

Minutes of Meeting of Leitrim County Council held in Aras an Chontae, Carrick on Shannon, Co. Leitrim on Monday 14th June 2010 at 5.30 pm

Members Present:

Bohan, Mary	McCartin, John
Colreavy, Michael	McDermott, Sean
Dolan, Gerry	McGloin, Enda
Dolan, Frank	McGloin, Siobhán
Ferguson, Tony	McGowan, Sean
Gilmartin, Francis	McTernan, John
Guckian, Sinead	O'Rourke, Paddy
Hughes, Gordon	Caillian Ellis
Kenny, Martin	Stenson, Enda
Kilrane, Gerry	Ward, John

And Councillor Thomas Mulligan, Cathaoirleach presiding

Apologies: Councillor Gerard Reynolds

Officials Present:

- Ms. Jackie Maguire, County Manager
- Mr. Joseph Gilhooly, Director of Services, Community, Cultural & Enterprise Development
- Mr. John McGuinness, Director of Services, Infrastructure
- Ms. Mary Quinn, Director of Housing & Corporate Services
- Ms. Kathrina Murphy, Head of Finance
- Mr. Martin Dolan, Director of Services, Planning, Environment and Emergency Services
- Mr. Ciaran Tracey, Senior Planner, Planning, Environment & Emergency Services
- Mr. Shay O'Connor, Senior Engineer, Roads
- Mr. Terry McGovern, Senior Executive Engineer, Road Design
- Mr. Billy Lowe, Senior Engineer, Water Services
- Ms. Carmelita Caslin, Senior Executive Officer, Infrastructure
- Mr. Paul Kirkpatrick, Development Officer, Community & Enterprise
- Ms. Toni Ogle, Co-ordinator Comhairle na nOg Liatroma, Community & Enterprise
- Ms Aideen McGovern, Meetings Administrator

10/305

14/6/2010 Deimhniu Miontuairisci

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

“That the Minutes of the Meeting of Leitrim County Council held in Community Centre, Kiltyclogher, Co. Leitrim on Monday, 10th May 2010, be adopted.”

10/306

14/6/2010 Presentation from Youth Council

The Cathaoirleach, Councillor Thomas Mulligan welcomed representatives of the Leitrim Youth Council/Comhairle na nÓg to the meeting and invited them to address the Members in relation to the recent activities of the Comhairle.

Molly Wilson gave a brief overview of the activities of the Comhairle over the past year including the World Music Day with the Dock; Drug and Alcohol, Headshops and Body Image; Workshops and discussions on how local politics work and democracy. She advised that four members of the Youth Council attended Dáil na nÓg with one member representing Leitrim on the Dáil na nÓg Council and one member also on the Leitrim Project Youth Forum.

Molly also gave an overview of the Comhairle "Safe Space" project which the committee will be rolling out from September. She outlined that this project is geared towards helping young people find a safe space where they can talk about mental health issues. A Brochure on the project was circulated at the meeting.

Jack Bagge outlined details of the Comhairle's Cross Border Exchange with a group from Carrickfergus Youth Forum – the exchange took place in April with the Comhairle scheduled to undertake a return trip to Carrickfergus in July.

The Cathaoirleach, Councillor Thomas Mulligan congratulated Molly and Jack on their presentation. He also congratulated the Comhairle and their support workers on their activities and achievements to date. The Members in turn congratulated the Comhairle on their activities and achievements and particularly in relation to the Safe Space Project highlighting mental health issues and on their cross-border exchange project. The Members thanked the Comhairle for attending the meeting and wished them well in their forthcoming activities.

10/307

14/6/2010 Votes of Sympathy

The members extended a vote of sympathy to the following;

- Stanley Simpson, Kinlough, County Leitrim on the death of Mena Simpson
- Terence & Alice McGowan, Glenview, Kinlough, County Leitrim on the death of Agnes McGowan
- Aiden Ward, Kiltyclogher Townland, Kiltyclogher, County Leitrim on the death of Philomena Ward
- Francy Crowley, Ballyboy, Manorhamilton, County Leitrim on the death of Thomas Crowley
- Mary Lyons, Sonnaghbeg, Cloone P.O., County Leitrim on the death of Mary Ellen Lyons
- The family of the late Frank Sweeney, Tullyoskar, Ballinamore P.O., County Leitrim on the death of Frank Sweeney
- Frankie Reynolds, Corrick, Mohill, County Leitrim on the death of Michael Reynolds
- McCaffrey Family, Ussaun, Mohill, County Leitrim on the death of Christy McCaffrey
- Jennifer Duffy, 1 Hillcrest Grove, Drumshanbo, County Leitrim on the death of Mairead Duffy

- Teresa Ellis, Fenaghbeg, Fenagh, County Leitrim on the death of Mary Masterson
- The Sisters of Mercy, MOhill, County Leitrim on the death of Sr. M. Aloysius Nerney
- The McManus Family, Spa Cottage, Carrick on Shannon, County Leitrim on the death of Charlie McManus

10/308

14/6/2010 Local Authority Development

- (i) Report Ref. No. 10/C/02 dated 2nd June 2010 from Jackie Maguire, County Manager in relation to proposal for the implementation of Traffic Calming Measures on the National Primary Route (N16) through Manorhamilton, including junction improvements and upgrade works in accordance with the Planning & Development Act, 2000 and Part 8 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 as circulated to the Members appears as **Appendix 1** to the Minutes of this meeting in the Minute Book.

Proposed by Councillor Michael Colreavy, seconded by Councillor Tony Ferguson AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED;

“That the proposal for the implementation of Traffic Calming Measures on the National Primary Route (N16) through Manorhamilton, including junction improvements and upgrade works be approved.”

- (ii) Report Ref. No. 10/C/03 from Jackie Maguire, County Manager in relation to proposal for the installation of an integrated system of cycle lanes/tracks footpaths, shared road use zones in Carrick-on-Shannon and its Environs, including the provision of traffic calming measures at Lisnagot, Carrick-on-Shannon, in accordance with the Planning & Development Act, 2000 and Part 8 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 as circulated to the Members appears as **Appendix 2** to the Minutes of this meeting in the Minute Book.

Proposed by Councillor Enda Stenson, seconded by Councillor Sean McGowan AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED;

“That the proposal for the installation of an integrated system of cycle lanes/tracks footpaths, shared road use zones in Carrick-on-Shannon and its Environs, including the provision of traffic calming measures at Lisnagot, Carrick-on-Shannon, be approved.”

- (iii) Report Ref. No. 10/C/04 dated 8th June 2010 from Martin Dolan, Director of Services, Planning, Environment and Emergency Services in relation to proposal for the construction of Dwelling House, Connection to Public Sewer and all associated site works at Ussaun Townland, Mohill, Co. Leitrim in accordance with the Planning & Development Act, 2000 and Part 8 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 as circulated to the Members appears as **Appendix 3** to the Minutes of this meeting in the Minute Book.

Proposed by Councillor Enda Stenson, seconded by Councillor Gerry Kilrane AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED;

“That the proposal for the construction of Dwelling House, Connection to Public Sewer and all associated site works at Ussaun Townland, Mohill, Co. Leitrim be approved.”

10/309

14/6/2010

Section 183 of Local Government Act 2001

Notice of Intention dated 2nd June 2010 from Aideen McGovern, Senior Executive Officer, Housing & Corporate Services, to dispose of plot of land comprising 0.086 Acres (0.035 Hectares) in the townland of Killarga, Killargue as circulated to each Member appears as **Appendix 4** to the Minutes of this meeting in the Minute Book.

Proposed by Councillor Mary Bohan, seconded by Councillor John McTernan AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED;

“That disposal of land comprising 0.086 Acres (0.035 Hectares) in the townland of Killarga, Killargue, County Leitrim to Mr. Patrick Reynolds, Killargue P.O., Dromahair, Co Leitrim in accordance with Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001 and Notice of Intention to Dispose of Land dated 2nd June 2010 circulated to each Member be approved.”

10/310

14/6/2010

Raising of Loan

Proposed by Councillor Tony Ferguson, seconded by Councillor John Ward AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED;

“That the raising of a loan not exceeding €2,000,000 for the purposes of Water and Waste Water Infrastructure, in accordance with Section 106(2) of the Local Government Act, 2001, be approved.”

10/311

14/6/2010

Overdraft Accommodation

Proposed by Councillor Tony Ferguson, seconded by Councillor Francis Gilmartin AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED;

“That the overdraft accommodation in the sum of €1.5 million for the six month period ending 31st December 2010, subject to the sanction of the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government, be approved.”

