

**Minutes of Council Meeting held by Leitrim County Council
In the Council Chamber, Áras an Chontae, Carrick on Shannon, Co. Leitrim on
Monday 6th October 2008**

Members Present:

Bohan, Mary	McGloin, Enda
Colreavy, Michael	McGowan, Sean
Dolan, Frank	McTernan, John
Dolan, Gerry	Mulligan, Thomas
Ellis, Caillian	O'Rourke, Paddy
Ferguson Anthony	Reynolds, Gerry
Guckian, Sinead	Stenson, Enda
Hughes, Gordon	
Kenny, Martin	

And Councillor Francis Gilmartin, Leas-Cathaoirleach presiding

Apologies:

Cllr Jim Joe Shortt, Cathaoirleach
Cllr Damian Brennan
Cllr Aodh Flynn
Cllr Liam McElgunn
Cllr Sean McDermott

Officials Present:

Ms. J. Maguire, County Manager
Ms K. Murphy, Head of Finance
Mr Martin Dolan, Director of Services, Planning, Environment & Emergency Services
Mr. J. Gilhooly, Director of Services, Community and Enterprise Development
Mr John McGuinness, Director of Services, Infrastructure
Ms Mary Quinn, Director of Housing & Corporate Services
Ms Carmelita Caslin, Senior Executive Officer
Mr. C. Tracey, Senior Planner
Mr B. Kenny, Senior Engineer
Mr W. Lowe, Senior Engineer
Mr Shay O'Connor, Senior Engineer
Mr G. Miney, Senior Executive Engineer
Mr Darragh O'Boyle, Senior Executive Engineer
Mr. P. MacShera, A/Senior Executive Engineer
Ms Aoife Mulchay, Executive Planner
Mr Paudge Kennegahan, Assistant Planner
Ms. A. McGovern, Meetings Administrator

**08/476
6/10/08**

Deimhniu Miontuairisci

Proposed by Councillor Mary Bohan seconded by Councillor Sinead Guckian and unanimously resolved;

“That the Minutes of Meeting of Leitrim County Council held on the Rose of Inishfree Waterbus, Parkes Castle, Dromahaire Co Leitrim on Monday 1st September 2008, be adopted.”

Matters Arising:

Councillor Guckian queried whether any progress had been made in relation to identifying and naming the new street between properties on Bridge Street and the Landmark Hotel in Carrick-on-Shannon. Ms. Jackie Maguire, County Manager confirmed that work was ongoing in relation to this matter.

08/477

6/10/08

Votes of Sympathy

The members extended a vote of sympathy to the following;

- John Patrick & Gerry Bohan, Lough Rynn on the death of Teresa Bohan
- Angela Moran, Gortnawane, Drumshanbo on the death of Michael Moran.
- John & Sheila Beirne, Cornamuckla, Carrick-on-Shannon on the death of Mary Theresa Beirne.
- Eileen Gallagher, Carrick Road, Drumshanbo on the death of Felix Gallagher.
- The Connolly Family, Gurteendarragh, Kinlough on the death of Bernard Connolly.
- Mrs Mary Connolly & Family, Main Street, Kinlough on the death of Alex Connolly.
- The Wilton Family, 7 Groarty Road, Derry City on the death of Claude Wilton
- Brendan McGuinness, Amorset, Manorhamilton on the death of Annie McGuinness.
- The Crown Family, Lurganboy, Manorhamilton on the death of Dickie Crown.
- Joe & Bernadette Ward, Drumcolligan, Mohill on the death of Tom Ward.
- Mulhern Family, Cloone Road, Mohill on the death of Mrs Mulhern.
- Noel Duignan, Gortinee, Aughamore, Carrick-on-Shannon on the death of Phil Duignan.
- Maura Cusack, Clooncorruck, Carrigallen, Co Leitrim on the death of Aiden Harte.

08/478

6/10/08

Section 179 93) (b) of the Planning & Development Act 2000

Report dated 30th September 2008 from Mr Ciaran Tracey, Senior Planner as circulated to the members appears as **Appendix 1** to the Minutes of this Meeting in the Minute Book.

Councillor McGloin outlined that there was a submission made by local residents in relation to the proposed works and he requested that discussions take place with these residents in relation to addressing the matters raised prior to works commencing.

Mr. John McGuinness, Director of Services, Infrastructure confirmed that such discussions would take place.

Proposed by Councillor Enda McGloin, seconded by Councillor Mary Bohan AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED;

“That the proposal for Drumshanbo LP03306 Aghacashel Road alignment and R208 extension be approved.”

08/479

6/10/08 Lisduff Cornaslieve Group Water Scheme

Report from Mr John McGuinness, Director of Services, Infrastructure as circulated to the members appears as **Appendix 2** to the Minutes of this Meeting in the Minute Book.

Proposed by Councillor Sinead Guckian, seconded by Councillor Enda Stenson AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED;

“That Leitrim County Council approve the Acquisition by Agreement of the waterworks known as Lisduff Cornaslieve Group Water Scheme in line with the provisions of the Water Services Act 2007”.

Councillor Ellis queried the position in relation to the water scheme at Stralongford. Mr. Billy Lowe, Senior Engineer advised that the Group want to treat their own source and that discussions are ongoing with them in this regard.

08/480

06/10/08 Section 85 of the Local Government Act 2001

Report dated 30th September 2008 from John McGuinness, Director of Services, Infrastructure as circulated to the members appears as **Appendix 3** to the Minutes of this Meeting in the Minute Book.

Proposed by Councillor Sean McGowan, seconded by Councillor Gerard Reynolds AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED;

“That Leitrim County Council enters into an agreement with Roscommon County Council under Section 85 of the Local Government Act, 2001 concerning the design, construction and completion of the N4 Carrick-on-Shannon to Dromod Road Project, with Leitrim County Council being the administering authority.”

Councillor McGowan queried what stage the project is at. Mr. John McGuinness, Director of Services, Infrastructure advised that the Consultants have been selected for the design stage and will be appointed within the next couple of weeks. Mr. Shay O'Connor, Senior Engineer advised that the process will be 21 months to publication of the CPO and An Bord Pleanala Oral Hearing.

08/481

06/10/08 Draft Leitrim County Development Plan 2009-2015

Managers Report to Elected Members on Submissions, Consultation and Public Meetings dated August 2008 together with Report dated 2nd October 2008 from Mr. Martin Dolan, Director of Services, Planning, Environment and Emergency Services as circulated to the members appear as **Appendix 4** to the Minutes of this Meeting in the Minute Book.

Councillor Gerard Reynolds proposed that a Special Council meeting be convened on Monday 20th October 2008 to deal with this item in detail at a public meeting. This was supported by Councillor Gordon Hughes who indicated that he had a number of issues to raise in relation to the Draft Plan.

Councillor Colreavy suggested that if members have specific concerns in relation to the Draft Plan and/or the Managers Report that these should be submitted in advance of the Special meeting. He outlined that this would help to structure the discussion in relation to this matter.

Councillor Bohan outlined that the recent workshops in relation to the Managers Report had been very useful for members in clarifying aspects of the Draft Plan and the Managers Report. She stressed that all decisions in relation to the County Development Plan are and would be made at a public meeting and any material alterations to the Draft Plan would go back out on public display.

Councillor Francis Gilmartin, Leas-Cathaoirleach outlined that the Members must consider and make their decision in relation to the Managers Report on the Draft County Development Plan by 29th October 2008.

