Minutes of Meeting of Leitrim County Council held in the Council Chamber, Aras An Chontae, Carrick-on-Shannon, Co. Leitrim on Monday, 8th May 2018

Members Present: Councillor Bohan, Mary
Councillor Barry, Brendan
Councillor Dolan, Frank
Councillor Dolan, Gerry
Councillor Fallon, Padraig
Councillor Guckian, Des
Councillor Guckian, Sinead
Councillor Gurn, Felim
Councillor Logan, Seadhna
Councillor Mulvey, Caroline
Councillor McCartin, John
Councillor McDermott, Sean
Councillor McGowan, Sean
Councillor O'Rourke, Paddy
Councillor Stenson, Enda
Councillor Warnock, Justin

And Councillor Armstrong–McGuire, Finola
Cathaoirleach presiding

Apologies: Councillor Ellis, Caillian

Officials Present: Mr Lar Power, Chief Executive
Mr. Joseph Gilhooly, Director of Services, Economic Development, Planning, Environment and Transportation
Ms. Mary Quinn, Director of Services, Housing and Community, Corporate Services, Culture and Emergency Services
Mr. Vincent Dwyer, Head of Finance and Water Services
Mr Billy Lowe, Senior Engineer
Mr. Shay O'Connor, Senior Engineer
Mr. Bernard Greene, Senior Planner
Ms Vivienne Egan, Senior Executive Planner
Ms Una Wynne, Financial Management Accountant
Mr Shane Tiernan, Senior Executive Officer
Mr Darragh O'Boyle, Senior Executive Engineer
Ms Marie Mulligan, A/Senior Executive Engineer
Ms Johanna Daly, Administrative Officer
Mr Gerard Doyle, Administrative Officer
Ms. Joan Lowe, Meetings Administrator
Mr Finbarr Keaney, Staff Officer
Ms. Kathleen McGovern Ellis, Assistant Staff Officer

At the outset of the meeting the Cathaoirleach, Councillor Finola Armstrong McGuire welcomed Ms Dearbhla Rooney and congratulated her on winning a Silver Medal at the Youth Boxing Championship recently in Italy and wished her every success in her career in the future. Cathaoirleach, Councillor Finola Armstrong McGuire
presented Ms Dearbhla Rooney with a presentation piece on behalf of the Members and staff of Leitrim County Council.

18/66
08/05/2018  Votes of Sympathy

The Members extended a vote of sympathy to the following:

- Valerie Gallagher, Drumnasson, Drumkeerin, Co Leitrim on the death of Sean Gallagher.
- John Stringer & Family, Boeshill, Garadice, Ballinamore, Co Leitrim on the death of James (Jim) Boyle.
- Gerry, Colette & Hazel Mulvey, Drumcroman, Drumshanbo, Co Leitrim on the death of Francis (Sonny) Mulvey.

18/67
08/05/2018  Deimhniu Miontuairisci

Councillor Des Guckian expressed his dissatisfaction with the manner in which the amendment to Minute No 18/22 of 8th January 2018 minutes was reflected.

Mary Quinn, Director of Services, Housing and Community, Corporate Services, Culture and Emergency Services clarified that the amendment proposed at the 5th March 2018 meeting would have been incorporated into the 8th January 2018 minutes and undertook to amend the 5th March 2018 meeting minutes to reflect the matter.

Councillor Padraig Fallon requested the following amendment to the Minutes of the 5th March 2018 Council Meeting in regard to Minute No. 18/53 Item No. 12 under meeting correspondence

“Councillor Padraig Fallon expressed his disappointment with the reply received from Minister McGrath in this regard and said it was outrageous that a Minister with special responsibilities for Disabilities had no role to play in either the administration of the Disabled Drivers and Disabled Passengers Scheme or the setting of the qualifying criteria. Councillor Padraig Fallon proposed that a letter issue to Minister Paschal Donohoe in this regard”.

Proposed by Councillor Mary Bohan, seconded by Councillor Padraig Fallon and RESOLVED:

“That the Minutes of Leitrim County Council Meeting held in the Council Chamber, Aras An Chontae, Carrick-on-Shannon, Co Leitrim on Monday, 5th March 2018 be adopted”.

2
Development of 27 no. Dwelling houses at Autumn View, Summerhill, Townparks, Carrick-on-Shannon

Report Ref 18-C-01 from Mr. Lar Power, Chief Executive in relation to the development of 27 no. Dwelling houses at Autumn View, Summerhill, Townparks, Carrick-on-Shannon, Co Leitrim in accordance with Section 179 of the Planning & Development Acts 2000-2017 and Part 8 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001-2018, 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 Sean McGowan and UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED:

“That the development of 27 no. Dwelling houses at Autumn View, Summerhill, Townparks, Carrick-on-Shannon, Co Leitrim be approved”.

Disposal of land at Attirory, Carrick-on-Shannon

Notice of Intention dated 25th April 2018 from Shane Tiernan, Senior Executive Officer, Housing & Corporate Services in relation to the disposal of land at Attirory, Carrick-on-Shannon, Co Leitrim comprising of 0.87 hectares in the townland of Attirory, Carrick-on-Shannon, Co Leitrim in accordance with Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001 as circulated to all Members which appears as Appendix 2 to the Minutes of this meeting in the Minute Book.

- Councillor Seadhna Logan stated that he did not support the disposal of the land and said he believed the site was under valued and he queried if an alternative site could be obtained for a similar figure.

- Councillor Des Guckian indicated that he was in favour of the sale of the site and he insisted that the site should be used for a Research and Development building and that the €10,000 used to construct the access road in the Ros Na hInse Estate be recovered.

- Councillor Sinead Guckian supported the proposal and pointed out that she was not in favour of the access to the site through the Ros Na hInse Estate.

Proposed by Councillor Enda Stenson, seconded by Councillor Sinead Guckian and RESOLVED:

“That the disposal of land at Attirory, Carrick-on-Shannon, Co Leitrim comprising of 0.87 hectares in the townland of Attirory, Carrick-on-Shannon, Co Leitrim in accordance with Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001 and Notice of Intention dated 25th April 2018 as circulated to all Members be approved”.

