

**Minutes of Meeting of Leitrim County Council held in the Council Chamber,
Áras an Chontae, Carrick on Shannon, Monday 12th April 2010 at 5.30 pm**

Members Present:

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

And Councillor Thomas Mulligan, Cathaoirleach presiding

Apologies: Councillor John Ward

Officials Present:

Ms. J. Maguire, County Manager
Mr Martin Dolan, Director of Services, Planning, Environment & Emergency Services
Mr Joseph Gilhooly, Director of Services, Community & Enterprise
Ms Katrina Murphy, Head of Finance
Mr John McGuinness, Director of Services, Infrastructure
Ms Mary Quinn, Director of Housing & Corporate Services
Mr John McKeon, Financial Management Accountant
Mr Michael Gunning, IS Project Leader
Ms Aideen McGovern, Meetings Administrator

**10/174
12/4/2010**

Deimhniu Miontuairisci

**Proposed by Councillor Enda Stenson, seconded by Councillor Caillian Ellis
AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED;**

“That the Minutes of the Meeting of Leitrim County Council held in the Council Chamber, Áras An Chontae on Monday, 1st March 2010, be adopted.”

**10/175
12/4/2010**

Adjournment of Meeting

At the outset of the meeting Councillor Tony Ferguson proposed that a vote of sympathy be extended to Mrs. Eileen McGowan and family on the death of former Councillor Larry McGowan. The Members paid tribute to the huge amount of work which Mr. McGowan had done, both in his role as an elected representative and subsequently, for his local community and for the county. The Members and County Manager expressed their condolences to the McGowan family.

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

“That the Meeting be adjourned for fifteen minutes as a mark of respect to the late Larry McGowan, Ballincar, Sligo, former member of Leitrim County Council.”

10/176

12/4/2010

Book of Condolence

The members extended a Vote of Sympathy to the local Polish Community on the death of their President, Lech Kaczynski and 95 others in the tragic plane crash in Russia.

Proposed by Councillor Gerard Reynolds, seconded by Councillor Enda McGloin AND UNANIMOUSLY AGREED;

“That a Book of Condolence be opened in the Council Offices at Áras an Chontae, Carrick on Shannon for one day to allow the local Polish Community and the general public to express their condolences on the death of the Polish President, Lech Kaczynski, and 95 others in the tragic plane crash in Russia.”

10/177

12/4/2010

Votes of Sympathy

The members also extended a vote of sympathy to the following;

- Mr Tony Khaheel, Quay Street, Drumsna, Co Leitrim on the death of Liam Costello.
- Liam Faughnan, Aghintass, Aughamore, Carrick-on-Shannon on the death of Thomas Faughnan.
- Gerry McCrann, Convent Lane, Mohill, Co Leitrim on the death of Anthony McCrann.
- Helen Faughnan, Lisdadhan, Mohill, Co Leitrim on the death of Francie Faughnan.
- John Joe Curran, Lakeview, Cloone, Carrick-on-Shannon on the death of John Conboy.
- Sean & Carmel Kavanagh, Drumharkin, Foxfield, Ballinamore on the death of Bridget Kavanagh.
- Charlie McTague, Drumcrumin, Derradda, Ballinamore on the death of Maritta McTague.
- Mrs Kathleen Gray, Bredagh, Carrigallen, Co Leitrim on the death of Vincent Gray.
- The Family of the Late Dan Meehan, Carthoon, Rossinver, Co Leitrim.
- Seamus Farrell and Family, Grange, Co Sligo on the death of Willie Farrell.
- Mrs Bridie Kelly & Family, Tawley, Castlegal, Co Leitrim on the death of James Kelly.
- Christina McKenna, Sheena, Drumkeerin, Co Leitrim on the death of Gerard McKenna.
- Catherine Reynolds, Clooncolry, Dromod, Co Leitrim on the death of Kevin Reynolds.
- The Woods Family, Cornaroy, Drumshanbo, Co Leitrim on the death of Shane Woods.
- John & Bridie Gray & Family, Disternan, Drumshanbo, Co Leitrim on the death of Jonathan Gray.
- Pdraig, Shane and Helen Heslin, Keeldra, Cloone, Co Leitrim on the death of Sonny (Pat) Heslin.

- The Family of the Late Una Bredin, Glaniff, Rossinver, Co Leitrim.
- Mrs Mary Fox, Lissinagroagh, Manorhamilton, Co Leitrim on the death of Packie Lee.

10/178

12/4/10 **Annual Financial Statement**

The unaudited Annual Financial Statement of Leitrim County Council for year ended 31st December 2009 as circulated to the members appears as **Appendix 1** to the Minutes of this meeting in the Minute Book.

Ms. Jackie Maguire, County Manager outlined that the Council had returned a small deficit in the end of year accounts of €27,000, resulting in a cumulative deficit of €89,000. She outlined that, considering the very difficult financial year in question, this level of deficit is a significant achievement and is manageable going forward.

Councillor Colreavy complimented the County Manager and staff on limiting the deficit to this low level.

Proposed by Councillor Michael Colreavy seconded by Councillor Enda Stenson AND UNANIMOULSY RESOLVED;

“That Leitrim County Council’s Annual Financial Statement for the Year ended 31st December 2009 be adopted, in accordance with Section 108 of the Local Government Act 2001.”

10/179

12/4/10 **Over expenditure in the Financial Year ended 31st December 2009**

Report in accordance with the provisions of Section 108 (4) of the Local Government Act 2001, in relation to financial expenditure incurred by Leitrim County Council during 2009, as circulated to the members appears as **Appendix 2** to the Minutes of the Meeting in the Minute Book.

Ms. Jackie Maguire, County Manager outlined that the Budget as adopted has changed significantly in terms of the out-turn, predominantly related to the changes arising from the Supplementary National Budget in April 2009 and cutbacks imposed.

Proposed by Councillor Michael Colreavy seconded by Councillor Enda Stenson AND UNANIMOULSY RESOLVED;

“That the over expenditure in the Financial Year ended 31st December 2009, be approved, in accordance with Section 108 of the Local Government Act 2001.”

10/180

12/4/10 **River Basin District Management Plans**

Ms. Jackie Maguire, County Manager outlined the requirements in relation to the consideration and adoption of the River Basin Management Plans. She outlined that a Special Meeting would need to be held in this regard in order to conform with the statutory timeframes set down. She suggested that a Special Council Meeting could

be convened on Monday 19th April to receive a presentation on the Plans and consider their adoption.

Mr. Martin Dolan, Director of Services, Planning, Environment & Emergency Services outlined that the River Basin Management Plans had been circulated to Members – the Western RBD Plan in hard copy and the Shannon and North West Plans on CD. He asked that any members that have a difficulty with the CD's contact him in advance of the meeting and a hard copy of the Plan can be arranged.

Proposed by Councillor Enda McGloin seconded by Councillor Michael Colreavy AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED;

“That a Special Council Meeting be scheduled for Monday 19th April 2010 at 6.00pm to receive a presentation on the 3 No. River Basin District Management Plans, and to consider their adoption.”

10/181

12/4/10 May Council Meeting

Proposed by Councillor Michael Colreavy seconded by Councillor Sean McDermott AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED;

“That the May Council Meeting be held in Kiltyclogher, Co. Leitrim to coincide with the launch of the Sean MacDiarmada Summer School.”

10/182

12/4/10 Carrick on Shannon Local Area Plan

County Manager's report to Elected Members on submissions arising from the proposed amendments to the draft Carrick-on-Shannon Local Area Plan 2010-2016 as circulated to the Members appears as **Appendix 3** to the Minutes of this Meeting in the Minute Book.

Councillor Gerard Reynolds outlined that he had understood that this matter was to be considered at the May Council meeting. Ms. Jackie Maguire, County Manager confirmed that the original correspondence had indicated that the matter would be listed for consideration at the May Council meeting. She confirmed that the matter could be deferred for consideration to the May meeting.

Following discussion it was agreed that this matter be deferred for consideration at the May Council meeting.

10/183

12/4/10 Litter Management Plan 2008-2010

Report dated 6th April 2010 from Martin Dolan, Director of Services, Planning, Environment and Emergency Services in accordance with Section 10(3) of the Litter Pollution Act 1997 on the implementation of the County Leitrim Litter Management Plan 2008-2010 for the year 2009 as circulated to the members appears as **Appendix 4** to the minutes of this meeting in the Minute Book.

Councillor Enda McGloin raised the issue of CCTV monitoring of Bring Banks by a private company on behalf of Leitrim County Council. He cited instances of genuine people being fined for leaving the cardboard box behind them having gone to the effort of properly disposing of their recyclable material, or leaving bottles at a Bring Bank where the Bank was too full. He suggested that there was a danger that such a private company would be over-zealous in relation to such instances where people were genuinely making the effort. He stated that the real litter problem is out in the wider community and particularly along our roadsides and people at Bring Banks should not be targeted.

This was supported by a number of the members. Councillor Siobhán McGloin suggested that the CCTV cameras were introduced quite covertly and there should be signage in place warning the public. Councillor Colreavy suggested that the collection schedule at our Bring Banks be reviewed to ensure that a situation didn't arise whereby the Bring Banks were full to overflowing, preventing people from depositing their recyclable material.

Councillor Gerard Reynolds suggested that a receptacle should be made available at Bring Banks for bags/boxes.

Councillor Bohan stated that it needs to be highlighted that people cannot leave bags or boxes behind at the Bring Bank Centre. She outlined that there is also an ongoing issue in relation to household refuse being dumped in street bins in our towns and villages. She stated that an exercise should be undertaken to establish how households are disposing of their household waste and appropriate action should be taken where a household is not availing of the Waste Collection Service. She stated that the message must go out loud and clear that littering is simply not acceptable.