Ms. Jackie Maguire, County Manager confirmed that there was no issue with having a special meeting to consider this matter. She advised that it would be very helpful if proposals or details of particular issues were submitted in advance by members. She also requested that members consider the report dated 2nd October 2008 from Mr. M. Dolan, Director of Services, Planning, Environment & Emergency Services, as circulated, in relation to the proposed amendments to the Draft Plan and whether or not these individual amendments are considered to be a material alteration of the Draft Plan.

Proposed by Councillor Gerard Reynolds, seconded by Councillor Gordon Hughes and Resolved;

“That Leitrim County Council convene a Special Meeting on Monday 20th October 2008, at 5.30pm to consider the Managers Report on Submissions, Consultations and Public Meetings in relation to the Draft Leitrim County Development Plan 2009-2015 in accordance with the provisions of Section 11 of the Planning & Development Act 2000”

08/482

06/10/08 Preparation of the River Basin District Plans

Report dated 30th September 2008 from Mr. Brian Kenny, Senior Engineer, Planning Environment & Emergency Services as circulated to the members appears as **Appendix 5** to the Minutes of this Meeting in the Minute Book. Mr. Martin Dolan, Director of Services, Planning, Environment & Emergency Services gave an overview of the current position and advised that it is proposed that representatives from one of the River Basin District Boards would make a presentation to either the November or December Council meeting. This update was noted by the members.

Councillor Ferguson outlined that it would be very useful if Members could be provided with copies of recently produced maps indicating water quality in each River Basin District Area. He also queried if it would be possible for a specific map to be produced in relation to County Leitrim. Mr. Martin Dolan, Director of Services undertook to look into the matter.

08/483

6/10/08 **Report from Corporate Policy Group**

Ms. A. McGovern, Meetings Administrator gave an overview of the issues considered by the Corporate Policy Group at their meeting:

▪ **Strategic Policy Committee Update Report**

Two Strategic Policy Committees meetings had take place since the last meeting of the Corporate Policy Group – the Housing & Corporate Services SPC and the Community, Cultural and Enterprise Development SPC

Housing & Corporate Services SPC

The meeting of the Housing & Corporate Services SPC on 22nd September 2008 had considered the following matters:

- Update in Relation to Disability Implementation Plan
- Update in relation to Housing Needs Assessment & Housing Action Plan
- Update in Relation to Voluntary Housing
- Update in Relation to the Traveller Accommodation Programme
- Update in Relation to Housing Estate Management
- Policy/position in relation to Housing Grants

The report from the Housing & Corporate Services SPC as circulated to the Members appears as **Appendix 6** to the Minutes of the Meeting in the Minute Book.

This update was noted by the members.

Community, Cultural and Enterprise Development SPC

The meeting of the Community, Cultural & Enterprise Development SPC on 8th September 2008 had considered the following matters:

- Commencement of Audit of Community & Sporting Facilities
- Strategy & Licence Arrangements with Leitrim Arts Development Ltd.
- Update on Library Development Plan

The report from the Community, Cultural & Enterprise Development SPC as circulated to the Members appears as **Appendix 7** to the Minutes of the Meeting in the Minute Book.

This update was noted by the members.

▪ **Polling District Arrangement for the 2009/2010 Register of Electors Report**

The Corporate Policy Group had considered the report on the Polling District Arrangements for the 2009/2010 Register of Electors arising from the recommendations of the Boundary Committee on the review of Electoral Area Boundaries. This matter had also been listed for consideration on the agenda for the General Purposes Committee meeting of Leitrim County Council.

▪ **Items for Council Meeting**

The Corporate Policy Group had also considered an overview of items for the Council Meeting.

This update was noted by the Members.

1. Letter dated 1st September 2008 from Waterways Ireland in relation to the public berthing facilities at Leitrim Village, Co Leitrim
2. Letter dated September 2008 from Department of Transport in relation to Bus Éireann.
3. Letter dated 11th September 2008 from Office of the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Food in relation to the resolution passed by members of Leitrim County Council seeking an extension of the deadline in relation to the Farm Waste Management Scheme.

Councillor Kenny stated that the reply from the Minister is extremely disappointing. He stated that the industry hasn't the capacity to complete these sheds within the deadline and the Minister must secure an extension of the deadline. He requested that a deputation from Leitrim County Council seek an urgent meeting with the Minister in this regard.

Councillor Gerry Dolan supported the call for a deputation and outlined his disappointment with the Ministers position. Councillor Ellis also supported the need for an extension of the deadline on the scheme. Councillor Stenson outlined the incapacity within the sector to meet the deadline and stated that it is in the Ministers interest to extend the deadline. Councillor Mulligan also supported the proposal to seek a meeting with the Minister in relation to this issue.

4. Letter dated 15th September 2008 from Waterways Ireland in relation to the public berthing facilities at Leitrim Village.
5. Letter dated 12th September 2008 from Bus Éireann in relation to Drumsna village Sligo/Dublin express coach service.
6. Letter dated 22nd September 2008 from Vintners' Federation of Ireland requesting that Leitrim County Council do not increase rates in 2009.
7. Opening statement from Seán Balfe, Director of the Irish Agrément Board to the Oireachtas Joint Committee on the Environment Heritage and Local Government in relation to the functions and powers of the National Standards Authority of Ireland and the Irish Agrément Board.

Councillor McGloin requested that Leitrim County Council invite Mr. Balfe to a meeting of Leitrim County Council to make a presentation to the members on the various treatment systems available for single houses. This was agreed by the members.

8. Letter dated 23rd September 2008 from Department of Finance acknowledging receipt of letter from Leitrim County Council and pre budget submission on behalf of the Disability Federation of Ireland.
9. Letter dated 22nd September 2008 from OPW acknowledging receipt of letter regarding an invitation of an OPW representative to attend a meeting of Leitrim County Council.

10. Letter dated 23rd September 2008 from the Office of the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Food acknowledging receipt of letter from Leitrim County Council concerning a compensation package for Flooding Damage.
11. Letter dated 24th September 2008 from the Office of the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Food acknowledging receipt of letter from Leitrim County Council concerning Publication of details of farm payments.
12. Letter dated 23rd September 2008 from the Office of the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Food acknowledging receipt of letter from Leitrim County Council concerning the Farm Waste Management Scheme.
13. Letter dated 16th September 2008 from the National Monuments concerning a resolution by Leitrim County Council requesting the laying of a proper roadway down to Fenagh Abbey.

Councillor Ellis suggested that Leitrim County Council should write to the St Mel's Diocesan Trust requesting that they hand over a public right of way over this access route. He advised that the availability of a public right of way would strengthen the case for developing this facility. This was supported by Councillor Hughes.

14. Circular No N11/2008 dated 28th August 2008 from the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government in relation to Remedial Works Programme 2009.

Councillor Gilmartin queried if Drumshanbo will be included under the Remedial Works proposals to be submitted to the Department for 2009. Ms. Mary Quinn, Director of Services, Housing & Corporate Services confirmed that it is proposed to include Dristernan in the priorities put forward under the scheme.

15. Circular No SP 5/08 dated 20th September 2008 from the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government in relation to Rural Housing Policies and Local Need Criteria in Development Plans: Conformity with Articles 43 and 56 (Freedom of Establishment and Free Movement of Capital) of the European Community Treaty.

16. Circular Letter LG 09/08 dated 19th September 2008 from the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government in relation to the increase in Representational Payment for Councillors with effect from the 1st September 2008.