10/312

14/6/2010

North West Draft Regional Homelessness Framework Plan

Report dated 24th May 2010 from Dorothy Clarke, Director of Services, Sligo County Council in relation to North West Draft Regional Homelessness Framework Plan, as

circulated to the Members appears as **Appendix 5** to the Minutes of this meeting in the Minute Book.

Proposed by Councillor Mary Bohan, seconded by Councillor Francie Gilmartin AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED;

“That the Draft North West Regional Homelessness Framework Plan be adopted in accordance with Section 40(4) of the Housing (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 2009.”

10/313

14/6/2010

Higher Education Grants Scheme 2010

Report dated 8th June 2010 from Sinéad NíThiarnain, Assistant Staff Officer, Corporate Services in relation to the Higher Education Grants Scheme 2010, as circulated to the Members, appears as **Appendix 6** to the Minutes of this meeting in the Minute Book.

Proposed by Councillor Enda Stenson, seconded by Councillor Tony Ferguson AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED;

“That the Higher Education Grants Scheme 2010 be approved.”

10/314

14/6/2010

Annual Report 2009

The Draft Annual Report 2009 as circulated to the members appears as **Appendix 7** to the Minutes of this meeting in the Minute Book.

Proposed by Councillor Tony Ferguson, seconded by Councillor Enda Stenson AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED;

“That Leitrim County Council’s Annual Report 2009 be adopted in accordance with Section 221(3) of the Local Government Act 2001.”

10/315

14/6/2010

Border Region East-West Transport Corridor Study

Report dated 2nd June 2010 from Seamus O’Connor, Senior Engineer, Roads, in relation to the strategic study of an east-west link road connecting Sligo to Dundalk, as circulated to the Members appears as **Appendix 8** to the Minutes of this meeting in the Minute Book.

The report as circulated was Noted by the members.

10/316

14/6/2010

Quarterly Report on Capital Works

- **Housing**

Report from Mary Quinn, Director of Services, Housing & Corporate Services as circulated to each member appears as **Appendix 9** to the Minutes of this Meeting in the Minute Book. The report as circulated was noted by the Members.

- **Water Services**

Report from John McGuinness, Director of Services, Infrastructure as circulated to each member appears as **Appendix 10** to the Minutes of this Meeting in the Minute Book. The report as circulated was noted by the Members.

Councillor Martin Kenny queried when the sewerage scheme at Railway Terrace, Ballinamore is scheduled to start. Mr. Billy Lowe, Senior Engineer, Water Services confirmed that this work is to be carried out by the Area Office Staff and will be commencing in the current year, possibly within the next month.

Councillor Caillian Ellis queried the position in relation to Fenagh Sewerage Scheme. He outlined that he understood that the ESB would have power to the Scheme by the end of the current week. Mr. Lowe advised that once power was available it would be a matter of the Council's Electrician completing the necessary wiring certs etc.

- **Roads**

Report from John McGuinness, Director of Services, Infrastructure as circulated to each member appears as **Appendix 11** to the Minutes of this Meeting in the Minute Book. The report as circulated was noted by the Members.

- **Other Capital Projects**

Report from Joseph Gilhooly, Director of Services, Community, Cultural and Enterprise Development dated 4th June 2010 as circulated to each member appears as **Appendix 12** to the Minutes of this Meeting in the Minute Book. The report as circulated was noted by the Members.

10/317

14/6/2010

Report from the Corporate Policy Group

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

Strategic Policy Committees

Ms. McGovern outlined that the Corporate Policy Group had considered updates from three Strategic Policy Committees – the Community, Cultural & Enterprise Development SPC, the Housing & Corporate Services SPC and the Infrastructure SPC.

- ***Community, Cultural & Enterprise Development SPC:***

Councillor Siobhán McGloin, Chairperson of the Community, Cultural & Enterprise Development SPC gave an overview of the items considered at their meeting held on 20th May 2010. The report as circulated to the members appears as **Appendix 13** to the Minutes of this meeting in the Minute Book.

Councillor McGloin advised that the SPC had considered details of the current Arts Strategy and the proposed outline, process and time scale for the preparation of the new Arts Strategy. The SPC had also received an update on progress in relation to the 'Artist Friendly County' which is to be rolled out in the current year. The SPC also considered an overview of the objectives and actions of the Council's Play and Recreation Policy 2009-2013. The proposed introduction of bye-laws to enforce general rules in relation to Playgrounds and Amenity areas is to be considered at the next meeting of the SPC which is scheduled for 16th September 2010. This meeting will also focus on the Tourism Development Strategy.

This update was noted by the members.

- ***Housing & Corporate Services SPC***

Councillor Enda Stenson, Chairperson of the Housing & Corporate Services SPC gave an overview of the items considered at their SPC meeting held on 20th May 2010. The report as circulated to the members appears as **Appendix 14** to the Minutes of this meeting in the Minute Book.

Councillor Stenson advised that the SPC had considered and agreed a framework for the preparation of an Anti-Social Behaviour Strategy to be adopted by 30th November 2010. He advised that the Draft Strategy will be brought before the September meeting of the SPC for consideration and recommendation onwards to the Corporate Policy Group and the Council. The SPC had also considered a report on the implementation of a radon measurement programme in Council Housing Estates and buildings and a report in relation to the Housing List and vacancy levels in private housing. The SPC had also received an overview of the Housing Capital Allocation for 2010 and had noted the closing date for applications under the Housing Aid for Older People Grant Scheme of 31st May 2010.

This update was noted by the Members.

- ***Infrastructure SPC***

Councillor Caillian Ellis, Chairperson of the Infrastructure SPC gave an overview of the items considered at their meeting held on 20th May 2010. The report as circulated to the members appears as **Appendix 15** to the Minutes of this meeting in the Minute Book.

Councillor Ellis advised that the SPC had considered the Water Conservation Report and had agreed to recommend to the Council that they adopt a Disconnection Policy based on the Water Services Act 2007 – Section 43 & Section 56. He outlined that the Disconnection Policy, which will be brought before the July meeting of the Corporate Policy Group and the Council for consideration, will be used to pursue offending customers and Group Water Schemes whose water consumption has increased by more than 10% above the previously established norm for in excess of 7 days. He outlined that the purpose of the Policy will be not solely to disconnect consumers but to encourage consumers to repair leaks and manage consumption on their network.

This update was noted by the Members and it was noted that the Disconnection Policy will be brought before the July meeting of the Council.

Draft North West Regional Homelessness / Framework Plan

Ms. McGovern advised that the Corporate Policy Group had considered the Draft North West Regional Homelessness Framework Plan which was listed for adoption on the agenda for the Council meeting. The CPG had agreed to leave this matter for consideration at the Council meeting.

Attendance at Conferences

Ms. McGovern outlined that, in accordance with the procedures agreed in relation to the requirements arising from the Local Government Act 2001 (Section 142) Regulations 2010 in relation to the attendance of members at Conferences, Seminars & Courses and approval to attend events, a report/listing detailing forthcoming Conferences, Seminars and Events notified to the Corporate Services Section had been presented to the Corporate Policy Group. She advised that the CPG had considered the forthcoming Conferences, Seminars & Courses and determined which events were appropriate to attend having regard to the adopted Training & Development Programme and the number of Members authorized to attend each particular event. She advised that the report, including details of the decisions of the Corporate Policy Group in relation to the individual events, has been circulated with the full details/ brochures of the forthcoming events for the information of Members. She advised that Members are required to sign up for the individual events that they wish to attend, on the report as circulated, and a Resolution will be obtained at the end of the Council meeting in relation to formally authorizing Members' attendance in line with the preferences indicated.

This was noted by the Members.

Items for Council Meeting

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

10/318

14/6/2010

Meeting Correspondence

1. Letter dated 11th May 2010 from National Cancer Screening Service in relation to BreastCheck.
2. Letter dated 14th May 2010 from Seamus Taylor, NUI Maynooth acknowledging Vote of Congratulations in relation to his award of CBE by the British Government

Councillor Martin Kenny stated that he was not aware of this Vote of Congratulations and stated that he did not wish to be associated with same. Ms. Jackie Maguire, County Manager advised that this should have been raised at the time of the passing of the Vote of Congratulations. Councillor Kenny stated that he had not been aware of the Vote and wished his dissent to be noted. Councillor Michael Colreavy also requested that his dissent be noted.