Councillor Stenson stated that the focus must be on addressing road-site littering which has become a very significant problem. This was supported by all the members. Councillor Sinead Guckian stated that the legal system needs to be much stronger and offenders should be required to do community service picking up litter.

Councillor Francis Gilmartin queried whether a FÁS Scheme could be put in place specifically to deal with roadside litter. Councillor John McTernan raised the issue of littering in the car park at Parkes Castle and asked that this be addressed. He queried whether this is a matter for the Council or the OPW.

Mr. Martin Dolan, Director of Services, Planning, Environment and Emergency Services stated that there is no doubt that the litter problem has increased notwithstanding significant investment and activities in relation to environmental awareness. He stated that roadside littering is a huge national problem. He outlined that the provision of CCTV cameras at Bring Banks and other locations had been announced at a Council meeting and signage is erected in relation to CCTV in operation. He outlined that traditionally there has been a significant level of littering at Bring Banks and this must be addressed. He outlined that he did not think that a FÁS Scheme would be an option but outlined that the Council would welcome further Adopt a Road initiatives. He acknowledged the significant level of voluntary work undertaken by such groups across the County. He outlined that a survey had been undertaken in September 2009 in relation to how households were disposing of their refuse and 84% of households surveyed were availing of the Waste Collection Service.

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

“That the report in accordance with Section 10(3) of the Litter Pollution Act 1997 on the implementation of the County Leitrim Litter Management Plan 2008-2010 for the year 2009 be approved”.

10/184

12/4/10 Community & Voluntary Sector Grants Scheme

Reports dated 12th April 2010 from the Administrative Officer, Community, Cultural and Enterprise Development in relation to the Community & Voluntary Sector Grants Scheme 2010 - Category A – Community Infrastructure/development initiatives and Category B – Community based events/activities - as circulated to the members appear as **Appendix 5 and Appendix 6** respectively to the Minutes of this meeting in the Minute Book.

Proposed by Councillor Tony Ferguson, seconded by Councillor Sinead Guckian AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED;

“That the proposals in relation to the allocation of grants under the Community & Voluntary Sector Grants Scheme 2010 be approved”.

10/185

12/4/10 Arts Act Grants 2010

Report dated 12th April 2010 from Caoimhin Corrigan, Arts Officer in relation to the 2010 Arts Act Grant Scheme as circulated to the members appears as **Appendix 7** to the Minutes of this meeting in the Minute Book.

Councillor Enda Stenson acknowledged the significant contribution from the Council towards the Connaught Fleadh which is being hosted in 2010 in Mohill. This was supported by all the Members.

Proposed by Councillor Sean McGowan, seconded by Councillor Sinéad Guckian AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED;

“That proposals for the allocation of grants under the 2010 Arts Act Grant Scheme be approved.”

10/186

12/4/10 Report from the Corporate Policy Group

Ms. Aideen McGovern, Meetings Administrator advised that the meeting of the Corporate Policy Group scheduled to take place prior to the Council meeting had not proceeded due to the unavailability of members.

10/187

12/4/10 Meeting Correspondence

1. Acknowledgement dated 25th February 2010 from the Office of the Minister for Social and Family Affairs in relation to the publication of the National Carer's Strategy.
2. Acknowledgement dated 26th February 2010 from the Office of the Minister, Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government in relation to the Work to rule by Public Servants and Out-of-Hours Meetings.
3. Letter dated 3rd March 2010 from Paschal Mooney in relation to the unanimous vote of congratulations from Leitrim County Council on his election to Seanad Eireann.
4. Letter dated 4th March 2010 from the Border Regional Authority in relation to the draft Regional Planning Guidelines for the Border Region 2010-2022.
5. Letter dated 11th March 2010 from the Irish Peatland Conservation Council in relation to the cessation of turf cutting of raised bogs in Leitrim.

Councillor Martin Kenny noted that no bogs in Leitrim are to be affected until 2014. He stated that pressure should be exerted now before this cessation comes into effect. Councillor Sean McGowan requested that a map be made available showing the location of the 3 bogs in Leitrim to be affected from 2014. He also queried if there is any mechanism of appeal in relation to this matter.

6. Letter dated 23rd March 2010 from the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government in connection with the licensing and inspection of septic tanks and other on-site wastewater treatment systems.

Councillor Enda McGloin proposed that a further letter issue to the Minister requesting that Councillors be included in the consultation process proposed in this regard. This was seconded by Councillor Sean McGowan.

7. Copy of submission from the Local Authority Members Association to the Local Government Efficiency Review Group 2010.

Councillor Michael Colreavy suggested that the submission should be amended to include that the integrity of county boundaries must be respected. Councillor Enda McGloin advised that this message had been clearly relayed to Pat McLoughlin, Chair of the Review Group at a recent meeting with them in the Custom House.

8. Copy of submission from the Local Authority Members Association sent to the Joint Oireachtas Committee on the Environment, Heritage and Local Government on the Planning and Development (Amendment) Bill 2009.
9. Circular letter HGS 2 2010 dated 5th March 2010 from the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government in relation to the 2010 Capital Allocations for Disabled Persons and Essential Repairs Grant Schemes and Housing Adaptation Grant Schemes for Older People and People with a Disability.

Councillor Martin Kenny welcomed the allocation for Housing Grants and queried if this level of allocation would allow us to meet our commitments under the Housing Grant Schemes. Ms. Mary Quinn, Director of Services, Housing & Corporate Services advised that the Council is limited by the level of available own-resources which will allow us to pay grants to a value of approximately €1.1 - €1.3m in 2010. She advised that the position in this regard would be kept under review. Councillor Kenny queried if there was a possibility of borrowing to meet the shortfall in this regard. Ms. Katrina Murphy, Head of Finance advised that the Council is precluded from borrowing to fund Housing Grants.

Councillor Mary Bohan also welcomed the allocation in this regard.

10. Circular Letter SHIP 2010 08 dated 8th April 2010 in relation to the Social Housing Investment Programme Allocations for 2010.

The following matter was also raised under Meeting Correspondence;

Bike Week 2010:

Councillor Enda Stenson suggested, as a member of the Local Sports Partnership, that the Members and the Executive of Leitrim County Council should consider taking part in a special event to mark National Bike Week on Saturday 19th June 2010. This was agreed by the Members.

10/188

12/4/10 Conferences

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

That Leitrim County Council approves of the following

- Attendance of Cllr Francis Gilmartin at the Kerry Environmental Conference in Tralee on the 4th to 7th March 2010.
- Attendance of Cllr Sean McDermott at the ICBAN meeting held on the 20th January 2010 in the Courthouse, Cavan.
- Attendance of Cllr Thomas at the Leitrim Association Dinner Dance in London on the 27th February 2010 and at the St. Patrick's Day Celebrations in New York in March 2010.
- Attendance of Councillor Enda Stenson at the Inclusion Ireland Conference on the 23rd to 24th April 2010 in Killarney.
- Attendance of Councillor John McTernan at the Local Government Housing Service Seminar on the 18th to 20th March 2010 in Killarney.
- Attendance of Councillor John McCartin, Councillor John Ward and Councillor Gordon Hughes on the 19th to 21st March 2010 at the Conference for Councillors; Better Communications means better results in Killarney, Co Kerry.

Proposed by Councillor Francis Gilmartin, seconded by Councillor Caillian Ellis AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED;

“That Leitrim County Council approves the attendance of Councillor Francis Gilmartin at the Conference on Rattoo Heritage Society on the 4th to 7th March 2010 in the Manor West Hotel, Tralee, Co Kerry”.

Proposed by Councillor John McTernan, seconded by Councillor Gordon Hughes AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED;

“That Leitrim County Council approves the attendance of Councillor Gordon Hughes and Councillor John McCartin at the Conference on Better Communications on the 19th to 21st March 2010 in Killarney, Co Kerry”.

Proposed by Councillor Sean McGowan, seconded by Councillor Mary Bohan AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED;

“That Leitrim County Council approves the attendance of Councillor Sean McGowan at the conference on the 1916 Rebellion – The National Revival its Beginnings and Construction on the 24th April 2010 in Riverside Park Hotel, Enniscorthy, Co Wexford.”

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

“That Leitrim County Council approves the attendance of Councillor Frank Dolan at the Seminar on Promoting Growth and Jobs in Ireland’s Regions in the Cavan Crystal Hotel, Cavan on the 16th April 2010. ”

Proposed by Councillor Tony Ferguson, seconded by Councillor Gerry Kilrane AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED;

“That Leitrim County Council approves the attendance of Councillor Mary Bohan, Councillor Caillian Ellis, Councillor Francis Gilmartin and Councillor Enda Stenson at the Seminar on Promoting Growth and Jobs in Ireland’s Regions in the Malton Hotel, Killarney on the 23rd and 24th April 2010. ”

Proposed by Councillor Gordon Hughes, seconded by Councillor Enda McGloin AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED;

“That Leitrim County Council approves the attendance of Councillor Enda McGloin at the LAMA Spring Conference on the 8th and 9th April 2010 in Sligo. ”

Part 1 – Notices of Motions

10/189

12/4/10

Mobile Phone Masts

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

"I call on this Council to allow the Doctors Alliance to be allowed the time to give a presentation to this Council on the effects of mobile phone masts and that it would

allow a number of persons from Aughacashel, Drumkeerin and Keshcarrigan to attend the presentation."

