Minutes of Meeting of the Ballinamore Municipal District held on Monday 27th July 2015 at 11:00am in the Meeting Room, Ballinamore Library, Ballinamore, Co. Leitrim.

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

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

BMD/15/89 27/07/15  Deimhniu Miontuairisci

Proposed by Councillor Caillian Ellis, seconded by Councillor Paddy O'Rourke AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED;

“That the Minutes of the Meeting of Ballinamore Municipal District held in Meeting Room, Ballinamore Library, Ballinamore, Co. Leitrim on Monday 22nd June 2015 be adopted”.

BMD/15/90 27/07/15  Deimhniu Miontuairisci

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

“That the Minutes of the Meeting of Ballinamore Annual Municipal District held in Meeting Room, Ballinamore Library, Ballinamore, Co. Leitrim on Monday 22nd June 2015 be adopted”.

BMD/15/91 27/07/15  Matters Arising

The following matters arose from Minutes of previous meeting:

1. **Numbering of Houses in Bredagh Estate, Carrigallen.**

Mr. John McKeon, A/Head of Finance gave an update from the Senior Executive Officer, Housing & Corporate Services and informed the meeting that the Clerk of Works will meet with the residents association with a view to reaching agreement on a revised numbering system.
2. **Ambulance Response Times**

Ann Warnock, Meetings Administrator informed the meeting that a letter issued to Oliver Reilly, National Ambulance Service requesting a meeting with delegates of the Ballinamore Municipal District to discuss this matter further. She stated that no written response was received but she contacted Mr. Reilly by phone who stated that requests such as this from political representatives are normally channelled through the Regional Health Forum West on which three members of Leitrim County Council are members of.

Councillor Martin Kenny expressed his dissatisfaction with this response and stated that the membership on this Forum was large and will not get down to detail on issues.

Councillor John McCartin stated that this was a difficult situation and a meeting was needed with the relevant person who can deal with this issue.

**Proposed by Councillor Martin Kenny, seconded by Councillor Brendan Barry AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED;**

“That correspondence issue to Mr. Frank Morrison, Area Manager, HSE Sligo/Leitrim/West Cavan expressing dissatisfaction with the response to date from the HSE and requesting a meeting with the relevant person in the HSE who is in a position to deal with this matter”.

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**BMD/15/92 Speed Limit Bye Laws in Housing Estates**

27/07/15

John McKeon, A/Head of Finance gave an outline to the meeting on the report from the Senior Engineer, Infrastructure on proposed new Speed Limit Bye Laws in Housing Estates in the Ballinamore Municipal District Area. The proposals will be put on public display during the month of August for 30 days and will then be brought back to the September Municipal District meeting for consideration and thereafter brought forward for adoption at the November Council meeting.

Councillor John McCartin enquired if the new speed limits will apply to roads that pass through Estates.

Councillor Paddy O’Rourke asked if a map can be sent to each of the members outlining what is proposed.

Councillor Caillian Ellis asked if warning signs “Children at Play” can be erected by members of the public. Michael Flynn, District Engineer replied that this is not encouraged as consideration needs to be given to where signs are positioned as too many signs in a location can be ineffective.
Mr. Bernard Greene, Senior Planner gave a presentation on Current Key Planning Priorities for the County, the aim of which is to determine the Annual Service Delivery Plan and to drive the Economic Development of the County. The presentation outlined the Carrick on Shannon / Cortober Local Area Plan which is being carried out in conjunction with Roscommon County Council.

The Development Contribution Scheme now cannot look from contributions in relation to water from 1st April 2014 as this is now Irish Water’s remit. The presentation as circulated to the members appears as *Appendix I to the Minutes of this meeting in the Minute Book.*

Councillor John McCartin thanked Mr. Greene for his presentation.

Councillor Paddy O’Rourke welcomed Bernard to Leitrim County Council and thanked him for his presentation. He asked what Bernard’s opinion was of “Fracking” and how it will impact on County Leitrim.

Bernard replied that at the moment the policy in Leitrim County Council is definitive pending any national policy on this issue.

Councillor Caillian Ellis enquired if the pilot scheme on one off houses will be extended and what the position is on unfinished houses. He gave the example if a house has been built to wall plate and the owner comes back to finish this, would it be considered as a new development?