3. Letter dated 1st June 2010 from the Office of the Minister, Department of Health & Children in relation to BreastCheck

4. Letter dated 3rd June 2010 from the Office of the Minister for Finance in relation to the request for consultation with Councillors prior to the introduction of expenditure cuts or any reduction in services.
5. Letter dated 8th June 2010 from John McGuinness, Director of Services, Infrastructure in relation to the 2010 Grant Allocation for the Local Improvements Scheme
6. Letter dated 21st May 2010 from Councillor Tony Ferguson requesting that Eamon O'Kane, North West Alcohol Forum be invited to make a presentation to a Council meeting on the work of the Forum

Proposed by Councillor Tony Ferguson, seconded by Councillor Sean McGowan AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED;

“That Eamon O'Kane, North West Alcohol Forum be invited to make a presentation to a Council meeting on the work of the Forum.”

7. Letter dated 4th June 2010 from the Office of the Minister, Department of Health & Children in relation to Jobseekers payments
8. Letter dated 9th June 2010 from the Office of the Minister, Department of Health & Children acknowledging correspondence in relation to the suspension of periodontal treatment for Medical Card Holders
9. E-Mail dated 9th June 2010 from Irish Medical Organisation calling on all local authorities to introduce a speed limit of 30kph in all urban and residential areas
10. Letter dated 14th June 2010 from Jackie Maguire, County Manager enclosing Memo received from Minister Finneran's Office at the Department of the Environment, Heritage & Local Government in relation to the EPA Code of Practice

Councillor Martin Kenny noted the Memo from the Department which he stated was not very promising. He outlined that local members had met with Minister Gormley on his visit to Carrigallen recently. He expressed concern that there does not appear to be any sense of urgency at Ministerial level in relation to resolving the matter. He stated that pressure must be kept on in relation to this issue. It was noted that there is a motion on the agenda in relation to the matter.

The following matters were also raised under Meeting Correspondence:

National Bike Week

Councillor Enda Stenson advised Members that Saturday 19th June is Leitrim Bike Day. He advised that a return cycle from Páirc Seán, Carrick on Shannon to Drumsna is being organised and he urged as many people as possible to support and participate in the event.

Anti Litter Grants

Councillor Sinéad Guckian referred to the call for applications in relation to anti-litter grants and proposed that the Council allocate funding from this budget to the Drumsna Community Group in relation to the erection of signage in the harbour area

in Drumsna without requiring a formal application to be submitted in this regard, as this project was previously to be funded and meets the criteria of the scheme. This was seconded by Councillor Gerry Kilrane.

10/319

14/6/2010

Vote of Congratulations

The members extended a vote of congratulations to the following:

- Councillor Enda McGloin and Jennifer Duffy on their recent marriage
- Teresa McGloin, Gubacreeny, Kinlough on coming 3rd out of 43,000 participants in the Ladies Mini-Marathon
- Martha Gilheaney, Ballinamore on being selected to represent Leitrim in the International Rose of Tralee Festival
- Ballinglera/Dowra School on winning the Shields League

10/320

14/6/2010

Conferences

Proposed by Councillor Sean McGowan, seconded by Councillor Francis Gilmartin AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED;

That Leitrim County Council approves of the following:

- o Attendance of Cllr Caillian Ellis at the International Peace Conference on the 17th June to 20th June 2010 in Limerick Junction, Co Limerick.
- o Attendance of Councillor Siobhán McGloin, Councillor Michael Colreavy, Councillor Sean McDermott, Councillor Martin Kenny, Councillor Thomas Mulligan and Councillor Mary Bohan at the Sean MacDiarmada Summer School on the 18th June 2010 to 20th June 2010 in Kiltyclogher, County Leitrim
- o Attendance of Councillor Caillian Ellis at the Byrne Perry Summer School in Wexford on the 25th to 27th June 2010.
- o Attendance of Councillor Caillian Ellis, Councillor Sinéad Guckian, Councillor Enda Stenson and Councillor Enda McGloin at the George Bernard Shaw Summer School and Festival in Carlow on the 2nd to 3rd July 2010.
- o Attendance of Councillor Sinéad Guckian and Councillor Sean McDermott at the Local Government Roads & Transport Services Conference in Skibereen, Co. Cork on 9th to 10th July 2010

Proposed by Councillor Martin Kenny, seconded by Councillor Sean McGowan AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED;

“That the attendance of Councillor Martin Kenny at the promoting Pristine mental Health in Young People Conference on the 22nd May 2010 in Galway be approved”.

10/321

14/6/2010

Deputation from Doctors Alliance

The Cathaoirleach, Councillor Thomas Mulligan welcomed Mr. Con Colbert, Doctors Alliance and members of the public to the meeting. He outlined the provisions in relation to Deputations and invited Mr. Colbert to make his presentation.

Mr. Colbert made a presentation to the meeting in relation to electromagnetic radiations and its impacts in our Environment. He highlighted the increase in medical conditions since the introduction of telecommunications infrastructure and the associated increase in microwave emissions, outlined ICNAR guidelines in relation to maximum levels of electromagnetic radiations permitted which he stated are considered to be too high and demonstrated microwatt readings in the Council Chamber with a hand-held device.

The Members thanked Mr. Colbert for his attendance and his presentation. The Cathaoirleach, Councillor Thomas Mulligan, invited any points of clarification from the Members.

Councillor Michael Colreavy queried whether Mr. Colbert had any views on what countries with a lower rating are doing differently. Mr. Colbert advised that in these countries the technology is delivered safely with the focus firmly on people. He outlined that Germany and Russia are leading the way in this regard.

Mr. Colbert circulated a document on a French initiative in relation to the reduction of the maximum EM radiation levels and also a document in relation to the 'Overloading of Towns and Cities with Radio Transmitters'. These documents as circulated to the Members appear as **Appendix 16 & 17** respectively to the Minutes of this Meeting in the Minute Book.

Councillor Martin Kenny outlined that this is an issue of concern to Members and asked how the Council can set limitations while also being in a position to deliver a broadband service safely. He also queried what evidence is in place to show that telecommunications infrastructure is responsible for an increase in cancer and other ailments. Mr. Colbert stated that fibre-optic cables is the way forward and that there must be a mechanism to measure and monitor emissions.

Councillor John McCartin thanked Mr. Colbert for highlighting fibre-optic cabling as the way forward and stated that there must be a renewed campaign in relation to activating the infrastructure which is already in place.

Councillor Gerry Kilrane queried what Mr. Colbert recommends as a solution to the issue. Mr. Colbert stated that there must be a will to get it right and that a monitoring regime must be put in place.

Councillor Mary Bohan outlined that Members are very concerned in relation to the issue but are also under increasing pressure to ensure full broadband and mobile phone coverage in the County. She outlined that she couldn't understand why there is not a greater outcry from the medical profession in relation to the levels permitted. She outlined that the mast in her own area which is causing concern is a radio mast for emergency services and queried if this is different to a telecommunications mast. She also queried how the case can be made to prevent a further extension of the permission for these masts.

Mr. Colbert stated that there is a lot of hype in relation to masts for emergency services coverage and there may be other agenda. He stated that these masts must be monitored.

Councillor Tony Ferguson asked for a copy of the presentation to be made available. Mr. Colbert undertook to provide a copy of his presentation to Councillor Ferguson.

In relation to the monitoring in the Council Chamber Councillor Sinéad Guckian queried whether the device is picking up microwaves, mobile phone and other frequencies. Mr. Colbert confirmed that this was the case.

Councillor Thomas Mulligan queried the level of Microwatts per M² described as safe by the World Health Organisation. Mr. Colbert indicated that the WHO will quote ICNAR Guidelines.

The Cathaoirleach, Councillor Thomas Mulligan again thanked Mr. Colbert for his presentation and Mr. Colbert thanked the members for facilitating him in presenting to the meeting.

Part 1 – Notices of Motions

10/322

14/6/10

Vote of No Confidence in Minister Gormley

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

"Leitrim County Council has made repeated efforts and requests to meet the Minister for the Environment, John Gormley TD on a number of issues particularly the recent issue of the EPA guidelines on one off housing. If by this meetings correspondence we have not heard of a definite date for a meeting between Minister Gormley and this Council then I propose that we the members of Leitrim County Council propose a vote of no confidence in this Minister."

Councillor Enda McGloin stated that he was proposing a vote of no confidence in Minister Gormley on the basis of his failure to facilitate a meeting with a deputation from the Council despite repeated requests. He stated that the crux of the issue in relation to the Code of Practice relates to the Minister's Circular of 5th January 2010 and only the Minister can remedy the situation. He stated that he was proceeding with his motion in the absence of a meeting date from the Minister.

This was seconded by Councillor Gordon Hughes.

Councillor John McTernan also supported the Motion and stated that the Minister is giving Leitrim County Council the run-around. He stated that notwithstanding the engineering solutions presented to the EPA their hands are tied by the Ministerial circular. He stated that the Minister must meet a deputation from the Council in relation to this issue.