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

"That Leitrim County Council allow the Doctors Alliance to be allowed the time to give a presentation to this Council on the effects of mobile phone masts and that it would allow a number of persons from Aughacashel, Drumkeerin and Keshcarrigan to attend the presentation."

Councillor Gerard Reynolds outlined that this issue had been given very detailed consideration a number of years ago and amendments had been incorporated into the County Development Plan at that time. He suggested that both sides of the argument need to be heard and he proposed that a deputation be received from each side at the same meeting. Councillor Gilmartin stated that the motion had been proposed and seconded and it was a matter for members if they wished to bring a Notice of Motion to the next Council meeting in relation to receiving a deputation from the other side.

Ms. Aideen McGovern, Meetings Administrator clarified the provisions as per the Standing Orders in relation to the procedures for deputations and it was acknowledged that there would be no discussion of the issue following the presentation.

10/190

12/4/10

Personalised Number Plates

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

"The rapid turn over of new cars in this country has an adverse effect on our trade balance. VRT contributes to high living costs and uncompetitiveness. We can counteract this by issuing personalised number plates allowing people to hide the registration year of their car and providing income for councils. I propose a once off payment for a transferable plate with a small annual fee. This will:

1. Stop wasteful expenditure on new cars,
2. Curb import figures,
3. Curb the environmental impact of building new cars.
4. Take work from foreign auto manufacturers and give work to local mechanics."

Report by Head of Finance, Finance

"In 1992 the numbering format for the registration of vehicles was changed in Ireland. The format for all vehicles is YEAR-COUNTY-SEQUENCE NUMBER. This is the only format available. Preferred numbers within this format can be booked from November of the year prior to registration for a fee of €1,000. Personalised number plates in the form available in other jurisdictions are not available in Ireland."

Councillor McCartin outlined that he was dissatisfied with the response which he stated had missed the crux of his motion. He stated that the motion relates to investigating the possibility of allowing all Council's to use personalised number plates which could represent a significant income source for local authorities.

Councillor Sinead Guckian outlined that this issue had been raised previously in circa 1999/2000. She outlined that the system which operates in the UK has generated a substantial private industry. She outlined that the advice was that the Gardai are in favour of the simple formula currently in place. She advised that there also appears to be an issue in relation to what would be permitted. She outlined however that she supported the motion.

Councillor Gerry Kilrane stated that it is an interesting motion. He outlined that his personal view is that personalised number plates are elitist but stated that the option should be explored if it represents a potential source of income.

Councillor Martin Kenny outlined that he supported the motion in some aspects – he outlined that he considered that there should be changes to remove the year of the car but that the county identity should be retained. He stated that there are a range of pitfalls in relation to personalised number plates and he outlined that while he was in favour of the concept he couldn't support the motion in its current format.

Ms. Katrina Murphy, Head of Finance outlined that the current system is the only format legally permitted and that local authorities have no remit in determining the format of number plates.

It was agreed that the matter would be referred to the Department of Transport for consideration.

Proposed by Councillor John McCartin, seconded by Councillor Gerard Reynolds AND RESOLVED;

"That Leitrim County Council request the Department of Transport to consider the following: The rapid turn over of new cars in this country has an adverse effect on our trade balance. VRT contributes to high living costs and uncompetitiveness. We can counteract this by issuing personalised number plates allowing people to hide the registration year of their car and providing income for councils. It is proposed that consideration be given to a once off payment for a transferable plate with a small annual fee. This will:

1. Stop wasteful expenditure on new cars,
2. Curb import figures,
3. Curb the environmental impact of building new cars.
4. Take work from foreign auto manufacturers and give work to local mechanics."

**10/191
12/4/10**

Water Charging of National Schools

The Cathaoirleach, Councillor Thomas Mulligan outlined that as Motion No's 14, 17 and 24 all relate to the issue of Water Charging of National Schools it is proposed to take these items together. This was agreed by the Members.

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

"I will ask the County Manager to put into practice a system of water charging of National Schools whereby schools are only billed for the current year. As school budgets are very tight and they do not have the ability to pay for years retrospectively, it is essential that billing is done within this framework. Many of the

parents of children attending schools already pay water charges and I believe that a system similar to domestic allowances of 50,000 gallons should be granted to schools."

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

"I understand Leitrim County Council have recently issued water charges to St Clares N.S., Manorhamilton (and possibly other primary schools) in respect of years 2008 and 2009. I further understand the school was not notified of the 2008 charges during 2008 or 2009, and paid any Council bills issued during these years. It is unfair that schools or any community organisations should be billed at this stage for charges allegedly arising during 2008. I propose that the Council write off any alleged water charges relating to 2008 on schools or other community organisations which were not billed during 2008 or 2009."

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

"At the April meeting of Leitrim County Council I will ask the Finance Department why National Schools in the county received bills for water charges back dating to 2008. This will put a serious financial strain on many schools who only budget on a year to year basis."

Report by Head of Finance, Finance

"In 2007 the then Minister for Education announced that transitional arrangements for charging all schools had been agreed between the Dept of Education and the Dept of the Environment. These transitional arrangements were for the years 2007, 2008 and 2009. Schools would be required to pay for the full cost of water used from 2010 onwards. The transitional arrangements involved charging the schools the lower of (a) actual consumption in the year or, (b) a fixed rate per pupil of €3 (2007) €3.5 (2008) €4 (2009).

The Minister for Education made the announcement in 2007 and advised all schools. A further extensive communication issued by the Dept of Education (Circular 0046/2008) to all schools in April 08 advising them on measures to put in place to conserve water in anticipation of full water charging in 2010. Leitrim County Council also issued a booklet to all schools dealing with water consumption and the need for Water conservation.

In October 2009 Circular 0064/2009 was issued by the Department of Education to all schools advising them of the need to conserve water and the possibility of grant assistance for implementing conservation measures.

While it is regretful that the 2008 bills were only issued in 2010 the water invoices will remain due. I appreciate that schools budgets are on a yearly basis and Leitrim County Council are happy to agree payment plans with schools to overcome any cash flow problems"

Councillor Tony Ferguson outlined that this issue is causing concern to National Schools in particular. He outlined that schools had been billed for a number of years

retrospectively – he stated that schools are operating on very tight budgets and are not in a position to meet these large retrospective bills. He requested that the matter be reviewed again with a view to waiving as much as possible from the retrospective bills.

Councillor Colreavy acknowledged the response received but outlined that he considered that it is unfair to bill schools in 2010 for water charges relating to 2008. He outlined that he believed, notwithstanding the financial implications for the Council, that the retrospective bills should be written off.

Councillor Frank Dolan outlined that it is most unfortunate that schools are only now being billed for water charges in respect of 2008 and 2009. He stated that schools don't have the money to pay these bills in their current budget which would be based on current year costs and he asked that consideration be given to waiving the historical charges.

Ms. Katrina Murphy, Head of Finance acknowledged that the bills were late in issuing. She outlined that the issue of water charges for schools had been the subject of transitional arrangements as outlined clearly by the Department to schools. She advised that there had been significant correspondence between the Department of Education and Schools in this regard and in relation to water conservation and gearing up for full metered billing in 2010. She outlined that in most instances actual consumption is significantly higher than the charge imposed. She stated that the Council is not in a position to write off the charges but that arrangements will be facilitated in relation to payments spread over a period of time.

The Cathaoirleach, Councillor Thomas Mulligan excused himself from the meeting at this point and the Leas Cathaoirleach, Councillor Enda McGloin took over the Chair for the rest of the meeting.

10/192

12/4/10 Traffic System on Main Street, Carrick-on-Shannon

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

"I ask the Director of Services, Infrastructure if he will agree to the reversion of the traffic system on the Main Street in Carrick on Shannon, which has been requested by the Chamber of Commerce."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"The matter of the direction of the flow of traffic in Carrick on Shannon was fully considered by the Transportation SPC in March 2009 and the issue was also the subject of a notice of motion last year. There was also a meeting with the Chamber of Commerce in the last month where the matter was discussed at length. A detailed traffic study was carried out into traffic movements within the town and around the town including through traffic on the National Primary. Revised traffic figures obtained recently in connection with the Carrick on Shannon Bypass were also reviewed and while the overall traffic volumes are down (which is to be expected given the down turn in the economy) the traffic pattern is similar.

The conclusions from this study are very clear, the reversal of the traffic flow in

Carrick on Shannon would have a serious adverse effect on traffic flows in Carrick on Shannon which would have a detrimental effect on the business life of the town as well as the quality of life for the people of the town.

The above conclusion is based on the following adverse effects if the traffic flow was reversed:

1. 10 times more cars would need to turn right from the Bypass on to Bridge street resulting in traffic backing up on the N4 Western approach.
2. 5 times more cars would need to turn right onto the N4 Bypass from the Old Dublin Road which would conflict with traffic on the N4 and will cause traffic to back up on the Eastern approach.
3. There would be major difficulties for HGV's exiting the town from Main Street onto the R280 even after removing the parking in front of Prior's shop (some thing which would be detrimental to business on the street).

Following the notice of motion last year, certain improvements were made to Coffey's corner and road marking including rumble strips which have improved the flow of traffic but the situation will of course remain unsatisfactory until such time as the Carrick on Shannon Bypass is built.

The present direction of traffic flow is the best and only viable option until such time as the Bypass is constructed, when this happens obviously the issue can be revisited."

