Minutes of Meeting of the Ballinamore Municipal District held on Monday 21st December at 11 a.m. in the Meeting Room, Ballinamore Library

Members present:  Councillor Caillian Ellis  
                          Councillor Martin Kenny  
                          Councillor Brendan Barry  
                          Councillor John McCartin  
                          Councillor Paddy O’Rourke  
                          Councillor Gerry Dolan

Officials Present:  Mr. John McKeon, Head of Finance.  
                          Mr. Michael Flynn, Senior Executive Engineer.  
                          Ms. Ann Warnock, Meetings Administrator.  
                          Ms. Jacqueline Logan, Clerical Officer, South Leitrim District Office.

BMD/15/150  
21/12/15  Deimhniu Miontuairisci

Proposed by Councillor Paddy O’Rourke, seconded by Councillor Martin Kenny AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED;

“That the Minutes of the Meeting of Ballinamore Municipal District held in Meeting Room, Ballinamore Library, Ballinamore, Co. Leitrim on Monday 23rd November 2015 be adopted”.

BMD/15/151  
21/12/15  Correspondence

1  Letter dated 8th December 2015 from Waterways Ireland regarding Land Slippages along parts of the Ballinamore/Ballyconnell Canal.

The Members noted the response received from Waterways Ireland in reply to their request to have the land slippages which have occurred along numerous parts of the Ballinamore/Ballyconnell Canal put back in place and to have the trees and shrubbery cut back.

Councillor Caillian Ellis stated that he was not happy with the reply and noted that while resources dictate works to be carried out, there is a section of the canal near Ballinamore almost covered over with vegetation.

2. Letter dated 2nd December 2015 from H.S.E. regarding Day Care Service at St. Patrick’s Hospital, Carrick on Shannon.

The members noted the response received from the HSE in reply to their request for an update in relation to the restoration of a 5 day Nurse Led Day Hospital at St. Patrick’s Hospital.
Councillor Martin Kenny expressed his disappointment that the response does not indicate that there will be an increase to a 5 day Nurse Led service at St. Patrick’s and that pressure needs to be kept on the HSE in relation to this issue.

Councillor Paddy O’Rourke stated that each day that passes only strengthens the position for the HSE to keep the service as it is now. He said that there can be no argument but to reinstate the service to 5 days.

It was agreed by the members to refer this matter to the main Council meeting in January.

BMD/15/152
21/12/15

Part 1 – Notices of Motion

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

“I ask that Leitrim county Council contact their counterparts in Cavan with a view to organising a joint effort to remove a growth of small bushes and vegetation which is occurring on the parapet of the bridge at Kilbracken on the R201. This vegetation is invading the stonework and threatening the structure”.

Report by Senior Engineer, Roads

“The bridge in question can be considered for inclusion in the Bridge Remediation Scheme in future works programmes”.

BMD/15/153
21/12/15

Road L-13441-0 at Drumderg.

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

“That Leitrim County Council carry out the necessary works on road L13441-0 at Drumderg, Coraleehan as this road is in a terrible state”.

Report by Senior Engineer, Roads

“Routine maintenance will be undertaken as necessary”.

BMD/15/154
21/12/15

Road LP-1529-1 at Newtowngore

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

“The LP-1529-1 approach to Newtowngore from Carrigallen as it passes Newtowngore Primary School is on a sweeping bend obscuring sight of the school from on coming traffic. Speed is a major issue at this point. Could the Council repair or replace the broken flashing beacon and consider placing rumble strips or more road markings at this point”
Report by Senior Engineer, Roads

“A contractor has been appointed to undertake inspection and repairs to all school lights. Additional traffic calming measures will be considered at this location”.

Michael Flynn, Senior Executive Engineer stated that use of rumble strips could lead to a noise issue, particularly at night. He stated that the Road Design Department would be asked to review the situation on the ground.

Councillor Brendan Barry stated this issue has been raised previously. The matter has been referred to the SPC with a proposal to have LED lights put in place which appear to be very effective at reducing speeds at the school.

BMD/15/155 LT-14972-0 at Derylahan and Aghaleague
21/12/15

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

“LT-14972-0 at Derylahan and Aghaleague has always been prone to flooding and this month’s weather has certainly highlighted the problem. At times, there is up to 1m of water on the road blocking three families, and three farms off from all roads. Light traffic has been able to use a neighbour’s cow lane to get to the main road, but this is not an option for delivery vehicles or milk tankers. A slight rise in the road level for a short distance would leave the road passable in all but very exceptional circumstances. Can this be looked into?”

Report by Senior Engineer, Roads

“The road in question will be examined to determine what options might be available to relieve flooding problems as outlined.”

BMD/15/156 Flooding at R201 - Cloone
21/12/15

To Consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Cialllian Ellis;

“I propose that Leitrim County Council raise Road No. R201 at Cloone to stop the flood waters from blocking the road.”

