

MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF THE LONGFORD DISTRICT COMMITTEE

WEDNESDAY 2nd OCTOBER 2024. COMMENCING AT 5.35 PM

HELD AT THE WAR MEMORIAL HALL, LONGFORD.

1. **PRESENT** – Peter Munro (Chair), Annette Aldersea, Bronwyn Baker, Joanne Clarke, Frances Stewart, Neil Tubb.
2. **IN ATTENDANCE** – Cr Dick Adams.
3. **APOLOGIES** – Cr Matthew Brooks, Christine Darke, Lesley Pyecroft.

4. DECLARATION OF ANY PECUNIARY INTEREST BY A MEMBER OF A SPECIAL COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL

In accordance with the provisions of the *Local Government Act 1993*, a member of a Special Committee must not participate in any discussion or vote on any matter in respect to which the member:

- a) has an interest; or
- b) is aware or ought to be aware that a close associate has an interest.

A member has an interest in a matter if the matter was decided in a particular manner, receive, or have an expectation of receiving or likely to receive a pecuniary benefit or pecuniary detriment.

[No declaration of any pecuniary interest was declared by any person present.](#)

5. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

We acknowledge and pay our respects to the Tasmanian Aboriginal Community as the traditional and original owners, and continuing custodians of this land on which we gather today and acknowledge Elders – past, present, and emerging.

6. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of the Longford Local District Committee held on 7th August 2024 confirmed as a true and correct record of proceedings.

[Moved – Annette Aldersea. Second – Bron Baker. Carried.](#)

7. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

PROMOTIONAL ISSUES:

7.1 Signage for Longford Roundabout.

LDC received notification from Council that the Department of State Growth will not approve the installation of the Longford roundabout sign until their stipulated conditions have been met. One condition is the removal of two of the entry signs at the northern entrance into Longford.

The LDC was unanimous that it strongly objects to the removal of the significant stone “Longford” wall near the railway line. Committee members believe it has been in place for 40 – 50 years and must not be removed under any circumstances.

- NMC Minute 22 July 2024 – Action Items – 04/07/2024 Engineering Officer Awaiting report from consultant.
- Noted that it is in the NMC Council Budget 24/25 with \$200,000 funding allocated.

ACTION: Continue to monitor.

7.2 Motor racing themed Street Sign in Longford.

Motor racing themed signs are installed. LDC notes there is incorrect information on the William Street sign, and spelling error on the Village Green sign (ie. Northan Midlands).

- Neil Tubb has put a Works Request in to NMC and work is in progress, not complete.

ACTION: Continue to monitor.

7.3 Visitors Information Shelter, Village Green Landscaping - corner of Archer and Wellington Streets.

The beds have been prepared for planting by LDC and The Garden Club volunteers.

Plants purchased.

- Noted that the water is on, plants are in and mulch has been done.
- Cr Dick Adams noted that the Garden Club is now 70 years old and well done to the workers who turned out on a Sunday.

MOTION: The LDC thanks the NMC and Works Manager Leigh McCullach and acknowledges the Longford Garden Club and volunteers for their assistance and support in completing the landscaping of the Village Green Visitor Information Shelter garden beds on the corner of Archer and Wellington Streets. Moved – Annette Aldersea. Second – Neil Tubb. Carried unanimously.

7.4 Directory of Clubs and other organizations and their branches in Longford – including sign.

It is proposed to place organisations sign on or near the visitor information booth in the Village Green, and a second sign near Woolmers Lane end of Wellington Street.

- Fiona Dewar NMC has provided a quotation of \$35 - \$40 for each club/organisation emblem.
- On 23rd May Ms Dewar provided further details of a quotation she received to manufacture the frames for the club signs of around \$2,550 each. The frame for the Village Green may be slightly less as it will not require poles for installation.

ACTION IN PROGRESS:

- Neil Tubb and Annette Aldersea to draft a letter to present to organisations/clubs re: informing them of the proposal, cost for the emblems, and seeking their interest in participation.
- LDC would need to request funding from NMC for the frames.

7.5. New Promotional Signage either side of Longford Roundabout on Illawarra Road.

LDC discussed the suitability of using Heritage colours for the signage, consistent with Longford, Brickendon & Woolmers (ie. Oatlands).