3
Variation No 1 of the Leitrim County Development Plan 2015-2021

Report from Lar Power, Chief Executive in regard to Variation No 1 to the Leitrim County Development Plan 2015-2021 in accordance with Section 13 of the Planning and Development Acts 2000-2017 as circulated to the Members which appears as Appendix 3 to the Minutes of this meeting in the Minute Book.

- Councillor Des Guckian queried as to how much the two variations would cost.

Mr Joseph Gilhooly confirmed that the work has been carried out through the Council’s resources and it cost €3,500 for both variations.

Proposed by Councillor Sean McGowan, seconded by Councillor Enda Stenson and RESOLVED:

“That Variation No 1 to the County Development Plan 2015-2021 in accordance with Section 13 of the Planning and Development Acts 2000-2017 be approved”.

Amendment No 2 of the Carrick-on-Shannon Local Area Plan 2010-2019

Report from Lar Power, Chief Executive in regard to Amendment No 2 to the Carrick-on-Shannon Local Area Plan 2012-2019 in accordance with Section 20 of the Planning and Development Acts 2000-2017 as circulated to the Members which appears as Appendix 4 to the Minutes of this meeting in the Minute Book.

Proposed by Councillor Sean McGowan, seconded by Councillor Enda Stenson and RESOLVED:

“That Amendment No 2 to the Carrick-on-Shannon Local Area Plan 2012-2019 in accordance with Section 20 of the Planning And Development Acts 2000-2017 be approved”.

Casual Trading Byelaws 2018

Report from Lar Power, Chief Executive recommending the adoption of the proposed Casual Trading Byelaws 2018 in accordance with Section 6 of the Casual Trading Act 1995 in relation to the control, regulation, supervision and administration of casual trading in County Leitrim as circulated to the Members which appears as Appendix 5 to the Minutes to the Minutes of this meeting in the Minute Book.
- Councillor Padraig Fallon queried as to what benefits will be achieved from removing sites and what is the process if someone wants to trade at these sites in a year and he proposed that a site be added at Glencar in North Leitrim. Councillor Fallon referred to a trader who is trading at Glencar Waterfall with no licence for the last 8 years, who pays his taxes etc and the trader in question has been unable to regularise the matter. Councillor Fallon believes the service he has available at this location is an asset to this attraction, where 100,000 people visit each year.

Mr Joseph Gilhooly, Director of Services, Planning, Environment and Transportation advised that all the existing designated Casual Trading Pitches are located within urban areas and when deciding whether to designate any land as a casual trading area or to revoke a designation made in Bye-Laws under the Act, a Local Authority shall have regard to the proper planning and development of its functional area (including the preservation and improvement of the amenities thereof), the development plan for its functional area and any special amenity order relating to its functional area, the traffic likely to be generated by the casual trading in the casual trading area and all other matters that it considers relevant to its decision. Mr Gilhooly noted that there is no demand for some of the pitches that were put on public display and considered by the Economic Development, Enterprise & Planning SPC.

Mr Gilhooly outlined that 6 submissions were received requesting to have a casual trading area designated at Glencar Waterfall and 8 submissions offered support to the existing casual trader (ice cream van) who trades from the Glencar Waterfall car park. Mr Gilhooly advised that this proposal was not one of the amendments proposed in the Draft Bye Laws 2018 advertised in January. He further advised that the provisions of Section 6 of the Casual Trading Act 2005 require that the public be notified and submissions requested in order to introduce new designated casual trading area(s). These submissions cannot therefore be considered further as part of the current process of considering the Draft Casual Trading bye laws as published.

Mr Bernard Greene, Senior Planner noted that no submission was received from the trader but 6 submissions were received on his behalf.

- Councillor Frank Dolan queried as to when this issue can be looked at.

Mr Joseph Gilhooly advised that currently there are ongoing legal proceedings and this matter cannot be dealt with until such time as these proceedings are resolved.

**Proposed by Councillor Mary Bohan, seconded by Councillor Felim Gurn and RESOLVED:**

“The Casual Trading Byelaws 2018 pursuant to Section 6 of the Casual Trading Act 1995 in relation to the control, regulation, supervision and administration of casual trading in Co. Leitrim be adopted.”
The Annual Financial Statement for Leitrim County Council for the year ended 31st December, 2017 as circulated to the Members appears as Appendix 6 to the Minutes of this meeting in the Minute Book.

Mr. Vincent Dwyer, Head of Finance & Water Services advised Members that Leitrim County Council had continued to implement a programme of monitoring and review of expenditure to ensure that budgetary limits are not exceeded. The effect of such tight budgetary management and control has resulted in a surplus of €2,374 leaving a reduced cumulative deficit of €264,105 at the end of 2017. Total revenue expenditure by Leitrim County Council in 2017 was €34,713,437. The total capital expenditure by Leitrim County Council in 2017 was €8,476,329. Income received from NPPR was greater than anticipated. Budgeted income was €220,000 while actual income received was €498,043.

In 2017, Leitrim County Council continued to pursue the collection of outstanding revenue through a combination of engagement and enforcement. In this regard, Commercial Rates Collection has increased to 82% in 2017. Leitrim County Council has also increased the bad debt provision for Commercial Rates.

This update was welcomed by the Members and the following items were raised:

- Councillor Mary Bohan queried if there was a reduction in the Group Water Scheme allocation.

Mr. Vincent Dwyer, Head of Finance advised that there was no reduction in the allocation to Group Water Schemes. He confirmed that the reduction in allocation received was in respect of administration costs and this will have no effect on funding available to Group Water Schemes.

- Councillor Mary Bohan noted that this was a very important sector and a lot of good voluntary work is being done with Group Water Schemes. Councillor Bohan proposed that a letter issue to the Minister to receive more funding. Councillor Sinead Guckian supported this.

- Councillor Des Guckian sought clarification on where the figure of €10,000 in regard to access road at Attirory is shown in the statement.

