

**Minutes of Meeting of Leitrim County Council held in Newtown Manor
Community Centre, Co. Leitrim on Monday 13th June 2011 at 5.30 p.m.**

Members Present: Councillor Tony Ferguson
Councillor Sean McDermott
Councillor Sinead Guckian
Councillor Martin Kenny
Councillor Gerry Kilrane
Councillor Paddy O'Rourke
Councillor Sean McGowan
Councillor John McTernan
Councillor Thomas Mulligan
Councillor Gerry Reynolds
Councillor Enda Stenson
Councillor John Ward
Councillor John McCartin
Councillor Mary Bohan
Councillor Siobhan McGloin
Councillor Enda McGloin
Councillor Francis Gilmartin
Councillor Gordon Hughes
Councillor Caillian Ellis
Councillor Gerry Dolan
Councillor Sean McSharry

And Councillor Frank Dolan, Cathaoirleach presiding

Officials Present: Ms. Jackie Maguire, County Manager
Mr. Martin Dolan, Director of Services, Environment,
Emergency and Cultural Services
Mr. Joseph Gilhooly, Director of Services, Planning,
Community and Economic Development
Ms. Mary Quinn, Director of Services, Corporate Services &
Housing
Mr. John McGuinness, Director of Services, Infrastructure
Mr. Shay O'Connor, Senior Engineer
Ms. Carmelita Caslin, Senior Executive Officer
Ms. Sinead Flynn, Meetings Administrator

11/225

13/06/2011

Votes of Sympathy

The Members extended a vote of sympathy to the following:

- Reynolds Family, Stuck, Eslin Bridge on the death of Pea Reynolds.
- William McHugh & Family, Main Street, Mohill on the death of Lonnie McHugh.
- Brian & Sheila Brady, Curacar, Carrigallen on the death of Rosaleen Brady.
- FitzGerald Family, Dublin on the death of Garret FitzGerald.
- The McGloin Family, Ahanlish, Kinlough, Co Leitrim and Bridie Tiffany, Drumacolla, Glenade, Kinlough on the death of Una McGloin.
- Anna, Lizzie, Nora & Katie Connolly, Tullan Strand Road, East End, Bundoran, Co Donegal on the death of John Connolly.
- Michael Judge, Corrderry Peyton, Keshcarrigan, Co Leitrim on the death of Teresa Judge.
- Mrs Nellie McGovern, Drumhawley, Drumshanbo on the death of Paddy J McGovern.
- Mrs Bridgie Wynne, Blackrock, Drumshanbo on the death of Johnny Wynne.
- Mrs Dianne Foley & Family, Main Street, Kinlough on the death of John Foley.
- Michael & Pauline Gillespie, Main Street, Kinlough, Co Leitrim on the death of Mrs Theresa Gillespie.
- The Coyle Family, Sheena, Drumkeerin on the death of Catherine Coyle.
- Michael Sammon, Derrinkeher, Aughnasheelin, Ballinamore on the death of May Sammon.
- Kathleen McKenna, 2 Mill Lane, Carrigallen on the death of Seamus McKenna.
- Mrs Peggy Darcy & Family, Sranagross, Glenfarne, Co Leitrim on the death of Paddy Darcy.
- The Lenihan Family, Castleknock, Dublin on the death of Brian Lenihan T.D.
- The Family & Friends of the Late Mattie Boylan, Lurganboy, Manorhamilton on the death of Mattie Boylan.
- Raymond O'Hagan & Family, Gornacibbert, Glenboy, Manorhamilton on the death of Maud O'Hagan.
- Benny McGourty, Lissnagroagh, Manorhamilton, Co Leitrim on the death of Rose McGourty.

11/226

13/06/2011

Deimhniu Miontuairisci

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

“That the Minutes of Meeting of Leitrim County Council held in the Council Chamber, Áras an Chontae, Carrick on Shannon, Co. Leitrim on Monday, 9th May 2011, be adopted.”

11/227

13/06/2011

Local Authority Development

- (i) Report Ref. No. 11/C/05 from County Manager dated 9th June 2011 in relation to proposal for remedial works to Council owned dwellings at Dristernan, Drumshanbo, Co. Leitrim in accordance with the requirements of Section 179 (2) (B) of the Planning & Development Act, 2000 and Part 8 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 as circulated to the Members appears as **Appendix 1** to the Minutes of this meeting in the Minute Book.

Proposed by Councillor Enda Stenson, seconded by Councillor Martin Kenny AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED;

“That the proposal for Remedial works to Council owned dwellings at Dristernan, Drumshanbo, Co. Leitrim, be approved.”

Councillor Enda McGloin queried if the proposed Remedial Works Scheme will incorporate works to the footpaths in the Dristernan estate, Drumshanbo. He was informed that estate wide works including the replacement of the existing footpaths have been incorporated into the design brief for the project, however, this will be subject to final approval by the Department.

- (ii) Report Ref. No. 11/C/04 from Jackie Maguire, County Manager dated 9th June, 2011 in relation to a proposal for a Remedial Works Scheme to Council owned dwellings at Treanmore, Mohill, Co. Leitrim in accordance with the requirements of Section 179 (2) (B) of the Planning & Development Act, 2000 and Part 8 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 as circulated to the Members appears as **Appendix 2** to the Minutes of this meeting in the Minute Book.

Proposed by Councillor Enda Stenson, seconded by Councillor Martin Kenny AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED;

“That the Proposal for Remedial Works Scheme to Council owned dwellings at Treanmore, Mohill, Co. Leitrim, be approved.”

- (iii) Proposal in relation to the implementation of Safety Improvement Measures on the National Primary Route (N4) at Faulties Td., including road widening and verge improvements in accordance with the requirements of Section 179 (2)(B) of the Planning & Development Act, 2000 and Part 8 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001.

Ms. Jackie Maguire, County Manager informed the Members that this item has been deferred to the July meeting as there was one outstanding issue to be addressed in relation to the proposal.

11/228

13/6/2011

Draft Housing Allocation Scheme

The Draft Allocation Scheme prepared in accordance with Section 22 of the Housing (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 2009 and the Social Housing Allocation Regulations, 2011 and circulated to the Members appears as **Appendix 3** to the Minutes of this meeting in the Minute Book.

Proposed by Councillor Enda Stenson, seconded by Councillor Enda McGloin AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED;

“That the Draft Allocation Scheme prepared in accordance with Section 22 of the Housing (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 2009 and the Social Housing Allocation Regulations, 2011 be adopted”.