ACTION: Continue to monitor, considering DSG stance to Longford signage.

SAFETY & AESTHETIC ISSUES:

7.6 Pullover area/Viewing Platform – Alternative Location.

A revised report – V3 had been prepared and circulated to LDC members. The report includes an alternative suggestion for a pullover point on Woolmers Lane. The committee decided to

suggest two options to Council.

MOTION: LDC requests that NMC consider a lookout or pullover point at either

- (1) Woolmers Lane on the hill between Woolmers Bridge and Panshanger Road.

or

- (2) Norwich Drive on the southern side opposite number 59.

See attached revised report – V3.1.

NMC Minute 24 June 2024 – DECISION That Council consider the location of the vista / lookout point after a safety check is conducted on site. Carried Unanimously

Annette Aldersea reported that Council Officers report Council Meeting 9th July 2024 found both sites problematic,

MOTION: LDC request that NMC provide clarification regarding request for a pullover viewing area with respect to why the proposed Norwich Drive location is problematic.

Moved – Annette Aldersea. Second – Bron Baker. Carried unanimously.

NMC Minute No. 24/0264 Decision: That Council investigates alternate viewing locations.

ACTION. In the meantime, LDC will check the speed limit on Norwich Drive. Continue to monitor.

7.7 Wellington & Marlborough Streets Intersection (Sticky Beaks)

LDC discussed the lengthy delay since community members met with Minister Michael Ferguson and Garry Hills DSG, onsite 9th March 2023, to discuss the safety concerns regarding the large concrete planter boxes. The Minister gave his assurance at this meeting that an independent traffic study of the intersection would take place.

LDC discussed further, agreed it should be left turn only out of Wellington Street on to Marlborough Street, and left turn only out of William Street. Peter Munro noted the request to change the Give Way sign to a Stop Sign

- NMC Minutes 22 July 2024 -Action Items – 10/07/2024 Engineering Officer Awaiting information from the Department of State Growth. Council moved a motion to lobby State Growth regarding the roundabout, Sticky Beaks corner, pedestrian safety etc.
- Peter Munro noted the number of times recommendations have been put forward by LDC, supported by NMC but no action from State Growth, including the request to change the Give Way on Wellington Street sign to a Stop Sign, for which LDC is still waiting for feedback.
- It is anticipated that DSG will soon engage a consultant to conduct an independent safety survey and report.

ACTION: NMC still waiting for response from DSG. Continue to monitor

7.8 Environmental & Noxious weeds.

A Public Forum was held 29th May 2024, regarding the Northern Midlands Weed Management Strategy.

- Awaiting report from the consulting firm RMCG to come back to Council.
- NMC Budget Report notes Management Plan review is still in progress.

ACTION: Continue to Monitor.

7.9 Wellington Street and Marlborough Street speed limit reduction.

NMC Executive assistant sent letter to the Minister 12th March 2024, and are awaiting a response.

- NMC Minutes 19 August 2024: 9/8/24 Engineering Officer awaiting response from minister.

ACTION. Peter Munro suggested approaching Tania Rattray to intervene. Continue to Monitor.

7.10 Pedestrian Safety Concerns – Wellington and Marlborough Streets.

LDC Motion tabled at Council meeting 22.04.2024 – Minute NO: 24/0128

DECISION: “That Council note the concerns raised by the Local District Committee and consider the relocation/installation of a refuge in the vicinity of the library in future budget deliberations”.

- NMC Minutes 20th May 2024 – Action Items – Matter is under consideration. Residents continue to raise safety concerns for pedestrians.
- NMC Minutes 24 June 2024 – Action items – 17/06/2024 Executive Assistant Letter sent, DSG Progressing
- NMC Minutes 22 July 2024 – Action items – Matter still under consideration
- NMC Minutes 19 August 2024 – Action Items – Council unanimous in decision that speed limit should be set to 50km/hr.

ACTION. Continue to Monitor.

7.11 Illawarra Road West of Roundabout – Safety Concerns.

LLDC Motion tabled at NMC meeting 18th March 2024. Council

DECISION – MINUTE NO. 24/093.