Mr. Vincent Dwyer advised that this is part of the Capital Account and is reflected in the Balance Sheet and the accounts are subject to Audit and Verification.

- Councillor Mary Bohan outlined that the Accounts are audited and if the Auditor has an issue it will be referred back to the Council.
Proposed by Councillor Mary Bohan, seconded by Councillor Sean McGowan
AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED;

“That Leitrim County Council’s Annual Financial Statement for the Year ended 31st December, 2017 be adopted in accordance with Section 108 of the Local Government Act, 2001.”

18/74
08/05/2018 Additional Expenditure incurred by Leitrim County Council during 2017

Mr. Vincent Dwyer provided an overview of the report on additional expenditure incurred by Leitrim County Council in 2017. Mr. Dwyer outlined that in accordance with Section (108) 4 of the Local Government Act, 2001 the approval of the Members is sought for the additional expenditure incurred by Leitrim County Council in 2017. The report as circulated to the Members, appears as Appendix 7 to the Minutes of this meeting in the Minute Book.

Proposed by Councillor Padraig Fallon seconded by Councillor Sinead Guckian AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED;

“That additional expenditure incurred by Leitrim County Council in the performance of its functions in 2017 in accordance with the provisions of Section 108(4) of the Local Government Act, 2001 be approved”

18/75
08/05/2018 Special Speed Limit Bye-Laws 2018 for County Leitrim

Report from Mr Seamus O’Connor, Senior Engineer, dated 1st May 2018 in regard to making new Speed Limit Bye-laws for the County of Leitrim as circulated to the Members appears as Appendix 8 to the Minutes of this meeting in the Minute Book.

Mr O’Connor advised that the proposed review of Speed Limits in the County was discussed at Municipal District Meetings on 4 occasions. Maps are available for inspection. TII has given consent to the proposals insofar as they relate to the National Roads in Leitrim.

- Councillor Justin Warnock queried as to when the signage will be erected at Tullaghan.

Mr Shay O’Connor advised that the proposed Bye-Laws will be implemented with effect from 2nd July 2018.

Proposed by Councillor Des Guckian seconded by Councillor Padraig Fallon
AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED;

All Members thanked Mr O’Connor for his assistance and co-operation in this regard.

18/76
08/05/2018 Draft Annual Report 2017

Mary Quinn, Director of Services, Housing, Community, Corporate Services, Culture and Emergency Services informed the Members that the Draft Annual Report, 2017 is listed as an agenda item for adoption. The Draft Annual Report, 2017 as circulated to the Members appears as Appendix 9 to the Minutes of this meeting in the Minute Book.

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

“That Leitrim County Council’s Draft Annual Report, 2017 be adopted”.

18/77
08/05/2018 Date and Time of the Annual Meeting of Leitrim County Council

The Cathaoirleach, Councillor Finola Armstrong McGuire informed the Members that the Corporate Policy Group agreed that the Annual Meeting of Leitrim County Council will be held on Friday, 29th June, 2018 at 12 midday.

Proposed by Councillor Sinead Guckian, seconded by Councillor Brenda Barry
AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED;

“That the Annual Meeting of Leitrim County Council be held on Friday, 29th June, 2018 at 12 midday in the Council Chamber, Aras an Chontae, Carrick on Shannon, Co. Leitrim.”

18/78
08/05/2018 Monthly Management Reports by the Chief Executive

Monthly Management Reports for the period 1st February, 2018 to 28th February 2018 and 1st March, 2018 to 31st March 2018 by Lar Power, Chief Executive, dated 14th March, 2018 and 13th April 2018 respectively, prepared in accordance with Section 136 (2) of the Local Government Act, 2001 as inserted by Section 51 of the Local Government Reform Act, 2014, as circulated to the Members, appears as Appendix 10 and Appendix 11 to the Minutes of this meeting in the Minute Book.

The reports as circulated were noted by the Members.
Mr Joseph Gilhooly, Director of Services, Economic Development, Planning, Environment and Transportation advised that Leitrim County Council is now inviting Expressions of Interest from town/village community and business interests for inclusion in The Town and Village Renewal Scheme 2018.

Mr Gilhooly indicated that the Scheme is an initiative under the Government’s Action Plan for Rural Development, *Realising our Rural Potential*, and the recently announced *Project Ireland 2040*, and is designed to help rural Ireland achieve its full economic and social potential. It is part of a package of national and local support measures to rejuvenate rural towns and villages throughout Ireland.

Selection of projects under the Town and Village Renewal Scheme for 2018 will be by means of a competitive process.

- As only a limited number of applications can be submitted to the Department in accordance with the terms of the scheme, projects will be assessed based on the quality of information supplied at the Expression of Interest stage.
- Successful expressions of interest applicants will be contacted in regard to the completion of the final Application to be submitted to the Department for consideration in the competitive process nationally.
- Applications should be submitted to Leitrim County Council by 4.00 pm on Wednesday 23rd May 2018.

Mary Quinn, Director of Services, Housing, Community, Corporate Services, Culture and Emergency Services advised the Members that no SPC meetings have taken place since the last Council meeting.

Ms Quinn also advised that a Protocol for dealing with invitations received by the Cathaoirleach to attend meetings and other events had been agreed by the members of the Corporate Policy Group.

She also indicated that an update from the Leitrim Local Community Development Committee was received which included details of actions taken in relation to:

- Leitrim Peace Partnership
- Healthy Ireland
- Social Inclusion & Community Activation Programme
- Leader (Rural Development)
Ms. Quinn also outlined that an over-view of items listed on the agenda for the Council meeting was provided and that the attendance of Members at forthcoming Conferences/Seminars was also agreed by the Corporate Policy Group.

18/81
08/05/2018 Conferences/Training

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

“That the attendance of Councillor Mary Bohan, Councillor Justin Warnock, Councillor Sinead Guckian, Councillor Enda Stenson, Councillor Frank Dolan, Councillor Padraig Fallon and Councillor Sean McDermott at AILG Training in the Castle Court Hotel, Westport, Co Mayo on the 19th May 2018 be approved”.

