

MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF THE LONGFORD DISTRICT COMMITTEE

WEDNESDAY 4th JUNE 2025. COMMENCING AT 5.30 PM

HELD AT THE WAR MEMORIAL HALL, LONGFORD.

1. **PRESENT** – Peter Munro (Chair), Annette Aldersea, Bronwyn Baker, Christine Darke, Kenneth Richards, Frances Stewart.
2. **IN ATTENDANCE** – Cr Dick Adams, Mitchell Langley (to 6:00pm)
3. **APOLOGIES** – Jo Clarke, Neil Tubb, Cr. Matthew Brooks

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 District Committee held on 7th May, 2025 confirmed as a true and correct record of proceedings.

Moved – Annette Aldersea Second – Christine Darke Carried.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

7.0 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.

- 22/7/24 NMC Minute – 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.
- Sign may not go in until roundabout is repaired.
- 8/1/25 NMC Minute – Engineering Officer received report from consultant.
- 7/2/25 NMC Engineering Officer reports that DSG have indicated that the Stone sign construction and location needs to be reviewed as part of the approval process for Welcome to Longford promotional signage and town signage on the Longford Roundabout.
- 25/2/25 Works Manager advised Traffic Engineer to inspect by 14/3/25
- 14/4/25 NMC Action Items: Traffic Engineer report received by NMC and a report I being prepared for a future Council Meeting.

ACTION: Continue to monitor.

7.2 Proposed relocation of the stone Longford entrance wall to the Woolmers end of Longford.

Longford District Committee members were unanimous in opposition to this proposal.

- 6/1/25 MOTION: The Longford District Committee request that the Northern Midlands Council ensures that, in view of recent discussions regarding historical nature of the Longford Entrance Wall, it remain in situ or in close proximity to its current location. Moved: Bronwyn Baker. Seconded: Christine Darke. Carried Unanimously.
- 20/1/25 NMC Minute 25/009 That Council notes the Committee’s recommendation. Officer’s comment: The Officer is assessing options and will report to the Council.
- 7/2/25 NMC Engineering Officer reports that DSG have indicated that the Stone sign construction and location needs to be reviewed as part of the approval process for Welcome to Longford promotional signage and town signage on the Longford Roundabout.
- 14/4/25 NMC Action Items: Report received and is being reviewed by Council officers.
- 19/5/25 NMC Action Items: Report sent to DSG for comment.

ACTION: Continue to Monitor

7.3 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.

7.4 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.
- Neil Tubb noted that the sign manufacturer has closed down. Council is sourcing another supplier for replacement of incorrect signs.
- 7/5/25 William Street and Village Green signs have been fixed.

ACTION: Item Concluded, remove from Agenda.

7.5 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.
- 10/1/25 NMC Minutes – NMC Motion to update Web page for community organizations – to discuss with IT. Cr. Dick Adams to raise the issue of funding.
- 14/4/25 NMC Action Items: Legal Disclaimers, Terms & Conditions being drawn up for NMC Online version.

ACTION IN PROGRESS:

- Neil Tubb and Annette Aldersea have drafted a letter to present to organizations/clubs re: informing them of the proposal, cost for the emblems, and seeking their interest in participation. This will be circulated in March when people are back from holidays and notified on the LDC Facebook page.
- LDC would need to request funding from NMC for the frames – Item included in Budget Submission 2025-26. Continue to Monitor

7.6 Shopfront Christmas Window Competition

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

- Christine Darke met with Rotary to discuss. Rotary response was that they endorsed the idea and committed to \$100 prize donation for best window display.
- Christine Darke moved to write to Rotary confirming OK to action. Bronwyn Baker Seconded. Carried unanimously.

ACTION: Monitor for promotion.

8.0 SAFETY & AESTHETIC ISSUES:

8.1 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 / look out 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.

- 5/3/25 Ken Richards suggested Prout's Vista – Mountford/Newry corner, Pateena Rd.
- 7/5/25 Dumaresq family not amenable to supporting this on Pateena Rd or Norwich Drive due to past issues with loiterers.

ACTION. LDC to continue to scout for a suitable site.