17. Letter dated 3^d October 2008 from the Office of the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Food acknowledging receipt of letter from Leitrim County Council in relation to the impact of the adverse weather on the farming sector.

The following issues were also raised under Meeting Correspondence;

Poll an Eas Waterfall

Councillor Kenny congratulated the staff of the Community & Enterprise Department and the Roads Department of Leitrim County Council on the works carried out at Poll an Eas waterfall. He requested that additional funds be sought for the renovation of the

old stone building as a changing room and also for the provision of life-buoys at this location.

Centenary Commemoration of 1908 bye Election in Manorhamilton

Councillor Colreavy issued an invitation to Members and Staff to the Centenary Commemoration of the 1908 Bye-Election in Manorhamilton on Sunday 12th October.

65th Anniversary of Breffni Players

Councillor Guckian outlined that Members had been circulated with correspondence from the Breffni Players in relation to the cancellation of the 65th Anniversary exhibition in the Dock.

Councillor Gilmartin advised that a further letter had been received from Thérèse Hackett, Chairperson of the Breffni Players to state that they are happy that the unfortunate situation has been resolved satisfactorily and measures have been put in place to ensure such a situation does not arise again. This was welcomed by the members.

Eircom Broadband

Councillor O'Rourke queried whether any further communication had been received from Eircom in relation to broadband roll-out. Ms Aideen McGovern, Meetings Administrator confirmed that no further communication had been received to date in this regard.

R280 in County Roscommon

Councillor Ferguson expressed concern at the poor condition of the section of the R280 in County Roscommon and requested that a letter issue to the County Manager in Roscommon seeking details of their proposals in relation to the improvement of this stretch of road.

Pilot Tax Designation Scheme

Councillor McGloin suggested that Leitrim County Council should make a bid for a second pilot tax designation scheme for tourism infrastructure in the Lough Allen region given the refusal of the Minister for Finance to extend the existing Mid-Shannon Scheme to Leitrim. He suggested that this matter could be progressed through the Community, Cultural & Enterprise Development SPC.

Vote of Congratulations

The members extended a vote of congratulations to the Glencar-Manorhamilton Team on winning the Leitrim Senior Football Championship County Final and the Aughnasheelin Intermediate Team on their victory in the Intermediate Championship.

Welcome

The Members welcomed Mr. Darragh O'Boyle, Senior Executive Engineer, Ballinamore Area to the staff of Leitrim County Council

08/485

6/10/08 Deputation of Leitrim Business People

Councillor Francis Gilmartin, Leas Cathaoirleach welcomed the deputation of Leitrim Business People, comprising Mr. Felim Gurn, Manorhamilton Business Forum, Mr. Terry Casey, Carrick-on-Shannon Chamber of Commerce and Mr. Ciaran Smyth, Ballinamore Business Association, to the meeting.

Mr. Gurn thanked the Leas Cathaoirleach and the Members for allowing the deputation to address the meeting on behalf of business people in Leitrim.

Mr. Casey outlined that the local business people believe that due to extraordinary external and local economic conditions that Leitrim County Council should decide to decrease commercial rates by 5%. Mr Casey stated that consumer confidence has dropped to a twenty year low and retailers, publicans and hoteliers are experiencing huge drops in trade and they believe that local government taxes should be dropped accordingly. He outlined that local businesses commend the great work the Council has done in improving the social and economic infrastructure of the county in the last 15 years. He outlined their belief that certain cutbacks in spending in next years budget would not damage economic growth in the area and that it is also considered likely that the economic climate should improve substantially at the start of 2010 and so any cuts in spending would be temporary in nature.

He outlined that there has been a 150% increase in commercial water rates in the last 3 years and there is expected to be an even bigger increase next year to cover capital expenditure on new water treatment facilities. Some businesses that are paying commercial rates of €7,500 are now also paying water rates of over €4,000 per year which adds up to over €10,000 in local government charges. He outlined that a lot of pubs and restaurants in particular are struggling and that they believe that a decrease in commercial rates might offset these massive increases in water rates. He stated that overall they think that a decrease in commercial rates would show that Leitrim is open for business and would attract new businesses to the county and might stop a lot of those in trouble from closing. He stated that Government policy in the past 20 years has shown that tax cuts increase revenue because they promote business start-ups and increase job creation.

Mr. Casey also outlined that it is imperative that at a time of economic downturn the Council insist on increased funding from Central Government so as to ease the pressure on Business in the County. He stated that if a bailout can be organised for the banks on such a massive scale then surely the Government can find funding to assist Small Business to survive the present recession.

Mr. Gurn outlined the significant increases in water charges which have been especially noticeable in the March-June 2008 period. He stated that businesses want the Council staff to have a frank and open discussion on the issues. He advised that a public meeting is scheduled to take place in the Ramada Hotel, Drumshanbo on the 16th October 2008 at 8pm and invited the members to attend.

Councillor Gilmartin, Leas Cathaoirleach thanked the deputation for their presentation and advised that the Members would keep these issues in mind and do what they could in the context of the 2009 Budget meeting.

08/486

6/10/08

Conferences

Proposed by Councillor Gerard Reynolds, seconded by Councillor Tony Ferguson AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED;

That Leitrim County Council approves of the following

- Attendance of Councillor Mary Bohan and Councillor Gordon Hughes at the John Hewitt International Summer School in Armagh on the 28th July to 1st August 2008.
- Attendance of Councillor Damian Brennan at the Parnell Summer School held on the 10th –15th August 2008 in Avondale House, Rathdrum, Co Wicklow.
- Attendance of Councillor Francis Gilmartin at the Review meeting on the Tawlaughmore Halting Site on the 16th July 2008 in the Council Chamber, Carrick-on-Shannon.
- Attendance of Councillor Francis Gilmartin and Councillor Sean McGowan at the Launch of the John McGahern International Seminar and Summer School and the Launch of the John McGahern Yearbook on the 24th July 2008 in the Bush Hotel, Carrick-on-Shannon.
- Attendance of Councillor Sean McGowan at the Local Government Seminar on the Green Paper on the 2nd July 2008 in the Clarion Hotel, Sligo.
- Attendance of Councillor Sean McGowan at the launch “Leitrim a County in Change” on the 14th July 2008 in the Bee Park Centre, Manorhamilton.
- Attendance of Councillor Sean McGowan at the launch of the Leitrim Tourism Committee discussion “Experience Leitrim Week” on the 15th July 2008 in the Ramanda Hotel, Drumshanbo.
- Attendance of Councillor Sean McDermott at an ICBAN Meeting on the 29th April 2008 in Carrick-on-Shannon.
- Attendance of Councillor Sean McDermott at an ICBAN Meeting on the 22nd May 2008 in Enniskillen.
- Attendance of Councillor Sean McDermott at an ICBAN meeting on the 18th June 2008 in Sligo.
- Attendance of Councillor Sean McGowan at the Tipperary Remembrance Weekend and Conference at the Excel Heritage Centre, Tipperary on 26th September 2008 to 28th September 2008.
- Attendance of Councillor John McTernan at the National Conference for River basin District Advisory Members organised by the South Eastern River Basin District on the 17th to 18th September 2008 in the Lyrath Estate Hotel, Kilkenny.
- Attendance of Councillor John McTernan at the Western River Basin District Advisory Council meeting on the 2nd September 2008 in Oranmore Lodge Hotel, Oranmore, Co Galway

Proposed by Councillor Frank Dolan, seconded by Councillor John McTernan AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED;

“That Leitrim County Council approves of the attendance of Councillor Frank Dolan and Councillor John McTernan at the TJK Conferences Ltd Seminar on Freedom of Information for Councillors in the Patrick Punch Hotel, Limerick on the 10th &11th October 2008”.