NMC Minutes 20th May 2024 - Action Item - Letter sent by Executive Assistant 18th April 2024 to Department of State Growth, awaiting response.

LDC discussed the extremely poor condition of the Longford roundabout which continues to deteriorate. The roundabout has become a major safety concern for the Longford community.

MOTION: The LDC requests NMC to seek from the Department of State Growth their maintenance and surveillance program for the Longford roundabout as the poor condition of the surface and sides are of major concern to the community.

Moved – Annette Aldersea. Second – Peter Munro. Carried.

NMC Minute 24 June 2024 – DECISION That Council awaits a response from the Department of State Growth. Carried Unanimously

NMC Update – night works are scheduled to be carried out to patch the roundabout surface, currently delayed due to recent weather conditions.

Frances Stewart noted that noise and traffic monitoring was carried out along Illawarra Road in May 2024 but DSG have withheld the results. Requests from NMC in April 2024 and MVC in May 2024 to lower the speed limit to 90km/hr between Bishopsbourne Road and the Bass Highway have had no response from Dept. Transport. Jen Butler has drafted a Motion to present before Parliament on behalf of landowners to lower the speed limit to 80km/hr.

- LDC Note that surface repair work has been carried out on the roundabout, but is acknowledged temporary fix.

ACTION. Frances Stewart to investigate involving Road Safety Council. Continue to Monitor.

TOWN IMPROVEMENT ISSUES

7.12 Landscaping - Longford Racecourse Heritage for the Cracroft and Anstey Street corner.

2 Signs are intended to a) recognize the Longford Racecourse as being the oldest continuous use racecourse in the Southern Hemisphere, according to Tas. Racing, and b) Provide a History Board of prominent horses, jockeys and trainers. Neil Tubb informed LDC that Planning Approval was submitted to NMC on Friday 2nd August, 2024 which, if no

objection in 14 days, can go ahead. NMC would fund landscaping, provide tables and remove a culvert at the site. Tas Racing have undertaken to divert a watercourse. Project is expected to be completed by end September 2024.

LDC Chair congratulated Neil Tubb and Dennis Petty for their considerable work on this project.

ACTION: Neil Tubb to follow up allocation of funding from NMC for the landscaping and report back. Monitor

7.13 Longford Streetscape – Wellington Street upgrade – redirection of funds.

Council Minute No: 24/0122 - Council has approved redirection of the funds to a shared pathway from Longford Village Green to the Mill Dam boundary only on Council land, plus improvements to dog park, installation of Longford Railway Bridge Pillars, Installation of security fencing along north boundary of dog park and railway line to river.

- NMC 4th June 2024. LDC discussed that the path along the old levee bank should not be concreted to retain the rural ambience of Longford.

MOTION: The LLDC requests that the NMC not proceed with the sealing of the pathway along the old levee bank between Latour and Union Streets. And, that directional signage be installed for cyclists and pedestrians leading them to the existing path around the velodrome and Longford Legends Walk.

Moved – Annette Aldersea. Second – Bron Baker. Carried.

NMC Minutes 24 June 2024 DECISION: That Council rescind the decision and a report be brought back to the next Council Meeting. CARRIED

- NMC Minutes 22 July 2024 – Action Items – 04/07/2024 Engineering Officer Report prepared
- Annette Aldersea reported that LDC's request to NMC was successful and Council moved to redirect the concreting to the pathway from Smith St to Union St.
- Annette Aldersea questioned whether the installation of light bollards on the old levee is still planned – in which case, could the number be reduced as the light produced may be excessive.
- LDC note work has commenced on the pathway on Union Street and path under the Rail Bridge.

ACTION: Monitor

7.14 QR Code for “Mulga Fred” – The Poem.

Discussions re: installation of a QR Code to include the poem and possibly other information at the Fred Davies Memorial.

ACTION: Peter Munro to follow up with Tim Flanagan regarding any further information that might be included.

7.15 Longford Lawn Cemetery - Landscaping Improvements.

LDC prepared a report after visiting the cemetery in April, on improving the landscaping and therefore the amenity of the cemetery. LDC motion and report tabled at NMC meeting 20th May 2024. Council decision – That Council note the report.