8.2 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.
- 8/1/25 Cr. Dick Adams advised that NMC have received a response from DSG noting comments on the Safety Audit and stating no further response. NMC to discuss response.
- 5/2/25 NMC Exec Assistant advising item listed for next workshop.
- 2/3/25 NMC Exec Assistant preparing a report.
- 2/4/25 LDC discussed whether bollards were an option, since they are used in front of The Queen's Arms. Crs Adams and Brooks advised that they were not since there was underground infrastructure, but that NMC plan to lower the height of the boxes and move them back from the kerb where there are sight obstruction issues
- 14/4/25 NMC Action Item: Engineering Officer prepared report for May Workshop & Council Meeting presentation. Workshop discussed options such as Dept. State Growth redesign intersection, Reduction of speed limit to 40km/hr but dismissed lowering the box heights.
- 19/5/25 Council reviewing location of underground services to determine what impact this may have on any further works at this location.

ACTION: Continue to monitor.

8.3 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.
- Cr Dick Adams reported that NMC held a workshop to update the policy, which is close to being finalized. It is a Government issue to allocate funding for a Weeds Officer.
- NMC Weed Management Strategic Plan has been finalized, now needs public awareness and circulation.
- NMC Minutes 10 January 2025 – Strategic Plan to be incorporated into Works Program and future Budgets.
- Cr. Dick Adams noted State Government Funding is available for some weeds control programs.

ACTION: Continue to Monitor.

8.4 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: 10/1/25 Engineering Officer awaiting response from minister. Noted that a speed camera has a regular presence – which would improve with leaving overnight or early morning.
- NMC Minutes 14/4/25 Engineering Officer awaiting response from State Growth.
- 2/4/25 LDC discussion included comments regarding the high volume of traffic and that farmers prefer 40km/hr.

ACTION. LDC suggests this needs sending to new Minister, Kerry Vincent. Continue to Monitor.

8.5 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.
- Cr. Dick Adams reported that Dept State Growth are considering the request and he will put forward a motion to NMC to fix the dip in the road near the Library/Village Green.
- 5/3/25 Bron Baker spoke to Rebecca White regarding the issue. Discuss as Budget Item.
- 2/4/25 LDC discussed pedestrian island options and a lower speed limit.
- 14/4/25 NMC Action Items: Dept State Growth repairing pavement damage near Lyttleton St and undertaking repairs on Wellington Street. Matter under consideration.

ACTION. LDC suggests this needs sending to new Minister, Kerry Vincent. Continue to Monitor.

8.6 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.
- Frances Stewart noted that Jen Butler will resubmit the lapsed Motion to Parliament.
- Frances Stewart has followed up with Kerry Vincent about speed, noise, vibration & safety concerns and has had standard department response, which was circulated. Continuing to communicate with Kerry Vincent directly on the issues and other relevant government ministers.
- 5/3/25 Jen Butler has put forward a constituent question from Illawarra Road Landowners to Kerry Vincent regarding the current speed limit causing safety and noise concerns, the Consultant's Report to State Growth and whether Kerry Vincent has seen it.
- 2/4/25 Commissioner of Transport Cynthia Heydon, Project Manager & Consultant met with Illawarra Road Landowners on site 25/3/25, including a group landowners meeting at "Valleyfield". The outcome revealed that the Commissioner was largely unaware of the issues arising from the road project and an undertaking to instigate a review of whether correct procedures have been followed and a review of the speed limit by 16/4/25.
- 7/5/25 Frances Stewart received correspondence from Elspeth Moroni, General Manager State Roads, confirming a decision has been made to reduce the speed limit to 80km/hr on Illawarra Road from Perth Bypass/Midland Highway merge to approximately Wickford Mill Cottage (approximately 7km) as a temporary measure while a review of the upgrade plans is undertaken to see if a permanent reduction is warranted. New signs to be installed in next couple of weeks.
- Frances Stewart followed up with the Commissioner of Transport regarding extending the reduced speed limit a further 600 metres towards the Bass Highway. 80kmh signs have been put in place and a "No air brakes" sign at the beginning of the southbound zone.

ACTION: Frances Stewart to request a "No air brakes" sign on the northbound lane also.

Awaiting revised road upgrade plans for 80kmh speed. Continue to Monitor.