Ms. Jackie Maguire, County Manager outlined that she had circulated a copy of a Memo received from Minister Finneran's office indicating that the Department will be in touch shortly in relation to how the matter can be progressed.

Councillor Enda McGloin stated however that the matter could more easily be progressed through a meeting with the Minister. This was supported by Councillor Michael Colreavy who suggested that it might be appropriate to indicate that, in the absence of the withdrawal of the Directive/Circular, Leitrim County Council proposes a vote of No Confidence.

Councillor McGloin reiterated however that the Council is not getting any response to repeated requests for a meeting with the Minister.

Councillor Mary Bohan outlined that all Members are frustrated with the process. She outlined that it is her understanding, from speaking directly with Minister Michael Finneran, that he is very concerned in relation to the issue. She outlined that she understood that Minister Gormely is willing to meet. She suggested that we should try and work towards a resolution through the officials in the Department and Minister Finneran.

Councillor Enda McGloin stated that the nub of the issue is the Minister's Circular of 5th January 2010. He stated that, hypothetically, if this Circular didn't exist, the Council could continue as previously in relation to accepting engineering solutions. He stated that Members must have the opportunity to express this directly to Minister Gormley and he could not understand how Minister Gormley could not facilitate a brief face to face meeting in this regard.

Councillor Mary Bohan reiterated that she understood that a meeting would be facilitated and queried whether a vote of no confidence is the best way forward to a resolution. Councillor McGloin stated that he was prepared to be reasonable in relation to the matter and advised that he was prepared to reserve his position to the July Council meeting but stated that he would be acting on the resolution at the July Council meeting if no definitive position is available at that date.

This was agreed by the Members.

10/323

14/6/10

Missing Children Hotline

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

"Leitrim County Council urges the Government to establish an 116000 EU Hotline number in respect of missing children without further delay. The number should be operational on a 32 county and trans-EU member state basis. The number has been reserved by the European Commission since 2007 for all EU member states and is now successfully operational in 11 (eleven) states. We also call on the Government to urgently arrange a referendum on children's rights to ensure that children's rights and best interests are placed at the heart of all legislation, policy and practice that affects their lives."

Councillor Michael Colreavy outlined the background to his motion and called on the support of the Members. The Motion was unanimously supported by the Members.

Proposed by Councillor Michael Colreavy, seconded by Councillor Tony Ferguson AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED;

"That Leitrim County Council urges the Government to establish an 116000 EU Hotline number in respect of missing children without further delay. The number should be operational on a 32 county and trans-EU member state basis. The number has been reserved by the European Commission since 2007 for all EU member states and is now successfully operational in 11 (eleven) states. We also call on the Government to urgently arrange a referendum on children's rights to ensure that

children's rights and best interests are placed at the heart of all legislation, policy and practice that affects their lives."

10/324

14/6/10

Redressing Negative Image

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

"I understand that Leitrim is being portrayed as one of the worst counties regarding over supply of housing units when clearly this is not the case as according to statistics Leitrim lies in 7th position. I believe our Council should be part of redressing a negative image given in this regard. Dublin City, Dun-Laoghaire-Rathdown, Cork and Limerick are much worse and unnoticed by National media e.g. 19,000 people left Dublin City in 2009 to live elsewhere and very little word of this. Let us make sure we turn our assets into a positive resource."

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

"Every opportunity is being used to turn the current situation into a positive by making it known that Co. Leitrim has a wide variety of good quality houses available at attractive locations and at very affordable prices throughout the County. This message has already been communicated in radio and television interviews. Consideration can be given to compiling a marketing campaign in conjunction with developers and their selling agents."

Councillor Tony Ferguson outlined that County Leitrim has been portrayed nationally as one of the areas worst affected by the over supply of housing when this is not in fact the case. He stated that Leitrim must be portrayed and marketed in a positive way and he welcomed the response and the attempts made to counteract this negative publicity. He stated that it is beholden on all Members to positively promote the county and the availability of quality, affordable homes and a quality lifestyle. This was supported by Councillor Mary Bohan.

Councillor Ferguson suggested that Professor Seamus Caulfield should be invited to address a meeting of the Council at some point in redressing the negative image being portrayed nationally.

10/325

14/6/10

Rise Campaign

The Cathaoirleach, Councillor Thomas Mulligan outlined that as Motion No's 19 and 31 both relate to the Rise Campaign it is proposed to take these items together. This was agreed by the Members.

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

"I propose that Leitrim County Council support the "Rise Campaign" (Rural Ireland says enough) concerning the legislation being brought in to ban all field sports which would have a devastating effect on people's livelihood."

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

"I propose that Leitrim County Council notes the increasing level of popular support being expressed for the RISE (Rural Ireland Says Enough!) Campaign and shares the concerns it is highlighting, over legislation currently being proposed by the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government, John Gormley T.D. This Council calls on the Government to listen to the concerns being expressed by those who engage in hunting and other outdoor activities and involve stakeholders in full consultation and to respond appropriately. While every effort has to be made to ensure that deliberate cruelty to animals is not tolerated, the Department can and must work to achieve this through consensus building rather than confrontation."

Councillor Caillian Ellis outlined the background to his Motion and a recent public meeting attended by Members in Ballinamore. He stated that he was not supporting cruelty to animals in any way but stated that the concern is that the current legislation will impact more broadly in relation to field-sports. He stated that he couldn't support the legislation if this was the case as a lot of people in the local area who are directly or indirectly involved would be affected. He stated that there was significant concern expressed at the recent meeting. He outlined that wildlife has to be culled to survive but reiterated that he was totally against any type of cruelty to animals.

Councillor Martin Kenny stated that his motion is largely similar. He stated however that he didn't think that it was appropriate for the local authority to come out in support of a particular campaign. He stated that he also is totally against cruelty to animals but stated that the proposals go too far if activities such as pheasant shooting, activities of the South Leitrim Harriers etc are curtailed or prevented. He outlined that he understood that the legislation, as currently, doesn't go this far at the moment but the concern is that it will be extended. He stated that the Department needs to bring the matter forward through consensus-building with the interested parties. He suggested that the motions be combined and that rather than supporting a particular campaign that the Council indicate that they accept the increasing level of support for the RISE campaign. Councillor Ellis indicated that he had no objection to this.

Councillor Paddy O'Rourke supported the motions. He stated that nobody is supporting any form of abuse of animals but that there is a place for culling etc and a balanced attitude and approach is required.

Councillor's Sean McDermott, Gordon Hughes, Siobhán McGloin, Gerry Dolan and Thomas Mulligan all supported the motion and reiterated what had been said. The Cathaoirleach, Councillor Mulligan outlined that the Rise Campaign is about increasing awareness of the green agenda and a general attack on the rural way of life. He stated that it is appreciated that the legislation as it is proposed at present would be acceptable but there is genuine concern that this is the 'thin edge of the wedge'. He stated that the campaign provides an opportunity for the views of people living in rural Ireland to be put forward.

Proposed by Councillor Martin Kenny, seconded by Councillor Caillian Ellis AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED;

"That Leitrim County Council notes the increasing level of popular support being expressed for the RISE (Rural Ireland Says Enough!) Campaign and shares the concerns it is highlighting, over legislation currently being proposed by the Minister

for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government, John Gormley T.D. This Council calls on the Government to listen to the concerns being expressed by those who engage in hunting and other outdoor activities and involve stakeholders in full consultation and to respond appropriately, and to refrain from making a decision in this regard until full consultation has taken place with the whole range of stakeholders. While every effort has to be made to ensure that deliberate cruelty to animals is not tolerated, the Department can and must work to achieve this through consensus building rather than confrontation."

10/326

14/6/10 **Footpath to DVO Offices, Drumshanbo**

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

"I call on the Director of Infrastructure to have a foot path put in place from Drumshanbo Church to the DVO Offices at Derryhallagh. Also lights erected and proper signage directing to the DVO from different roads heading into Drumshanbo."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"Funding is available in the 2010 Roads Programme to have a footpath constructed from Drumshanbo Church to the public Graveyard. Public lighting will also be installed along this section of road and all outstanding ancillary works completed. This works is scheduled to commence next month. The DVO office can make contact directly with the planning section in relation to the erection of appropriate signage for their building."

Councillor Gerry Dolan welcomed the reply. He outlined that he has been in contact with the Department of Agriculture in relation to the extension of the footpath and the provision of proper signage in conjunction with the Council.

Councillor Enda McGloin supported the motion.

Mr. John McGuinness, Director of Services, Infrastructure outlined that he was not aware of any further funding available from the Department of Agriculture.

10/327

14/6/10 **Israeli attack on Humanitarian Flotilla**

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

"I propose that this Council express it's unequivocal condemnation of the recent deadly attack by Israel on the humanitarian flotilla attempting to bring humanitarian aid and supplies to Gaza."