- Officer reports that some roses are being replaced, new soil added, and a new irrigation system installed at the rose area in the cemetery.
- LDC note that the request for a seat under the trees and more trees for shade are still outstanding, with the only existing seat being out in full sun.
- Peter Munro requested an update from Vivian Tan at Council for an update, and thanked Council for the work done to date, being much appreciated. Irrigation is yet to go in.

ACTION: Continue to monitor.

7.16 EV Charging Site in Longford.

Rear of Hill Street a perfect location.

ACTION: Peter Munro to follow up with Tim and contact Hill Street Head Office.

7.17 New Public Toilets Marlborough Street.

Proposed location at rear of car park next to Harcourts. They have no objection to toilets if they will be maintained by Council, would also prefer that CCTV cameras are installed.

Cr. Brooks noted Council has provided new toilets the the War Memorial Hall, and suggested reopening toilets at Longford Town Hall may be an option.

Jo Clarke noted that people are currently using the laneway beside Joe's Takeaway, and queried whether the toilets, including the new ones at Laycock Park, need security. It was recommended that toilet design should be vandal proof, with one suggestion being hand dryers be placed outside the toilet cubicle so CCTV monitoring would be possible.

ACTION: Jo Clarke to follow up with Carlton Dixon regarding Marlborough Street site.

Viv Tan to be asked whether Laycock Street toilets are vandal proof.

RECREATIONAL ISSUES:

7.18 Deterioration of Facilities at Mill Dam.

LDC included ongoing maintenance and upgrades in its budget requests to Council.

Council is waiting on a further concept plan to be prepared and presented.

- NMC Minutes 22 July 2024 – Action items – 30/04/2024 Matter to be further presented to Councillors at a workshop after July 2024
- Cr. Brooks reported Council had a meeting regarding this. Land ownership is to be investigated as the property has multiple owners including Swifts, Hydro etc.
- NMC Budget indicated a Mill Dam Recreation Area Masterplan, recognizing the popularity of the area, has now been developed for improvements and budget allocation as a Priority Project. Improvements include shared pathways, flood debris deflectors, landscaping and furniture.

ACTION: Monitor with Council.

7.19 The Missing Link – Lack of bikeways between Longford roundabout & Pateena Road.

The council considered LLDC Motion at 19.02.2024 meeting.

- 03/2024 Engineering Officer Council Officer has contacted Vanessa King, manager project delivery at the Department of State Growth and requested an update on this project. Awaiting response.
- 12/04/2024 Engineering Officer Response received from Luke Middleton of the Department of State Growth. The general manager has written to the Department of State Growth after receiving this response and advised that Council will continue to lobby for this path to be constructed as part of the Illawarra upgrade works to be carried out by the Department of State Growth.
- NMC Action Items list – NMC Minutes 20th May 2024 – Engineering Officer, Executive and Communication Officers awaiting further information from State Growth.
- NMC Minutes 22 July 2024 – Action items – 17/06/2024 Executive Assistant Letter sent, DSG Progressing.
- LDC noted the significant importance of a bike link between Longford and Perth.

Monitor

- DSG response to NMC that bridges are too old and frail to support a pedestrian and bicycle access pathway.

MOTION: The LDC requests NMC to approach Department of State Growth to provide weight ratings for the bridges on Illawarra Road between Mountford Hill and Bishopsbourne Road to verify their suitability for their current and future use, since there are no plans to strengthen them as part of the heavy vehicle freight corridor, and to detail their unsuitability for pedestrian and bicycle access. **MOVED:** Frances Stewart. **SECONDED:** Neil Tubb. Carried Unanimously.

ACTION: Monitor with Council. Peter Munro to contact Bike Association regarding ideas and feedback on the suitability of using the Railway Bridge as an alternative

HERITAGE ISSUES:

7.20 Significant Trees Register.

The aim of which is to identify trees and vegetation of high community value and significance, worthy of protection by being included in the Significant Trees List.

There is also the National Trust Tree Nomination Form which can be found at:

[National Trust - Nomination Form \(trusttrees.org.au\)](https://www.trusttrees.org.au) for more information.

Annette Aldersea spoke with a National Trust representative re: current list and collaboration to add more trees to the list.