**Proposed by Councillor Sinéad Guckian, seconded by Councillor Mary Bohan
AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED;**

“That Leitrim County Council approves of the attendance of Councillor Sinead Guckian, Councillor Mary Bohan and Councillor Paddy O’Rourke at the L.A.M.A. Winter Seminar on the 26th to 27th November 2008 in T.F. Royal Hotel, Castlebar, Co Mayo”.

**Proposed by Councillor Enda McGloin, seconded by Councillor John McTernan
AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED;**

“That Leitrim County Council approves of the attendance of Councillor Enda McGloin at the Look West Seminar on the 18th September 2008 in Alexander Hotel, Dublin”.

**Proposed by Councillor John McTernan, seconded by Councillor Enda McGloin
AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED;**

“That Leitrim County Council approves of the attendance of Councillor Enda McGloin at the ICBAN/Interreg Phase 3 Reflection on the 19th September 2008 in Enniskillen”.

**Proposed by Councillor Enda McGloin, seconded by Councillor John McTernan
AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED;**

“That Leitrim County Council approves of the attendance of Councillor Enda McGloin at the Analysis of need for up-grading the N.16/A4 in Enniskillen on the 3rd October 2008”.

Part I - Notices of Motion.

08/ 487

6/10/08 Junction at Killaleen Road

To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor John McTernan;

"At the next meeting of Leitrim County Council I intend to request the Area Engineer to extend the present 50 km speed limit out to the junction at Killaleen Road because (i) in recent years 6 new houses have been built which leaves an increased volume of traffic and (ii) because of recent developments at the Old Creamery and because Drumlease N.S. Dromahair is at the other end of this road. There have been several minor accidents on this road. The speed limit on this road is way in excess (it is impossible to do the present speed). This, I believe will avoid a major accident and I am requesting that it will be dealt with urgently."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"The section of road between the existing speed limit on the Drumlease road and the Old Creamery road will be monitored for speed and traffic volumes over the coming month. The findings of this assessment will be reverted back to the member. Any change in the speed limit if warranted can be considered in the next review of speed limits in mid 2009."

Councillor McTernan expressed his dissatisfaction with the reply. He stated that this is a very dangerous stretch of road and that a number of accidents have taken place

recently. He outlined that there are a number of young families living along this stretch of road which is also a scenic route. He stated that there is a dyke, approximately 3 meters in depth, to the left hand side of the road and stated that the speed limit must be reduced. He requested as a minimum that temporary signage be erected immediately on this stretch of road. He outlined that the local residents have made a submission to the Council in relation to these issues.

Councillor Bohan supported the motion and stated that temporary measures were urgently required at this location. Councillor Gerry Dolan also supported the motion.

Mr. John McGuinness, Director of Services, Infrastructure undertook to provide temporary signage at this location. He also undertook to look at the provision of a crash barrier in the context of costs etc.

08/488

6/10/08 Crash Barriers along the Drumkeerin to Killargue Road

To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Gerry Dolan;

"To ask this Council to have crash barriers erected alongside the Drumkeerin to Killargue Road both sides of the Dromahaire Road where it is liable to flooding, as it is a danger to the public."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"Quotations associated with the erection of a crash barrier at this location will be sought and if funding under Specific Improvement Grant is approved in 2009 on the R280, then this works can be carried out as part of this scheme."

Councillor Gerry Dolan outlined his disappointment with the reply in relation to funding and stated that it is critical that some type of barrier is erected at this location. This was supported by Councillor Bohan and Councillor McTernan. Councillor McTernan outlined that this whole area was drained by the OPW in conjunction with Leitrim County Council and he suggested that the OPW should be contacted in relation to carrying out necessary maintenance works.

08/489

6/10/08 Lahard Estate

To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Caillian Ellis;

"I propose that Leitrim County Council put in place measures to alleviate the flow of water that runs down the Lahard Estate after heavy rain, as some of the residents are worried that the water may be lodging under their houses."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"Leitrim County Council will investigate the situation and will endeavour to rectify the situation by introducing appropriate measures."

Councillor Ellis welcomed the reply. He undertook to provide contact details to Mr. Darragh O'Boyle, Senior Executive Engineer in this regard.

Councillor Hughes also welcomed the reply.

08/490

6/10/08

Grant assistance to up-grade or replace septic tanks

To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Frank Dolan;

"I will ask Leitrim County Council to write to the Department of the Environment seeking some form of grant aid to help people to up-grade or replace their septic tanks. This is a major problem in many areas and I believe a scheme of some description would encourage people to have this necessary work carried out."

Councillor Frank Dolan outlined that this motion had been raised previously. He outlined that a number of householders have been advised recently of the requirement to upgrade their septic tanks or face prosecution by Leitrim County Council. He outlined the huge costs involved and stated there was a need for some scheme to assist households in this regard. This was strongly supported by all the members.

Proposed by Councillor Frank Dolan, seconded by Councillor Tony Ferguson and Unanimously Resolved;

"That Leitrim County Council write to the Department of the Environment seeking some form of grant aid to help people to up-grade or replace their septic tanks. This is a major problem in many areas and it is believed that a scheme of some description would encourage people to have this necessary work carried out."

08/491

6/10/08 **National Irish Bank Building - Mohill**

To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Enda Stenson;

"May I ask our County Manager to contact the owners of the now closed National Irish Bank in Mohill and find out what are their plans for this preserved building. The people of Mohill do not want this fine structure to become derelict or run down. Maybe as a gesture of thanks to the area, the building could be handed over to the people of Mohill, for use as an Art Gallery or since Mohill was the favoured town of the famed writer John McGahern the building could be used as a writers retreat, under the direction of our Arts Officer."

Councillor Stenson outlined that this is a fine building in a prominent location in the town and stated that it must not be allowed to become derelict. He suggested that the owners, as a good will gesture to the people of Mohill, should give the building back to the town in some way. He requested that the County Manager contact the owners in relation to the possibilities for the building.

Councillor Mulligan supported the motion and stated that this issue had been discussed at a recent meeting of the Community, Cultural and Enterprise Development SPC and it had been agreed in principle that Mr. Joseph Gilhooly, Director of Services would approach the owners of the National Irish Bank in Mohill in this regard.

Councillor McGloin proposed an amendment to the Motion. He outlined that there are three branches of National Irish Bank which have closed recently - Mohill, Drumshanbo and Dowra. He stated that the Drumshanbo branch is one of the finest buildings in

Leitrim. He proposed that the idea of handing over either the Mohill or the Drumshanbo building be discussed with the owners and in this regard he suggested that a meeting should be set up with National Irish Bank to find out what their plans are for these buildings.

Councillor Bohan advised that the possibility of giving something back to the areas had been discussed with National Irish Bank when members from Cavan and Leitrim had met with them in Sligo following the announcement of the closures. She outlined that it would be important that all of the buildings would be discussed with them and seconded Councillor McGloin's proposal in relation to including the other branches.

Councillor Gerry Dolan supported Councillor McGloin's suggestion and stated that he was concerned that the building in Drumshanbo would become derelict and an eyesore. Councillor McTernan also supported the proposal.

Councillor McGowan supported the motion but was concerned that introducing the second building would 'muddy the waters'. Councillor Stenson also had this reservation.