Councillor Gerry Kilrane called on the members to support the motion. He outlined that, irrespective of the motivations of individual members of the flotilla, the attack must be condemned in the context of the humanitarian situation in Gaza.

The Motion was supported by all the Members.

Proposed by Councillor Gerry Kilrane, seconded by Councillor Michael Colreavy AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED;

"That Leitrim County Council expresses it's unequivocal condemnation of the recent deadly attack by Israel on the humanitarian flotilla attempting to bring humanitarian aid and supplies to Gaza."

10/328

14/6/10

Ballinamore Courthouse

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

"I would like to ask the Director of Services, Community, Cultural and Enterprise Development if the Council will again write to the Courts Service requesting that ownership of the Ballinamore Courthouse be transferred back to Leitrim County Council and that consideration be given by this Council to the creation of a John McGahern Theatre in the building."

Report by Director of Service, Community, Cultural & Enterprise Development

"The Council is currently in correspondence with the Court Service in relation to their intentions for the future of the building and as a priority their plans for the ongoing upkeep and maintenance of the property. In the current economic climate the potential for the re-development of any unused building for public use is extremely limited."

Councillor Hughes outlined that he is calling on the Courts Service to transfer ownership of the Ballinamore Courthouse, which has such historical significance, back to Leitrim County Council. He queried whether any costing had been done in relation to the necessary remedial works to the building. He also outlined that he is proposing that a John McGahern Theatre be developed in the building.

Councillor Caillian Ellis supported the motion and stated that the Courthouse should be taken back into Council ownership if at all possible. He stated that the facility would be a huge attraction to the area and encouraged that the proposal be followed through.

Councillor Martin Kenny also supported the motion and concurred with the points made. He acknowledged that the development of a theatre would cost substantial money and would have to be a longer-term plan.

Councillor Mary Bohan also supported the motion. She outlined that the Courthouse in Drumkeerin has been given over to the local community in conjunction with the Community & Enterprise Section.

Mr. Joseph Gilhooly, Director of Services, Community, Cultural & Enterprise Development outlined that the local group in Drumkeerin had a particular vision for the building and had secured substantial funding to bring their project to fruition. He advised that the ongoing correspondence with the Courts Service needs to be brought to a conclusion. He outlined that investment of some circa €500,000 is required to protect the building and that the extent of the works required will be indicated to them and their proposals in this regard sought.

10/329

14/6/10

Adequate Water Supply

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

"I propose that Leitrim County Council provide adequate supply of water to the Wilders family in Liskellew Upper, Drumkeerin."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"Since the commissioning of the North Leitrim Regional Water Supply when Drumkeerin got water from the Moneyduff Plant, a number of families above the old reservoir at Liskellew, Drumkeerin, still receive water from the original mountain source. We have communicated to them that we would be amenable to grant-aiding them for a new Group Scheme but unfortunately we do not have any such funding for new Groups in 2010. Hence we will have to await the 2011 allocation. However the proposed group water scheme would be well advised to begin design work immediately."

Councillor Mary Bohan outlined that Leitrim County Council had given a water supply to these families and now they have no adequate supply. She stated that it is not acceptable to direct them down the route of a Group Water Scheme at this point. She stated that the Council have a duty to provide a proper water supply and proposed that an alternative means of augmenting the water supply be found. This was supported by Councillor Gerry Dolan.

Mr. John McGuinness, Director of Services, Infrastructure outlined that the families concerned were on an old water supply. He advised that staff from the Rural Water Section could meet with the family to discuss the situation. Councillor Bohan indicated that such a meeting would be useful. She requested that she be kept advised in this regard and that the meeting be arranged at an early date.

10/330

14/6/10

School Transport Costs

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

"I propose that this Council write to the Minister for Education and Science, Mary Coughlin and Minister of State, Sean Haughey asking them not to increase the cost of school transport and to consider a possible reduction in the fee of €300 per child per year."

Councillor Siobhán McGloin outlined that any proposal to increase the cost of school transport must be resisted and the costs should in fact be reduced as they represent a significant burden on parents. This was supported by all the Members.

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

"That Leitrim County Council write to the Minister for Education and Science, Mary Coughlin and Minister of State, Sean Haughey asking them not to increase the cost of school transport and to consider a possible reduction in the fee of €300 per child per year."

10/331

14/6/10

Water treatment Plant at Knockacullion

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

"I propose that Leitrim County Council prepare and publish a report on the cost and lack of operation of the temporary water treatment plant at Knockacullion. A considerable amount of public funding was spent on this facility and to date, no water has been treated. Now that the original water source is depleted, it is very likely that the protracted and costly installation of the plant has been a wasted effort. Both the council and public should be made aware of the roles of the accountable parties in what appears to have been a regrettable waste of time and money."

Councillor John McCartin advised that he wished to withdraw his Motion.

10/332

14/6/10

Turf Cutting Ban

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

"At the June meeting of Leitrim County Council, I will ask the County Manager to make contact with the Department of the Environment (Parks & Wildlife section) to, (1) find out what bogs in Leitrim if any, will be affected by the ban on turf cutting due to come into effect in 2014, in National Heritage areas, Special areas of Conservation & Special protection areas.

(2) To establish who is responsible for identifying and informing the relevant landowners, I think it is vitally important that they are informed as quickly as possible so as they can plan for the future.

(3) Have the Government put in place a compensation package for landowners affected by the ban?

The ban on turf cutting will cause a lot of anger with communities who have been harvesting turf on their bogs for generations."

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

"The Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government recently announced by press release, the end of non-commercial turf cutting on raised bogs in Special Areas of Conservation on a phased basis between now and end of 2013. The ban on turf cutting on 31 no. raised bogs in Special Areas of Conservation has come into immediate effect. None of those are in Co. Leitrim. A further 24 locations in SACs will be banned from end of 2011 and again none of them are in Co. Leitrim. The ban will apply to 75 no. Natural Heritage Areas with effect from 2014.4 no.of them are in NHAs in Co. Leitrim-Rinn River, Cashel Bog, Corracramph Bog and Cloonageeher Bog. A further 2 no. are in NHAs that straddle the Leitrim/Longford border-Aghnamona Bog and Wooddown Bog. It is a matter for the DOEHLG to

identify and establish contact with those who have been harvesting turf from these bogs in recent years. The Minister has announced that he is putting interim funding measures in place to contribute to the cost of alternative fuel for those affected in the coming winter and he has requested his Department and the Office of the Attorney General determine how the interests of the affected parties can be addressed in the longer term."

Councillor Sean McGowan noted the response. He outlined that there is significant anger over this issue and stated that the Department must make contact with those affected as quickly as possible. He requested that a map of the bogs affected be provided to Members as many people are not aware that they are going to be affected.

All of the members supported the motion. Councillor Martin Kenny stated that the Directive was in relation to preserving our bogs and keeping them healthy, not to implement a blanket ban on turf-cutting.

Mr. Martin Dolan, Director of Services, Planning, Environment & Emergency Services advised that the NHA Maps are included in the County Development Plan and a copy of the relevant maps will be forwarded to the Members.

10/333

14/6/10

Broadband Availability

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

"I ask is it possible to have a detailed report on where Broadband is still not available in Leitrim. We need to know when all householders can avail of this much needed service. We have listened to promises from different agencies, regarding the roll out of broadband, yet there are vast areas of Leitrim still without Broadband."

Report by Director of Service, Community, Cultural & Enterprise Development

"A detailed survey of broadband availability was carried out previously by Leitrim County Council which was primarily used in regard to the preparation of the National Broadband Scheme. This scheme is currently being rolled out in Leitrim in addition to upgrades and expansion of services by other operators. The work involved in updating this survey is not part of the current year work program but will be considered in 2011 when the full impact of the above mentioned improvements can be fully taken into account. In the meantime information on specific areas of the county is available on enquiry as detailed by the earlier survey or from any of the suppliers providing service in the county."

Councillor Enda Stenson noted the response.

10/334

14/6/10

Replacement of Trees in Kiltyclogher

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

"I ask Leitrim County Council to replace the trees in Kiltyclogher Village that have

failed and now look very shabby. These trees that the Council planted many years ago were a lovely feature in the village."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"The District engineer is available for discussions with the local community group with a view to addressing the appearance of these trees and the village in general."

Councillor Sean McDermott welcomed the response. Councillor Michael Colreavy supported the motion and suggested that Coillte should support the provision of trees in our towns and villages.