18/82
08/05/2018 Meeting Correspondence

1 Letter dated 28th February 2018 from the Department of Finance acknowledging receipt of Resolution passed by Leitrim County Council in regard to the Disabilities Tax Relief Scheme.

1(a) Letter of acknowledgment dated 29th March 2018 from the Department of Finance in regard to the Disabled Drivers and Disabled Passengers (Tax Concessions) Scheme.

1(b) Letter dated 13th April 2018 from the Department of Finance in regard to the Disabilities Tax Relief Scheme.

2 Letter dated 27th February 2018 from the Department of Rural and Community Development acknowledging receipt of Resolution passed by Leitrim County Council in relation to Ballagh Centre in Rossinver.

2(a) Letter dated 23rd April 2018 from the Department of Rural and Community Development in regard to Rossinver Community Development Company.

3 Resolution dated 13th March 2018 from Clare County Council calling on the Minister for Trade and Employment to introduce financial incentives to companies who are prepared to employ apprentices.

Proposed by Councillor Sinead Guckian, seconded by Councillor Sean McGowan AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED
“That Leitrim County Council call on the Minister for Trade and Employment to introduce financial incentives to companies who are prepared to employ apprentices”.

4 Resolution dated 13th March 2018 from Clare County Council calling on the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment in view of the recent study findings issued by NUIG that 73% of deep water fish living in North West Atlantic Ocean had ingested micro plastic, which is one of the highest recordings found worldwide; to tackle this ticking time bomb before it is too late.

5 Resolution dated 13th March 2018 from Clare County Council supporting the call for publicly-funded higher education and rejects income contingent loans.

6 Resolution dated 13th March 2018 from Clare County Council calling on the Minister for Housing, Environment and Local Government and the Minister for Finance to put in place a redress scheme to provide financial support to purchasers of houses and apartments who now find that their property was not properly constructed and is non-compliant with Building and Fire Regulations. These homeowners are victims of poor building methods and are now facing huge expense to address the necessary measures to bring their property up to a safe and compliant level. The Purchasers of these properties followed due process in acquiring their property and trusted the legal, planning and regulatory measures in place to protect them, but now find they are exposed to costs they cannot afford and could in extreme cases face the possibility of being rendered homeless if necessary remedial safety works are not carried out.

7 Letter dated 14th March 2018 from the Department of Employment Affairs and Social Protection in regard to Resolution passed by Leitrim County Council in regard to the State pension provision.

8 Resolution dated 29th March 2018 from Sligo County Council calling on the Gaelic Association to ensure any matches broadcast on channels requiring subscription fees are also made available on free to air television in order to allow access for everyone in the country to view matches. This should be done in order to reflect that the GAA is a unique part of Irish Culture which belongs to the Irish people and has been built by their efforts along with significant State investment from taxpayers money.

9 Letter dated 5th April 2018 from Transport Infrastructure Ireland regarding funding for national roads in County Leitrim.

10 Letter dated 5th April 2018 from General Manager, Mental Health Services, HSE in relation to CAMHS Services.

Councillor Seadhna Logan expressed his disappointment that no posts have been sanctioned for Leitrim and he insisted that pressure still needs to be put on the HSE in regard to the CAMHS Services.
11 Resolution dated 5th April 2018 from Donegal County Council calling on the Government to review the way Community Employment Schemes are being negatively affected by changes introduced over the last few years.

12 Letter dated 11th April 2018 from the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government regarding the collection of waste.

13 Letter dated 11th April 2018 from the Office of the Minister for Housing, Planning and Local Government acknowledging receipt of Resolution passed by Leitrim County Council in regard to Planning Permission and septic tanks.

13(a) Letter dated 27th April 2018 from the EPA acknowledging receipt of Resolution passed by Members of Leitrim County Council in regard to the EPA Code of Practice: Wastewater Treatment and Disposal Systems Serving Single Houses.

Councillor Des Guckian noted the contents of the letter from EPA.

14 Letter dated 9th April 2018 from the Office of the Minister for Justice and Equality regarding the amount of grant aid payable for Community CCTV.

15 Letter dated 11th April 2018 from the Office of the Taoiseach acknowledging receipt of Resolution passed by Leitrim County Council in regard to upgrading of the N4 between Mullingar and County Leitrim, Carrick-on-Shannon and Castlebaldwin to Collooney.

16 Letter dated 13th April 2018 from the Office of the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine acknowledging receipt of Resolution passed by Leitrim County Council in regard to Forestry Grants and Premiums.

17 Memo from Aideen McGovern, Senior Executive Officer, Human Resources dated 19th April 2018 setting out the key changes in the Student Scheme in 2018/2019.

18 Letter dated 13th April 2018 from Chief Officer, Community Health Organisation, HSE in regard to Chiropody Services in Leitrim.

19 Letter dated 24th April 2018 acknowledging receipt of Resolution passed by Leitrim County Council in regard to Local Improvement Scheme.

20 Email received 26th April 2018 with the NWRA Cathaoirleach’s Newsletter.

21 Resolution dated 25th April 2018 from Kerry County Council calling on the Minister for Health to request the HSE to review the decision to restrict the use of Versatis pain relief patches to publish in chronic pain outside those experiencing post herpatic neuralgia and to revert to the Pre December status while this review is being undertaken.
22. Resolution dated 26th April 2018 from Carlow County Council asking the Minister for Agriculture to consider payment of €200/hd for suckler cows.

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

   “That Leitrim County Council ask the Minister for Agriculture to consider payment of €200/hd for suckler cows”.

**Notices of Motions**

18/83 08/05/2018 **Housing Allocations**

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

"That Members of Leitrim County Council agree that a list of priorities be established by Leitrim County Council, for housing allocations. This list to include the lengths applicants are on the list and their immediate needs, but never to include applications coming from far away places, such as the Dublin Region, who are seeking to jump an already over-long waiting list."