Following discussion it was agreed that the County Manager would approach National Irish Bank in relation to their proposals for the three locations. The County Manager cautioned however that if a financial exchange is required this would put a very different complexion on the proposal.

08/492

06/10/08

Gortletteragh/Bornacoola Bus Route

To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Sean McGowan;

"At the October meeting of Leitrim County Council I will seek the support of the members in calling on Bus Éireann to restore the school bus service to the students from the Gortletteragh/ Bornacoola area who are attending the new Community College in Mohill to its original route through Tooman, Clooncumber and on to Johnstons Bridge which has been in operation for a long number of years. Since the start of the school year the route has been completely changed and there is a considerable amount of anger and frustration in the area with the school bus section of Bus Éireann."

Councillor McGowan outlined that the change in the bus route is negatively impacting on ten to twelve families in the Gortletteragh/Bornacoola area and is causing a considerable amount of annoyance and disruption to these families.

The motion was strongly supported by Councillor Stenson who indicated that he had been speaking with Mr. Paul Clarke, Bus Éireann in relation to another matter in Mohill. He advised that Mr. Clarke had indicated that the change in routes is related to the 3% savings to be achieved and the original route will not be reinstated.

Councillor Guckian supported the motion and stated that Bus Éireann has no regard for the students involved. Councillor Mulligan also supported the motion and stated that it is a disgrace that Members should have to discuss an issue such as this at a Council meeting. He stated that there should be liaison between the schools and the bus service.

Councillor Ellis supported the motion and stated the he had serviced this route for four years. He stated that families are now having to travel significant distances to a collection point. He stated that he understood that one bus had been taken from the Mohill area to the Carrick on Shannon area as part of a restructuring programme and that larger buses are now being used on amended routes.

Councillor Kenny also supported the motion. He outlined that changes in bus routes are a problem in many areas. He advised that collection times have also changed on some routes, with children having to be at their bus-stop as early as 7.30am, resulting in parents driving children to school themselves.

Councillor Reynolds supported the motion and proposed that a letter should issue to Mr. Sean Haughey, Junior Minister for Education in relation to the review of catchment areas. This was seconded by Councillor Ferguson. Councillor Mary Bohan also supported the motion and requested that a copy of the letter in this regard issue to Mr. John Blunnie, CEO of the VEC.

Proposed by Councillor Sean McGowan, seconded by Councillor Enda Stenson and Unanimously Resolved;

"That Leitrim County Council calls on Bus Éireann to restore the school bus service to the students from the Gortletteragh/ Bornacoola area who are attending the new Community College in Mohill to its original route through Tooman, Clooncumber and on to Johnstons Bridge which has been in operation for a long number of years. Since the start of the school year the route has been completely changed and there is a considerable amount of anger and frustration in the area with the school bus section of Bus Éireann."

08/493

06/10/08 Upgrading of the Drumshanbo to Ballinamore via Aghacashel Road

To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Enda McGloin;

"I call on Leitrim County Council to prioritise for 2009 the immediate upgrading of the Drumshanbo to Ballinamore via Aghacashel road specifically from the St. Patrick's Church to the new DVO, to include the new link road to the Dowra/ Manorhamilton road as proposed under the recent public consultation. I further call on the Director for Infrastructure to highlight this road with the Department's officials when making an application on the 'Specific Improvement Grant Scheme'. This proposed work in my view is pivotal to the future development of Drumshanbo as a town and in particular to the improvement of traffic flow as Drumshanbo has a fair share of traffic flow commuting from one end of the County to the other."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"A design has been prepared for this local road realignment, which includes footpaths and public lighting on the Aghacashel road as far as the District Veterinary offices, and it has been published for Part 8 recently. Furthermore, an application has been made under the 2009 Specific Improvement Grant Scheme, prioritizing this road for funding to carry out this work in 2009. The work will include improvements around the church. The link road to the Dowra road while desirable is premature given the potential cost, and the extensive number of other projects on existing roads competing for the limited

funding that may be available."

Councillor McGloin welcomed the approval, earlier in the meeting, of the Part 8 Planning in relation to these proposed works. He outlined however that he is most anxious that consideration be given to the two roads being done together. He outlined that there would be a significant amount of cut and fill and stated that it would be more expedient and cost-effective to do both together. This was supported by Councillor Gerry Dolan.

Mr. John McGuinness, Director of Services, Infrastructure advised that the link road would be desirable. He outlined however that funding would be under the Specific Improvement Grant Scheme and it is not clear what level of funding will be available under the Scheme in 2009. He outlined that all members are aware of the deficiencies in the existing road network and stated that prioritizing the regional roads would seem to be the correct approach. He outlined that he could not see the necessary funding, which would possibly be in the region of €500k-€600k, being forthcoming.

Councillor McGloin outlined that he accepted this point. He outlined however that Drumshanbo carries a significant amount of the north/south traffic through the county, resulting in significant traffic problems and parking restrictions in the town, with associated impacts on businesses. He stated that this link road would facilitate moving some of the heavy vehicles out of the town. He requested that the significant impact which the link road would have in relation to reducing traffic in the town be stressed to the Department Inspector. Mr. McGuinness confirmed that this would be discussed with the Department.

08/494

6/10/08 Traffic calming measures - Sean O'Heslin's GAA Park, Ballinamore

To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Gordon Hughes;

"I ask the Area Engineer when will the Council install appropriate traffic calming measures at the approach road to Ballinamore beside the Sean O'Heslin's GAA Park. As I am sure you are aware the club have recently undertaken extensive developments including No.2 new pitches and 800-seater stand which has just been completed. This will result in significant volumes of people using the facilities at this location and in particular local children. It was agreed previously with the engineer's office that these measures would be introduced once this work was completed & it is therefore vital to have these works done as soon as possible."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"Leitrim County Council have applied for funding through the Low Cost Safety Schemes to introduce traffic calming measures adjacent Sean O'Heslin's GAA park. In the interim, we will endeavour to construct gateway signage at the current speed limit sign and introduce a double white line along this section of roadway."

Councillor Hughes acknowledged the proposal in relation to the construction of gateway signage but outlined that traffic calming measures are essential at this location. He advised that he had received written confirmation some 18 months ago that funding had been allocated for these works under the Low Cost Safety Scheme.

Councillor Ellis strongly supported the motion. He outlined that signage has recently

been erected at Drumlish indicating 'Sports Field Ahead'. He stated that this signage is very effective and suggested similar signage should be considered at this location.

Councillor Kenny also supported the motion and stated that traffic calming measures must be put in place at this location.

Mr. John McGuinness, Director of Services, Infrastructure outlined that this location is high on the priority list for 2009 under the Low Cost Safety Scheme but indicated that funding has not yet been allocated. Councillor Hughes undertook to discuss the matter of previous correspondence in this regard further with Mr. McGuinness.

08/495

06/10/08 Wall and Pier at the Gorlettra entrance to Lough Rynn

To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Thomas Mulligan;

"That the wall and pier at the Gortlettra entrance to Lough Rynn be rebuilt and also the small stone bridge which is located fifty yards inside this entrance which is presently overgrown with briars shrubbery etc."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"The repairs requested are desirable but a funding source will need to be identified before these improvements can be carried out."

Councillor Mulligan expressed his dissatisfaction with the response. He outlined that the works would not involve significant funding. He advised that the pier is roughly 50% demolished and that the stone is on-site. He advised that the bridge simply needs to be cleared off and some loose stones replaced. He outlined that the costs would relate to labour only and would not be substantial.