11/229

13/6/11

Annual Report 2010

Proposed by Councillor Enda McGloin, seconded by Councillor John Ward UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED;

“That the Leitrim County Council Annual Report 2010 be adopted in accordance with Section 221(3) of the Local Government Act, 2001”.

11/230

13/6/2011

Leitrim County Council Financial Report

The report on the Financial Position of Leitrim County Council at the 31st of March, 2011 as circulated to the Members appears as **Appendix 4** to the Minutes of this meeting in the Minute Book.

Ms. Jackie Maguire, County Manager stated that the Value for Money Report No 23 on Financial Management Reporting in Local Authorities recommended the provision of regular financial management reports to the Elected Council and furthermore in accordance with the reporting arrangements under the EU and IMF Financial Support Programme, Leitrim County Council is required to report on its financial position on a quarterly basis to the Department of Environment, Community and Local Government in a prescribed format. The first report was submitted at the end of May and covered the 3 month period 1st January, 2011 to 31st March, 2011

Ms Maguire further outlined that the level of expenditure is on target with projected expenditure and regular reviews ongoing.

Ms Maguire also informed the Members that in accordance with the reporting provisions of the Public Service Agreement (Croke Park), Leitrim County Council submitted its first report for the period 1st January, 2010 to the 31st March, 2011 which reflected total savings achieved by the Council of €1.3 million, generated primarily through payroll savings.

The members were also informed that staff members had reduced by 44 since 2009.

The report as circulated was noted by the Members.

11/231

13/6/2011 Progress Reports on Capital Works

Progress reports from our capital projects as circulated to each Member appear as **Appendix 5,6,7& 8** to the Minutes of this Meeting in the Minute Book. The reports as circulated were noted by the Members.

Councillor Martin Kenny raised an issue in relation to the Energy Efficiency Programme on local authority owned dwellings whereby oil heating has been installed in a number of dwellings. Councillor Kenny stated that the cost of oil is expensive and this was posing financial hardship for a number of tenants particularly those on low incomes.

The members were informed that in order to achieve maximum funding from the Department of the Community, Heritage and Local Government under the Energy Efficiency Programme and to achieve a higher BER Rating existing solid fuel heating systems in dwellings included in the Energy Efficiency Programme are replaced by an alternative more efficient heating system which in many cases is an oil fired system. Councillor Kenny was informed that overall on completion of the works tenants should see a reduction in their heating costs as other measures e.g. attic insulation and pumping of external wall cavities completed as the suite of works under the programme improve the overall thermal performance of the dwelling.

Councillor Enda Stenson queried the position in relation to the recent announcement by the Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government on additional funding being made available to local authorities to deal with the issue of unfinished estates and if any of the funding has been made available to Leitrim County Council. The County Manager confirmed that €5 million has been made available and that the first tranche of funding in the region of €1 million euro was announced last week. Ms. Maguire outlined that the funding is primarily available to address serious health and safety issues on unfinished estates and that the Council were not approved for funding in the first phase of the scheme.

Rural Broadband Scheme

Report from Director of Services, Community, Cultural and Enterprise Development as circulated to each member appears as **Appendix 9** to the Minutes of this Meeting in the Minute Book. The report as circulated was noted by the Members.

Mr. Joseph Gilhooly, Director of Services, Community, Cultural and Enterprise Development informed the Members that the Rural Broadband Scheme was launched on 9th May, 2011 by the Department of Communications, Energy and Natural Resources and has been established to enable a basic broadband service to be provided to individual rural premises which are not capable of obtaining a

broadband service from existing internet service providers. The Scheme has been set up in conjunction with the Department of Agriculture as a measure under the Rural Development Plan using funding from the European Agriculture Fund for Rural Development.

Mr. Gilhooly went on to state that applications for the first phase of the scheme must be submitted to the Department by the 29th of July, 2011. The Members unanimously supported this development but raised some concerns in terms of the early closing date.

Councillor Francis Gilmartin referred to a previous Notice of Motion he had raised on the lack of broadband in Leitrim Village which was having a negative impact on the local community particularly the business community.

Councillor Gilmartin proposed that the Council contact Eircom and the Department of Communications, Energy and Natural Resources requesting an explanation as to why previous commitments to provide a Broadband Service for Leitrim Village were not honoured.

Proposed by Councillor Francis Gilmartin, seconded by Councillor Enda McGloin AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED;

‘That Leitrim County Council contact Eircom and the Department of Communications, Energy and Natural Resources requesting an explanation as to why previous commitments to provide a Broadband Service for Leitrim Village were not honoured.’

Councillor Mary Bohan welcomed the Rural Broadband Scheme and noted that there was no broadband availability in Drumkeerin village or the surrounding areas. Councillor Bohan expressed concern that individual households had to submit their details when previous surveys had collated the same information.

The Members were advised that the scheme requires that all households unable to access broadband submit their details directly to the Department in order to assist in the provision of a broadband service for those concerned within a 12 month time-frame.

11/232

13/6/2011

Nomination of Disability Sectoral Representative to the Housing and Corporate Services SPC

Proposed by Councillor Gerry Dolan, seconded by Councillor Enda McGloin UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED;

“That the nomination of Ms. Margaret Hyland (Leitrim Community Forum) as the Disability Sectoral Representative on the Housing & Corporate Services SPC be approved”.

11/233

13/06/2011

Section 138(1) of the Local Government Act 2001

The County Manager outlined that there were no commitments to report in this regard.

11/234

13/6/2011

Corporate Policy Group Report

Ms. Sinead Flynn, Meetings Administrator gave an overview of the items considered by the Corporate Policy Group. Ms. Flynn provided an update on the recent SPC Meetings held as follows:

Housing & Corporate Services Strategic Policy Committee meeting on the 31st May, 2011.

- The Draft Allocation Scheme drafted in accordance with Section 22 of the Housing (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 2009 and the Social Housing Allocation Regulations, 2011 was considered by the Members and it was recommended that the Scheme be adopted at the June Council meeting.
- The nomination of Ms. Margaret Hyland (Leitrim Community Forum) as the Disability Sectoral Representative on the Housing & Corporate Services SPC was approved by the Members and recommended for adoption at the June Council meeting.

Ms. Flynn also advised that the CPG also agreed the lists of conferences/events for Members in line with the Training and Development Programme.

11/235

13/6/2011

Conferences

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

“That Leitrim County Council approves the following Conferences/Events/Courses in line with the Training and Development Programme;

“Attendance of Councillor Enda McGloin at the Conference on Robert John Kane Symposium in Drumshanbo on the 26th to 28th April 2011.”