8.7 Longford Community Meeting 31/8/2024 regarding proposed Fuel Stop, Tannery Rd.

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 was on site at the proposed Truck Stop at 10am on Friday 11th October to meet with local residents and hear their concerns.
- Jen Butler is putting forward a motion to rescind the decision.
- Annette Aldersea met with Guy Barnett who said Government want to do something to rectify the situation and are currently working through the legalities.
- 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. **NOTED that traffic counter were placed on Tannery Rd & Marlborough Street in November, 2024.**
- Annette Aldersea advised that there are ongoing discussions with Minister Kerry Vincent.
- Neil Tubb has had written response from Minister Kerry Vincent.
- Question on Notice: John Izzard query regarding the TASCAT Settlement Letter 3/12/24. Advice to be provided to Mr Izzard.
- 2/4/25 NMC Motion 17/3/25 Wilmores Lane, Bishopsbourne Rd & Herberts Road. Council Officers to prepare a report on the costs associated with upgrading these roads to become alternative heavy vehicle routes to divert from Tannery Road. Item to be discussed at Council Workshop 7/4/25.
- 7/5/25 Kerry Vincent, Min. Infrastructure has been contacted with correspondence and a constituent question in Parliament, with the response that it is ongoing with Parliament.
- Copy of a response from Minister Kerry Vincent to Jen Butler was tabled. Ongoing talks with Minister Vincent regarding his options for intervention.

ACTION: Continue to Monitor

8.8 JBS Illuminated Sign permit application

Annette Aldersea has provided a copy of the permit application for discussion *see attached PLN-24-0139*).

- Consensus was that there is sufficient signage to the JBS site already in place and that additional Illuminated signage in that area is undesirable.
- Annette Aldersea & John Izzard met with JBS with the outcome being an agreement from JBS to move the sign back an extra ½ metre, to landscape the sign surrounds and only illuminate the letters.
- 7/5/25 Sign construction is completed and illuminated, however landscaping has not been done yet. Annette Aldersea reported the the Longford Garden Club had offered to help with the landscaping.
- 4/6/25 Planting has been done.

ACTION: Item Finalised.

8.9 Tasmulch expansion to bulk landscaping supply – dust issues.

Some residents around the Tasmulch bulk landscape site have been experienced elevated issues of dust emerging from the Tasmulch site, as well as concern over the vibration from trucks unloading & loading within the heritage precinct.

- Annette Aldersea approached Tasmulch with a request to use dust suppressant on the driveway, and keep hosed down in hot weather. Response was “Taken on Board”
- Surrounding residents are in the process of writing to Tasmulch.
- 7/5/25 Approximately 6-8 houses are being impacted by dust, and noise after hours.

ACTION: Annette Aldersea and neighbours to write a letter to Tasmulch. Annette Aldersea checking zoning regarding commercial or industrial, and Heritage Precinct. Tasmulch may have outgrown their location.

8.10 A-Double & B-Double 24 hour access on Illawarra and Longford Main Roads.

Concerns were raised about the effect of the recent A-Doubles and increase in B-Doubles traversing through Longford and the impact upon heritage buildings and noise levels especially during the night.

8/1/25 MOTION: The Longford District Committee requests Northern Midlands Council write to the Minister for Infrastructure, Kerry Vincent, to ask for clarification on when approval for 24 hour access was given to A-Doubles and B-Doubles to access Illawarra Road and Longford main streets, due to noise and vibration issues causing damage to heritage buildings.

Moved: Frances Stewart. Seconded: Neil Tubb. Carried unanimously.

LDC Motion tabled at NMC meeting 20th January 2025.

COUNCIL DECISION – MINUTE NO. 25/007. That Council Officer investigates and seeks clarification from the Department of State Growth.

- NMC Minutes 14/4/25 - Action Item – Engineering Officer awaiting response from DSG.
- Annette Aldersea reported that Minister Kerry Vincent appeared unaware that A-Doubles have access to Illawarra Road and Longford. To clarify with Minister.
- 4/6/25 Item has been removed from NMC Minutes without conclusion.

ACTION: NHVR to be contacted with request to impose curfew for freight vehicles within Longford during 10pm-6am to reduce noise disturbance and vibration issues. Continue to Monitor.

8.11 Review of the Location & Number of 60km/hr signs on Woolmers Lane.

In light of the recent fatality, discussion was held regarding additional signage and the prevalence of tourists in this area unfamiliar with the road constraints.

