

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE LONGFORD LOCAL DISTRICT COMMITTEE HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, SMITH STREET, LONGFORD ON WEDNESDAY, 4 MARCH 2015, COMMENCING AT 7:00 PM

1. PRESENT

Mr Linus Grant (Chair), Mr Rein Wever, Mrs Lesley McKenzie, Ms Leonie Dennison, Mr Harry Galea, Mr John Cauchi, Ms Dee Alty, Mrs Anne O'Hara

2. IN ATTENDANCE

Cr Dick Adams, Mr Des Jennings (General Manager), Miss Amanda Mason (Secretary)

3. APOLOGIES

Mrs Jocelyn Moore

4. WELCOME BY CHAIR

The Chair welcomed the Committee and in particular the new members to the Committee and echoed the sentiments of the outgoing Chair, Mr Hugh Mackinnon, that the committee needs to endeavour to work with Council to achieve improvements to Longford, bearing in mind the purpose of the Committee is to act as an advisory group. The Chair recommended the Committee focus on a small number of projects and see those to fruition.

5. DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

Nil.

5. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Ms Dee Alty/Mr John Cauchi

That the Minutes of the Longford Local District Committee Meeting held on 3 December 2014 be confirmed as a true record of proceedings.

Carried

6. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

Nil.

7. GENERAL BUSINESS

The Committee discussed generally retaining the existing framework of the sub-committees. It was suggested the Committee develop a list of projects and then members work on projects rather than committees as such. It was resolved to retain the sub-committee structure for the time being and monitor.

7.1 Infrastructure Sub-Committee Report

7.1.1 Appointment of Sub-Committee

The Committee resolved to appoint Ms Dee Alty and Mr John Cauchi to the Infrastructure Sub-Committee.

7.2 Tourism Heritage & Culture Sub-Committee Report

7.2.1 Appointment of Sub-Committee

The Committee resolved to appoint Mr Rein Wever, Ms Dee Alty and Mrs Lesley McKenzie to the Tourism Heritage and Culture Sub-Committee

7.2.2 Visitor Information Hut

Waiting on proofs of drawings. Miss Mason to follow up.

7.2.3 Wifi in Longford

Not discussed at meeting - is in place and signage will be on display shortly.

7.3 Economic Development Sub-Committee Report

7.3.1 Appointment of Sub-Committee

The Committee resolved to appoint Mr Rein Wever to the Economic Development Sub-Committee.

The Committee noted Mr Linus Grant has been invited to attend the Northern Midlands Economic Development Committee meetings and will do so from time to time.

7.4 Longford Planning Applications

Nil.

8. OTHER BUSINESS

8.1 Business Plan for Visitor Information Centre

The Committee noted that Ms Alty has prepared a business plan for a standalone Visitor Information Centre in Longford.

It was noted some committee members had not received the plan – Miss Mason to circulate.

It was further noted that Council has engaged Mrs Sarah Lebski, Tourism Consultant to review the report and meet with the committee to discuss.

Enquiry was made in respect to the relationship between the Visitor Information Centre brief and the Bill Fox Visitor Appeal Study being conducted. It was confirmed that whilst Mr Fox's report may touch on aspects relating to the Visitor Information Centre the two projects are separate and are to be treated as such.

It is hoped the review and report will be complete within 1-2 months ready for Council's budgetary considerations.

8.2 Longford Strategic Plan

The Northern Midlands Council is inviting its local district committees to develop a 1, 4 and 10 year strategic plan for projects within the area.

It was resolved the Committee will meet on 11 March 2015 at 5:00pm at the Council Chambers Longford to discuss projects for the strategic plan.

9. NEXT MEETING:

Next meeting to be held at the Council Chambers, Longford on **1 April 2015**.

10. CLOSURE

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8:00 pm.

MATTERS PENDING		
Date Moved	Motion	Status
3 December 2014 R Henley / D Alty	That the Longford Local District Committee agrees with the principles of simplification of the signage system within Longford and that the standard white signs with black print be maintained outside of the heritage precinct area, and the heritage street signs be kept within the heritage area.	Considered as part of Visitor Appeal Study
6 August 2014 D Alty/R Henley	That the Committee refer the matter of traffic counts, load limits and other traffic issues to Council's traffic engineer to report back at the next meeting.	Traffic Study of Longford listed for budgetary consideration for 2015/16 financial year
2 July 2014 R Henley / M Stebbings	The Longford Local District Committee recommends to Council that Lorraine Green & Fiona Dewar formally host a meeting of interested people with the view of establishing a Longford Tourism/Promotions Group. This could be done using the First Impressions Report as a basis for the meeting, along with an extension of the current Tourism Information Centre.	Ms Alty to progress separate to the Longford Local District Committee and to be removed from Agenda.
4 June 2014 D Alty/V Thirkel-Johnston	The Committee recommends to Council that they identify funding, location and implementation of a standalone visitor information centre as a matter of priority.	To be considered as part of the Longford Visitor Appeal Study. Visitor Information Centre Business Plan developed by Ms Alty