Councillor Gerard Reynolds outlined that this matter has been raised by the Chamber of Commerce on a number of occasions. He outlined that traffic flow had been considered to be better during the temporary reversal during the recent flooding. He noted that there had been a recent meeting with the Chamber and the findings of the study had been discussed. He suggested however that a temporary reversal should be tried on a trial basis from May to September and queried what costs would be involved in this regard. He also queried when the study referred to in the response was carried out. He also noted that the traffic Lights on the By-Pass pedestrian crossing have been removed and queried the rationale behind this. Finally he also queried when the Footbridge over the Shannon would be opened to the public.

Mr. John McGuinness, Director of Services, Infrastructure outlined that the Traffic Survey was carried out by consultants and vetted by Council staff. He advised that it is quite clear that the current traffic flow is the best option currently. He accepted that there are issues arising but outlined that this will be the case pending the provision of the Carrick on Shannon By-Pass. He outlined that the reversed traffic flow during the flooding period had worked as there were no traffic movements at that time, due to road closures, at the Leitrim Road or Park Lane junctions. In relation to the pedestrian crossing traffic lights he outlined that these had not been operational for some time. He advised that they had been removed as the traffic calming and traffic island was proving adequate to allow safe pedestrian crossing and the lights were no longer deemed necessary and were causing disruption to traffic flow. He outlined that it is hoped that the Footbridge will be open for the May Bank Holiday weekend.

Councillor Sean McGowan queried what would happen in relation to the existing footpaths on the Bridge over the Shannon. Mr. McGuinness advised that these will be retained as a running-board for the bridge and to retain services but not for pedestrian access.

Councillor Stenson queried if there had been any discussions in relation to improving

the Leitrim Road junction. Councillor Reynolds asked if traffic lights could be considered at this junction. Mr. McGuinness confirmed that this junction is being looked at and there are a number of suggestions to consider and the possibility of traffic lights could be looked at.

Ms. Jackie Maguire, County Manager confirmed that the Chamber of Commerce were reasonably satisfied with the position in relation to the reversal of the traffic flow through the town.

10/193

12/4/10 Traffic Calming measures and road markings on the N4 (East)

To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Sinead Guckian;

"At the April meeting of Leitrim County Council I wish to ask the Director of Services, Infrastructure, to re-examine the traffic calming measures and road markings in place on the N4 (east) of Carrick on Shannon, with a view to solving road safety concerns both at the Attirory Junction and the Roundabout at the main entrance to the town. Residents entering and exiting Attirory have raised serious concerns with regard to the right-hand turning bay, opposite the Attirory junction. Drivers (from the east) are misinterpreting the right hand turning bay (for Attirory traffic coming from the west) as a turning bay for entering the filling station. This has caused a number of near misses. Also, drivers (travelling from the east) approaching the roundabout at the entrance to the town are not given enough advance notice that the right hand lane is to be used by vehicles that wish to enter the town. When three or more cars are already queuing for the roundabout the road markings advising of the appropriate lane usage cannot be seen by approaching traffic. These items need to be addressed as a matter of urgency"

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"Leitrim County Council will take up these matters with the Safety Inspector of the NRA and will revert with the outcomes to the Councillor."

Councillor Guckian noted that the matter would be taken up with the NRA Safety Inspector. She stated that the safety issue at the Attirory junction is evident on a daily basis with people misjudging the road markings and alignment at this location. She outlined that there is a particular problem at weekends in relation to the roundabout at the main entrance to the town. She stated that this issue can be addressed quite simply and asked that the matters be taken up with the Safety Inspector immediately.

10/194

12/4/10 Fire Station, Ballinamore

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

"I ask the Director of Services, Planning, Environment & Emergency Services what is the up-to-date position regarding the provision of a new fire station for Ballinamore. It has been brought to my attention that the present building poses a potential health and safety risk as the roof is in urgent need of repair and is leaking throughout while the retaining wall at the rear of the premises also shows sign of dampness. This

matter urgently needs to be addressed as a new facility for this location has been promised for a significant period of time."

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

"The Council has submitted to the Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government, a Capital Appraisal for the provision of a new Fire Station at Ballinamore. This appraisal involved a detailed analysis of the fire service structure within the county and an outline of the need for a station in Ballinamore. It outlined in detail the condition of the existing Fire Station and a critical analysis the appropriate actions such as renovation of the existing station or its replacement by a new one. It recommended the demolition of the existing station and the construction of a replacement station on the existing site. The estimated cost is €0.99m which includes the acquisition of additional land to enable the provision on site of a station of sufficient need to meet present and future requirements. The submission seeks the approval of the Department to give approval in principle to enable the Council to prepare go to design stage, seek and obtain planning approval and to complete land acquisition."

Councillor Gordon Hughes welcomed that an application has been submitted and queried whether approval had also been sought to proceed to construction. He also queried when this application was submitted, whether the current conditions were highlighted and what the expected timeframe for the project would be.

Mr. Martin Dolan, Director of Services, Planning, Environment & Emergency Services outlined that the process involves a number of stages. He advised that the project is currently at the 2nd stage. He outlined that the original application was submitted some 12 months ago and the Capital Appraisal was submitted in March 2010. He outlined that the Council cannot at this stage seek approval to proceed to construction. He advised that there is no indicative time frame for the project and this is dependant on the response from the Department.

Councillor Paddy O'Rourke supported the motion.

10/195

12/4/10

Resurfacing and footpaths in Cloone

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

"I propose that Leitrim County Council resurface the street in Cloone Village and also surface the footpath that remains unfinished as the E.S.B. have now completed their works."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"The work on the under grounding of the public lighting in Cloone is not yet complete and there is a real possibility of major refurbishment work to be carried out on the water main in the village this year consequently final resurfacing will not be carried out until all of this work is carried out. In the mean time temporary restoration will be carried out."

Councillor O'Rourke moved the motion on behalf of Councillor Ellis who had to leave the meeting early.

10/196
12/4/10

BreastCheck

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

"At the April meeting of Leitrim County Council I will propose that Leitrim County Council write to Minister for Health and Children, Mary Harney TD and Mr Tony O'Brien CEO National Cancer Screening Service asking them to amend the age range for women entitled to BreastCheck to include all women from 40 to 64."

Councillor Siobhán McGloin outlined the background to her motion and stated that early detection is absolutely critical. 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 Minister for Health and Children, Mary Harney TD and Mr Tony O'Brien CEO National Cancer Screening Service asking them to amend the age range for women entitled to BreastCheck to include all women from 40 to 64."

10/197
12/4/10

Flooding

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

"I call on Leitrim County Council to report on the flooding at Leitrim Village last November to entail what action can be taken to prevent or safeguard against such an occurrence again, including the provision of flooding defences at the river Shannon and to consider an emergency plan in the event of a re-occurrence. Finally if this Council could provide for it's members a response from the ESB in relation to it's role in water levels within this region and the relevance if any to this recent severe flooding."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"The pre Christmas flooding were the highest ever recorded flood levels on the upper Shannon and as such were an extraordinary event which could represent a one in two hundred year storm. None the less the effect of the floods were devastating and particularly so in Leitrim Village.

Leitrim County Council worked very closely with the community to attempt to minimise the effect of the flooding. Leitrim County Council supplied thousands of sand bags as well as man power through out the event. The Major Emergency Plan protocols were activated during the flooding. Leitrim Village is located at the junction of the Shannon Eirne Waterway and the River Shannon and no doubt this compounded and complicated the flooding event. The Office of Public Works is the lead agency for Flood Risk Management in Ireland and following discussions with them Leitrim Council have been informed that they are about to appoint consultants to prepare " Catchment Flood Risk Assessment and Management Study" (CFRAMS) for the River Shannon. This study will take 18 months to two years to

produce. All of the conflicting stakeholders will be consulted in the preparation of this study.

The study will investigate the causes of the flooding, possible remedial actions, flood defences, future planning policy etc. While OPW have some funding available to address certain flooding issues they have informed Leitrim County Council that they are reluctant to approve any funding in advance of the Study given the complexity of the issues involved. In relation to the role of the ESB during the event, it has to be acknowledged that when contacted by Leitrim County Council they did in fact raise the level of the sluice gates at Lough Allen by 90mm in an attempt to contain more water in Lough Allen.

The ESB have assured us that at no time did they release any additional water from Lough Allen during this flood event. Leitrim County Council engineers had a meeting on site with a senior engineer from the ESB who explained the technical reason why more water could not be retained in Lough Allen because of safety issues to do with the embankments. The storage capacity of Lough Allen must be a significant part of any CFRAM Study. The ESB have also confirmed that they have no "Strategic Interest" in storing water in Lough Allen, if this is the case then the operating protocols at Lough Allen need to be reviewed. The CFRAM Study will need to investigate whether level at Lough Allen could be reduced going into the winter to leave storage capacity for winter rains. The CFRAM Study would also need to look at the role of Water Ways Ireland and the levels they require for navigation and whether these level should be all year round or just summer levels(given the very low cruiser usage in winter time). The question of a single authority for the Shannon must also be addressed because of the vastly conflicting interest of the various stakeholders, property owners, farmers, Water Ways Ireland, Local Authorities, ESB, OPW ,Angling etc"

Councillor Enda McGloin acknowledged with thanks the comprehensive response received and welcomed much of the progress outlined.

Councillor Francis Gilmartin queried whether the meeting which had been proposed with the various stakeholders had taken place and what the outcome of this meeting was. He also queried whether the meeting with the Joint Oireachtas Committee on the Environment had been useful and whether the bodies which had been present at the original meeting had also been present at this meeting.