8/1/25 MOTION: Longford District Committee request Northern Midlands Council install a “60km/hr zone ahead” sign on the sharp right-hand corner of Woolmers Lane on the approach to Longford, and a “concealed driveway” sign on Woolmers lane between the aforementioned corner and the current 60km/hr sign approaching Longford.

Moved: Annette Aldersea. Seconded: Bronwyn Baker. Carried unanimously.

- 20/1/25 NMC Minute No. 25/008: That Council act immediately to improve the safety of the Woolmers Lane & Brickendon Street corner as soon as the Traffic Engineer’s report is received.
- 7/2/25 NMC Engineering Officer awaiting response from the Department of State Growth.
- 2/4/25 Draft Report has been received by NMC. Council to review with Traffic Engineer.
- 14/4/25 NMC Action Items: Concealed Entrance sign has been installed. Further works to be carried out in accordance with the report.

ACTION: Continue to Monitor

8.12 Marlborough Street beatification of Footpath

2/4/25 Peter Munro raised the Marlborough Street need for beatification of footpath, specifically the current lack of trees and shade. It was suggested that if NMC could provide a list of suitable tree options for uniformity, a door knock with a flyer could be prepared for relevant resident feedback.

ACTION: Peter Munro to discuss with Des Jennings, NMC.

8.13 Hill Street Entry/Exit

Christine Darke raised the idea of having a separate exit onto Wellington Street at Hill Street, adjacent to the BWS, to reduce the increasing congestion of vehicles turning out of the United Service Station which clashes with the vehicles turning in and out of Hill Street Car Park, resulting in a high number of accidents. Discussion was had regarding the necessity of an alternative to the current arrangement, along with the idea of a roundabout at the intersection of Wellington and Union Streets with exiting traffic re-routed behind Hill Street and businesses in Union Street.

ACTION: Further discussion with LDC and NMC.

9.0 TOWN IMPROVEMENT ISSUES

9.1 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.
- Requested trees to shade the seats are still an outstanding item.
- LDC added to Budget Items requested.
- 2/4/25 NMC visited during annual bus tour.
- 7/5/25 Council are considering options for shading the seats.
- 4/6/25 Bronwyn Baker noticed some contractors building something within the Cressy end of the cemetery.

ACTION: Continue to monitor.

9.2 EV Charging Site in Longford.

Rear of Hill Street a perfect location.

- Peter Munro reported still waiting for a call from Hill St Management. An approach has been made by Charles Gregory, Secretary Australian Electric Vehicle Association Tas, claiming that site as perfect.
- Maree Bricknell follow-up email requesting suggested sites.
- Cr Dick Adams advised NMC is looking at alternatives, such as near the Memorial Hall, which would be suitable as a Northern Midlands Council owned site.
- Cr Dick Adams advised that Grant Applications open 6/2/25 and NMC are going to apply. Needs consultation.
- LDC Discussions were unanimous in the position that the EV Charging site should be on private land, not community land. Suggestions were to approach Longford fuel stations to gauge interest.
- 2/4/25 Joanne Clarke suggested rear of Harcourts would be a good site.
- 19/5/25 Lyttleton St residents spoke at NMC Meeting Public Question time, stating that Lyttleton St/Village Green would be an inappropriate site, for multiple reasons. NMC decided Energy ROI should investigate other options.
- Peter Munro met with the new Hill Street Manager to discuss, waiting for feedback.

ACTION: Joanne Clarke to follow up with Harcourts.

Peter Munro to follow up with new Hill Street Manager for Hill Street owners' contact details.

Continue to Monitor.

9.3 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.

- Jo Clarke and Bron Baker have approached Carlton Dixon & Harcourts regarding Marlborough Street.

ACTION: Jo Clarke to follow up again with Harcourts. Continue to Monitor

10.0 RECREATIONAL ISSUES:

10.1 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.
- Annette Aldersea advised that work is in progress with many trees having been planted, weeds have been sprayed and logs placed for direction of 4WD vehicles.
- NMC Executive Assistant has prepared follow up correspondence
- 5/2/25 NMC Executive Assistant meeting scheduled with Landowner JBS early March.
- 5/3/25 LDC noted more planting has occurred.
- 2/4/25 LDC noted weed spraying has been done and discussions are ongoing.
- 14/4/25 NMC Action Items: Council Exec. Assistant had onsite meeting with JBS Plant Manager. Council Officers awaiting a response.