Councillor McGowan supported the motion which he stated had been raised previously. Councillor Stenson also supported the motion. Mr. John McGuinness, Director of Services, Infrastructure undertook to look into the matter further.

08/496

6/10/08 Regionalisation of the Health Service Board or Executive

To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Michael Colreavy;

"Leitrim County Council calls on the Government and the Minister for Health to ensure any future regionalised Health Services Board or Executive will have main headquarters for the West/North West in Manorhamilton. This function was previously carried out successfully in Manorhamilton, and the development would be in keeping with Government strategy and commitments regarding balanced regional development and supporting disadvantaged areas."

Councillor Colreavy outlined that it is thought that there will have to be greater regionalization of services in the HSE and stated that it is critical that Manorhamilton is considered and prioritized for any such regional headquarters. The motion was strongly supported by Councillor Ferguson.

Proposed by Councillor Michael Colreavy, seconded by Councillor Tony Ferguson and Unanimously Resolved;

"That Leitrim County Council calls on the Government and the Minister for Health to ensure any future regionalised Health Services Board or Executive will have main headquarters for the West/North West in Manorhamilton. This function was previously carried out successfully in Manorhamilton, and the development would be in keeping with Government strategy and commitments regarding balanced regional development and supporting disadvantaged areas."

08/497

6/10/08 Erection of a footbridge connecting Cortober with the Bridge Street/Quayside part of Carrick-on-Shannon

To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Liam McElgunn;

"That this Council in co-operation with Roscommon County Council, seek funding for the early erection of a footbridge connecting Cortober with the Bridge Street/Quayside part of Carrick-on-Shannon; that the necessary planning be carried out without delay and a date set for the opening of this footbridge. This is a most urgent need; at present the narrow footpaths on the road bridge are totally inadequate and unsafe for pedestrians. The expected delay in the provision of the new by-pass road for Carrick-on-Shannon means that increased road traffic will be using the Carrick-on-Shannon town bridge and adds further urgency to the need for a footbridge."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"As the councillor will be aware an application was made to the NRA for funding for this footbridge in late 2007. Consultants are about to be appointed to begin the design of this footbridge, with a view to starting work on site in mid 2009. The NRA have been made well aware of the urgent need for this foot bridge and we can only hope that given the difficult funding environment at present, that the necessary allocation will be available in 2009."

08/498

6/10/08 Replacement of the Bridge at Gulladoo

To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Paddy O'Rourke;

"I will call upon Leitrim County Council to proceed immediately with the replacement of the bridge at Gulladoo now that water levels has subsided. Funding for this was allocated in 2007 in co-operation with Longford County Council."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"Leitrim County Council have purchased the precast culvert units and will reconstruct the Gulladoo Bridge once the water levels have subsided sufficiently. Although there has been a very recent reduction in rainfall, it is not sufficient enough to allow safe construction of the culvert. We are currently monitoring the river levels on a weekly basis."

Councillor O'Rourke welcomed the response and requested that the works be completed at the first possible opportunity. Councillor Kenny and Councillor Ellis also supported the motion.

08/499

6/10/08 Courthouse in Drumkeerin

To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Mary Bohan;

"I propose that Leitrim County Council call on the Court Services to make the Courthouse in Drumkeerin available to the local Youth Club for use as a 'drop in centre'. The building is no longer being used for court hearings."

Councillor Bohan asked for the support of the members in relation to the motion. She outlined that this is a Listed Building and that it should be used. She highlighted difficulties for the Tidy Towns Committee in getting the building maintained and requested that the Council write to the Courts Service in relation to making the building available to the local Youth Club. Councillor McTernan supported the motion and stated that it would be disgraceful to leave this building idle.

Proposed by Councillor Mary Bohan, seconded by Councillor John McTernan and Unanimously Resolved;

"That Leitrim County Council call on the Court Services to make the Courthouse in Drumkeerin available to the local Youth Club for use as a 'drop in centre'. The building is no longer being used for court hearings."

08/500

6/10/08 Kelly's Turn on the Tullylannon Road out of Leitrim

To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Francis Gilmartin;

"I ask this Council to look at doing something with Kelly's turn on the Tullylannon Road out of Leitrim as it is very dangerous."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"The bend in the road in question will be assessed by the Area Engineer taking into account the volume and general speed of traffic using this road. Any necessary works can be included for consideration in the preparation of the 2009 road works scheme."

Councillor Gilmartin asked that these works be carried out by May 2009. This was supported by Councillor McGloin who queried whether there was any possibility of addressing the level of water on this road. Mr. Pdraig MacShera, Senior Executive Engineer advised that it is intended to supervise this section of road in relation to water levels.

08/501

6/10/08 Speed limit into Rossinver Village from the Glenaniff Road

To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Sean McDermott;

"At the October Council meeting I will ask Leitrim County Council if it would consider moving the speed limit coming into Rossinver Village from the Glenaniff Road. I request this as the local community are in the process of developing a sports field. If the speed limit sign were to be re-located north of the sports field, it would leave the road much safer for everybody."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"This proposal can be included for consideration at the time of preparation of the next review of Speed Limits countywide, due in mid 2009."

08/502

6/10/08 Re-surface the Streets in Kinlough

To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Tony Ferguson;

"I will ask the Director of Services, Infrastructure when it is proposed to re-surface the streets in Kinlough as they are very uneven following the various works carried out in recent times."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"The final reinstatement of trenches arising from the recent upgrading of public water and sewerage services throughout Kinlough will now be carried out when all the projects contained in our 2008 Roadworks Programme have been completed towards the end of the year."

Councillor Ferguson sought confirmation that the entire street is to be resurfaced. Mr. John McGuinness, Director of Services, Infrastructure confirmed that this is the case. This was welcomed by Councillor Ferguson.

08/503

6/10/08 Sewerage Treatment Plan in Jamestown

To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Gerry Reynolds;

"To ask the Director of Services for Infrastructure when will construction commence on the Sewage Treatment Plant in Jamestown."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"Jamestown sewerage scheme is part of the 11 Leitrim Town and Village Sewerage Scheme. The pipe line contracts are now all complete, and tenders for the DBO contract for the treatment plants have been assessed but the council will only be in a position to sign this contract when it has reached agreement with the department of the Environment in relation to the extent of the contribution that Leitrim County Council will be asked to fund. Negotiations are proving protracted and difficult."

Councillor Reynolds stated that this issue has serious consequences for Leitrim. He outlined that a lot of towns and villages are waiting for their treatment plants to be completed. He stated that the pipework is in place and Leitrim County Council must provide the funding and sign the necessary contracts. He stated that the Treatment Plant in Carrick on Shannon is also inadequate and needs to be addressed as a matter of urgency.

Councillor Stenson supported the motion and stated that it was an extraordinary situation and the Department must recognize the particular situation in Leitrim.

Councillor Guckian asked that the reply to the motion be read to the meeting for the benefit of members. Ms. Aideen McGovern, Meetings Administrator read the reply to the meeting. Councillor Guckian also strongly supported the motion.

Councillor McGowan supported the motion and stated that an urgent meeting should be sought with the Minister for the Environment. Councillor Ferguson suggested that a letter should issue calling on the Minister for Finance and the Minister for the Environment to ensure that the schemes progress. Councillor Mulligan also supported the motion.