“Attendance of Councillor Mary Bohan at the Challenges and Opportunities Facing Local Government, Irish Business and the Irish People in the Carlton Hotel, Kerry from the 17th to the 19th June 2011.”

“Attendance of Councillor Sinead Guckian at the Teagasc Bioenergy Crop Open Day in the Oak Park Crops Research, Carlow on the 23rd June 2011”

“Attendance of Councillor John Ward at the unveiling of a plaque at the Jamestown Canal on the 24th June 2011 to the 25th June 2011”.

“Attendance of Councillor Paddy O’Rourke at the 17th Byrne Perry Summer School in Gorey, Co. Wexford from 24th to 26th June 2011.”

“Attendance of Councillor Caillian Ellis at the IRCHSS/ISSP Summer School “Making the Built Environment Work” in Iontas Building, North Campus, NUI, Maynooth on the 27th June 2011 to the 2nd July 2011.”

“Attendance of Councillor Tony Ferguson at the 3rd International Percy French Summer School LEAD KINDLY LIGHT in the Castlecoote House, Castlecoote, Co Roscommon on the 13th July to 15th July 2011.

“Attendance of Councillor Tony Ferguson at the Effective Representations through Radio, TV, Press, Facebook, Twitter in the Sliver Tassie Hotel, Letterkenny, Co Donegal on the 8th July to the 10th July 2011.

11/236

13/06/2011

Correspondence

The following items of Correspondence were circulated to the members;

1. Letter from Monaghan Town Council dated 9th May, 2011 in relation to a Notice of Motion adopted at their April meeting calling on the Minister for Environment, Community & Local Government, Phil Hogan, T.D to address as a matter of urgency the crippling cost of rates on commercial properties.
2. Letter of acknowledgement from Minister Dr James Reilly, for Health and Children dated 11th May 2011 in relation to recent letter received from Leitrim County Council concerning the NowDoc service out of surgery hours.
3. Letter from Inland Fisheries Ireland dated 13th May, 2011 in relation to repairs to slipway in Jamestown.
4. Letter dated 16th May, 2011 from the Office of the Minister for Health and Children in relation to letter received from Leitrim County Council concerning services at Sligo General Hospital.
5. Letter of acknowledgement dated 16th May, 2011 from the Office of the Minister for Justice, Equality and Law Reform.
6. Letter of acknowledgement dated the 17th May, 2011 from the Office of the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Food in relation to resolution passed by Leitrim County Council recently.
7. Letter of acknowledgement dated 17th May, 2011 from the Office of the Minister for Education and Skills in relation to resolution passed by Leitrim County Council.

8. Letter of acknowledgement dated 18th May, 2011 from the Office of the Minister for Housing and Planning in relation to resolution passed by Leitrim County Council to the Rental Accommodation Scheme.
9. Letter of acknowledgement dated 20th May, 2011 from the Office of the Minister for Environment, Community and Local Government in connection with the resolution passed by Leitrim County Council.
10. Letter dated 23rd May, 2011 from the Office of the Minister for Justice and Equality in relation to the allocation of Garda Resources and personnel.
11. Letter of acknowledgment dated 24th May, 2011 from the Office of the Minister for Finance in relation to a resolution passed by Leitrim County Council concerning the Quinn Group of Companies.
12. Letter from the Minister for Health and Children dated 26th May, 2011 in relation to a resolution passed by Leitrim County Council in regard to the HSE to publicise the reductions to patient services.
13. Letter of acknowledgement dated 26th May, 2011 from the Minister for Health and Children in regard to the Community Hospital in Ballinamore.
14. Letter of acknowledgement dated 31st May, 2011 from the Office of the Minister for Finance in regard to resolution passed by Leitrim County Council calling on the Minister for Finance to amend the Valuation Act 2001.
15. Letter of acknowledgement dated 31st May, 2011 from the Office of the Minister for Finance in relation to a resolution passed by Leitrim County Council that the Government put in place legislation that assists people that are finding it difficult to meet their mortgage repayments.
16. Email from Noel Martin O'Rourke dated 26th May, 2011 calling on Leitrim County Council to support him for the presidential nominations.
17. Letter dated 31st May, 2011 from Mary Davis seeking to address the Members of Leitrim County Council at their upcoming council meeting seeking support for the presidential nominations.

Items raised under Meetings Correspondence

Item No. 1 - Commercial Rates

A detailed discussion took place on the Rating of Commercial Properties with Members raising concerns in relation to the rates for commercial properties and the methodology employed by the Valuations Office in determining the valuation rate. Ms. Jackie Maguire, County Manager, informed the Members that the Council were aware of the difficulties being encountered by the Commercial Sector, however the current rate had been retained at the 2008 level with no rate increase imposed for the last number of years. Ms. Maguire also outlined that any change in rates would have a consequential negative impact on the revenue stream of the Council which

would impact on service provision. The Members noted that the issue of local authority income and expenditure is currently under review at a national level and commercial rates are being reviewed as part of this overall process.

Item No. 2 –Now Doc Service

Councillor Caillian Ellis requested that a further letter issue to the Health Services Executive as he was not satisfied with the response issued in response to a recent Notice of Motion he had submitted.

Item No. 3 – Inland Fisheries

Councillor John Ward requested that funding be provided to a local group in Jamestown to fund the cost of the provision of a new slipway at this location. The County Manager advised that the matter would be given some consideration.

Item No. 4 – Sligo General Hospital

Councillor Francis Gilmartin outlined his disagreement to the contents of correspondence in relation to Sligo General Hospital which stated that 'Other cancer services at the hospital were not affected by the change'. Other than skin cancer – which usually involves minor surgery – and a limited volume of bowel and rectal cancer cases, the vast majority of other curative cancer surgeries have never been undertaken at Sligo, and are routinely referred to one of the eight designated cancer centres.

Councillor Gerry Kilrane also expressed his disappointment at the response received from the Minister for Health and Children in relation to restoration of cancer services at Sligo General Hospital.

Item No. 6 – Agri Enviromental Options Scheme

Councillor Gerry Kilrane proposed that an urgent reminder be sent to Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Food in relation to Agri Environmental Options Scheme.

Other Items raised under Meetings Correspondence

Genealogy Service, Ballinamore, Co. Leitrim.

Councillor Caillian Ellis raised an issue in relation to the Leitrim Genealogy Centre that currently deal with enquiries from people who wished to trace their Leitrim ancestry. Councillor Ellis requested that a letter issue to the Minister Jimmy Denihan to ensure that funding for the service is maintained in order to safeguard the future of the service and the jobs of the staff employed there.