- New members to LDC were invited to put trees forward for consideration.
- Annette Aldersea to suggest Longford History Society become involved, check whether the old trees on a property in Lewis Street should be listed.
- Annette Aldersea still has not been given the list from NMC.
- It was noted that the trees in Lewis Street needed pruning where impinging over the boundary prior to listing.
- Annette Aldersea informed that the Norfolk Plains Historical Society have put this on their Agenda.

ACTION: Annette Aldersea expects to have an update next meeting.

Bron Baker to monitor LCC action regarding Elm tree at York Park for precedent.

GOVERNANCE ISSUES:

7.21 Project Allocation for funds of \$2,500 in lieu of secretarial support for LDC in 2023.

Noted that \$1250 has been used for outside the Visitor Information Shelter Village Green, and to Longford Garden Club.

Balance of \$1250 ongoing for landscaping at the Longford Racecourse heritage sign.

ACTION: Continue to monitor.

7.22 Registry of Action.

LDC has decided to prepare and maintain its own Registry of Action.

ACTION: Annette Aldersea to ask Viv Tan at Council for a Template. In progress.

7.23 LDC Budget Allocation Submission - Results.

LDC Budget Allocation Submission emailed to Council and LDC members 31st March 2024.

LDC Projects for which funding was requested include:

- Marlborough Street footpaths – Upgrades will be in concrete
ACTION: LDC to follow up asking for verification.
- Legends Walk - Continuation of placement of historic stands & plaques \$5,000

- Longford Road Bypass future plan - No funding allocated to Master Planning
- Motor Racing Street Signs – Completed.
- Pedestrian Refuges - Marlborough St \$100,000 allocation provided 2024/25
- ½ Netball/Basketball Park at Velodrome - No funding allocated in 2024/25
- Road Sealing: Marlborough St from Longford Tip to Haslewood St - No funding 24/25
- Environmental & Noxious weeds - Management Plan review in progress.
- Longitudinal Park, William St - No funding allocated in 2024/25
- Mill Dam Reserve - Masterplan now developed for improvements

LDC note that there are no plans at the moment for Outstands along Marlborough Street and suggest one should be placed in front of the yellow shop.

ACTION: Peter Munro to follow up. LDC to monitor projects.

8. REPORTS FROM SUB-COMMITTEES:

8.1 Railway Committee

Cr. Dick Adams reported presenting an exhibition at the recent Rail Day at Evandale. The Committee is waiting for Tasrail to come back with an update on the progress of the columns being built for the Railway Bridge.

8.2 Longford Legends

Meeting was held 6 weeks ago. Four Legends were nominated to NMC to be ratified.

8.3 Town Hall Committee

A meeting was held with Council regarding allocation of funding for maintenance. NMC has put in for a grant for Solar Panels and a Car Charger for the Hall. There are plans to put a drone over the roof. Committee is planning to reinstate timber front doors. The foyer has been upgraded recently, along with toilets as the Town Hall is a registered Emergency Centre. Asbestos needs to be removed from the Meter Box.

8.4 Arts & Cultural Committee

10 Day Art Exhibition and Jazz Festival were a success and well attended. Christmas Group are working on organizing a function for December.

9. NEW BUSINESS:

9.1 Report on Longford Community Meeting 31/8/2024

Annette Aldersea reported that the meeting was strongly attended by 350+ members of the Longford community. Motions were put forward and overwhelmingly approved by attendees to request a review by Parliament regarding the development of a refueling depot at Tannery Road.

A motion was also successfully put forward to support the NMC with applying pressure to DSG regarding the ongoing issues before DSG mentioned in these minutes, namely:

- Condition of Longford Roundabout (currently bandaid solution)
- Cyclist & Pedestrian Safety – Pateena Road to Longford (Viaduct access?)
- Sticky Beaks Corner – Traffic & safety concerns
- Improving pedestrian safety in Longford

- Requests a new traffic and noise level survey on Wellington and Marlborough Streets Longford be carried out urgently and the results of that survey be given back to Northern Midlands Council to be publicly available.
- Annette Aldersea has received letters from Premier Rockliff and Guy Barnett, which will be followed up.
- Dean Winter will be on site at the proposed Truck Stop at 10am on Friday 11th October to meet with local residents and hear their concerns.