Mr. John McGuinness, Director of Services, Infrastructure confirmed that a meeting had taken place approximately 2 weeks ago with Waterways Ireland and the OPW. He outlined however that the ESB were not in a position to attend. He outlined that the OPW have been nominated as the lead agency for flood risk management and that they will be appointing consultants in the next 2 months to carry out a study of the Shannon River catchment. He outlined that while the OPW has some money available for flood relief they are reluctant to release funding for the Shannon region pending the outcomes of this study. He outlined however that they are prepared to entertain applications for normal flood relief. He outlined that the study proposed will take into account the views of all the stakeholders and will look at all aspects including the conflicting interests of the various bodies. He outlined that the ESB operating protocols in relation to Lough Allen haven't changed even though they no longer have a strategic interest in the lake. He outlined however that there are issues in relation to the embankments.

In relation to the meeting with the Joint Oireachtas Committee on the Environment, Mr. McGuinness advised that the committee had appeared very well advised and up to date in relation to the flooding situation. He advised that the other stakeholders had presented to the Committee separately to the local authorities at the original meeting.

Councillor John McCartin welcomed the appointment of the OPW as lead agency. He outlined his disappointment however that they have decided not to commence the assessment until Quarter 3 of 2010.

Councillor Mary Bohan also welcomed the appointment of a single agency to take responsibility for flood risk management and expressed the hope that the study to be undertaken would be completed promptly. She expressed her disappointment that the ESB had not attended the recent meeting as they were an integral part of the flooding issue in Leitrim. This was supported by Councillor Sean McGowan.

Councillor Enda McGloin requested that a copy of the reply to his motion be issued to all Members. This was supported by the members.

10/198

12/4/10 **Moher Cregg, Drumshanbo Road**

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

"I call on the Director of Services, Infrastructure to have the Moher Cregg, Drumshanbo road included as a public road, in past Jim McCormacks."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"Given the length of public roads already in the charge of Leitrim County Council and the grossly inadequate funding available to maintain this network, it has to be strongly recommended that no further roads be taken in charge in the present climate."

Councillor Gerry Dolan outlined that this road had recently been resurfaced. He outlined that potential purchasers of houses along this road are anxious that the road would be a public road. He advised that the road would be maintenance free.

Councillor Francis Gilmartin supported the motion.

Mr. John McGuinness, Director of Services, Infrastructure outlined that it has to be recommended that no further roads be taken in charge in the current climate. Councillor Dolan requested that this matter be considered further.

10/199

12/4/2010 **EPA Code of Practice**

The Leas Cathaoirleach, Councillor Enda McGloin outlined that as Motion No's 23, 25, 26 and 30(a) all relate to the issue of the EPA Code of Practice it is proposed to take these items together. This was agreed by the Members.

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

"We the members of Leitrim County Council direct the Executive of this Local Authority to continue with the system previously in place prior to the EPA Guidelines of January 8th 2010 until such time as a suitable arrangement can be put in place between the EPA and the environmental section of this Council considering the extreme ground conditions which County Leitrim has over the vast majority of its land."

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

"The EPA is authorised under Section 76 of the Environmental Protection Agency Act 1992 to prepare and publish codes of practice relating to environmental matters. Furthermore, Section 77 of the aforementioned Act provides that such code of practice "shall be received in evidence without further proof". This means that this Code of Practice is a code that is required to be implemented. This is further reinforced by the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government Circular PSSP 1/10 of 5th January 2010 which stipulates that the terms of the Code of Practice are to be applied to all planning applications received on or after 8th January 2010. The circular outlines that the Code of Practice was formulated as a consequence of an ECJ Judgement against Ireland for its failure to adopt the necessary legislation in relation to the adequate disposal of wastewaters from treatment systems. It should also be borne in mind that the Leitrim County Development Plan 2009-2015 states that the Council requires effluent treatment systems to be designed and constructed in accordance with the EPA waste water manual "Treatment Systems for Single Houses" or as updated and amended. The new Code of Practice replaces and amends the aforementioned document. It must also be realised that failure to implement the terms of the Code of Practice would be contrary to National directives and it would be contrary to the Council's County Development Plan and would therefore be unlawful and furthermore, it is quite certain that all appeals of such decisions to An Bord Pleanála would be successful. It is therefore advised that the making of such a direction to continue with the previous method of assessing planning applications would be likely to have serious implications for the Council. In this instance the Notice of Motion cannot be complied with."

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

"At the April Council Meeting I will ask the Director of Services, Planning, Environment and Emergency Services in regard to the recent Code of Practice coming from the E.P.A for single houses in unsewered rural areas, if site size were to be increased to provide more room so that a treatment system can be designed to take account of the soil we have in Leitrim. Also would the Director of Services consider granting a water pollution discharge licence for single dwellings."

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

"There is acute awareness of the difficulties that the new EPA Code of Practice will give rise to in relation to the development of single houses in Co. Leitrim. There is currently no provision in the Code of Practice to enable site sizes to be extended to provide more space for treatment systems such as reed beds and willow beds. It has been brought to our attention that research work is ongoing by Trinity College, Dublin on behalf of the EPA on soils with a T value of in excess of 90.. This is only at an early stage and it is unknown as to when the outcomes of this research will be available. It would appear that even if research work on such soils were to prove successful, that benefits might be minimal to Leitrim as it is likely that very substantial sites would be required, bearing in mind average field sizes, topography etc. Also,

such systems would require considerable willow maintenance, water conservation/re-use and recycling within the household itself."

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

"I ask the Director of Services, Planning, Environment & Emergency Services what is the position regarding the Guidelines/Code of Practice for the granting of planning permission for a rural dwelling, and where ground conditions are not suitable to pass the relevant tests, will we look at the possibility of harvesting and treating water for use other than drinking or cooking."

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

"The EPA Code of Practice relates to wastewater treatment and disposal systems for single houses. It was prepared by the EPA under Section 76 of the Environmental Protection Agency Act 1992. Section 77 of the aforementioned Act provides that such codes of practice "shall be received without further proof". This means that that it is required to be implemented. The Code of Practice was published and issued in late 2009. Circular PSSP 1/10 of 5th January 2010 from the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government confirmed that the terms of the Code of Practice be applied to all planning applications received on or after 8th January 2010 (if planning authorities were not already doing so). The Circular outlined that the need to introduce the new Code of Practice was as a consequence of the ECJ Judgement against Ireland for its failure to adopt the necessary legislation re the adequate disposal of wastewaters from treatment systems. The Leitrim County Development Plan 2009-2015 states that the Council requires effluent treatment systems to be designed and constructed in accordance with the EPA waste water manual "Treatment Systems for Single Houses "or as updated or amended. The new COP updates and amends (replaces) that document and it must therefore be implemented.. The COP is clear that no "improvement works" are acceptable in situations where T Tests give results of in excess of 90. Research is ongoing by TCD on behalf of the EPA but it is not known when any definitive results will emerge. There is no provision in the COP to allow the Planning Authority look at the possibility of harvesting and treating water for use other than drinking or cooking. This would have to be a separate process and its undertaking would not impact in any way on the implementation of the new COP."

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

"I propose that Leitrim County Council call on the Minister for the Environment, Mr John Gormley, T.D to withdraw circular letter PSSP/1/10 RE:- implementation of new EPA code of practice on wastewater treatment and disposal systems serving single houses and that we the members of Leitrim County Council direct the executive to continue with the system in place prior to the circular of January 5th until suitable measures such as reed and willow beds or other alternative engineering solutions are put in place as proposed by the Environmental Section of this Council. This is essential for the future of our people and our county because of soil type in this County."

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

"The Council is obliged to implement the EPA Code of Practice for Wastewater Treatment and Disposal Systems Serving Single Houses as the EPA is entitled to introduce such codes of practice in accordance with Section 76 of the Environmental

Protection Agency Act 1992. Furthermore, when introduced, they are required to be implemented as per Section 77 of the aforementioned Act. The Council's County Development Plan (Section 3.02.06.) that "the Council requires effluent treatment systems to be designed and constructed in accordance with the EPA Waste Water Treatment Manual, Treatment Systems for Single Houses (or as updated or amended)". This new Code of Practice replaces the previous one and we are thereby required to act in accordance with it as per the County Development Plan. Furthermore, any decisions that would be made otherwise than in accordance with it are likely to be appealed to An Bord Pleanála and there is no doubt that the Council's decisions would be overturned. Alternative systems are currently being researched by TCD on behalf of the EPA in soils that have T Tests of greater than 90, but it is unknown when results of such research will be available or if indeed it will result in any changes to the Code of Practice. In the meantime the Council is NOT in a position to operate otherwise than in accordance with the Code of Practice and as per the directions contained in Circular PSSP 1/10."

Councillor John McTernan stated that the new Code of Practice represents effectively a blanket-ban on rural housing in County Leitrim. He stated that provisions that had been in place – reed beds and willow beds etc - represented an appropriate solution. He outlined that he is currently dealing with 5 young local families proposing to build in their local area. He stated that the current situation cannot be allowed to continue and the Minister must make the necessary changes.

This was seconded by Councillor Francis Gilmartin. He stated that the elected members of Leitrim County Council are best placed to decide what is in the best interests of the electorate and suggested that Section 4's may have to be deployed by Members in relation to individual planning applications.

Councillor Sean McDermott referred to the Circular Letter from the Minister in this regard and queried whether planning permissions have been refused on foot of this Directive to date. He queried whether larger sites or discharge licences would be an option to be considered. He stated that people feel that there is a hidden agenda and that the countryside is effectively paying the price for over-development in the towns and villages. He called on the members to raise the issue with the Minister.