**Report by Director of Services, Housing, Community, Corporate, Culture and Emergency Services**

"Leitrim County Council adopted its current housing Allocation Scheme in January 2016. This scheme sets out the order of priorities in the making of an allocation. All applications are assessed in accordance with the Social Housing Assessment Regulations of 2011 and under these regulations a household is entitled to apply to the authority in whose functional area it normally resides, notwithstanding this an application can be made to another local authority provided the household can demonstrate a local connection with the area. This would include an applicant or any member of his/her household having resided at any time for a continuous 5 year period in the area, being currently employed in the area, is attending full time education or a specialist medical facility and whether the applicant household has relatives living in the area for 2 years or longer."

- Councillor Des Guckian gave the background to his motion and proposed that a list of priorities be made to include the length applicants are on the list and their immediate needs, but never to include applications coming from far away places, such as the Dublin Region, who are seeking to jump an already over-long waiting list and he noted that Leitrim County Council “must look after our own”.

Ms Mary Quinn advised that all applications for housing are accessed in accordance with the Social Housing Assessment Regulations of 2011 and this makes provision for people with local connections to the area.
- Councillor Mary Bohan cited the language used like “looking after our own” and that care should be taken with how it is used. Councillor Bohan stressed that Leitrim County Council have always had regard to the Statutory Regulations when dealing with all applications. She stated that Leitrim has always been a welcoming place and the connection to the area is important and she knows Leitrim County Council is very helpful to families seeking social housing.

- Councillor Sean McDermott noted that the Local Authority should be careful and not be too rigid and he referred to the situation in Kiltyclogher last year.

- Councillor Enda Stenson cited that Aughavas and Tarmon were featured in the Leitrim Observer last week looking for families from outside the county to come in and make schools and communities viable. Both rural areas have campaigned to promote their localities to families in Dublin and internationally. They need young people to enrol in their schools to keep numbers high enough to maintain teachers and to prevent closure and new families have to be welcomed.

- Councillor Seadhna Logan paid tribute to the great work of the Housing staff of Leitrim County Council and welcomed the positive meeting with the Simon Community.

- Councillor Justin Warnock insisted that there is a need for people to come and live in this County in order for it to survive and he insisted that a greater interaction should take place between local authorities in relation to individuals on numerous housing lists.

- Councillor Padraig Fallon outlined that the Rural Renewal Scheme needs to be looked at.

- Councillor Des Guckian said the motion referred to Carrick-on-Shannon. He acknowledged that other areas are worthy and welcomed the initiatives in Kiltyclogher and Aughavas and said it was great to get young people into these areas.

18/84
08/05/2018 Medical Cards

The Cathaoirleach, Councillor Finola Armstrong McGuire proposed that Motion No 19 in the name of Councillor Sinead Guckian would be taken concurrently as they both relate to the same matter. This was agreed by the Members

To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Padraig Fallon:

"I propose that Leitrim County Council call on Minister Harris his Department and the HSE to automatically award medical cards to people who receive a cancer
To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Sinead Guckian:

"I ask for the support of the members of Leitrim County Council in calling on the Minister for Health, Simon Harris TD, to intervene in the HSE’s decision of not automatically awarding medical cards to cancer patients, and, to issue a directive from Government, to ensure that all patients who receive a cancer diagnosis are awarded a medical card."

- Councillor Padraig Fallon stated that people who receive a cancer diagnosis should not have to worry about medical cards and should be automatically awarded a medical card on a temporary basis. Councillor Padraig Fallon proposed that this motion be forwarded to all Local Authorities.

- Councillor Sinead Guckian said that she is aware of a woman who has been trying to work her way through the process of applying for a medical card for the past 2 months, and still doesn’t know if she’ll get anything at the end of it. Councillor Sinead Guckian highlighted that people who are facing the physical and mental stress of a cancer diagnosis should not have the added stress of battling for their rights.

- Councillor Des Guckian supported both motions.

Proposed by Councillor Padraig Fallon, seconded by Councillor Sinead Guckian AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED:

"That Leitrim County Council call on Minister Harris his Department and the HSE to automatically award medical cards to people who receive a cancer diagnosis."

"That Leitrim County Council call on the Minister for Health, Simon Harris TD, to intervene in the HSE’s decision of not automatically awarding medical cards to cancer patients, and, to issue a directive from Government, to ensure that all patients who receive a cancer diagnosis are awarded a medical card."

To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Finola Armstrong-McGuire:

"I am calling on Leitrim County Council to engage with Irish Water on behalf of the ratepayers of the county in regard to ‘Planned Water Outages’ in towns and villages. During the past month there was a 'planned outage' in Carrick which was relayed through social media. Such notice is not sufficient. Communication must be more
formal as business must put a plan in place if water is restricted. The cost today of a water outage is much greater than heretofore. Every business involves customer service and Irish water must provide a service to the standard that its customers deserve."

**Report by Head of Finance & Water Services**
"The outage referred to was a Planned Outage, to facilitate a new large diameter connection. Water Services staff notified Irish Water and also contacted the bigger users by phone 3 days in advance and advertised it on Social Media. A number of Local Radio slots were given also. Irish Water are currently developing a policy around the whole issue of dealing with outages and Leitrim County Council will engage in that process. In the meantime we will seek to give adequate notice to all consumers."

- Councillor Finola Armstrong McGuire insisted that Irish Water need to engage with businesses and she noted that they have written to Irish Water and have had no reply. Councillor Armstrong McGuire insisted that the cost of water outage today is a lot greater than heretofore. Coffee shops, restaurants and hotels have large machines plugged into the mains and the loss of water can severely damage expensive machines. She asked why works cannot be carried from 9 pm to 1 am or 6 am to 10 am instead of at peak time from 11 am to 2 pm.

Mr William Lowe, Senior Engineer advised that Irish Water are currently developing a policy around the area of dealing with water outages and that the Council cannot work at night due to health and safety.

- Councillor Brendan Barry supported the motions and referred to the Food Hub in Drumshanbo who had to shut down the whole operation when there was a water outage because the facility is on high ground. Councillor Barry cited that the email that Councillors are sent notifying them of water outages should also be sent to local businesses in the area who are affected by the water outage.