ACTION: LDC to put forward a recommendation to NMC to request DSG conduct traffic and noise level surveys urgently along Tannery Road, Marlborough and Wellington Street and release results to NMC, to check for compliance with Government traffic noise guidelines.

9.2 Shopfront Christmas Window Competition

Christine Darke suggested NMC run a Christmas window decoration competition for Longford businesses.

ACTION: Defer to next meeting. Suggest timing may make this more appropriate next year.

9.3 Kennel Licences – Review of Guidelines

Christine Darke to meet with Cr. Paul Terrett to see if a review of kennel licence guidelines is appropriate, given the recent situation of 200 labradoodles having to be rescued, rehabilitated and rehomed within NMC area.

ACTION: Monitor with Council.

9.4 NMC Policy regarding Shipping Containers in Heritage Precinct

Annette Aldersea raised a question regarding NMC policy on allowing shipping containers to be permitted for private residences within the heritage precinct of Longford. Current permit application open for comment by individuals. Concern if approved, it may set a precedent.

ACTION: Bron Baker to ask Paul Godier at NMC for detail on the policy and what is defined as the Heritage Precinct Boundary .

9.5 Community House @ old Police Station

Peter Munro raised a question regarding the NMC acquisition of the old Police station for repurposing as a community/neighbourhood house for Longford residents.

Cr. Brooks advised that NMC is waiting to see if the building can be acquired and that the Mayor is conducting meetings with the community, such as Helping Hands, to gain input regarding such a facility.

Annette Aldersea noted from NMC Community Infrastructure Projects that NMC is advocating for assistance from State Funding for the transfer of the property's ownership as a community lease and for funding to repurpose the residence as a Neighbourhood House style service with youth space, while the former police station would be converted to multi-purpose, community friendly meeting spaces. The surrounding land would become public green open space.

Peter Munro has asked Des Jennings about availability of emergency generators for periods of power blackouts.

Cr. Dick Adams advised that the official Emergency Centre is the Longford Town Hall and planned solar panels with a battery will be additional insurance in time of blackout.

Joanne Clarke and Bron Baker noted that one of the main issues for elderly residents during the recent weather event and power outages was their inability to find somewhere warm.

Frances Stewart noted that Motivity Fitness stepped up during the recent weather emergency to offer showers, power for charging communication devices, hot drinks etc.

ACTION: Continue to Monitor progress and discuss means of improving communication on resources available to the community during emergency events.

9.6 LDC Facebook Page – update contact email & Admins

Frances Stewart raised Annette Aldersea’s suggestion from Public Meeting regarding a community group, and whether there was a way of letting the community know who the LDC members were if they had an issue they wanted to raise.

MOTION: The LDC will resurrect the Longford District Committee Facebook Page and link it with the NMC email set up for residents to contact LDC members. **MOVED:** Neil Tubb

SECONDED: Frances Stewart. Carried Unanimously.

ACTION: Neil Tubb and Frances Stewart to meet to action the update.

9.7 Vulnerable Local Residents

Frances Stewart proposes to ask NMC to circulate a questionnaire to residents with regard to local emergencies and vulnerable status, ie. do they have telephone or internet access, and do they have a support person to check if they are ok in times of power blackouts (and at other times) etc.

ACTION: Discuss further at next meeting.

9.8 NMC request for feedback regarding bicycle parking location priorities

LDC nominates the following two locations as a priority for bicycle parking facilities:

1. Village Green precinct, as close as practical to JJ’s.
2. Browns/Hill St Supermarket.

9.9 CHANGE OF DATE - NMC District Committee’s Christmas Function

Christmas Dinner for District Committee members is now to be held from 6pm on Wednesday 27th November (not Friday 22nd November), 2024 at the Ringwood Hotel, Cressy. Please RSVP to NMC and advise any dietary requirements.

NMC Meeting dates for 2024

21st October

18th November

9th December

10. CLOSURE- Chair closed the meeting at 7:20pm.

The next meeting will be at 5:30 pm on WEDNESDAY 6th NOVEMBER 2024 at the Longford War Memorial Hall, Meeting Room 1.