ACTION: Monitor with Council.

10.2 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.
- Christine Darke noted the bridges are dirty and in need of maintenance.
- Cr Paul Terrett suggested writing to Rebecca White on the issue.
- 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.
- NMC Minute No. 24/0333 Decision: That Council follow up the request to the Department of State Growth.
- 31/10/24 Officer Comment: Email has been sent to the Department of State Growth. Awaiting their response. Discussion noted the frequency with which cyclists and pedestrians have been observed crossing the bridges.
- 10/1/25 NMC awaiting response from State Growth.
- 7/2/25 NMC awaiting response from State Growth.
- 2/4/25 Bron Baker called Mayors of Burnie/Wynyard and Break O’Day to discuss their local bike paths. Feedback was it was costly and formed part of Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Scheme.
- NMC awaiting a response from State Growth.
- LDC noted that this is a NMC Priority Project, with Illawarra Rd shared pathway submitted for State Government 2025-26 Budget consideration.

[ACTION: Monitor DSG activity regarding upgrading the bridges and whether pedestrian and cycle path is incorporated with plans for Stage 3 Illawarra Road upgrade. Peter Munro to contact Bike Association regarding ideas and feedback on the suitability of using the Railway Bridge as an alternative.](#)

10.3 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 & Bron Baker noted that one of the main issues for elderly residents during the recent weather event & 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.
- Joanne Clarke confirmed Helping Hands now open 10am-12pm, 4 days/wk.
- NMC awaiting a decision from Treasury.
- LDC noted that this is a NMC Priority Project.

ACTION: Continue to Monitor progress and discuss means of improving communication on resources available to the community during emergency events. Monitor for any plans by State Government to sell the asset. Monitor plans for future of old ambulance station.

10.4 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.

NMC are commencing installation from southern end of Council area (ie. Ross) with the intention to progress northward and have these installed before Winter.

- 4/6/25 Frances Stewart contacted Vivien Tan for an update. Response was that NMC Projects and Buildings Compliance Manager, Trent Nathan, is progressing with this item but it has been delayed due to priorities elsewhere, such as Campbell Town streetscaping issues.

ACTION: Continue to monitor.

10.5 Additional bench seats & picnic tables for Longford Village Green near Latour and Lyttleton Streets.

It was noted that there is a lack of seating in the area of the Village Green near Latour and Lyttleton Streets, and that some visitors to the Village Green may prefer quieter seating location away from the children's play area, such as near the trees.

- 5/3/25 Annette Aldersea to take photos for Peter Munro to circulate for feedback on social media.
- 2/4/25 Peter Munro to put on the Longford District Committee Facebook page for community feedback on this suggestion.
- 7/5/25 Community opinion was 100% positive with approximately 40 comments/suggestions, including all corners of the Green, under shade, scattered benches around perimeter for elderly rest stops when strolling, more picnic benches along Arthur Street for food van patrons, while ensuring open areas remain for events such as Scots Day Out and Car Shows.
- Peter Munro provided a report on feedback from social media regarding the idea of extra seating, which was overwhelmingly positive.

Action: At next meeting a Motion to be put to NMC regarding a study to be done regarding expanding permanent seating in the Village Green precinct. Comments files and an Aerial shot with suggested locations pinpointed to be included to support the motion. Annette Aldersea to undertake Aerial shot

10.6 Drop-In Centre for Youth 12-17yo.

Frances Stewart raised the issue of Longford Youth having no indoor recreation area, especially during Winter, for after school, weekends & school holidays. A summary of the need, benefit and proposal for provision was submitted, with the idea of allocating a couple of rooms in a Council Community House or a stand-alone premises for the purpose of diverting unsupervised youth from engaging in anti-social activity such as vandalism and shoplifting. Cost of a part-time youth worker may be offset by reduced vandalism costs and community have offered furnishings, laptops, playstation, television etc, with further staffing by volunteers. Council members suggested a more thorough proposal and report be investigated and prepared before submitting a Motion to Council, and that Deloraine House be visited to see how their Community House operates.

- 4/6/25 Ideas was discussed with Mitchell Langley during his presentation. Follow up to be done regarding how LDC might support his work with Longford Youth in the future.

