknowledges the intent of the Notice of Motion, which is to enhance road safety in the vicinity of schools across the county. Road safety, particularly for vulnerable road users is a key priority for Roscommon County Council.

However, the proposal to install speed ramps at all schools in towns and villages over a three-year period would present significant practical and financial challenges. The scale of such a programme would require substantial funding, far in excess of currently available resources under the annual roads budget and more specifically the Low Cost Safety Improvement Schemes. As such, it would not be feasible to implement on a blanket basis.

It is important that road safety interventions are evidence based and targeted. For National Roads the TII's & Council's approach aligns with national best practice, whereby collision data, traffic speeds, pedestrian movements, and site-specific risk factors are analysed to identify locations where intervention is most warranted. This ensures that limited funding is directed towards schemes that will deliver the greatest safety benefit.

Furthermore, engineering solutions must be tailored to the specific characteristics of each location. While speed ramps can be effective in certain circumstances, they are not suitable for all roads or environments. Alternative measures such as traffic calming layouts, pedestrian crossings, improved signage, road markings, or reduced speed limits may be more appropriate depending on site conditions.

It is also noted that a national review of urban speed limits is currently underway, which includes consideration of a standardised approach to the provision of reduced and/or periodic speed limits in the vicinity of schools. This process is expected to inform future policy and funding priorities at a national level. It would be prudent to consider the outcome of this review before committing to significant capital expenditure in this area, to ensure alignment with emerging national standards and best practice. The Roads & Transportation unit has recently met with elected members to update them on this process.

Notwithstanding the above, the Council will continue to prioritise safety improvements at school locations where specific verifiable risks have been identified. In doing so, the Roads and Transportation unit will have regard to representations and concerns raised by elected members and local communities, and where appropriate, will act in the interests of vulnerable road users. Applications for funding under relevant national and regional schemes will continue to be pursued where appropriate, and the Council remains committed to working collaboratively with elected members to improve road safety outcomes.

Cathaoirleach Cllr. Connolly noted that this was an area of significant concern and, in light of the Council's response, suggested that each Municipal District Cathaoirleach would identify three or four suitable locations where safety measures are required. He proposed that these agreed locations be brought forward for discussion at a meeting with the Roads Department and the Director of Services, Mr. Mark Keaveney. He advised that this approach had already been discussed with Mr. Keaveney and suggested that Cllr. Fitzmaurice consider withdrawing his Notice of Motion pending this engagement.

Cllr. Fitzmaurice expressed disappointment with the response and indicated his reluctance to withdraw the motion, noting that it addressed an important issue requiring full discussion. He welcomed the national review of urban speed limits. He referred to an incident at Trien N.S., where a vehicle was recorded travelling at 114km/h in a 50km/h zone, and noted that 322 people had signed a petition seeking safety measures at this location. He stated that financial considerations should not outweigh safety concerns and complimented recent measures implemented at Cloontuskert N.S.

Members supported both Cllr. Fitzmaurice's motion and Cathaoirleach Cllr. Connolly's proposals and raised the following points:

- Speeding is a widespread issue affecting towns and villages, requiring action.
- Signage is not deterring drivers from speeding.
- Current traffic conditions limit the ability of children to safely walk or cycle to school.
- The cost per speed ramp was queried.
- It was suggested that the motion be forwarded to the Department of Education and the

Department of Transport seeking funding support.

- The Safe Routes to School Scheme has been closed for some time.
- The forthcoming speed limit review may introduce 30km/h limits outside schools.
- Concerns were raised regarding the positioning of the recently installed ramps at Cloontuskert, with a suggestion that widening may be required to prevent vehicles mounting the verge.
- It was requested that all Members be involved in any proposed engagement.
- It was queried whether road signage and markings could be updated in advance of the school term in September.
- Cllr. Keogh seconded the motion but suggested that it be amended to include circulation to the Department of Transport and Department of Education following further discussion.

Cathaoirleach Cllr. Connolly clarified that the proposed meeting would take place with the Municipal District Cathaoirligh; however, all Members would contribute to identifying priority locations in advance.

Cllr. Fitzmaurice indicated reservations regarding the proposed amendment, expressing concern that reliance on external departmental funding may delay progress. He stated that the matter required urgent action and reiterated his view that funding should be prioritised. He suggested that one scheme per Municipal District could be progressed annually, with appropriate allocation of funding.

Director of Services, Mr. Mark Keaveney, confirmed that the roads section was broadly supportive of both approaches and agreed that a number of schools could be identified each year for targeted improvement works. He noted that the section continues to work with Members, TII, the Department of Transport and the NTA in progressing road safety measures. He advised that Phase 4 of the Safe Routes to School Scheme is expected to open in late 2026 or early 2027, and that almost 20 schools have benefited under the scheme to date. He further noted that enforcement of speed limits is a matter for An Garda Síochána and that engineering measures may not be appropriate in all cases.

Chief Executive Mr. Shane Tiernan stated that the original proposal would be challenging to implement. He acknowledged the merit in engaging with the relevant Government Departments regarding funding and emphasised the importance of aligning expectations with the operational capacity of the roads department.

On the **PROPOSAL** of Cllr. Fitzmaurice

SECONDED by Cllr. Conboy

It was **AGREED** to call on Roscommon County Council to install speed ramps or other appropriate road safety measures in the vicinity of schools, on a phased basis as agreed with the members and the roads department in towns and villages over the next 3 years and allocate funding through the annual budget and low-cost safety schemes.

It is requested that correspondence is issued to the Minister for Education and Minister for Transport to seek funding for these needed works.

93.26 CHIEF EXECUTIVE BUSINESS

Chief Executive, Mr. Shane Tiernan, advised that Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) has approved a 27km section of the proposed Galway to Athlone Greenway, extending from Athlone to Shannonbridge. He noted that this was a welcome development and would be a valuable addition to the County's infrastructure.

Members welcomed the announcement and raised the following points:

- The importance of the project from a tourism perspective.
- A preference that non-agricultural lands be utilised where possible, and that existing farms would not be adversely impacted or divided.
- The importance of progressing onward connections in due course.
- The hope that further greenway developments elsewhere in the County would be announced.
- A query regarding the proposed timeline for the project.

Mr. Tiernan advised that progression of the project is contingent on a number of factors and that it would be difficult to provide a definitive timeline at this stage.

Director of Services, Ms. Caitlín Conneely, acknowledged the work of Roscommon Tidy Towns and commended the significant progress achieved.

94.26 COUNCILLORS CONFERENCES - PAYMENT/ATTENDANCE

On the **PROPOSAL** of Cllr. Keogh

SECONDED by Cllr. Brennan

It was **AGREED** to adopt the list of payments for training and conferences as circulated.

95.26 VOTES OF CONGRATULATIONS AND SYMPATHY

Congratulations were extended to all young people involved in Community Games across the county and especially those who will now represent Co. Roscommon at national level over the coming months.

Sympathies were extended to Cllr. John Keogh on the recent passing of his partner Cormac's mother Marie Nolan, Tipperary.

96.26 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Cllr. Crosby raised the issue of payments to graveyard caretakers. Cathaoirleach Cllr. Connolly advised that this matter is an executive function.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be on Monday, 27th July, 2026.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

The foregoing Minutes are
Confirmed and Signed:



Meetings Administrator

Handwritten signature of Karen Hanley in black ink.

Countersigned

Handwritten signature of Donal Conolly in black ink.

Cathaoirleach

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