Fine Art Exhibition in the Dock

Councillor Sinead Guckian informed the Members that an Art Exhibition by Sligo Institute of Technology Final Years Arts Graduates will take place in The Dock, St.George's Terrace, Carrick-on-Shannon on Friday, 17th June 2011.

Councillor Guckian also congratulated the Cathaoirleach, Councillor Frank Dolan, on the venue for the meeting and complemented the beauty of the surrounding countryside. Councillor Guckian stated that initiatives including the establishment of a film commission should be considered in order to promote the County as a location of choice for the film industry.

11/237

13/6/2011

Carers Allowance

***Proposed by Councillor Tony Ferguson, seconded by Councillor Mary Bohan
UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED;***

"That the members of Leitrim County Council call on the Ministers for Health, Social Protection and Finance to ensure that there will be no further cuts for Carer's and those being cared for. These people are the most important people in any caring society. This should become a top priority for the Government"

11/238

13/06/2011

Votes of Congratulations

The Members extended a Vote of Congratulations to Mr Terry McManus, Cornaneane, Manorhamilton on the Centenary celebrations of Mullies Church.

Part I - Notices of Motion

11/239

13/6/2011 **Dwyer's Bridge**

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

"I propose that Leitrim County Council repair the walls of the Bridge on local road L5515 before a serious accident occurs. This problem has been ongoing for a considerable time and now requires urgent attention."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"Repairs to Dwyer's bridge are presently underway in conjunction with Specific Improvement Works on the R202."

Councillor Caillian Ellis welcomed the response and requested that works to a second bridge be considered and that the main work required is the re-instatement of the crash barrier. Councillor Gordan Hughes supported this motion.

Mr John McGuinness, Director of Services, Infrastructure advised that he would investigate the matter from a health and safety prospective but that there was no additional funding available to fund such works other than those which are included in the Specific Improvement Works Programme.

11/240

13/6/2011 Public Lighting

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

"At the June meeting of Leitrim County Council, I will ask the Director of Services, Infrastructure, for a copy of the current contract for the public lighting throughout the County. I specifically would like to see the agreed terms for the installation and ongoing maintenance public lights in our towns and villages."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"Leitrim County Council is at present in discussion with the other County Councils in the region regarding a joint contract for the maintenance of all the public lights. It is expected that a Contractor will be appointed before the end of the year. In the interim period all maintenance of public lights will be carried out by a Contractor under instruction from Leitrim County Council. The public are advised to contact their local Area Office if any public lights are in need of repair. It is also intended to provide a facility on the Council's web site www.leitrimcoco.ie for the public to advise of problems with public lights. The public will be notified through the local media when this facility is available."

Councillor Sinead Guckian welcomed this response and clarification on the issue.

11/241

13/6/2011 Re-Open Fair Deal Scheme

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

"I call on Leitrim County Council to contact the Minister for Health and Children, Mr James Reilly to have monies made available as a matter of urgency to re-open the Fair Deal Scheme for elderly people in nursing homes. As the worry that has affected these people is unbelievable and it's a disgrace as to what happened to the €100 million that was there for this scheme and now it has disappeared."

It was noted by the Members that the Fair Deal Scheme was re-instated and additional funding was made available to fund the scheme.

11/242

13/6/2011 Presidential Election

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

"That Leitrim County Council, do hereby nominate Sean Gallagher Entrepreneur to contest the upcoming Presidential Election subject to the formal ratification process being completed, following the making of the Presidential Election order."

Report by Director of Service, Corporate Services & Housing

"The nomination of candidates for a presidential election by County and City Councils is regulated by law under Section 16 of the Presidential Elections Act 1993. It is a reserved function and the main provisions are as follows:

- Councils may by resolution resolve to nominate one candidate,
- Not less than 3 clear day's notice of the intention to propose the resolution must be given in writing to every person, who, at the time when the notice is given, is a Member of the Council.
- A resolution under Section 16 of the Act cannot be passed before the making of the Presidential Election Order - this Order, which is made under Section 6 of the Act, sets out the last day on which the Presidential Returning Officer may receive nominations, the date and time of the poll at the election and other details, and
- The resolution of the Council must be given effect by means of a nomination paper (as prescribed in regulations) sealed with the seal of the Council and delivered to the Returning Officer.

At this early stage, it is noted that no presidential election order has been made. Neither has an appointment been made to the office of the Presidential Returning Officer which is made at the same time as the Presidential Election Order. In addition, regulations prescribing the nomination form for use by Councils are at present being finalised. Local Authorities will be notified when the presidential election order is made."

Councillor Enda Stenson called on the Elected Members of Leitrim County Council to support Sean Gallagher to contest the upcoming Presidential Election subject to the formal ratification process being completed, following the making of the Presidential Election order. A lengthy debate ensued on the issue following which agreement was reached to defer the motion to the July Council meeting at which other candidate seeking a nomination from the Council are due to attend and address the Members.

11/243

13/6/2011

Croke Park Agreement

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

"I will ask the County Manager to outline the changes in the Council structures and staffing situation in view of the "Croke Park Agreement" and how this impacts on Leitrim."

Report by County Manager, County Manager

"As outlined in the financial report for Quarter 1 the Council has submitted its first progress report under the Public Services Agreement. Since 2009 there has been a reduction in staff numbers by 44 and this reduction together with the non replacement of various types of leave (maternity, parental, extended sick leave) poses significant challenges for the organisation in terms of ongoing service delivery. This has resulted in the need for changes to work practices, the prioritisation of services and the allocation of staff resources in the most effective manner. This will continue to present challenges for the organisation over the coming months, however the Council is committed to working with all stakeholders under the

framework of the Public Service Agreement to deliver on savings and maximise efficiencies."

11/244

13/6/2011

Iarnrod Eireann

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

"At the June meeting of Leitrim County Council, I will propose that we will again send an invitation to the Management of Iarnród Eireann to come and address the Council, with a view to discussing the fare structure on the Dublin-Sligo Line (why is there such a difference in ticket prices between Dromod, compared to Longford, while acknowledging Longford is a commuter station. Also what plans the company have if any, in relation to going back into the Freight business"

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

"That the members of Leitrim County Council again send an invitation to the Management of Iarnród Eireann to come and address the Council, with a view to discussing the fare structure on the Dublin-Sligo Line (why is there such a difference in ticket prices between Dromod, compared to Longford, while acknowledging Longford is a commuter station. Also what plans the company have if any, in relation to going back into the Freight business".