Councillor Enda Stenson supported all that had been said. He stated that this is the most important issue to come before the Council and effectively represents the closing down of rural Ireland. He outlined that nowhere in the country is as badly affected as Leitrim by this Directive and possible solutions are not being investigated because of an agenda by the Minister. He stated that the only way that this Code of Practice can be changed is politically and he called on the Fianna Fáil members to intervene.

Councillor Mary Bohan outlined that this is a highly emotive issue and a solution must be found. She outlined that, from discussions with Planners, Architects, Agents etc, it appears that only a handful of planning applications for rural houses would have been permitted over the past 10 years based on the new requirements. She acknowledged that alternative systems are being researched but stated that it is an invidious position whereby we don't know when and if there will be a solution. She outlined that a meeting has already been sought with the Environment Oireachtas Committee and with the Taoiseach on the matter. She outlined that she understood that the EPA were not particularly open to engineering solutions. She stated that there must be an alternative and some form of derogation must be sought pending a

solution. In the interim she stated that we must revert to the system which had been in place.

Mr. Martin Dolan, Director of Services, Planning, Environment & Emergency Services outlined that the Code of Practice and Circular are in place and the Council must implement the provisions. He outlined that the issues have been raised with the EPA and the CCMA Environment Sub-Committee. He outlined that the response to the Motions is as clear as he can make it at this stage and the Council is obliged to implement the law.

Councillor John McCartin supported all that had been said. He stated that the Code of Practice is an attempt to solve bad planning policy with worse planning policy. Councillor Martin Kenny also agreed with what had been said and stated that the problem must be sorted out and the Code of Practice must be open to legal challenge. He outlined that systems will be acceptable where upgrading an existing facility but not to accommodate a new dwelling. He stated that solutions must be found to the environmental issues arising and a face-to-face meeting with the Minister and the EPA is required.

Councillor Frank Dolan concurred with all that had been said. He stated that this is effectively an attack on the young people of rural Ireland. He outlined that he understood that the Code of Practice was not being implemented in other counties and proposed that we continue to allow permissions in line with previous standards.

Councillor Gerry Kilrane clarified that he understood that the Code of Practice emanates from a European Court of Justice determination against Ireland in which case there is no discretion in relation to its implementation. He stated however that there must be a technical solution and such solutions must be considered. He stated that the impact of these provisions on the vibrancy of rural communities in Leitrim is unthinkable. He stated that it is not the answer to ask the Executive to make decisions which they cannot, in law, make and that an urgent meeting with the Minister is required.

Councillor Enda McGloin confirmed that Senator John Ellis has requested a meeting with Minister Gormley.

Councillor Gerry Dolan suggested that Minister Gormley should be invited to a meeting of the Council. Councillor Colreavy stated that this is a Government decision and Oireachtas members for the region must understand the implications of the Code of Practice. He queried the position in relation to renovation projects and the implications of the Code of Practice in this regard.

Councillor Gerard Reynolds stated that this is a political decision and the only way it can be changed is politically. He stated that Minister Gormley did not have to accept the advice of the EPA. He stated that the political philosophy of the Green Party is against one-off rural housing. He stated that Leitrim is in a unique position in the way it is affected by the Code of Practice and political pressure must be brought to bear to address the situation.

Councillor Siobhán McGloin supported the motions and stated that rural communities are outraged at the implications of the Code of Practice. Councillor Sean McGowan also supported the motions and stated that everything possible must be done to have the provisions reversed.

Councillor Mary Bohan outlined that she had spoken to 4 Dail Deputies in relation to the Circular and none of them had been aware of it. She outlined that the Code of Practice had been prepared by the EPA and signed off by Minister Gormley. She advised that local and Oireachtas members are lobbying as best they can to have the issue addressed. She stated that a composite strategy is required in this regard.

Mr. Dolan outlined that the EPA have power to make Guidelines and these have legal status. He outlined that Leitrim is unique in terms of its predominant soil quality. He outlined that the case has been made to the EPA and CCMA Sub-Committee. He outlined that the sense is that this is not such a critical issue in other areas. He outlined that many counties were already turning down sites with a T value >90. He outlined that a small number of applications have been refused but there would also have been other reasons for refusal. He confirmed that no application has been approved since January where the T test exceeds 90. In relation to the option of discharge licences he outlined that there would have to be receiving waters. He also outlined that this would be costly. He outlined that the Code provides for the upgrading of existing systems where the T test >90 on basis of improvement. Where a dwelling has no existing facilities he confirmed that any development would come within the parameters of the Code of Practice.

Ms. Jackie Maguire, County Manager reiterated that the Executive must comply with the Code of Practice.

Following discussion the following approach was agreed by the members:

1. Urgent meeting to be sought with the Minister for the Environment, Heritage & Local Government
2. Urgent meeting to be sought with the EPA – to attend either a Council meeting or a deputation will travel to meet with them
3. Invite the local Oireachtas Members to a meeting with the Council on Monday 26th April 2010 at 5.00pm – Parties to make direct contact with their respective Oireachtas representatives in addition to a formal request issuing through the Meetings Administrator
4. Continue to pursue meeting with An Taoiseach to highlight issue
5. Motions as set down to be withdrawn given the legal position

10/200

12/4/10

Increase size of drainage pipes

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

"At the April meeting of Leitrim County Council I will ask the Director of Services, Infrastructure, Mr John Mc Guinness, to immediately put in place a programme of works to replace and increase the size of the drainage pipes under the road leading to St Patrick's Park in Carrick-on-Shannon, from the open drain which runs between Reynolds's Topline Hardware and the Fire station and crosses at the back of the football field. It is obvious after the disastrous flooding which took place in November last and over the past fortnight that the drainage pipes are broken down, or badly blocked. A number of businesses in the area have been badly affected as a result of the problems caused by the flooding."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"The extraordinary flooding which occurred before Christmas was largely due to the levels of the Shannon and the flood levels were some 300mm higher than the last highest recorded flood level in Carrick on Shannon. Given these extreme levels in the Shannon no increase in size of the culvert in the St Patrick's Park/Leitrim Road area could have prevented the flooding that occurred. The more recent flooding which occurred resulted from a culvert being partially blocked by debris most likely washed in during the pre Christmas floods. When this flooding became apparent, a specialist firm was employed from Northern Ireland to attempt to remove the obstruction. It subsequently was necessary to get divers to enter the culvert to remove the obstruction. It must be pointed out that the drainage net work in this area is a combination of open drain and piped culverts most of which are through private property and over which the County council have no control. While it is accepted that there is a need to improve this drainage network in order to deal with normal weather conditions, the prevention of the major flooding similar to what occurred before Christmas would require arterial drainage of the Shannon River.

The OPW is the body responsible for Flood Risk Management in Ireland. The OPW are about to appoint consultants to prepare a Flood Risk Assessment and Management Study for the entire Shannon reporting in two years. Because of the complexity of the flooding issues on the Shannon the OPW are reluctant to fund any drainage works associated with the Shannon until this Study is complete.

Leitrim County Council had applied to the OPW for funding to improve the drainage network in this area but have been advised by OPW that such an application is premature pending the publication of the Study, we do however intend to engage again with the OPW with a view to addressing localised flooding issues as opposed to flooding issues relating to the Shannon levels."

Councillor Sean McGowan thanked the Director of Services for the response and queried what the problem had been at this location. Mr. John McGuinness, Director of Services, Planning, Environment & Emergency Services outlined that a build up of debris had caused the recent problem. He outlined that the flooding in November/December last was an entirely different and unprecedented issue.

10/201

12/4/10

Iarnrod Éireann Charges

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

"I call on Leitrim County Council to investigate Iarnród Éireann as to why charges on trains vary so much - from Dromod to Dublin Monday to Thursday costs €25.50 and weekends €36.50. To travel from Longford to Dublin costs €10.00 Monday to Thursday and €12.00 at weekends. This to me is a form of downgrading Dromod station."

Councillor Gerard Reynolds moved this motion on behalf of Councillor Ward who had sent his apologies for the meeting.

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

"That Leitrim County Council investigate with Iarnród Éireann as to why charges on

trains vary so much - from Dromod to Dublin Monday to Thursday costs €25.50 and weekends €36.50. To travel from Longford to Dublin costs €10.00 Monday to Thursday and €12.00 at weekends. This is a form of downgrading Dromod station."

10/202

12/4/10

Quinn Insurance

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

"I am proposing that Leitrim County Council call on the Government to immediately intervene in the crucial situation of Quinn Insurance, where it appears the Financial Regulator has acted unjustly in seeking to have administrators brought into Quinn Insurance. When we consider the amount of shady deals by people that employ nobody, that were let run and run until they bankrupt the country, it is totally unacceptable that this aggressive attitude by the Financial Regulator is now jeopardising a business group that is productive and employing thousands of people, many locally in this region."

Councillor Martin Kenny outlined that his Motion had been submitted at a very early stage in the Quinn crisis and much had since happened. He outlined that it is now clear that Quinn Insurance is in breach of the Regulations. He outlined however that some 5,500 people are employed by the Quinn Group, many of whom are from this area. He outlined that there are huge fears that if the Regulator continues on his current path a significant proportion of the Quinn Group could change ownership. He stated that the protection of jobs is critical and we must emphasise on Government the need to step in and provide the necessary guarantees without in any way allowing the Quinn Group off the hook in relation to any irregularities.

This was supported by Councillor John McCartin.

**Proposed by Councillor Martin Kenny, seconded by Councillor John McCartin
AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED;**

"That Leitrim County Council call on the Government to immediately intervene in the crucial situation of Quinn Insurance, and to provide the necessary guarantees to ensure that critical jobs are protected, many locally in this region."