18/86  
08/05/2018  
**Areas of Natural Constraints**

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

"I seek the support of Members in calling on the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine to designate all of County Leitrim as a Disadvantaged area for the purpose of Areas of Natural Constraints (ANC) Scheme payments from 2019."

- Councillor Sean McGowan outlined that this compensation could help farmers stay on the land and could cut out the increasing selling out to forestry.

- Councillors Enda Stenson, Councillor Justin Warnock and Councillor Brendan Barry supported the motion.
Proposed by Councillor Sean McGowan, seconded by Councillor Enda Stenson AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED

“That Leitrim County Council call on the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine to designate all of County Leitrim as a Disadvantaged area for the purpose of Areas of Natural Constraints (ANC) Scheme payments from 2019.

18/87
08/05/2018  Discharge from Septic tanks from one off houses

To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Justin Warnock;

“I ask Leitrim County Council to invite the Environmental Health Officer for Fermanagh and Omagh District Council to give a presentation to the Elected Members on how that authority deals with discharge from septic tanks from one off houses in rural County Fermanagh”

- Councillor Justin Warnock gave the background to his motion and said that Leitrim cannot afford to wait any long on the issue of discharge from septic tanks for one off houses and called on the support of the Members to invite the Environmental Health Officer for Fermanagh and Omagh District Council to give a presentation to the Elected Members.

- Councillor Mary Bohan, Councillor Sean McDermott, Councillor Enda Stenson, Councillor Gerry Dolan and Councillor Sean McGowan supported the motion.

Mr Joseph Gilhooly, Director of Services, Economic Development, Planning, Environment and Transportation advised that the same strict standards do not apply in Fermanagh as here. Mr Gilhooly confirmed that Mr Lar Power, Chief Executive and himself have been in negotiations with Minister Michael Ring responsible for Rural & Community Affairs to see if the Department could provide funding for the pilot programme and Minister Ring has been very receptive and the submission he requested has been relayed to him.

- Councillor Padraig Fallon supported the motion and said that legislators in the Dail should be contacted in this regard.

- Councillor Des Guckian said that EPA Regulations for zero discharge is way over the top and he referred to the contents of a letter dated 27th April 2018 from EPA in regard to Planning Permission for Rural Houses. Councillor Brendan Barry sought clarification on the definition of “Surface Water” which is referred to in the EPA correspondence.

- Councillor Paddy O’Rourke referred to a service arrangement to dispose of effluent to a treatment plant after a particular process has taken place at the holding/at the house. Councillor O’Rourke expressed his failure to see what the
difference is and the serious effect the adding to the sewerage system all at once from a public building of 600 people in a day e.g. a school that has been closed for a number of months and moving waste from 5 or 6 houses to a treatment plant.

Mr Joseph Gilhooly, Director of Services, Economic Development, Planning, Environment and Transportation advised that the Code of Practice does not specify zero discharge from septic tanks. Mr Gilhooly stated that depending on characteristics of the site more than one option may be available for the development of on-site domestic wastewater treatment system discharging to groundwater and this is currently being investigated.

- Councillor Paddy O'Rourke queried as to how many applicants are in the pilot scheme.

Joseph Gilhooly, Director of Services, Economic Development, Planning, Environment and Transportation advised that 9 indicated that they are still interested in the pilot scheme.

- Councillor Felim Gurn outlined that not everyone can live in towns and this issue needs to be dealt with quickly as this is having a serious effect on development fees, quarries, construction workers, etc.

- Councillor Padraig Fallon queried if the T Test was increased from 90 to 120 would it make some difference.

Joseph Gilhooly, Director of Services, Economic Development, Planning, Environment and Transportation advised that even increasing the T Test from 90 to 120 won’t even help given soil conditions in Leitrim.

Proposed by Councillor Justin Warnock, seconded by Councillor Mary Bohan AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED

“That Leitrim County Council invite the Environmental Health Officer for Fermanagh and Omagh District Council to give a presentation to the Elected Members on how that authority deals with discharge from septic tanks from one off houses in rural County Fermanagh”

18/88  08/05/2018  Wonderful Achievement of Dearbhla Rooney

To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Felim Gurn;

"In recognition of the wonderful achievement by Manorhamilton's Dearbhla Rooney in winning a silver medal at the European Youth Boxing Championships, I propose
that the Council write a congratulatory letter on behalf of the people of Leitrim to her and the Sean McDermott Boxing Club."

- Councillor Felim Gurn congratulated Dearbha Rooney on winning a silver medal at the European Youth Boxing Championships and paid tribute to the Sean McDermott Boxing Club.

- Councillor Gerry Dolan seconded this motion and paid tribute to the Leitrim County Team on their great performance in New York recently.

18/89
08/05/2018                      Marketing Campaign

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

"While Tourism within Leitrim is one of our Major Employers, I'm asking is there more that we can do to sell the uniqueness, clean air, and peaceful surroundings that we have here. Too often when we hear Leitrim mentioned its in a negative way, but we have, Glencar Waterfall, Lough Rynn Rowing Centre, The Shannon, Excellent Blue and Greenways, etc, etc. I believe we should brand this, and have a Major marketing campaign, we had a few years back The Roots Festival, Leitrim Ambassador programme, and many more, this push for recognition needs to be Kick Started again."

Report by Director of Services for Economic Development, Planning, Environment and Transportation.

"As set out in the Notice of Motion Tourism in Leitrim has considerable potential and the promotion and marketing of the County is ongoing each year with different opportunities and initiatives used where relevant and resources allow. I outline hereunder a sample of some marketing and promotional initiatives used during 2017:

Jan 2017
• Attendance at Holiday World Belfast - Jan 20th – 22nd and at Holiday World Dublin – Jan 27th – 29th Trade were also invited to join the stand to promote their offerings

Feb /Mar 2017
• Supported attendance at angling shows in Ireland, UK and Holland with local angling groups attending
• Angling Ireland Show in Dublin – Feb 17th – 19th
• VISMA Angling in Rotterdam – Mar 3rd – 5th and at
• The Big One Angling Expo in Farnborough UK

April 2017
• Attendance at Meitheal 2017 which is Fáilte Ireland's largest in-Ireland event
where over 300 international buyers attend a two day workshop with pre-arranged scheduled appointments between Irish trade partners and overseas buyers. Leitrim secured many appointments with interested tour operators across the two days.