Bernard replied that this would have to be considered on a site by site basis. If a septic tank system is in place it should not be considered a new development. He stated that there is a three year monitoring programme in place for the pilot schemes.

Councillor John McCartin stated that the Spatial strategy has let Leitrim down in regard to the proliferation of rural housing estates in the county.

Councillor Martin Kenny referred to the development contribution of €4,700 for a rural house and enquired as to how much had been collected in relation to same.

Bernard Greene replied that the development contribution goes towards roads and transport infrastructure and stated that there are contributions relating to one off houses outstanding and this needs to be looked at.

**Part 1 – Notices of Motion**

*BMD/15/94*  
27/07/15  
*Speed detection and Display signs at St. Brigid’s N.S. Drumcong*
To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Brendan Barry;

“I request that Leitrim County Council put in place L.E.D. speed detection and display signs on approaches to St. Brigid’s National School, Drumcong. These signs are very effective in reducing speed”.

Report by Senior Executive Officer, Planning, Community and Economic Development

“There are advance warning lights on the approaches to this school which are the same as at all other National Schools. Also, a 50Km speed limit has been put in place at Drumcong. Leitrim County Council will monitor the effectiveness of these measures and contact the Gardai with regards to enforcement measures as necessary.

Councillor Barry stated that there are 170 children attending the school and that the teachers park on the opposite side of the road. This location is very busy at school times and there is a playschool beside the school which is also busy.

Michael Flynn, District Engineer stated that flashing lights displaying speeds may be discontinued nationally as evidence has shown that some people may use these as a target to increase their speed on approach. He stated that the NRA Inspector advises on these matters and that the Council are guided by them.

BMD/15/95
27/07/15

Continuous White Line on R280

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

“I request that Leitrim County Council replace the continuous which line on the R280 beside Ardcolm Stores / Barna Waste Drumshanbo”.

Report by Senior Engineer, Roads

“The lining will be undertaken as requested in conjunction with planned works at this location”.

BMD/15/96
27/07/15

Cleaning of Longstone River

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

“I propose that Leitrim County Council clean the Longstone river which goes into the Shannon Erne Waterways as it is causing flooding of lands of the farmers adjoining it”.

Report by Senior Executive Officer, Planning, Community and Economic Development

“An estimate will be prepared for the cost of the requested works. Any works undertaken will be contingent on the availability of necessary funding”.

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Councillor Caillian Ellis enquired as to the position on funding for this. Michael Flynn, District Engineer replied that there is some funding in place for this but the agreed budget has to be adhered to.

**BMD/15/97**

27/07/15  **Late John McGahern**

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

“I propose that Leitrim County Council erect signs indicating directions to the grave of the late John McGahern and also to his former home in Aghawillan”.

Report by Senior Executive Officer, Planning, Community and Economic Development

“A signage scheme will be prepared in line with that requested. Erection of any signage will be contingent on the availability of the necessary funding and obtaining necessary consents”.

Councillor Caillian Ellis enquired also if a crest can be erected by the Council at the gate where the late Mr. McGahern lived. He asked that the McGahern family be consulted on any proposed wording on the crest.

**BMD/15/98**

27/07/15  **Road No. L829930 – Tullyveacan, Ballinaglera**

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

“I ask that urgent necessary repairs be carried out to Road No. L829930 in the townland of Tullyveacan in Ballinaglera. This road is in need of urgent repair and is serving a number of families and land owners in the area”.

Report by Senior Executive Officer, Planning, Community and Economic Development

“Routing maintenance will be undertaken as required and subject to the availability of necessary funding”.

**BMD/15/99**

27/07/15  **Road Number signs in Carrigallen area**

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

“I ask that a number of signs indicating road numbers of minor roads in the Carrigallen area which were promised would be erected some time ago be put in place without delay. A large number of small roads already have the sign in place and I ask that the remaining ones be completed”.

Report by Senior Executive Officer, Planning, Community and Economic Development

“The signs requested can be erected upon completion of the current seasons road surfacing programme”.

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

“I propose that Leitrim County Council carry out work on road L 13453 at Derradda Ballinamore. This road runs between the main Swanlinbar Road and the Corraleehan Road and is in a very poor state of repair”.