10/203

12/4/10 Bridge North of Carrickmakeegan Canal Bridge

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

"I call upon Leitrim County Council to provide without delay some form of safety barriers or fence at the small bridge just North of Carrickmakeegan Canal Bridge (Road No L1502-1) where recent very necessary drainage work was carried out. There is no protection whatever to prevent motorists or pedestrians from slipping into what is a very deep fast flowing river should they move close to the verge when meeting another vehicle."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"This area will be assessed and any required safety measures will be installed here."

Councillor Paddy O'Rourke welcomed the response.

10/204

12/4/10 Planning & Development Bill 2009

The Leas Cathaoirleach, Councillor Enda McGloin outlined that he was permitting an Emergency Motion which was being brought forward from the earlier General Purposes Committee meeting in relation to necessary amendments to the Planning & Development Bill 2009.

This was agreed by the Members.

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

"We the members of Leitrim County Council call on the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government, to include the following, or similar provision as an amendment to the 2009 Planning and Development Bill 2009, relating to the timely completion of housing schemes.

The 2000 Planning and Development Act repealed the provisions of Section 31(1) (b) of the 1963 act wherein a Planning Authority could reserve a "Time" Notice on a developer to complete a development. Should the developer fail to comply with said time notice an enforcement notice could then issue. This provision was repealed and the guidance given that the time frame for ancillary works or works to completed the development or service the constructed housing should be contained in the conditions of the permission. However, no transition arrangements were included in the act to deal with those permissions, which were granted under the former acts and in which a completion time condition was not included. The re-instatement of the Time Notice, by way of an amendment to the Planning and Development Bill 2009, would significantly help Planning Authorities in their pursuit of developers to complete their schemes to standard in a timely fashion".

Part II - Questions.

10/205

12/4/10 Drainage Works at Coramoiff

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Mary Bohan;

"When will the repairs and drainage works approved by this Council in 2009 at Coramoiff (close to Paddy Fahys) be carried out."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"Works will commence here by the end of this month."

10/206

12/4/10 Bridge at Sradoon, Dromahair

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Mary Bohan;

"I would request that repairs be carried out on the bridge at Sradoon, Dromahair as it is in a dangerous condition."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"This bridge in question will be inspected and urgent repairs if necessary will be carried out in the interest of safety but it must be pointed out that no provision was made for bridge repairs in the 2010 Works programme and consequently any repairs carried out will be limited in nature."

10/207

12/4/10

Mooring Facilities

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Sean McGowan;

"At the April Meeting of Leitrim Co Council I will ask the County Manager to again contact Waterways Ireland requesting them to provide additional mooring facilities on the River Shannon at Rooskey, and to upgrade the existing facilities that are there at present, which have fallen into a state of disrepair."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"Leitrim County Council have had discussions in relation to mooring facilities in Rooskey with Water Ways Ireland in the last two weeks and further meetings are planned. The outcome from this meetings will be conveyed to the councillor."

10/208

12/4/10

Signposts

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Enda McGloin;

"I ask Leitrim County Council to clarify why there are a number of different spellings for DRUMSHANBO at various signposts across the County, i.e. 'Drumshambo' at a signpost in Carrick-on Shannon also 'Droimsheanbo' at the Mahangh junction. Perhaps this inaccuracy can be rectified with the proper spelling for the town replaced on the signposts before any confusion over the Summer tourist season."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"This matter will be rectified by the District Office as soon as possible."

10/209

12/4/10

Dangerous poles

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Tony Ferguson;

"When is it proposed to remove the dangerous poles on the R280 at Kinlough near the Community Centre and graveyard in front of the New Estate?"

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

"A development of 40 no. houses was granted Planning Permission in June 2005 which is currently under construction on the R280 approach to Kinlough. As part of the development Conditions the Developer is required to provide a right-hand turning lane. To facilitate these works the Developer is responsible for the removal of roadside poles and under grounding of existing cables. This matter is currently being

pursued."

10/210

12/4/10

R281 Kinlough to Rossinver

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Tony Ferguson;

"When will work commence on the Rossinver Road in the townlands of Kinlough and Ballymore to leave this road more safe for road users?"

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"The road in question is the R281 Kinlough to Rossinver road. A Road restoration Grant is allocated to this section of road in Ballymorer under this years programme.. Road widening works have commenced on this section and the final surfacing will be carried out in conjunction with other surfacing works later in the year."

10/211

12/4/10

Resurfacing of road in Breffni Crescent

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Gerry Reynolds;

"I ask the Director of Services, Infrastructure if funding will be made available in this year's Road Works Programme for the resurfacing of the road behind the houses Nos 87 to 93, Breffni Crescent, Carrick on Shannon."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"There are no funds available under the Roadworks Programme for this work."

10/212

12/4/10

NRA to address incorrect road marking

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Sinead Guckian;

"At the April meeting of Leitrim County Council I will ask the Director of Services, Infrastructure to contact Longford County Council, with a view to requesting the NRA to address the incorrect road marking on the last Roundabout on the new Dromod Roosky by pass. Vehicles approaching this roundabout travelling towards Longford are advised by road markings on entrance to the roundabout that the left lane is for cars turning left and the right lane is for cars turning left or right. However, as there is only one lane off the Roundabout onto the Longford road, vehicles in the right lane should not be advised by the road markings that they can make a left turn also, as there is no markings to allow them to merge with the left lane."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"This observation will be raised with the NRA and we will revert to the councillor."

10/213

12/4/10

Bridge at Headford, Drumsna

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Sinead Guckian;

"At the April meeting of Leitrim County Council I wish ask the Director of Services, Infrastructure, to take the necessary action to have the bridge at Headford, Drumsna, named as the "Anthony Trollope" bridge. It was at this bridge in 1843 that Anthony

Trollope stood and became inspired to write his first novel 'The MacDermots of Ballycloran'. I would ask that all the appropriate action would be taken in a timely manner to allow for the official renaming of the bridge to coincide with Annual Anthony Trollope International Summer School to be held in Drumsna from the 27th to the 30th August 2010."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"The issue of the naming of this bridge will be investigated and the councillor will be kept informed."

10/214

12/4/10

CCTV Monitoring

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Michael Colreavy;

"In view of the introduction of CCTV monitoring and increasing potential for enforcement at recycling centres, will Leitrim County Council now arrange to ensure that:

- (a) Bring banks are emptied more frequently to ensure compliant citizens always have access to proper disposal facilities
- (b) Introduce signage indicating the presence of CCTV and details of fines etc
- (c) Have signage reminding people that it is illegal to leave bottles etc if the bins are full"

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

"Since the introduction of CCTV monitoring equipment at bring centres, measures have been put in place to ensure that there is early notification when the receptacles are close to being full. This notification is being done by the relevant District Engineer staff and the Community Wardens. The Council also encourages the public to notify us via the Environmental Hotline which is on display at each location if the sites are full or untidy. Signage has been/is being erected at each location advising of the presence of CCTV monitoring and signs have been/are being erected advising of it being illegal to leave bottles or other items in places other than the appropriate receptacle, and of the level of fines that may be imposed for so doing."

10/215

12/4/10

Public Meeting in Manorhamilton to outline proposals for revised traffic flows

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Michael Colreavy;

"Will the Council arrange a public meeting in Manorhamilton to outline proposals for revised traffic flows / parking and road safety in the town?"

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"Proposals for traffic calming on the N16 in Manorhamilton will be advertised next week as part of a Part 8 planning process. On receipt of submissions in relation to these officials from Leitrim County Council are willing to meet with Community Representatives to discuss these and other issues, at an agreed date."

10/216
12/4/10

Widen roadway at Adoon Station

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Gordon Hughes;

"I ask the District Engineer if the Council will widen the roadway located at Adoon Station (LS-5662-0) beside Jim Monaghan's house. The stretch of road in question poses a safety hazard due to the lack of visibility at this location."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"Some Road widening works have been carried out in this location in the recent past to improve visibility and safety for road users. The proximity of dwellings to the public road here does not facilitate further works. No funding has been provided for any further works in 2010."

10/217
12/4/10

LP 15121

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Gordon Hughes;

"I ask the District Engineer if the council will erect a sign alongside the LP1512-1 for Adoon Lake as there is presently no signage in place notifying its location."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"A sign for Adoon Lake will be ordered and erected here."

10/218
12/4/10

Resurface Local Road 3453

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Caillian Ellis;

"I will ask Leitrim County Council to resurface local road 3453 from Gorravagh to Cornagun as this road is in a poor condition with potholes."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"There is no funding available in this years Programme for local Rd L3453. Routine maintenance will be carried out as deemed necessary."

10/219
12/4/10

Broadband installed in Cloone

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Caillian Ellis;

"I will ask Leitrim County Council what is the up to date position in relation to having Broadband installed in Cloone Village as Broadband is seen as the way forward for progress within our communities."

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

"In accordance with information provided to Leitrim County Council wireless broadband is currently available in Cloone from Ciaracom IT Solutions based at

Fenagh. Ciaracom is currently carrying out further upgrades of their services in the Cloone area. In addition plans are also at an advanced stage by THREE to provide broadband services in the Cloone area through the National Broadband Scheme."

10/220
12/4/10

Potholes

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Francis Gilmartin;

"Would this Council please purchase one load of tarmac, and divide among the four areas, to use as a pilot project in repairing a number of the worst potholes in each area in the manner I have been requesting for some time, and monitor how long the repair job will last and the cost of same."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"This proposal to use Hot macadam to fill potholes is an excellent and cost effective method of dealing with pot holes in an otherwise good road. Where the road surface is sound and waterproof and hot macadam is compacted and when the joints are cut and sealed with bitumen the final product is excellent and cost effective. However if the road surface is porous, cracked and potholed then this type of solution is no longer suitable nor cost effective. Hot macadam has to be transported in insulated lorries and has to be used quickly other wise it loses most of its strength and will not stay in the potholes. The majority of our problem roads have a very porous surface and this makes the use of hot macadam not the most appropriate material for these road conditions."