10/335

14/6/10

Damage to Road at Mullagarve, Aughacashel

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

"The residents of Mullagrove, Aughacashel have contacted me regarding the damage that they claim was caused to the road surface by the Water Department of this Council. One resident told the Council it had cost him a significant amount of money to get it surfaced. The lorries tore off the surface and I propose that this Council resurface it, as filling a couple of potholes will not leave this road as it was before it was used by the Council."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"There was minimal damage caused by Leitrim Co Co to the Local Rd network in the Mullagharve area as a result of the haulage of materials to develop a small water treatment system here. Any damage caused has been repaired months ago. The inclement weather conditions earlier this year has caused some chip loss from the road surface, so routine maintenance will be carried out on the affected sections."

Councillor Francis Gilmartin outlined that he was not happy with the reply. He stated that it is admitted that some damage was caused. He outlined that he was advised that only a couple of potholes were repaired and the affected sections must be resurfaced.

Mr. John McGuinness, Director of Services outlined that the Senior Engineer had indicated that any damage caused by the Treatment Plan had been repaired. He indicated however that a meeting could be organised between the Area Engineer and local residents. Councillor Gilmartin stated that such a meeting would have to take place and requested that it be organised at an early date.

10/336

14/6/10

Signage at Annaduff Football Pitch

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

"I ask Leitrim County Council to erect signs at Annaduff Football Pitch, to put painted strips towards the entrance of same and also luminous bollards at the entrance as this is a very dangerous section on the N4."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"The safety concerns raised will be examined in consultation with the NRA to determine what improvements are necessary."

Councillor John Ward stated that he was not happy with the reply. He stated that if the matter is left to the NRA it will take too long to address. He stated that there are a lot of traffic movements at this location and there can be a lot of confusion.

Councillor Sinéad Guckian supported the motion and outlined that the matter had been raised two years ago. She outlined that a traffic island had been sought but that road markings were required as a minimum.

Councillor Sean McGowan also supported the motion which has been highlighted over a number of years. He stated that this location is very dangerous and must be addressed.

Councillors Gerry Kilrane and Thomas Mulligan also supported the motion.

10/337

14/6/10 Speed Controls at Aughnasheelin

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

"I propose that measures to control the speed of traffic passing the National School and the Catholic Church at Aughnasheelin be put in place as many motorists are ignoring the presence of both and the extra movement of people, children and traffic associated with them."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"There is currently two school ahead warning signs and two flashing children ahead signs at this location. If there is a recurring careless driver attitude in this area then the Garda should be made aware of this."

Councillor Paddy O'Rourke noted the reply. The motion was supported by Councillors Caillian Ellis and Gordon Hughes.

10/338

14/6/10 Entrance to Car Park at Drumlease National School

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

"I would like to ask Leitrim County Council as to what progress is being made in relation to the dangerous entrance to the car park at Drumlease National School, Dromahaire"

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"The entrance to the car park at Drumlease National School in Dromahair onto LP4166-1 is a matter for the National school committee. Leitrim County Council staff are available to discuss any proposals for improvement works at this entrance."

Councillor John McTernan stated that he was not happy with the reply. He stated that

this is a Council rather than a school problem. This was supported by Councillor Mary Bohan. Mr. Shay O'Connor, Senior Engineer, Roads stated that there was some confusion over the location in question and the matter could be discussed with the school. This was accepted by Councillor McTernan.

10/339

14/6/10

Housing Aid for Older People Grants

Councillor Mary Bohan raised the issue of the deadline on the Housing Aid for Older People Grant Scheme and stated that applications which were rejected due to some of the information being incomplete must be reconsidered. This was seconded by Councillor Caillian Ellis.

Ms. Jackie Maguire, County Manager outlined that the scheme had been reopened on a prioritised basis with a clear deadline for submission of all of the relevant information. She stated that the terms of the reopened scheme must be adhered to.

Ms. Aideen McGovern, Senior Executive Officer, Housing & Corporate Services outlined that the Scheme is totally oversubscribed and every effort had been made to ensure that incomplete applications were returned and applicant's given the opportunity to submit any outstanding documentation prior to the deadline. She outlined that applications will be prioritised based on the condition of the dwelling first and then on the basis of date of receipt. She advised that it was extremely unlikely that any of the applications submitted right up to the deadline would be approved within the available resources and on the basis of the priority scheme applying.

Councillor Bohan stated that these applications could be very urgent and must be accepted. Ms. Jackie Maguire, County Manager advised that the concerns expressed by the members would be taken on board.

Part II - Questions.

10/340

14/6/10

Mart Road Car Park, Drumshanbo

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Enda McGloin;

"I ask the Director of Services, Infrastructure what plans he has to 'tidy up' the Mart road car park in Drumshanbo? i.e. provide a proper neat fence at the back of the park, cut the grass and re-line. Some of this work could be done in co-operation with local businesses and town development committees."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"The local district engineer would be happy to discuss these matters with the town development committee and should be contacted to arrange a meeting."

10/341

14/6/10

Footpath & Street Lighting at Ballinaglera

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Enda McGloin;

"I ask the Dromahaire Area Engineer when is it proposed to complete the footpath/street lighting works at Ballinaglera leading to St. Hugh's park?"

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"There is no funding available in this years Programme of works to have this footpath completed. This can be considered for inclusion in the 2011 area programme. The public lighting along this section of road is complete and operational."

10/342

14/6/10

Vacant Housing Units

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Michael Colreavy;

"How many housing units of Leitrim County Council are currently vacant; including those vacant and awaiting retrospective insulation work?"

Report by Director of Service, Corporate Services & Housing

"There are currently 35 vacant units of Council Housing Stock (excluding 6 units which are void pending major refurbishment works). Of these units a total of 14 have been allocated to applicants off the Housing List. The balance of the units are at various stages in relation to the programming and completion of pre-tenancy repairs or energy efficiency upgrade works. We have traditionally had a relatively high turn-over of houses on an annual basis and this trend has continued in the current year with 7 vacancies arising in the last four weeks alone. It should be noted that the pre-letting repair programme in the current year would have been somewhat negatively impacted by the significant level of frost-related damage to tenanted properties over the Christmas/New Year period and these works obviously had to be prioritised ahead of pre-letting repairs."

10/343

14/6/10

Duncarberry, Tullaghan Cross

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Michael Colreavy;

"Does the Council have any plans to improve and develop the area of ground around the cross at Duncarberry, Tullaghan? This small area of ground is highly visible along the main Bundoran – Sligo road and could be developed at very low cost."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"This area of lands is located between the N16 and old Sligo Bundoran Road. A land search will have to be carried out to establish land ownership in this area. There is currently no funding available to carry out any works in this area. Dependant on the results of land search this scheme may be suitable for an Environmental landscaping project in the future subject to funding availability"

10/344

14/6/10

Removal of Roadside Signs

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Tony Ferguson;

"I will ask the Director of Services, Planning, Environment and Emergency Services

what is the current position with regard to the removal of roadside signs which are a blight on the landscape and can be dangerous to traffic. Some of the signs are long out of date e.g. Santa sign on N15 in the middle of May?"

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

"The Council has on occasion, removed unauthorised advertising signage-i.e signage on public property that does not have planning permission or licence and signage promoting an event that has been erected longer than 30 days prior to the event or is still in position following 7 days after the event. It will continue to do this during the coming months. A public notice is about to be inserted in the media reminding those responsible for such signage that it will be removed without further notice."

10/345

14/6/10

Largydonnell Bridge exit improvements

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Tony Ferguson;

"I will ask the Director of Services, Infrastructure what plans he has for improving the exiting of the County road at Largydonnell Bridge on to the R280. This is a very dangerous junction and would be improved by the removal of any obstacles and thereby give better vision to traffic coming from Kinlough."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"The junction will be assessed and be considered for Junction improvement works under next years 2011 Low Cost Safety Scheme."

10/346

14/6/10

Piping of Roadside Drain

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Caillian Ellis;

"I will ask Leitrim County Council to pipe the road side drain at Drumany between Derrinkip and Dolan's house in Drumany as the verge is subsiding into this drain."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"Due to the very much reduced level of funding available for roads for 2010 it is not possible to carry out this work this year. The matter can be reconsidered in the 2011 Roads Programme subject to funding being available at that time."

10/347

14/6/10

Lahard Estate Footpath

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Caillian Ellis;

"I will ask Leitrim County Council to repair the footpath in Lahard Estate from the Main Road up to the bend in the road."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"The state of the footway along the Lahard Estate is in relatively good condition. Localised damage has occurred due to the watermains rehabilitation works, but these areas will be repaired."

10/348

14/6/10

Housing Aid for Older People Scheme

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Gerry Dolan;

"I would like to ask Leitrim County Council to extend the date for additional information for the completing of Housing Aid for Older People Grant Scheme applications such as quotations and doctors signatures as the family doctor for some applications is not available to sign such forms."