May 2017
• Hosted a travel blogger who experienced what Co Leitrim offers its visitors over a 4 day stay in the county and who then went on to write on her experiences on her blog Eat Sleep Chic. Her posts were shared both nationally and internationally creating widespread publicity for Leitrim and what it has to offer.

During June July and August 2017
• Leitrim County Council provided financial support to a number of festivals and events throughout the county some of which would have received national media coverage e.g. An Tostal - Stylish Silage competition and the Cowboys and Heroes weekend both of which received national media coverage.
• Other festivals that received support included The Sean Mac Diarmada Summer School and the IWAI Boat Rally both of which have a national and international audience and attendance.

September 2017
• Attended the National Ploughing Championships in Screggan, Co Offaly

October 2017
• Attended the 50+ Expo Trade Show 20th – 22nd Oct at the RDS in Dublin.

November 2017
• Supported Angling Tourism providers with attendance at the Angling show in Kortrijk in Belgium

Quarter One 2018
• Attendance at the Adventure Travel Conference and Workshop in London where the County was promoted to 15 key tour operators who deal specifically with Adventure Holidays
• Design and preparation of a presence for the County in the Ireland West Airport Go West Magazine where Leitrim will feature in a publication which has a potential audience of 750,000
• Malaysia TV visited the County as part of tourism awareness initiative and their filming featured areas such as the Shannon, Glencar Waterfall, Parkes Castle and Scarden Waterfall
• ITOA workshop was attended where the reach is to 4,000 global travel trade partners and customers
• The County was represented again at Meitheal, reaching over 19 different countries promoting Slow Adventure concepts.

In particular there has been an ongoing project over the last two years with the objective of establishing Leitrim as the ‘Capital’ for Slow Adventure Tourism
destination which is a brand of increasing international recognition. Leitrim, because of its rural nature is ideally suited to the concept. Attendance at Meitheal in both 2017 and this year has highlighted how important this area is with both coach tour operators and companies catering for small groups who are looking for new destinations. There is significant interest from a number of tour operators who are very excited about the offering.

We have been working with the providers and have put together a number of Slow Adventure experiences: 9 activity and 3 overnight packages. We have conducted extensive test and digital marketing campaigns which have been well received. We are planning to host a number of journalists on Slow Adventure experiences throughout the summer which will bring Leitrim and the concept to a wider audience. Cumulating is an official launch of the concept for the County in the Autumn of 2018 and which also fits very well with Ireland’s Hidden Heartlands branding."

- Councillor Enda Stenson welcomed the comprehensive reply. The motion was supported by all Members and the need for Leitrim to be undivided in Wild Atlantic Way and Hidden Heartland was highlighted.

Mr Joseph Gilhooly, Director of Services, Economic Development, Planning, Environment and Transportation advised that an ongoing project over the last two years with the objective of establishing Leitrim as the ‘Capital’ for Slow Adventure Tourism destination which is a brand of increasing international recognition of Leitrim, because of its rural nature is ideally suited to the concept. Attendance at Meitheal in both 2017 and this year has highlighted how important this area is with both coach tour operators and companies catering for small groups who are looking for new destinations. There is significant interest from a number of tour operators who are very excited about the offering.

- Councillor John McCartin paid tribute to the work of Leitrim County Council on the Slow Adventure Tourism/ Hidden Heartland branding and the financial support for Connacht Fleadh which is taking place from 7th to 8th July 2018 in Ballinamore and which will attract thousands of people to the county.

- Councillor Paddy O’Rourke referred to an issue in Ballinamore with Waterways Ireland which needs to be resolved quickly and it is important that the Executive work with Waterways Ireland to resolve the issue.

In reply to Councillor Paddy O’Rourke, Joseph Gilhooly, Director of Services, Economic Development, Planning, Environment and Transportation advised that discussions are taking place with Mr Joe Gillespie, Waterways Ireland in this regard.

- Councillor Seadhna Logan requested that there is an even spread across each Municipal District when visitors come to this county and it is extremely important that there is collaboration between the three Municipal Districts.

Mr Joseph Gilhooly confirmed that there will be an even spread across the Municipal Districts in regard to tourism in the County.
To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Brendan Barry;

"I request that Leitrim County Council call on the HSE to urgently make more nursing home places available in Ballinamore, Carrick on Shannon and Manorhamilton Co. Leitrim and to increase home help hours to assist families to care for their loved ones in their own homes where practical."

- Councillor Brendan Barry said that nationally home help hours have increased but not in Leitrim. Councillor Barry said there is a need to look after and give quality care to Older People who have contributed so much to society and they should be located near to their communities.

- Councillor Mary Bohan said it is important that people have their own space and are within their own community which makes them so happy. Councillor Bohan proposed that the Government should be called upon in this regard and that a letter should issue to the Minister for Health in this regard. Councillor Des Guckian supported this.

- Councillor Finola Armstrong McGuire advised that this issue will continue to be raised at the Health Forum Meetings.

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

"That Leitrim County Council call on the HSE to urgently make more nursing home places available in Ballinamore, Carrick on Shannon and Manorhamilton Co. Leitrim and to increase home help hours to assist families to care for their loved ones in their own homes where practical."

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

"I raise this issue of recycling, I have received letters and phone calls about the collection and disposal of mattresses to recycling centres. I am aware that some furniture stores oblige their customers, who have no means of carriage to do so, by transporting their used mattress to the recycling centre. These stores have been told they can no longer give this service because of the Councils demands and concern
is, this is going to lead to further illegal dumping."

**Report by Director of Services for Economic Development, Planning, Environment and Transportation.**

"The Civic Amenity Sites are for domestic house owners only who can dispose of Mattresses at both Mohill & Manorhamilton CAS sites. It is not for commercial operators who are required to comply with Waste Management legislation and inspection regimes set in place by EPA/CU WERLA regards Waste enforcement."