ACTION: Frances Stewart and Annette Aldersea to arrange a visit to Deloraine and Frances Stewart to prepare a report as requested.

11.0 HERITAGE ISSUES:

11.1 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.nationaltrust.org.au/nomination-form) 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 are coming on board to update the Register.
- 5/3/25 Annette Aldersea advised that NMC Nominations are now open until mid April to propose trees for inclusion in the Register.
- 2/4/25 Annette Aldersea proposed the following motion:
MOTION: The Longford District Committee requests that the Northern Midlands Council extend the closing date for Significant Tree Register nominations to 30th June, 2025 due to the large number of trees in Longford being investigated and considered by the Longford District Committee, community groups and community members for nomination for addition to the current Significant Tree Register. We are aware other District Committees are also working on nominations and require an extension of time.
Moved: Annette Aldersea Seconded: Frances Stewart Carried Unanimously.
- 14/4/25 NMC Minute No. 25/121 "That Council extends the nomination period for the Significant Tree Register until 30th June, 2025. Carried Unanimously.
- Frances Stewart asked Vivien Tan what the process would be after 30th June. Response was that the list would first be assessed for suitable tree candidates, according to their history, then referred to an appointed specialist.

ACTION: A form is available from NMC, which Annette Aldersea will forward to Peter Munro to post on the LDC Facebook page and share to the Longford Community Page.
Continue to Monitor

11.2 Preservation of Fred Davies Grandstand

Neil Tubb has been in discussion with the Longford Football Club, with the following summary: NMC Decided to retain the Grandstand in 2020 and made substantial improvements to ensure the Grandstand would remain standing for future generations. The Grandstand has social and cultural significance to the Longford community and it also compliments the Fred Davies Memorial located at the entrance to Longford Reserve. Listing of the building will ensure that it will remain in place for future generations to understand and enjoy.

5/2/25 Neil Tubb to talk to the President of the Longford Football Club.

5/3/25 Neil Tubb submitted the following motion for discussion (see attached background document):

MOTION: "The Longford District Committee requests that the Northern Midlands Council add the "Mulga" Fred Davies Grandstand to the Northern Midlands Committee Heritage List/Register under the **NOR-C6.0 Local Historic Heritage Code.**"

Moved: Annette Aldersea. Seconded: Kenneth Richards. Carried unanimously.

- 2/4/25 NMC Minute No. 25/0088 Decision: That Council make an application to Heritage Tasmania for heritage status of the Fred Davies Memorial Grandstand at the Longford Recreation oval.
- 2/4/25 Neil Tubb to investigate incorporating the Timekeeper boards also.
- 14/4/25 NMC Action Items: Senior Planner Application to Heritage Tasmania is being prepared.
- 19/5/25 NMC Action Items: Senior Planner Application to Heritage Tasmania has been made.

Continue to monitor.

12.0 GOVERNANCE ISSUES:

12.1 LDC Budget Allocation Submission - Results. New Budget 2025-2026.

LDC Projects for which funding will be requested. (Submission to be emailed to Council and LDC members in March):

- Marlborough Street footpaths – Upgrades.
- Legends Walk - Continuation of placement of historic stands & plaques \$5,000
- Directory of Clubs – Framework for club signs – Visitor Information Centre Village Green and Wellington Street Woolmers Lane end - \$6,000 (Noted that NMC are talking with IT about adding these on the NMC website also).
- Longford Cemetery – For planting of mature trees to provide shade over the existing seating.
- Mill Dam Reserve - Funding for improvements.
- Longford Road Bypass - future plan.
- Pedestrian Refuges – upgrade existing and new refuge Marlborough Street near "Yellow Shop".
- ½ Netball/Basketball Court – near skate park at Velodrome.
- 5/3/25 Annette Aldersea and Peter Munro have compiled the NMC Budget Submission List. Longford Cemetery, Marlborough Street Footpaths and Pedestrian Refuges have been

nominated for inclusion in the Annual March municipal bus tour – Wednesday 26th March, 2025

ACTION: Continue to monitor.

12.2 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.