10/221
12/4/10

Engineering Areas and Electoral Areas

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Francis Gilmartin;

"When the areas were changed to electoral areas, I was one of the most disappointed of members, because I knew it would cause problems, which this is still causing. Due to those difficulties I need to know who are the last and first houses at each end of the Dromahaire area that I represent. Stralongford and other areas that are the end of the Dromahaire area and new to the Dromahaire area feel they are not getting the service that they were getting in their old areas. I need this Council to prove to me and those people that they are and will get the service that they deserve."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"The engineering areas and the electoral areas coincide and each councillor was issued with maps clearly identifying each individual electoral area. The county council staff endeavour to give a uniform level of service across the entire county and to all its people. The level of service does of course depend on the level of funding provided in the annual Works programme, and as the councillor will be aware the total funding for 2010 has been significantly been reduced. Leitrim County Council roads staff will continue to make the best use of these reduced resources and are happy to discuss any specific issues the councillor might wish to raise."

10/222
12/4/10

Signs on the R280

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Siobhan McGloin;

"I ask the District Engineer to erect signs on the R280 in the vicinity of Conwal Cemetery, Glenade, alerting drivers to the danger of Deer crossing this stretch of road."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"The road in question is the R280 Manorhamilton to Kinlough Road. Deer signs will be ordered and erected here in the vicinity of Conwal Cemetery, at Glenade, alerting drivers to the danger of deer crossing the road."

10/223

12/4/10

Speed limits review

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor John McCartin;

"Further to my request last summer to have the 50 kph speed limit in Ballinamore on the Newtowngore Road moved, when will the review of speed limits be carried out?"

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"A full review of speed limits in the County will be undertaken in the middle of the current year."

10/224

12/4/10

Entrances on Church Street, Carrigallen

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor John McCartin;

"There are a number of entrances on Church Street in Carrigallen. These are regularly blocked by parked cars for extended periods. Recently, an elderly resident suffered an injury in the home and endured prolonged distress when her husband was unable to get the car out of their driveway. When the planned road markings are being done in the town, could Leitrim County Council provide some markings at these entrances?"

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"Markings will be provided across vehicular entrances here."

10/225

12/4/10

Hard Shoulder at the Sligo end of the Dromod-Rooskey By Pass

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Sean McGowan;

"At the April Meeting of Leitrim County Council I will again ask Mr John Mc Guinness, Director of Services, Infrastructure, has there been any further response from the NRA with a view to securing funding and putting in place a programme of works, to provide a hard shoulder at the Sligo end of the Dromod-Rooskey by-pass, from the exit of the old N.4 as far as Doherty's lane. It is extremely dangerous for motorists exiting from the old N4, and for motorists from the Fearnought-Moheraven road (Road No.LP-1475-0) who are heading towards Carrick-on-Shannon. There is a lot of anger and concern in the locality, with the attitude being adopted by the NRA in relation to this particular section of the road."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"The matter has been raised repeatedly with the NRA and the current design standards do not allow for merging lanes as requested. This road has also been subject to a Road Safety Audits and this has confirmed that the junction design is up to standard.

Leitrim County Council will continue to press the NRA for a review of these standards and it would be useful if all incidents at this location could be reported to the council and the Gardai."

10/226

12/4/10

Moher Cregg, Drumshanbo Forestry

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Gerry Dolan;

"I call on the Director of Services, Infrastructure to stop the extracting of timber by big articulated lorries from the Moher Cregg, Drumshanbo Forestry as it is causing serious damage to these roads."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"Discussions are ongoing with Coillte to resolve the issue of damage to the Local Road here, LS7314-0. Also a 10 Tonne weight restriction will be put in place to avoid further damage."

10/227

12/4/10

Road Repairs

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Gerry Dolan;

"I call on the District Engineer to have some repairs done on the Slievenakella, Ballinaglera road from Ballinaglera to Aughcashel."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"There is a Restoration Improvement Grant on this road for 2010. This work will be carried out later in the year but meantime routine repairs will be carried out here."

10/228

12/4/10

Fivemilebourne/Leckaun Scheme

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Frank Dolan;

"I will ask the Director of Services, Infrastructure when is the Fivemilebourne/Leckaun scheme expected to be completed."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"This scheme will be completed by mid May of this year."

10/229

12/4/10

Traffic Calming for Kilclare

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Enda McGloin;

"I ask the Director of Services, if he can provide any update on traffic calming for Kilclare. This stretch of road has a number of houses and business premises with vehicle movement on to this straight stretch of road. I raised this issue on a number

of occasions and residents are concerned for road safety at this area."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"A proposal for traffic calming can be made to the department for the 2011 low cost safety scheme."

10/230

12/4/10

LP 2207-2 meets LT 22072-0 at a T junction

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Sean McDermott;

"I will ask the District Engineer to investigate a problem in Glenboy, Manorhamilton where the road runs close to a river and there is no protection to keep traffic back from the edge of the river. The location is where road number LP-2207-2 meets LT-22072-0 at a T-junction."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"The roads in question are where County Road LT 22072-0 and LP 2207-2 meet at a T-junction and the River Scardan runs adjacent to LP 2207-2. There have been no reported accidents at the location. There is no funding available to erect a crash barrier here."

10/231

12/4/10

Sewerage in Glenfarne and Rossiver Villages

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Sean McDermott;

"Can I have a proposed time-scale for sewerage in Glenfarne and Rossinver villages."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"The villages in question are part of a feasibility study into the provision and upgrade of sewerage schemes in county Leitrim.

No funding is yet in place for such schemes and in any event it is unlikely that the provision of sewerage treatment schemes in these two villages will be viable on economic grounds."

10/232

12/4/10

Marymount Development

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Enda Stenson;

"I ask are we -Leitrim County Council -in a position to finally take in-charge the services roadway and public lighting at the Marymount Development."

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

"Whilst substantial works have been undertaken in the Marymount complex, the area is not yet completed to taking-in-charge standard. There remains some outstanding works relating to the relocation of street lighting from the middle to the inside of the footpath. The accommodation works required to relocate the lights have been done and it is understood that the developer is awaiting the relocation and wiring of the

lighting columns by the ESB. In addition, road paving is required in the vicinity of the speed ramps. Once the aforementioned works are completed it is envisaged that it should be possible to complete the taking in charge."

10/233

12/4/10

Bus Shelter in Carrick-on-Shannon

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Enda Stenson;

"While there is a perfect Bus Shelter on the N4 by-pass at Coffeys corner in Carrick for passengers waiting to board the Bus travelling in the Longford direction, may I ask why is the same facility not afforded to passengers on the opposite side of the N4 waiting to board the Bus for Sligo."

Report by Senior Executive Officer, Corporate Services & Housing

"The provision of Bus shelters is a matter for Bus Eireann."

10/234

12/4/10

Sewerage in Jamestown

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor John Ward;

"I ask Leitrim County Council what is the position regarding sewerage in Jamestown and also when this work will be completed."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"The public sewers and Treatment plants in all of the 11 Towns and Villages including Jamestown are expected to be in operation by the middle of this year."

10/235

12/4/10

Parking at St Mary's Close

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor John Ward;

"I ask Leitrim County Council to discontinue paid parking in St Mary's Close, while the Church is under renovation."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"Paid parking at this location is essential to insure that adequate parking spaces are available in the centre of the town to support the businesses in this location and to discourage all day parking."

10/236

12/4/10

Road Widening

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Martin Kenny;

"I am asking the District Engineer when will the road widening be commencing at the road between Hugh Brady's lane and Sonny McCartin's on the Auhoo to Drumnamore road."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"The road in question is the LP 1493. There is an Improvement Grant here in 2010 so surfacing works will be undertaken in the coming months."

10/237

12/4/10 Road Widening at Aughoo and Drumcoura

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Martin Kenny;

"I am asking the District Engineer to have the road widened at Sean Beirne's house between Aughoo and Drumcoura as it is very narrow and has poor visibility in that area and traffic moves very fast on the wide parts either side of it."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"Surfacing works only will be undertaken on the R204 here, as part of the 2010 Restoration Improvement Grant."

10/238

12/4/10 Road Safety

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

"I would ask Leitrim County Council to consider improving safety at the junction above the Pol An Easa water fall where a number of minor collisions have occurred. Measures to improve the view for those approaching from the Aughnacashel direction would be helpful along with improved signage indicating the right of way etc."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"Advance warning signs are in place at approaches to this junction. The yield sign on the LP 3365 junction approach will be up-graded to a stop sign and re-located, in line with current design standards."

10/239

12/4/10 Public Lighting

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

"I would ask Leitrim County Council to approach the public lighting section of the ESB with a view to moving a public light from where it is presently mounted on a pole opposite the Jet Wash Factory at Clooncorruck, Carrigallen to the other side of the road from where it could shed light onto the footpath and be of greater benefit to pedestrians. There was no footpath and no pole upon which to mount it on that side of the road when first it was put in place."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"There are no funds in 2010 available for the work requested."

This concluded the business of the meeting at 9.30 pm.

SIGNED: Cllr Thomas Mulligan
Cathaoirleach

SIGNED: Aideen McGovern
Meetings Administrator

DATE: 10th May 2010