Report by Senior Engineer, Roads

“The section of road in question will be examined to determine if raising the road above flood level is feasible at this location”.
**BMD/15/157**  
21/12/15  
**Light at Lahard**

To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Ciallian Ellis

“I propose that Leitrim County Council put in place a light on a pole in Lahard as this is a dark spot at this time and is quite dangerous for people walking up and down to the town.”

**Report by Senior Engineer, Roads**

“A public light was damaged at this location. Our Electrical Contractor has been instructed to replace this light. It will be January before the new light is operational due to the requirement for a new ESB Connection”.

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**BMD/15/158**  
21/12/15  
**Lay By on L7380 Deffier Road**

To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Brendan Barry

“I request that Leitrim County Council provide a lay by on the L7380 Deffier road where it runs alongside the canal near the R280.”

**Report by Senior Engineer, Roads**

“The section of road in question will be examined to determine the feasibility of providing a layby as requested”.

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**BMD/15/159**  
21/12/15  
**Road L7315 at Mullaghgarve**

To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Brendan Barry

“I request that Leitrim County Council carry out repairs on local road into McWeeney’s at Mullaghgarve off the L7315”.

**Report by Senior Engineer, Roads**

“Routine maintenance will be undertaken as requested subject to the availability of funding”.

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**BMD/15/160**  
21/12/15  
**Traffic Calming on Willowfield Road, Ballinamore**

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

“I am proposing that Leitrim County Council carry out traffic calming measures on the Willowfield Road, Ballinamore which is a very busy and built up area. The traffic is often moving too fast for
safety, at this road has several housing estates with young children and several commercial premises with heavy vehicle delivery traffic coming in and out this road”.

Report by Senior Engineer, Roads

“The road in question will be examined to determine traffic calming needs”

BMD/15/161
21/12/15  
R201 at Cloone

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

“I am proposing that Leitrim County Council raise the level of the R201 main Mohill to Carrigallen road between Annaghmacullen and Racullen. This section of road was badly flooded recently and several cars were caught in the flood and destroyed due to the depth of the flood waters. Raising the road level by two to three feet at the dip between P. J.Reilly’s house and the home of the late Liam Keegan would vastly improve the situation. Drainage works on the rivers in the area is also very badly needed.”

Report by Senior Engineer, Roads

“The section of road in question will be examined to determine if raising the road above flood level is feasible at this location”.

BMD/15/162
21/12/15  
Grit/Salt at Hilly Road

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

“I call on this Council to make provisions to have salt left on the Hilly Road in the Corrabaine and Aughnasheelin area where these roads were impossible to travel on over the weekend with snow”.

Report by Senior Engineer, Roads

“Grit and Salt are provided at agreed locations throughout the area. Provisions for additional stockpiles at additional locations can be considered.”

BMD/15/163
21/12/15  
Works on Old Dowra Road.

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

“I call on this Council to have repair works carried out on the Old Dowra Road from Murhaun through to the Stoney River. Some parts of this road is in a bad state of repair due to the extracting of forestry timber by Coillte”.
Report by Senior Engineer, Roads

“Routine maintenance will be undertaken as necessary. The forestry company in question will be contacted in relation to any damage caused to the road”.

Councillor Gerry Dolan asked whether there was a weight limit on loads being taken out by vehicles?

Michael Flynn replied that they forestry companies are entitled to take out the legal limit allowed unless the Council impose a limit which will also have implications for other road users.

Councillor Martin Kenny stated that he had spoken to Tom Hayes, Junior Minister on this issue and the Minister’s response was that the roads should be good enough to take the weights of the lorries as they pay road taxes etc.

BMD/15/164
21/12/15 Any Other Business

1. Road at Killaneen

Councillor Caillian Ellis stated that a number of accidents have occurred at this location. Mr. Michael Flynn replied that 25Km speed limit signs and VMS signs have been put in place to reduce speed in this area. He also stated that the road will be tested again in the New Year and speed will be monitored to see what can be done.

2. Works at Aghadark, Ballinamore

Councillor Martin Kenny raised the issue of congestion of traffic in the mornings in front of the VEC School. Traffic lights are in place to accommodate works where slippage occurred at the canal.

Mr. Michael Flynn stated that works are almost complete on the affected section and that lights will be removed before Christmas break.

3. Flooding

Councillor Brendan Barry stated that he wished to commend the Council staff for their work while dealing with the recent flooding which has taken place.

Councillor John McCartin stated that the public felt that Leitrim County Council were well prepared and went above and beyond the call of duty to help the people worst affected by the flooding.

This was also supported by all members of the Ballinamore Municipal District.

4. Vote of Sympathy

Councillor Paddy O’Rourke proposed a Vote of Sympathy to the family of the late Tony Ferguson who was a former member of Leitrim County Council. This was seconded by Councillor Caillian Ellis and supported by all members of the Ballinamore Municipal District.
Signed: Councillor John McCartin  
Cathaoirleach, Ballinamore Municipal District

Signed: Ann Warnock  
Meetings Administrator

Date: 25th January 2016