Ms. Jackie Maguire, County Manager clarified that the Council is still awaiting approval of the Water Pricing Report in relation to these schemes. She outlined that approval has also been sought for borrowing for our element of the costs. She advised that the issue is in relation to how the scheme will be funded and whether the Council can borrow the necessary money. She gave an overview of the Water Pricing Policy and the difficulties associated with the Department's interpretation of the circulars in this regard. She outlined that the Department are taking 'existing stock' as the housing stock at 2002 – this existing stock is funded at 100% with all new houses since then only funded at 40%. This situation does not recognise the unique situation in Leitrim where most development in the County took place since 2002. Development charges were also set at a level below what was required, in order to encourage development. She outlined that until this unique position is recognised, and approval given by the Department to borrow the necessary money, it will not be possible to sign these contracts. She advised that a number of meetings have been held with officials from the Department in relation to this matter. She confirmed that some progress has been made in this regard and outlined that she hoped to have an answer by the end of October. She outlined that in addition to the borrowing requirement, the schemes will also have an impact on the Council's revenue budget.

Councillor Reynolds thanked the Manager for her clarification of the position. He reiterated the urgency of the situation and requested a report to the November Council meeting in relation to the up to date situation.

Councillor McGloin suggested that Minister Michael Finneran should be requested to intervene on behalf of Leitrim County Council in relation to this matter.

08/504

6/10/08 More resources for Alcohol and Drug Rehabilitation

To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Martin Kenny;

"I propose that Leitrim County Council write to the Minister for Health seeking to have more resources provided for alcohol and drug rehabilitation services which is needed as a matter of urgency, as this is a public health issue negatively affecting our society."

Councillor Kenny outlined the importance of addressing alcohol and drug rehabilitation from the health perspective and stated that more resources are needed in this area. This was supported by Councillor O'Rourke who stated that early intervention and appropriate action saves lives in relation to these issues.

Councillor Ferguson also supported the motion and welcomed the launch of the first Certificate course in Addiction Studies to be delivered in Leitrim with 20 participants. He outlined that Letterkenny IT also have a Diploma course up and running.

Proposed by Councillor Martin Kenny, seconded by Councillor Paddy O'Rourke and Unanimously Resolved;

"That Leitrim County Council write to the Minister for Health seeking to have more resources provided for alcohol and drug rehabilitation services which is needed as a matter of urgency, as this is a public health issue negatively affecting our society."

Part II - Questions.

08/505

6/10/08 Repair of McKennas Bridge (Road No L4282) Gowlan Reeva, Drumkeerin

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor John McTernan;

"I request the immediate repair of McKennas Bridge (Road No L4282) Gowlan Reeva, Drumkeerin as it is flood damaged."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"The Bridge in question will be inspected shortly and the necessary remedial works carried subject to funding been made available."

08/506

6/10/08 Carpark at the Swimming pool at Acres, Drumshanbo

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Gerry Dolan;

"Once again I call to have the carpark at the swimming pool at Acres, Drumshanbo extended without further delay which I was promised in Spring that this work would be done before the busy period during the summer."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"Work at this location will be carried out before next season."

08/507

6/10/08 Northern Bank Premises

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Gerry Dolan;

"I ask this Council to call on the owners of the closed Northern Bank premises in Drumshanbo to either hand it over to the community in Drumshanbo or have it

demolished and erect the space into a carpark and not to have an eyesore in the middle of the town."

Report by Senior Executive Officer, Change Management Unit

"A letter can issue to the owners seeking details of their proposals in relation to this building. It should be noted that this is a Listed Building and a Protected Structure."

08/508

6/10/08 Greagh Crossroads and Cloone

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Caillian Ellis;

"I will ask Leitrim County Council to remove the depression in the road between Greagh Crossroads and Cloone in the Townland of Kiltyfea."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"Leitrim County Council will deploy a patching unit to remove any depressions along this section of roadway. Weather permitting, we hope to carry out this work within the month of October."

08/509

6/10/08 Local road No L.5581

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Caillian Ellis;

"I will ask Leitrim County Council to put in place a barrier at the bad bend on the local road No L.5581 in the townland of Carrickavoher, Aughavas as there is a river at this point and there have been a number of accidents on this bend."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"Leitrim County Council will endeavour to construct an earth bund with delineators at this location. These works will be carried out later this year, as described in previous correspondences on this issue."

08/510

6/10/08 Directional sign for Drumshanbo

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Enda McGloin;

"I request Leitrim County Council to erect a clear directional sign for Drumshanbo on the N4 Dublin Road round-about nearest the town of Carrick-on-Shannon. There is confusion for people seeking to get off the N4 heading for Drumshanbo and I urge the Council to erect the sign as soon as possible."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"This matter will be reviewed as part of the signage programme for the regional and national primary roads."

08/511

6/10/08 Road LT 34104-0 Drumliffen to Gowel

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Enda McGloin;

"I request that Leitrim County Council include the road LT 34104-0 Drumliffen to Gowel

in their road works programme for 2009. This road requires some proper water tables along side the steep hill on the Kilclare side alongside the provision of a new tarred surface. Proper water tables or piping will prevent as in the past heavy rain 'tearing away' the road surface."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"This road will be assessed and considered for inclusion in the 2009 roads programme. In the mean time routine maintenance will be carried out ."

08/512

6/10/08 Lighting at Kilnagross P.O.

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Enda Stenson;

"We were promised and told that this Council had already paid for extra lighting at Killnagross P.O., rural shop and national school. Its disgraceful as we face into another winter that this small amount of work is not completed. I ask that we contact the E.S.B immediately and demand this work be done now."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"The ESB will be again contacted and every effort will be made with them to have the works expedited."

08/513

6/10/08 Kiltoghert Graveyard

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Enda Stenson;

"The extension to Kiltoghert Graveyard remains unfinished. I am requesting that this work be completed in October so that the new burial ground can be blessed and consecrated, as there are no new plots in the present graveyard. This works needs to be completed urgently, also the drainage and work already commenced in August on the roadway leading to the graveyard from the community centre and Fawn needs to be completed and the road rebuilt as this roadway has not been re-surfaced in 30 years."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"Considerable work has already been carried out on this extension, with additional drainage work carried out this year.

The further development of the grave yard will only be carried out when the recently developed section has been used up.

The road past the grave yard can be included for consideration in the 2009 roads programme."

08/514

6/10/08 Traffic Island/Road Markings on the N4

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Sean McGowan;

"To ask Mr John Mc Guinness, Director of Services, Infrastructure, has there been any response from the N.R.A. with our request for them to provide traffic islands/road markings, on the N4 at the turn off for Finnalaghta and at the entrance to Annaduff G.A.A. pitch. It is extremely dangerous for motorists making a right turn at both of those locations, with the amount of traffic and the speed that they travel at. A commitment was given earlier this year that some steps were to be taken to improve the situation at

both locations."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"The locations in question were inspected by the roads safety officer of the NRA, and the solution recommended was the provision of road marking to indicate the right turning movements.

The necessary road markings will be applied as soon as weather permits."

08/515

6/10/08 Drumcoura Ballinamore (R204-6) Road

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Gordon Hughes;

"I ask the area engineers office in relation to the road at Drumcoura, Ballinamore (R204-6) if they will carry out improvements to the surface of this particular stretch of roadway after Eddie Wrynn's house which was recently widened. There is a series of depressions in the surface at this location which is posing a traffic hazard for passing motorists and in particular those not familiar with this stretch of road. As a result a number of accidents have occurred at this location and urgently needs to be addressed."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"This section of the R204 was recently widened under a Road Improvement Grant. The resurfacing of this section of road is planned to occur as part of next years roads programme and in the mean time the road will be inspected and any necessary repairs will be carried out."