- Cr Paul Terrett attended the meeting and advised that Dogs Tasmania is working with State Government to review the Animal Welfare Guidelines.
- Christine Darke and Cr Paul Terrett are looking at a review of the NMC Kennel Licence Guidelines.
- Christine Darke has submitted a statement document with suggestions (*see attached*) to form the background for a motion to be put forward by LDC to NMC at the next meeting.
- NMC have this issue on hold pending outcome of review by RSPCA.
- 2/4/25 NMC Policy Review: Dog Management – Officers are preparing a report for Council workshop in April 2025.
- 2/4/25 LDC noted NMC Minute No. 25/0082 - Motion put forward by Deputy Mayor Janet Lambert to continue community information campaign highlighting responsible dog ownership with emphasis on control of dogs on and off leads, plus the addition of a clause in the dog registration forms to include an acknowledgement of rights and obligations.
- 2/4/25 Annette Aldersea circulated a Longford resident's request (*see attached*) which was discussed.
- 14/4/25 NMC Action Item: Report drafted for review at May Council workshop.
- 19/5/25 NMC Action Item: Relisted for a future Workshop.

ACTION: Continue to monitor.

12.3 Draft Longford Expansion Strategy

Annette Aldersea has provided a copy of the Strategy document for discussion (*see attached Draft for Community Consultation*)

- Peter Munro suggested the Strategy should include traffic management planning, including investigation of a Longford bypass.
- A voluntary LDC meeting to discuss and prepare a group submission/response was held 13th November and a submission has been presented to NMC.
- Dick Adams reported that this has been workshopped in a closed session by NMC.

ACTION: Continue to monitor.

13. REPORTS FROM SUB-COMMITTEES:

13.1 Railway Committee

Two columns for the Western end of the bridge have been made and the fabrication of the steel to attach them to the rail bridge is being made up at the moment.

Hopefully an erection date will be given within a month.

Cr. Adams has also booked the Town Hall for July 26 and 27 for the Model Railway Exhibition to show us their wonderful trains and gear again.

13.2 Longford Legends

Cr. Dick Adams reported that a new path is being built in concrete. Some signs have been

taken out whilst this occurs.

13.3 Town Hall Committee

Cr. Dick Adams reported some painting is being redone. Waiting on a report on the viability of the roof to support solar panels.

13.4 Arts & Cultural Committee

Cr. Dick Adams reported that a new Exhibition is coming in early August, details to follow.

14. NEW BUSINESS:

14.1 Guest Presentation: Mitchell Langley, NMC Youth Worker

LDC welcomed Mitchell Langley, newly appointed NMC Youth Worker, to give a presentation on his role within NMC. Mitchell comes with an impressive background in youth mentoring, child safety experience and youth justice, as well as a background in Theatre and the Arts. He is currently amassing contacts within the areas of youth mental health, such as Cornerstone, Headspace and local GP's, for involvement with the Northern Midlands communities, as well as consulting with Tasmanian Youth Forums and student leaders in NMC schools, to formulate programs to assist young people in the area. He identified the after school window of 3:30-5:30pm as being a focus time for running programs for youth, and gave a briefing on the recent successful Illuminate Education Week program run in the Longford Memorial Hall for Grade 5-6 students to come up with ideas then develop and present these projects for viability.

14.2 Longford Post Office – Ensuring the preservation of an essential community business.

Bronwyn Baker circulated a flyer from the Australian Citizens Party regarding plans to close a large number of rural post offices around Australia.

ACTION: LDC to monitor for any indication that Longford Post Office would be at risk.

14.3 Lack of river signage at Macquarie River Bridge, Woolmers Lane.

Bronwyn Baker raised the lack of signage at Macquarie River bridge on Woolmers Lane to identify the Macquarie River.

ACTION: Bronwyn Baker to raise a works request with NMC for signage to be installed, with the unanimous support of LDC.

14.4 Future plans for abandoned house block on Lyttleton Street.

Peter Munro raised this as an item for discussion at the next LDC meeting, due to concerns about it becoming a recent target for vandals and attempted arson.

NMC Meeting dates for 2024/2025, Meeting starts 5:00pm:

23 rd June * 4 th Monday	15 th September	15 th December
21 st July	20 th October	
18 th August	17 th November	

15. CLOSURE: Chair closed the meeting at 7:00pm.

The next meeting will be at 5:30 pm on WEDNESDAY 2nd JULY 2025 at the Longford War Memorial Hall, Meeting Room 1.