Report by Senior Executive Officer, Planning, Community and Economic Development

Routine maintenance will be undertaken as required and subject to the availability of necessary funding.

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

“I propose that Leitrim County Council seek an update on the works that the Courts Services promised to carry out on the old Courthouse in Ballinamore. This work to water proof the building is vital to ensure it doesn’t fall into further dilapidation”.

Councillor Kenny stated that the Courts Service were to revert back to Joseph Gilhooly, Director of Services on this matter.

Mr. John McKeon undertook to contact Joseph Gilhooly Director of Services Planning Community & Economic Development, to see if he has had a reply from the courts service in this regard.

Councillor Martin Kenny requested that the Courts Service be contacted to seek an update on the works proposed.

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

“That an update be sought on the works that the Courts Services agreed to carry out on the old Courthouse in Ballinamore”.

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

“I call on this Council to make extra funding available to Drumshanbo, Ballinaglera & Dowra Community Employment Scheme to maintain the public green areas in these locations. The work that is being done is of great benefit to villages, towns and tidy towns committees. These
schemes keep these areas visually attractive for tourists and without extra funding this good works cannot continue”.

Report by Senior Executive Officer, Planning, Community and Economic Development

“Leitrim County Council acknowledges the excellent work undertaken by many local community improvement groups. A range of supports are provided to such groups. Financial help is generally provided to groups partaking in initiatives such as Tidy Towns, Floral Pride or Pride of Place. Funding is limited due to current financial constraints”.

BMD/15/103
27/07/15 Cleaning of Drain at Drumany Lake, Fenagh

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

“I call on this Council to have the drain on the opposite side of the road at Drumanny Lake, Fenagh, close to O’Rourkes house, cleaned and piped and to widen the road as it is very dangerous and a number of vehicles ended up in this drain”.

Report by Senior Executive Officer, Planning, Community and Economic Development

“The drain in question will be examined with a view to resolving the issues of concern. Works will be contingent on the availability of the necessary funding”.

BMD/15/104
22/06/15 Any Other Business

1. Additional Funding under the Restoration Improvement Programme

Mr. Michael Flynn circulated correspondence received from the Department of Transport Tourism and Sport informing Leitrim County Council of additional allocation of funding in the sum of €546,150 under the Restoration Improvement Programme. He informed the meeting that this funding was being distributed equally to the three Municipal District Areas in the sum of €182,000 each. He also circulated an outline of where it was proposed that the additional funding would be spent.

2. Damage to Private Household in Corrawallen due to Power Surge to Property

Councillor Caillian Ellis raised an issue where a household in the Corrawllen Area suffered damage to their home as a result of a power surge to the property. He stated that the ESB had replaced a transformer at this location but when the homeowner contacted the ESB they were informed that they were not responsible for the damage.

“It was unanimously agreed that a letter would issue to the ESB on behalf of the members of Ballinamore Municipal District stating that the response issued to the householder by the company is unacceptable and requesting that the matter be investigated further
3. Road Grants

Councillor Gerry Dolan enquired as to grant funding for Corralubber Road, Ballinaglera which was approved for a Community Involvement Scheme.

Councillor John McCartin enquired as to the total number on this list for the Ballinamore Area. Michael Flynn replied that there were approximately 192 on the list.

Councillor Paddy O’Rourke asked if grants approved last February have been reduced. Michael Flynn, District Engineer stated that fixed costs i.e. labour/plant was a significant cost on allocations and that overheads as a proportion of each grant had increased.

Councillor Paddy O’Rourke requested that when sending out hedgecutting notices that the distinction between the use of flail and saw is stated. Michael Flynn stated that the Roads Act sets out clearly what is required and that the relevant section is included with each notice.

4. HIQA Report – St. Patrick’s Hospital, Carrick-on-Shannon

Councillor Martin Kenny raised the issue of the damming HIQA report released last week on St. Patrick’s Hospital, Carrick on Shannon.

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

“That correspondence be issued to Mr. Frank Morrison, Area Manager, HSE Sligo/Leitrim/West Cavan and Minister Leo Varadkar T.D. expressing our support of the facility and appreciation of level of care patients are receiving at the hospital”.

The next meeting of the Ballinamore Municipal District will be held on Monday 28th September, 2015 at 11:00am.