- Councillor Sean McDermott said he has been involved in litter picking for the last 11 years and each year it is getting worse. Councillor Sean McDermott noted that many furniture stores oblige their customers that have no way of bringing such materials to the recycling centre. Councillor Sean McDermott stressed that it should be made easier for all people to be able to dispose of old mattresses.

- Councillor Enda Stenson supported the motion.

Mr Joseph Gilhooly, Director of Services for Economic Development, Planning, Environment and Transportation outlined that Civic Amenity Sites are not provided for Commercial operators.

18/92
08/05/2018  **Local Improvement Schemes in Leitrim**

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

"I propose that Leitrim County Council call on Shane Ross TD, Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport to make a once off allocation of funding to clear the back log of L.I.S schemes in Leitrim as a matter of urgency."

**Report by Director of Services for Economic Development, Planning, Environment and Transportation.**

"This Council recently made a submission to the Department of Rural and Community Development seeking €4.6m to clear the backlog of LIS schemes in Leitrim."

- Councillor Mary Bohan said that she didn’t think the figure in the reply is realistic as this money is coming out of the Rural Development Programme. Councillor Bohan stated that funding for Local Improvement Schemes should be coming from the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport.

- All members supported the motion.

- Councillor Mary Bohan proposed that all Oireachtas Members for the Sligo Leitrim Constituency be sent a copy of this Resolution.

- Councillor Padraig Fallon insisted that the scheme should be opened immediately and make the Government aware of the backlog of LIS schemes in
Leitrim.

Mr Shay O’Connor noted that funding of LIS Schemes has been moved from the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport to the Department Rural and Community Development.

- Councillor Seadhna Logan sought clarification on why Roscommon County Council are getting more roads done than Leitrim. Mr O’Connor advised that the Standards are set by the Department. Roscommon County Council in some cases offer the materials only for Local Improvement Schemes.

**Proposed by Councillor Mary Bohan, seconded by Councillor Enda Stenson**

AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED

"That Leitrim County Council call on Shane Ross TD, Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport to make a once off allocation of funding to clear the back log of L.I.S schemes in Leitrim as a matter of urgency."

18/93

08/05/2018  Irish Emigrants returning to Ireland

To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Caroline Mulvey;

"I request Leitrim County Council to write to the Minister of State and the Minister of Transport and require immediate changes to the treatment of Irish emigrants returning to Ireland."

- Councillor Caroline Mulvey gave the background to her motion and called on the Minister to make immediate changes to the treatment of Irish Emigrants returning home.

- Councillor Mary Bohan supported the motion and referred to a similar motion she submitted last year.

- Councillor Des Guckian supported the motion.

**Proposed by Councillor Caroline Mulvey, seconded by Councillor Mary Bohan**

AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED

"That Leitrim County Council write to the Minister of State and the Minister of Transport and require immediate changes to the treatment of Irish emigrants returning to Ireland."
To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Paddy O'Rourke;

"I ask that this Council contact the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine, to seek a subsidy to assist farmers to purchase fertilizer in order to grow this year's crop of silage and avert a repetition of this year's fodder crisis. Many farmers are experiencing difficulty paying for fertilizer and cannot obtain any more credit from merchants and co-ops given the large bills they have accumulated with the purchase of feed over the spring, with silage ground having been grazed up to now the only way silage crops can be got back on track is by spreading expensive fertilizers."

- Councillor Paddy O'Rourke gave the background to his motion and insisted that urgent action is needed in this regard.

- All Members supported the motion.

Proposed by Councillor Paddy O'Rourke, seconded by Councillor Brendan Barry AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED

"That this Council contact the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine, to seek a subsidy to assist farmers to purchase fertilizer in order to grow this year's crop of silage and avert a repetition of this year's fodder crisis. Many farmers are experiencing difficulty paying for fertilizer and cannot obtain any more credit from merchants and co-ops given the large bills they have accumulated with the purchase of feed over the spring, with silage ground having been grazed up to now the only way silage crops can be got back on track is by spreading expensive fertilizers.

18/95
08/05/2018 Low Input Permanent Pasture date extended

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

"I ask this Council to request the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine to have the topping for meadows and low input permanent pasture date extended to at least the 15th of May, as the bad weather and wet ground up to now have left it impossible to do this work which it will leave no meadows fit for silage or hay this year."

- Councillor Gerry Dolan gave the background to his motion and called on the Minister for Agriculture, Food and Marine to have the date extended to at least 15th of May.

- All members supported the motion.
Proposed by Councillor Gerry Dolan, seconded by Councillor Paddy O'Rourke AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED

"That Leitrim County Council request the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine to have the topping for meadows and low input permanent pasture date extended to at least the 15th of May, as the bad weather and wet ground up to now have left it impossible to do this work which it will leave no meadows fit for silage or hay this year."

18/96 08/05/2018 Control of Economic Activity (Occupied Territories) Bill 2018

To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Seadhna Logan;

"The Seanad will shortly consider the Control of Economic Activity (Occupied Territories) Bill, 2018 introduced by Senator Frances Black. That Leitrim County Council will support the proposed Control of Economic Activity (Occupied Territories) Bill, 2018 and urge all Senators to ensure it passes."

Proposed by Councillor Seadhna Logan seconded by Councillor Brendan Barry AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED

"The Seanad will shortly consider the Control of Economic Activity (Occupied Territories) Bill, 2018 introduced by Senator Frances Black. That Leitrim County Council will support the proposed Control of Economic Activity (Occupied Territories) Bill, 2018 and urge all Senators to ensure it passes."

Councillor Sean McDermott invited all Members to the Sean Mc Diarmada Summer School launch on Friday, 11th May 2018 in the Heritage Centre, Kiltyclogher.

The business of the meeting concluded at 2.00 pm

Signed
Cathaoirleach

Mairead Shanley
Meetings Administrator

Dated: 2nd July 2018