11/245

13/6/2011

Mill Bank Glen Estate

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

"Will the Planning Department examine Mill Bank Glen Estate in Dromahair Village and provide a full report to confirm the position in relation to the following: (a) if a bond is in place and (b) if all the planning conditions have been adhered to."

Report by Director of Service, Planning, Community and Economic Development

"The development known as Glen View Estate relates to file P.01/118 in the planning register. Whilst the development is substantially completed, there are elements which are not in accordance with the permission. Unfortunately, the development company responsible for the development no longer exists and has been struck-off by the companies register. The authority does hold a security bond in respect of this development and will shortly be assessing whether the calling in of this security is necessary for the adequate completion of the estate. It should be noted that the security deposit applies only to site infrastructural works and cannot be used on individual properties."

Mr Joseph Gilhooly, Director of Services, Planning, Community and Economic Development confirmed that the bond for the development is in place, however other matters need to be explored in advance of drawing down the bond.

11/246

13/6/2011

Reverse Cuts

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

"I propose that Leitrim County Council call on the Health Service Executive to reverse the cuts that have taken place regarding cuts in home help for the "Senior Citizens" and "Special Needs" as these people need all the help they can get."

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

"That Leitrim County Council call on the Health Service Executive to reverse the cuts that have taken place regarding cuts in home help for the "Senior Citizens" and "Special Needs" as these people need all the help they can get".

11/247

13/6/2011

Canal Walkway

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

"I ask that Leitrim County Council write to Waterways Ireland to request an update on their plans to enhance the canal walkway from the Locoboat marina in Ballinamore past Ardrum Lock out as far as Aughoo Bridge beside Riversdale & Kennedy's guesthouses. If completed this natural walkway would provide a major leisure and sporting facility for the entire Leitrim area, where potential users, both local and visiting tourists can walk, run, cycle on a traffic free 5km route."

***Proposed by Councillor Gordon Hughes seconded by Councillor Caillian Ellis
AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED;***

"That Leitrim County Council write to Waterways Ireland to request an update on their plans to enhance the canal walkway from the Locoboat marina in Ballinamore past Ardrum Lock out as far as Aughoo Bridge beside Riversdale & Kennedy's guesthouses. If completed this natural walkway would provide a major leisure and sporting facility for the entire Leitrim area, where potential users, both local and visiting tourists can walk, run, cycle on a traffic free 5km route.

11/248

13/6/2011

Road Repairs at Drumgrania, Mohill

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

"I ask that Leitrim County Council immediately carry out works to the public road at Drumgrania, Mohill. The roadway is extremely narrow at this location and the drains on either side should be piped and the road widened. It is a busy stretch of road leading to Gortlettragh National School and the Football Park and Community Centre."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"While the works requested are desirable, unfortunately there is no funding available this year to carry out the necessary improvements. The road can be included for consideration in the 2012 Roads programme, subject to the level of funding available next year."

Councillor Gerry Kilrane stated that he was disappointed with the reply and requested that the matter be reviewed to have the works included in the 2011 Road Works Programme. Councillor Caillian supported this motion.

11/249

13/6/2011

Erriff Group Scheme

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

"At the next meeting of Leitrim County Council I will ask that the Water Section will furnish a report on the current difficulties been experienced by users of the Erriff Group Scheme. This scheme has been experiencing outages on a daily basis."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"A new Water Treatment Plant at a cost of €1.4m has just been commissioned to serve the public scheme in the Tullaghan area and the Erriff Group Water Scheme. The Erriff Group Water Scheme has had excessive usage for some considerable time now, and it was a condition of the capital grant funding for this water treatment plant that the leakage on the Erriff scheme would be addressed.

The Council have been carrying out Water Conservation work on the scheme over the last six months in an attempt to identify and repair the many leaks on the scheme. This Water Conservation work has resulted in water disruptions in localised areas while the leaks are repaired. It is likely that this leak detection work will continue for some time until all of the leaks are repaired.

On Saturday night, June 4th last, the Water Treatment Plant at Glenade went out of action due to technological problems. The outage was not discovered until Sunday morning by the caretaker but in the meantime 15 hours of production was lost which left the reservoir very low and a lot of consumers lost their supply.

Normally when the plant shuts down, telephone text alerts are automatically sent to the caretaker and supervisor but due to a malfunction on this occasion the text messages were not sent out. The reason for this problem is being investigated at the moment and measures will be put in place to insure the alarm systems works correctly in the future.

The Council are presently installing a new rising main on this scheme at a cost of €1m, and while this work has not to date caused any disruption to supply it is inevitable that some disruption will occur during the course of this work.

Every effort will be made to minimise the disruption. The rising main will be completed towards the end of the year. Leitrim County Council apologises for the interruptions to the supply of water but consumers can look forward to a normal supply of quality water when these works are completed."

Councillor Siobhan McGloin outlined that since Easter, householders have been experiencing water shortages 3 or 4 days a week. Mr John McGuinness, Director of Services, Infrastructure gave an undertaking to investigate the matters raised by Councillor Siobhan McGloin.

11/250

13/6/2011

Reserve Ambulance Fleet

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

"Following on from my previous motion on the creation of a reserve ambulance fleet, I believe that using retired ambulances and the resources and training which are currently at our disposal, we can and should put such a fleet in place. Response times are crucial in achieving a satisfactory outcome in any medical emergency. This is a life and death issue and I believe that the dismissive reply to my previous motion is not good enough."

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

"As stated in the previous response, the provision and operation of an ambulance service is the responsibility of the HSE. This service involves the provision and maintenance of a fully serviced fleet of vehicles which are staffed by fully trained paramedics. Ambulance fleets and their operating personnel are located at strategic locations and are on call on a round the clock basis throughout the year. Leitrim County Council is not charged with the statutory responsibility to provide such a service. It does not have recourse to appropriately trained personnel to operate the service, nor does it have a fleet of neither ambulances to do so nor the financial resources for same. Neither does it have the call-out service that would be necessary to provide such a service. It is considered that it would be unsafe and inappropriate for the Council to embark on the provision of such a service as proposed. The Council does operate a Civil Defence service under the leadership of a full time County Civil Defence Officer and a team of trained and enthusiastic voluntary Civil Defence members. This service has a fully equipped stand-by ambulance and other vehicles which are used in the course of their duties. Civil Defence has frequently provided back-up assistance to the Civil Authorities such as during the severe weather episodes in recent years and in land and water rescue operations. It also provides assistance at events within the County where large crowds are present. It is considered that this is the maximum extent to which this service can provide back-up assistance."