Report by Director of Service, Corporate Services & Housing

"The Housing Aid for Older People (HOP) Scheme was reopened on a strictly prioritised basis and with a strict deadline for receipt of fully completed applications of 31st May 2010, as agreed by the Members. It was clearly indicated on the application forms and in all correspondence/promotion and discussions with applicants etc that no exceptions would be permitted in this regard. Where incomplete applications were submitted in advance of the deadline applicants were advised of the outstanding information and provided with an opportunity to submit same prior to the deadline. It should be noted that a Medical Certificate is not a mandatory requirement under the HOP Scheme so the unavailability of a family doctor would not have impacted on people complying with the deadline - a medical certificate is only required under this scheme where priority is being claimed on medical grounds. It is not clear why any applicant would have difficulty in obtaining quotations. The process of validating applications has now been completed and the inspection of properties and prioritisation of applications, in accordance with the agreed terms of the scheme, will be commencing over the coming weeks. The Scheme is already significantly over-subscribed for 2010 and many of the complete applications received in advance of the deadline will have to be refused, following assessment and based on the priority scheme in operation, in the context of the limited available resources. There is no possibility of extending the deadline for applications which were incomplete as at 31st May 2010."

10/349

14/6/10

Ballinaglera to Aughnasheelin Road

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Gerry Dolan;

"I would like to ask as to when it is intended to have the road from Ballinaglera to Aughnasheelin repaired as it is in a bad state of repair. Rally Ireland contributed to the cost of damage to roads caused by the rally and this road is one of them."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"There is a Restoration Improvement grant of €39,000 allocated to road No LP 3298-0 (Ballinaglera to Aughnasheelin) in the 2010 programme of works. Improvement works will take place on the worse sections of this road later in the year. To date Rally Ireland have made no contribution to the costs of road restoration."

10/350

14/6/10

Odour Problem at Lower Main Street Mohill

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Gerry Kilrane;

"I ask the Director of Services, Infrastructure, why there is an odour problem on Lower Main Street, Mohill which is emanating from the sewer line. The problem was particularly bad recently and has led to a lot of complaints by residents and business people.

Is it possible for this problem to be prioritised and a solution found in advance of the Connacht Fleadh to be held in town between the 2nd and 4th July."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"Leitrim County Council are currently investigating the cause of this odour problem. Some dye-testing investigation work will have to be carried out during a period of prolonged rainfall. Every effort will be made to solve this problem."

10/351

14/6/10 **Pothole Repairs**

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Gerry Kilrane;

"I ask the Director of Services, Infrastructure, is there any possibility of pothole repairs being carried out to the road near Tom Regan's and Andrew Cullen's at Mullaghboy, Keshcarrigan. I note that these repairs were requested on several occasions including by formal question at the December 2009 Monthly meeting."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"Repairs were carried out in response to earlier requests. Some areas of the road require significant drainage works before proper repairs can be effected. Further works will be undertaken."

10/352

14/6/10 **Road Repairs at Tully Lane, Ballinamore**

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Gordon Hughes;

"I would like to ask the Director of Services, Infrastructure when will the Council carry out repairs to the road surface at Tully Lane, Ballinamore LP3397-0 which is in a very poor condition as a result of the recent flooding."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"Due to the significant reduction in the Roads Allocation for 2010 there is no grant allocation available on this road this year. Limited repairs will be carried out to ensure the road is kept passable."

10/353

14/6/10 **Traffic Calming, GAA Park, Ballinamore**

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Gordon Hughes;

"I would like to ask the Ballinamore Area Engineer when will the necessary traffic calming measures outside the G.A.A. Park in Ballinamore be undertaken together with resurfacing & lining of the road-way as previously agreed."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"The area in question will be included in the up coming Speed Limit review and the traffic calming signage on the R202 adjacent the GAA pitch at Ballinamore can then be installed. Resurfacing of the road way is complete and a center line will be placed on this new surface."

10/354

14/6/10 **Afforestation Harvesting**

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Mary Bohan;

"Is there a structure in place whereby Leitrim County Council is notified by Coillte in relation to all afforestation harvesting."

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

"Felling licences for this purpose are processed and issued by the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. The Council is contacted and asked to submit observations in respect of each application within 1 month from the date of referral to the Council. The referral is processed by the Council and the response recommends whether or not the licence should be issued and, if issued, what conditions the Council wishes to be included with the licence. The Council's recommendation would relate to haul routes to be used, weight restrictions, hours of haulage, provision of bond or cash deposit etc."

10/355

14/6/10 **Weight Restrictions re Afforestation Harvesting**

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Mary Bohan;

"Are there restrictions in relation to the weights of loads carried on our roads where extractions of timber are taking place as a result of afforestation harvesting?"

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"Leitrim County Council have discussions beforehand with the contractors who are taking timber out along local roads that are susceptible to damaged by heavy loads. Usually agreement is reached with these contractors on the routes to take and the method and weight of loads that will travel on the roads. If we fail to reach agreement and the contractors insist on bringing heavy loads along roads that we feel will be damaged by these loads then Leitrim County Council may put a weight restriction on the road."

10/356

14/6/10 **Public Lighting at Tooman**

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Sean McGowan;

"At the June meeting of Leitrim County Council, I will ask Mr. John McGuinness, Director of Services, Infrastructure what is the delay in the switching on of the public lighting at Tooman. The poles and lamps have been erected for the past couple of months and all the groundwork appears to be complete. It is extremely dangerous at

night time, where there is a very busy shop, Post office and public house and the local community are concerned for their safety."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"Leitrim County Council had been waiting and inordinate length of time for the ESB to finalise this project, this is now complete and the lights in question have been switched on"

10/357

14/6/10 **Right Turning Lane @ Five Crossroads, Tullaghan**

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Siobhan McGloin;

"At the March meeting of Leitrim Co. Co. I asked if the NRA would provide a right turning lane at the "Five Crossroads" junction on the N15 at Tullaghan. The reply stated that The Road Design Office will investigate this junction and discuss the feasibility of a right turning lane with the NRA Roads Safety Officer. I would like to know what progress has been made on this matter."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"Leitrim County Council staff have discussed this location with the NRA Safety Officer. A joint inspection of the site will be carried out this month and an application for a Low Cost Safety schemes for 2011, will be prepared."

10/358

14/6/10 **Traffic Calming at Glenade Church**

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Siobhan McGloin;

"I would like to ask the Senior Executive Engineer to provide traffic calming and signage indicating a dangerous bend at Glenade Church."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"The location in question will be inspected and if appropriate an application will be made under Traffic Calming or Low cost Accident Solutions for 2011."

10/359

14/6/10 **Pothole at Aghawillan**

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor John McCartin;

"A very large pothole on the narrow LS-5592 at Aghawillan, Carrigallen has become a hazard to drivers. In light of the fact that this is a busy road with connections on both ends, I ask that Leitrim County Council repair the hole as soon as possible."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"The area in question will be included on the programme for routine maintenance."

10/360

14/6/10 **Roadworks at Aghoo East, Ballinamore**

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor John McCartin;

"While works are ongoing on R-204-4 at Aghoo East, Ballinamore, could the Council take measures to insure that the steep margins on either side of this already narrow road are not made worse. This road has been the site of many accidents in the past and in reality, needs to be widened."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"It was originally planned to purchase land on one side of the R204 at the narrow section. However, due to the significantly reduction in the grant for this Road Restoration scheme it has been possible to proceed to purchase land at this location this year. The works are complete as of 9th June. Further works can be considered as part of the 2011 Roads Programme."

10/361

14/6/10

Repairs to Footpaths at Quay Street, Drumsna

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Sinead Guckian;

"At the June meeting of Leitrim County Council, I will ask the Director of Services, Infrastructure, to have immediate repair carried out on the footpaths on Quay Street Drumsna. These footpaths were only installed in 2007, by the Council, under contract with TASK funding, and have collapsed in three separate places already. Also as per my motion Oct 2009, when will the large hole that was left as a result of the removal of the Phone Box be repaired? This work needs to be carried out immediately for public safety and to assist the voluntary efforts of the hard working tidy towns committee."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"Limited repairs to sections of the footpaths will be undertaken later this year in conjunction with other works in the village.

Eircom have been contacted on a number of occasions requesting that they undertake proper reinstatement of the public footpath. This matter will be pursued further."

10/362

14/6/10

Signage at Drumsna Harbour

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Sinead Guckian;

"At the June meeting of Leitrim County Council I will ask the Director of Services, Planning, Environment & Emergency Services when will the agreed signage be erected at the harbour area in Drumsna to address dog fouling in this amenity area. After some debate, it was agreed at the April 2009 meeting of Leitrim County Council that a pilot scheme of signage would be installed as per the Council's Litter Management Plan 2008-2011."