08/516

6/10/08 Tully, Carrigallen

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Gordon Hughes;

"I ask the Area Engineers Office, further to previous requests, if they will fill in the culvert located alongside the road at Tully, Carrigallen. I previously received assurances from the Council that the culvert at this location would be piped earlier in the year when the roadway was being resurfaced but was not subsequently done. Can you therefore confirm if the Council will carry out these works as a matter of urgency as the incline at this location is not visible to passing traffic and therefore poses an unacceptable danger to passing traffic."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"Leitrim Council County will carry out the required works to this culvert as a commitment was given by the District Engineers predecessor. These remedial works will be carried out later this year."

08/517

6/10/08 Front-line Services, Health Service Executive

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Michael Colreavy;

"I ask Leitrim County Council to write to the Government, the Minister for Health and the Health Services Executive asking that they keep their promises assuring adequate funding of front-line services? Recent cutbacks in home help service clearly demonstrate these promises are not being kept."

Report by Senior Executive Officer, Change Management Unit

"A letter will issue in this regard."

08/518

6/10/08 Scenic Area Maintenance

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Michael Colreavy;

"I ask Leitrim County Council to prepare and agree with local Councillors a programme of scenic area maintenance works identifying public areas of particular scenic beauty which will be maintained by the Council prior to and during the tourist season?"

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"A plan for the upkeep of the various amenity areas in the county will be prepared as part of the annual works for 2009, and can be discussed at the electoral area meetings."

08/519

6/10/08 Public Lighting from Summerhill to Aura Leisure Centre

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Liam McElgunn;

"I ask how soon a footpath and public lighting will be provided on the short road leading from Summerhill to the Aura Leisure Centre, Carrick-on-Shannon. This has been promised for some time."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"Work at this location will be carried out early in the new year."

08/520

6/10/08 Kilboderry, Carrick-on-Shannon

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Liam McElgunn;

"I ask when promised improvement work will be carried out at Kilboderry, Carrick-on-Shannon, to include repairs to roadway and footpaths, and a one-way traffic system."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"This work will be carried out before the end of the year."

08/521

6/10/08 Hedgecutting

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Frank Dolan;

"I will ask John McGuinness, Director of Services, Infrastructure to have the hedges cut on the Benbo Road. The hedges are very overgrown and the road is quite narrow. In recent times traffic has been diverted across this road for various reasons."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"The road in question is LT8 162 1 (L170) which links the Manorhamilton to Dromahair Road with the R286 in Newtownmanor. We will identify those landowners who have not attended to their roadside hedges, and serve the necessary Notices on them in the

near future."

08/522

6/10/08 **R278**

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Frank Dolan;

"In the interests of safety I will ask John McGuinness, Director of Services, Infrastructure to fill some very dangerous holes that exist on the R278 just past the Ball-Alley."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"Any surface repairs required at the location in question in Fivemilebourne will be carried out as soon as possible."

08/523

6/10/08 **Junction of Clonboyer and Mullyaster**

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Paddy O'Rourke;

"Will Leitrim County Council carry out the necessary repairs on the road at the junction of Clonboyer and Mullyaster. Severe flooding was experienced during the bad spell and is likely to reoccur."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"We are unaware of any severe flooding in the area. The Area Engineer will assess the situation and the extent of road repairs necessary and will revert back to Cllr. O'Rourke,"

08/524

6/10/08 **Law-Bys on the Corrawallen to Augharan Road**

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Paddy O'Rourke;

"Will Leitrim County Council provide a few lay-bys on the Corrawallen to Augharan Road in order that cars can meet and overtake in safety."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"There are, at present, 14 areas along this stretch of road which allow cars to pass safely. Leitrim County Council will endeavour to provide additional lay-bys if a suitable presents itself."

08/525

6/10/08 **Resurfacing on road from Curderry to Funinsagh**

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Francis Gilmartin;

"When will this Council be resurfacing the road from Curderry to Funinsagh as the CLAR money has been agreed."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"Resurfacing works on this road will commence in early November 2008"

08/526

6/10/08 Rossy Road

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Francis Gilmartin;

"Could this Council resurface the Rossy Road as it needs it very much."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"This road will be assessed and can be included for consideration in the 2009 Area Programme . Routine Maintenance will be carried out until funding becomes available."

08/527

6/10/08 Boleybrack Mountain

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Sean McDermott;

"I will ask the Director of Services, Infrastructure for an update on the road crossing Boleybrack mountain. This is the road that is the subject of legal proceedings being brought by the Environmental Action Group C.L.E.A.N. Has any progress been made since I raised the matter at the February council meeting?"

Report by Director of Service, Planning, Environment and Emergency Services

"This matter was not reached in the current judicial review list and has been put back to the next review of the list in October. It is hoped that the matter will receive a date for hearing at that time. It is expected that a full hearing of this matter will be necessary. An exact date cannot be provided but due to the current back-log of cases before the High Court it could take at least another year."

08/528

6/10/08 Lough McNeen

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Sean McDermott;

"I will ask Leitrim County Council if they had any response from Cavan and Fermanagh Councils regarding developing of Lough MacNeen. I raised the matter at a council meeting earlier in the year and Leitrim County Council was to make contact with the two councils."

Report by Director of Service, Planning, Environment and Emergency Services

"This matter will be followed up with both Cavan County Council and Fermanagh District Council in the current week."

08/529

6/10/08 Speed limit at Rossinver on the Glenaniff Road

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Tony Ferguson;

"I will request the speed limit at Rossinver on the Glenaniff Road to be extended for 500m to cover the proposed new development and when this might be done."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"This proposal can be included for consideration at the time of preparation of the next review of Speed Limits countywide, due in mid 2009."

08/530

6/10/08 Public lighting at Tullaghan

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Tony Ferguson;

"When will the new public lighting at Tullaghan be connected?"

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"The new public lighting in the Village was connected to the ESB network some weeks ago."

08/531

6/10/08 Footpaths and road widening from Summerhill to Aughameeney

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Gerry Reynolds;

"To ask the Director of Services for Infrastructure when the Council will provide footpaths and road widening from Summerhill to Aughameeney, as this work was supposed to take place in conjunction with the provision of the extra houses in Aughameeney. Also, would the Council consider the provision of speed ramps from Summerhill to Aughameeney in the year?"

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"In spite of extensive efforts on behalf of Leitrim County Council it has not been possible to reach agreement with the land owner involved and consequently Compulsory purchase proceedings are about to start to progress the matter. The need for speed ramps will be assessed and we will revert to the councillor."

08/532

6/10/08 **Roundabout at the entrance to the new road in Ballinamore**

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Martin Kenny;

"I am asking the Director of Services, Infrastructure to examine the need for a roundabout at the entrance to the new road in Ballinamore, as this junction is very busy with traffic from the Swanlinbar road, the Newtowngore road and coming up the town all converging in a dangerous manner and with confusion regarding to rights of way. A roundabout could be appropriate to relieve the danger, as there is a wide area enough to place it."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"The provision of a round about at this location has to be considered as part of an over all traffic management plan for Ballinamore. The junction in question will be monitored over the next few months, and proposals formulated for consideration by the council at the appropriate time."

This concluded the business of the meeting at 8.30 p.m.

Francis Gilmartin
Cathaoirleach

Aideen McGovern
Meetings Administrator

Date: 3rd November 2008