Councillor John McCartin expressed his dissatisfaction to the reply and stated that he considered that the use of the retired ambulance fleet by existing resources within

the local authority could provide a Reserve Ambulance Fleet for the County. He went on to state that response times are crucial in achieving a satisfactory outcome in any medical emergency particularly in rural areas.

Councillor Martin Kenny supported the motion.

11/251

13/6/2011

Specific Tax Clearance Document

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

"Leitrim County Council requests the Minister for Finance to produce a specific Tax Clearance document for persons applying for local authority grant assistance. The current general document in use for this purpose is not appropriate as it deals with a wide variety of commercial applicants and is not specific to the aforementioned applicants who are mostly in receipt of social welfare payments. There is too much confusion with the current form and it is holding up payments."

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

"That Leitrim County Council requests the Minister for Finance to produce a specific Tax Clearance document for persons applying for local authority grant assistance. The current general document in use for this purpose is not appropriate as it deals with a wide variety of commercial applicants and is not specific to the aforementioned applicants who are mostly in receipt of social welfare payments. There is too much confusion with the current form and it is holding up payments."

11/252

13/6/2011

Stone Flower Bed

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

"Could this Council examine the new stone flower bed at Laird House, Drumshanbo as I have received concerns about the position of same for lorries turning right at this location?"

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"The new stone flower bed on the junction of the Mart Link Road and the R208 adjacent to Laird house was constructed to serve two purposes. It provides for the protection of pedestrians crossing the R208 at this location. It also eliminates illegal parking which has been a constant traffic hazard on this junction. The construction of the flower bed has not reduced the turning circle for vehicles at this junction and thus should have no impact on vehicles turning right, however the situation will be monitored."

11/253
13/6/2011

Provision of footpath

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

"I would ask Leitrim County Council what plans are in place regarding the provision of a footpath on the Mohill road in Carrigallen. All developments along this road have been subject to a very significant set back for over forty years in anticipation of such a footpath being provided. Given the adjacent development of two housing estates (60 houses, the GAA Park and facilities along with the ever expanding vocational school a footpath is a necessity more than ever with the increase in pedestrian traffic."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"The provision of a footpath at this location is desirable however, there is no allocation made in the 2011 Works Programme to enable the provision of a footpath on the Mohill road Carrigallen. The matter can be included for consideration in the 2012 Roads programme subject to the level of funding available."

It was proposed by Councillor Paddy O'Rourke that the provision of a footpath on the Mohill Road in Carrigallen be included in the 2012 Roads Work Programme. This was seconded by Councillor Enda Stenson.

11/254
13/6/11

Terms of Reference given to the Constituency Commission

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

"That Leitrim County Council calls on the Minister to strengthen the terms of reference given to the Constituency Commission so as to ensure the protection of County Boundaries. This is necessary so that smaller Counties or Counties with a low population cannot be divided or carved up in the manner that has been done by the previous commission."

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

"That Leitrim County Council calls on the Minister to strengthen the terms of reference given to the Constituency Commission so as to ensure the protection of County Boundaries. This is necessary so that smaller Counties or Counties with a low population cannot be divided or carved up in the manner that has been done by the previous commission".

11/255

13/6/2011

LP 2198-0 Road

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

"At the June Council Meeting, I will ask Leitrim County Council to consider upgrading road LP-2198-0 in Glenfarne to Regional road status, this road links up with the N16, it is a very busy road on which there is a church and school, also the road is used when traffic is diverted off the N16 because of traffic accidents."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"The road in question is County Road LP 2198-0 which starts at the junction with N16 at Cornacloy and ends at the junction with R283-1 at Lughawenagh Townland. This road is 2.3KM in length and only 3.8M wide. A section of this road has been resurfaced this year under the 2011 Roads Restoration Improvement Programme near Saint Michael's Catholic Church. Given the relatively low traffic volumes and the substandard width of the road it is considered that this road is unlikely to be upgraded to a Regional Road."

Councillor Sean McDermott expressed his dissatisfaction with the reply. In response Mr John McGuinness, Director of Services, Infrastructure restated that the road is only 3.8 metres, very narrow and given the relatively low traffic volumes on the road it is unlikely that this road will be upgraded to a Regional Road.

11/256

13/6/2011

Lough Allen Gas Exploration

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

"I am proposing that Leitrim County Council request that the two companies that have been awarded licences, relating to gas deposits in the Lough Allen basin area of County Leitrim, come before a Council meeting and explain the process they intend to use to extract the gas from this deposit. I am also proposing that the Environmental section of the Council carry out research into the methods of extracting gas from shale formations and the risks attached for ground water, lakes, rivers and indeed human and animal health, particularly from the method known as 'Fracking'."

Report by County Manager, County Manager

"Exploration licences have been granted by the Department of Communications Energy and Natural Resources to two companies - Lough Allen Natural Gas Company and Tamboran Resources - which will allow shallow drilling and the carrying out of technical studies to ascertain whether gas in Lough Allen is commercially viable. Initial contact has been made by LANGCO with the Council and they have advised of their intention to initiate a process of formal consultation. Following the exploration stage should a project to drill and extract gas be developed it would fall under the remit of the Strategic Infrastructure Act."

A detailed discussion on the implications of the exploration process and the possible use of 'fracking' to extract gas reserves from Lough Allen took place. The Members voiced their concerns in terms of the negative environmental and health impacts that are associated with the process. However, it was noted that the licences issued by the Department of Communications, Energy and Natural Resources only permit shallow drilling and the completion of initial technical studies to establish if the extraction of gas is commercially viable.

It was also noted that if the project is to progress it will be subject to further consultation and approval by the relevant authorities.

Part II - Questions.

11/257

13/6/2011

Low Cost Safety Grant

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Sinead Guckian;

"At the June meeting of Leitrim County Council, I will ask the Roads Section to investigate the possibilities of using a "Low Cost Safety" grant to rectify the dangerous situation of vehicles, particularly large vehicles, exiting the Rue road, onto the Bridge at Jamestown. As per my previous representations, vehicles are not stopping at this junction and the current alignment encourages the vehicles to travel straight off the Rue road and across the bridge. There are a number of young families living on this road and the current situation is quite dangerous."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"The improvements requested can be considered for inclusion under the low cost safety programme and an application will be made under the 2012 Low Cost Safety Programme"

11/258

13/6/2011

Large potholes in Drumsna

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Sinead Guckian;

"At the June meeting of Leitrim County Council, I will ask the Carrick on Shannon District Engineer to carry out immediate repairs on the two large potholes in Drumsna, as per my previous representations. One located where services were brought across the Main Street at the bridge and the second on Crowhill, located just past the Harbour View houses."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"Routine maintenance will be undertaken as necessary in the next two weeks."