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

"The Council is currently seeking applications from community groups for funding of small environmental awareness projects under the Anti Litter Awareness Grant

Scheme. The closing date for receipt of applications is 25th June. This is a project which meets the criteria for the scheme and it is hoped that an application will be submitted from the local community. If received, it will be considered together with all other applications received. If no application is received from this community, the Council will consider utilising any unspent balance of this allocation for this purpose."

10/363

14/6/10 **Road at Rockingham, Attirory**

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Enda Stenson;

"The road at Attirory around the entrance to Rockingham was dug up to lay sewerage pipes. We were told that this road would be restored to its original state, yet five months later this junction remains almost impassable due to its condition."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"The contractor responsible will be requested to undertake proper reinstatement."

10/364

14/6/10 **Part-time Staff for Road Maintenance**

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Enda Stenson;

"The roads network in the general area of Kiltoghert-Killnagross-Cordary-Eslin and on to Funsinagh towards Mohill are in need of a lot of maintenance due to the severe weather last winter. Our roads staff with responsibility for this area have been based in Carrick all Spring doing excellent work in our County town. What is the possibility of taking on part-time staff to maintain this area?"

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"The Council patching unit has been fully engaged since the start of this year responding to routine road maintenance matters throughout the Carrick Engineering area, including the areas listed.

Further, some of the worst affected roads will be improved in the course planned road improvement works.

Due to the significant reduction in roads funding there is no possibility of the Council being able to afford to employ any part time staff."

10/365

14/6/10 **Tourism Development in Lough MacNea**

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Sean McDermott;

"I have asked Leitrim County Council in the past to make contact with Cavan and Fermanagh County Councils with regard to Tourism Development in Lough MacNea. Has there been any response?"

Report by Director of Service, Community, Cultural & Enterprise Development

"Leitrim County Council have currently ongoing tourism development program which requires the commitment of full resources in the current year. While tentative discussions occur on a range of tourism issues with neighbouring counties there

currently isn't an identified development program for this area. The matter can be considered again in due course on completion of some of the current priorities."

10/366

14/6/10

Iron Bridge, Mullies

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Sean McDermott;

"At the June Council meeting, I will ask Leitrim County Council to have a look at the Iron Bridge on the road to Mullies Church just off the R280 road. Some of the steel bars are out of place and it also needs repainting."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"The bridge in question is located on County Road LP 2127-1 just off the R280 which crosses the River Bonnet. The parapets to the bridge consist of Tubular steel bars with steel uprights. The Steel parapet is in good structural condition. One side rail is damaged due to impact by a vehicle. We will get this repaired and the side rails will be painted when resources become available."

10/367

14/6/10

Works in Leitrim Village

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Francis Gilmartin;

"Following on from a meeting I had in Leitrim Village last week the people present requested that I bring the following to the attention of the Council to be addressed;

- To relocate the sign as you come up from Kiltoghert, as you have no view when you are turning for Leitrim/Drumshanbo. Also a sign at Gerry O'Rourke's house which is blocking his view to be moved slightly to improve this view.
- What can the Council do to eliminate the danger caused by the height of the wall at Church Road in Leitrim Village?
- Could the Council replace the signage and barrier at the L turn known as Kelly's turn on the road from the Village Church which brings you out at Keaveney's."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"The sign at Gerry O'Rourke's on the R280 will be set back to improve sight distance at this location.

Following on from last month's council meeting consultation is ongoing with the landowner of the property on the junction of the Church Rd and the R280 at Leitrim village to have alterations carried out to the wall at this junction.

A chevron sign has been erected at this bend to warn road users of the danger at this location; the re-erection of the barrier is deemed not necessary taking account of the speed of traffic and the nature of the road."

10/368

14/6/10

Rain Harvesting

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Francis Gilmartin;

"I would like to enquire from Mr John McGuinness, Director of Services Infrastructure how far along he and his team are with the proposal to be sent to the Government requesting funding for rain harvesting of slatted sheds etc. which would save everybody money in the future. I did propose this some months ago and it was seconded and all the Councillors agreed it was worth trying for it to be funded."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"The National Rural Water Monitoring Committee commissioned a rainwater harvesting pilot project in 2005 based on a rural house on a 250 acre livestock farm. The resulting saving achieved due to rainwater harvesting were as follows:
Domestic mains water demand reduced by 33%
Agricultural mains water demand reduced by 43%.
These savings clearly demonstrate the potential for Rainwater Harvesting. Unfortunately at present there are no proposals at government level to provide grant aid for this type of work to spite the obvious savings achievable. Leitrim County council will continue to pursue the matter with the Department."

10/369

14/6/10 **Footpath across Green in Drumsna**

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor John Ward;

"What is the position in relation to the footpath across the Green in Drumsna Village, at the Church. I was previously advised that this footpath would be lowered as it is not currently wheelchair accessible."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"The issue of this footpath has been raised previously and it was confirmed that the question of any modifications to the existing footpath would be addressed in conjunction with other works in the village later in the year."

10/370

14/6/10 **CCTV Cameras**

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor John Ward;

"I would like to ask Leitrim County Council to put in place CCTV camera's in both Carrick-on-Shannon and Mohill to curb Anti-social behaviour."

Report by Director of Service, Community, Cultural & Enterprise Development

"The provision of CCTV cameras in town centres such as those mentioned would normally be funded through the Community CCTV scheme which is currently closed to application. A feasibility and system design process was completed previously for Carrick on Shannon but cannot be progressed due to lack of funding opportunity. In the meantime the matter of anti-social behaviour can be discussed further at the County Joint Policing Committee meetings."

10/371

14/6/10 **Resurfacing Works, Tarmon Road, Ballinamore**

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Martin Kenny;

"I am asking the Director of Services, Infrastructure when will resurfacing work be carried out on the Tarmon road out of Ballinamore."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"Due to the significant reduction in funding for roads in 2010 and the very significant expenditure incurred on winter maintenance it will not be possible to carry out any significant work on this road this year routine maintenance will be carried out."

10/372

14/6/10

Refurbishment of Group Water Schemes

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Martin Kenny;

"I am asking the Director of Services, Infrastructure when funding allocations will be made, and at what level, to group water schemes for refurbishment works as both the Cloone-Adoon scheme and the Clonsarne scheme are badly in need of major works and need to have the work done over the summer."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"It is proposed to carry out critical mains replacement on both group schemes this year and the Rural Water section are in contact with both group schemes."

10/373

14/6/10

Road Repairs at Aughawillin, Carrigallen

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

"I would ask that Leitrim County Council carry out repairs to the road opposite Michael & Dolores Smyth's house in the townland of Aughawillin, Carrigallen. A part of the roadside has subsided presenting a danger to both motorists and pedestrians."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"There is a grant for road works at this location and Leitrim County Council awaits the completion of three private developments before expending the road maintenance funding. No work will be carried out by the County Council until the surface water from the private sites is addressed by the owners and prevented from gaining access to the public road."

10/374

14/6/10

Replacement Sign for Carrigallen

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

"I would ask that Leitrim County Council replace the sign for Carrigallen on the approach road via Clooncorrick i.e from Killeshandra/Arva direction. The existing sign while excellent in quality and design has been damaged on a number of occasions and presents badly as an entry to the village."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"We will order a similar sign and erect once our road works programme is complete."

10/375

14/6/10

Road Works at Carrowcrin, Dromahaire

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor John McTernan;

"I would like to enquire as to when work would be completed on the section of road from the 4 roads to match up with the section which has been completed last year towards Killenumery Church, Carrowcrin, Dromahaire."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"An allocation of €80,000 has been made available through a restoration grant in the 2010 programme of works for this road LP 4264-2. This funding is been allocated to the section of road from Killenumery Church to the section of road completed from the Sligo border as it is the most damaged section.

The stretch of road from the 4 roads to the section completed at Killenumery Church will be considered for funding in the 2011 programme subject to priority."

10/376

14/6/10

Roadworks at Back Line, Dromahaire

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor John McTernan;

"I would like to enquire as to when the roadworks will be completed on the Back Line, Dromahaire."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"The works to be completed on the Back line include the upgrading and installation of some public lighting and the completion of the footpath on the northern end of the line opposite the RC Church. These works will be completed later in the year, after the surface dressing season, as part of the 2010 programme of works."

This concluded the business of the meeting at 8.30pm

SIGNED: Frank Dolan
Cathaoirleach

SIGNED: Aideen McGovern
Meetings Administrator

DATE: 5th July 2010