11/259

13/6/2011

Fahy Road, Ballinaglera

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Gerry Dolan;

"I ask the Director of Services, Infrastructure as to when the Fahey Road, in Ballinaglera will be repaired."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"Road Number LS 8300-0 known locally as the Fahey road will be included for consideration in the 2012 Roads programme, subject to the level of funding available next year. Routine maintenance works will be carried out shortly within the confines of the reduced budgets available in 2011."

11/260

13/6/2011

Fahy Road, Ballinaglera

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Enda McGloin;

"Can the road leading to Fahy Graveyard, Ballinaglera receive attention/ inspection as it is currently in a very poor condition with large potholes etc. This road is used regularly to access a public graveyard and I would be grateful, if the Dromahaire Area Office would give this road immediate attention."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"Road Number LS 8300-0 known locally as the Fahey road will be included for consideration in the 2012 Roads programme, subject to the level of funding available next year. Routine maintenance works will be carried out shortly within the confines of the reduced budgets available in 2011."

11/261

13/6/2011

Attyrory Cross

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Enda Stenson;

"I acknowledge that the works carried out on the road at Attyrory Cross has been an excellent job, but extra funding is needed to improve sight lines and erect proper signage as to the new road alignment. If funding is not available in the present budget, I am requesting that we put this location in for a Low Cost Safety Scheme in 2012."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"The works undertaken at the junction in question dealt with the problems of defective surfaces. The junction would benefit from further improvement works which can be considered for inclusion under future low cost safety programmes."

11/262

13/6/2011

Cois Laughta, Kinlough

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Tony Ferguson;

"When is it proposed to paint the house at Cois Laughta Kinlough?"

Report by Director of Service, Corporate Services & Housing

"Preliminary costings for painting houses in Cois Laughta Estate have been done and the matter is being considered having regard to available financial resources."

11/263

13/6/2011

Signs Posts

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Tony Ferguson;

"When is it proposed to put the new sign posts in place in North Leitrim?"

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"Tenders are currently being prepared for the manufacture of the signs and the signs will be erected towards the end of the year."

11/264

13/6/2011

Cloncolry Road

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Sean McGowan;

"At the June Meeting of Leitrim County Council, I will ask the Senior Executive Engineer, Carrick-on-Shannon, to put in place a programme of works to carry out surface repairs to the Cloncolry road, Road No. LP1621, from the bridge over the Dromod –Rooskey by-pass as far a Moffatt's house as a number of serious depressions have appeared in the road."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"A short section of the road in question is constructed over a bog subgrade and has fallen into disrepair. Repairs will be undertaken at an early date."

11/265

13/6/2011

Treanmore Cross to Shannagh, Mohill

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Sean McGowan;

"At the June meeting of Leitrim County Council, I will ask the Senior Executive Engineer, Carrick-on-Shannon, to put in place a programme of works to carry out surface repairs to the section of road from Treanmore Cross to Shannagh in Mohill as it has fallen into a state of disrepair."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"The road in question would benefit from surface improvement; however there is presently no funding available for this work. Routine maintenance will be undertaken and funding will be sought in future road grant applications."

11/266

13/6/2011

Breffni Heights

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor John Ward;

"I ask Leitrim County Council when are they going to meet the residents of "Breffni

Heights" in connection with speed ramps, as this is ongoing for the last two years."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"It has been agreed that the recently installed ramps will be adjusted to provide a more severe impact, with the objective of causing drivers to further reduce speed at this location. The District Engineer will arrange to meet with the residents to explain the Council's proposals."

11/267

13/6/2011 **Laybys along the roadway at Lavareen, Aughavas**

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Gordon Hughes;

"I ask the Senior Executive Engineer office will the Council install a number of lay-bys along the roadway at Lavareen, Aughavas (LP-1507-0) as this narrow stretch of roadway poses a serious danger to meeting traffic."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"The provision of lay-bys on the road in question is desirable but there is no funding available in 2011 for this work.

It has been the practice in the past to only construct lay-byes on a road when a road grant was provided to resurface the particular section of road and this road can be included for consideration under the 2012 Roads programme."

11/268

13/6/2011 **Roadworks at Gortvagh P.O.**

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Gordon Hughes;

"I ask the Senior Executive Engineer when it is proposed to complete the road works currently on-going at Gortvagh P.O. crossroads leading to the LP1512 and what exactly are the council's plans for the new road design at this location."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"The works at this location are now complete. The regional road shall be resurfaced in the near future."

11/269

13/6/2011 **Cornagulla, Drumadubber and Coolcrieve**

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Enda Stenson;

"The local road L7423-4 running through Cornagulla, Drumadubber and Coolcrieve is subsiding and dangerous in parts, with extra funding is it possible that repairs can be carried out to this road."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"The road in question would benefit from improvement works in particular the section over the bog rampart, unfortunately there is no funding available at present. Limited localised repairs will be undertaken on those areas most in need of improvement."

11/270

13/6/2011

Derryduff Road/Tawley Road

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Siobhan McGloin;

"That this Council carry out repairs to the Derryduff Road/Tawley Road."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"The road in question is LS 6057-0 known locally as the Derryduff/Tawley Road. Routine road maintenance will be carried out on this road."

11/271

13/6/2011

Road Repairs in Kinlough

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Siobhan McGloin;

"That this Council carry out repairs to the Lane, Kinlough"

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"The road in question is LT 20751 which is a Cul-De-Sac Road known locally as the Lane in Kinlough. Routine road maintenance will be carried out on this road."

11/272

13/6/2011

LT-55651

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor John McCartin;

"A deterioration of the condition of LT-55651 has occurred as a result of the construction of the mast at Killahurk. When will this damage be fixed?"

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"This matter will be reviewed and repairs will be carried out on the public section of the roadway as required and within resources available."

11/273

13/6/2011

Road Number Sign

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor John McCartin;

"The view of R209 when exiting LT-55651 at Killahurk Carrigallen, is obscured by the road number sign. Following a previous question, the Council undertook to rectify this and a number of other similar problems. The view at this point is also obscured on occasions by bins awaiting rubbish collection trucks. This safety issue could be easily solved by lowering the ditch at this point, moving the sign down and leaving a flat space for bins. Can the Council do this work?"

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"The sign has been moved and the sightlines are not being interfered with for traffic entering onto the R209. The Area Office has no control over where locals leave their bins for collection, however the local community, along with the land owner, could arrange a private bin placement area off the public road network. Such proposals should be discussed with the planning authority as to whether planning permission is required."

11/274

13/6/2011 Single Instance Rural Housing

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Enda McGloin;

"I ask the Director of Services, Planning Community and Economic Development how many applications for houses considered to be one off (requiring connection to a septic/percolation system) have been received on the following years by Leitrim County Council;

2008/2009/2010 and to the end of May 2011 and of those applications how many were granted permission by this Council in each of those years?"

Report by Director of Service, Planning, Community and Economic Development

"The Planning Department does not have information collated to hand nor is it retained in a manner through which the information sought can be readily extracted in order to provide the detail requested. However the following initial information may be of some benefit and demonstrates the volume of information that will have to be reviewed to provide the information requested.

The total Number of all planning applications received for these years were

2008 957 applications: decisions to refuse 100 (13.44%)

2009 504 applications: decisions to refuse 66 (18.28%)

2010 347 applications: decisions to refuse 47 (22.27%)

2011 120 applications: decisions to refuse 9 (10.47%)

Figures for 2011 are to the end of May only

Within the timeframe available to the department, a rough calculation has been possible in relation to one of these years. In 2010 it is estimated 110 applications relating to dwellings [retentions, schemes, individual houses and extensions] of these 55 were for individual dwellings, presumably nearly all of which were single dwellings in the countryside. These represented approx 16% of all the applications received in 2010.

The Commencement notice returns provide information in relation to One-off houses commenced for each year.

2008 had 149 commencements

2009 had 87 commencements

2010 had 56 commencements and

2011 to end of May has had 25 commencements.

As can be seen the greatest reduction in one off house starts occurred between

2008 and 2009. Further relevant data can be extracted over an additional period of time to address the other issues raised in this question."

11/275

13/6/2011

Drumkeelan Mor

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Francis Gilmartin;

"Can this Council investigate the side of the road at Drumkeelan Mor where there is a broken pipe and a dangerous hole at the side of the road."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"The location in question will be inspected shortly and the necessary remedial works will be carried out."

11/276

13/6/2011

Rent on Local Authority houses

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Francis Gilmartin;

"Will the Council look at rent being paid by local authority tenants as some are leaving and taking up private rented accommodation as it is cheaper."

Report by Director of Service, Corporate Services & Housing

"The matter can be reviewed however, it is considered that the number of cases where this may occur are limited."

11/277

13/6/2011

Local Improvement Schemes

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

"I ask how many Local Improvement Schemes we are in a position to complete this year? Given the recent review of the applications we have a huge amount on hand many of which have been waiting for a considerable time."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"The Local improvement schemes grant allocation for 2011 is €233,000.

At an approximate cost of €20,000.00 to €25,000.00 per scheme, it is anticipated that 10 schemes will be completed in the current year. All applicants were written to in light of the revised policy on Local Improvement Schemes. The closing date for return of the applications was 31st May and applications are currently being assessed."

11/278
13/6/2011

Speed Sign

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

"I ask that the speed sign on the Corrawallen side of Drumreilly Catholic Church be moved southwards along the R204 for a distance to take account of a number of bends at that location and be of assistance as a safety measure for traffic going in both directions."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"Leitrim County Council has only recently carried out a review of Speed Limits in the County and the location in question was not raised. The matter can be revisited again when the next review is carried out in 2013."

11/279
13/6/2011

Safety on the R280

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Sean McDermott;

"I will ask the Senior Executive Engineer to investigate the possibility of increasing safety on the R280 road coming into Manorhamilton from Carrick-on-Shannon, where there are housing estates and an entry to the Comprehensive school. It is a straight road and traffic travel at high speeds. Would it be possible to have traffic calming measures put in place and a sign at the Carrick road making motorists aware of a school entry ahead?"

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"The NRA Inspector has approved a Low Cost Safety Scheme for this location under the 2011 funding programme. Funding on this scheme is small and it is intended to erect Traffic Calming gateway signs on the R280 Carrick approach to Manorhamilton. The works here will be of a similar nature to gateway signs erected on the N16 approaches last year.

These works will commence after the summer holidays."

11/280
13/6/2011

Grass Cutting

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Sean McDermott;

"I ask Leitrim County Council to cut the grass on the approach roads to Kiltyclogher before the Sean Mac Diarmada's Summer School takes place."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"The Road verges on the approach roads to Kiltyclogher will be cut for the Sean Mac Diarmada Summer school week end."

11/281
13/6/2011

Water Treatment Plants

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Martin Kenny;

"I am asking the Director of Services, Infrastructure what is the cost per year to Leitrim County Council for the private management of the water treatment plants in Carrick-on-Shannon and Dromahair and how does this compare with the costs of the Council managing the facilities themselves."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"Two new plants are currently being commissioned at Dromahaire and Carrick under a Design, Build, Operate contract which includes the pump stations, but not the networks. The capital cost of the new plants including pumping stations is, Dromahaire €1.4 m euro and Carrick €8.0m euro.

When completed these Plants will be operated by Response Engineering Limited for the next 20 years. The annual cost for operations and maintenance including VAT of Dromahaire was €113, 000, and Carrick on Shannon was €329,000. The new treatment plants represent a very significant improvement on the original plants at both location, and cost comparisons in relation to operational costs with the original substandard treatment plants are not relevant.

The significant increase in the operations and maintenance costs for these two plants is due to the following:

1. The increase in size of the plants i.e.

Carrick on Shannon plant has increased from 3000 Population

Equivalent (PE) to 11,500 population equivalent and

Dromahaire has increased from a 1000 PE to a 2,200 PE plant.

Much higher flows are now being taken for treatment at these plants than before.

2. These new treatment plants must meet much higher standards of treatment and improved effluent discharges in accordance with the New Surface Water Regulations. The EPA has granted very strict Discharge Licences for both plants, which insures compliance with the much increased quality of the final effluent.

3. The contracts require full time operator attendance and 24 hour response to call outs and issues.

4. The Licensing of these plants requires a much higher standard of Quality Assurance with more detailed reporting than before."

11/282
13/6/21011

Road Repairs in the townland of Calloughs

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Martin Kenny;

"I am asking the Director of Services, Infrastructure when will the work be carried out to improve the bend and the road approaching it, at Jimmy McGovern's lane on the

Drumeela to Carrigallen road in the townland of Calloughs."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

This road is included in this years Road Works Programme and work will be carried out in the next two months

The meeting concluded at 8.30pm.

SIGNED: John McTernan
Cathaoirleach

SIGNED: Sinead Flynn
Meetings Administrator

DATE: 4th July 2011