Minutes of Meeting of the Ballinamore Municipal District held on Tuesday 29th September, 2015 at 11:00am in the Meeting Room, Ballinamore Library, Ballinamore, Co. Leitrim.

Members present:

Councillor Brendan Barry  
Councillor Gerry Dolan  
Councillor John McCartin  
Councillor Callian Ellis  
Councillor Paddy O’Rourke  

Apologies:

Councillor Martin Kenny

Officials Present:

Mr. John McKeon, Head of Finance.  
Ms. Sinead Flynn, Meetings Administrator.  
Ms. Nollaig Whyte, Community & Enterprise Development Officer.  
Mr. Michael Flynn, District Engineer, South Leitrim District.  
Ms. Jacqueline Logan, Clerical Officer, South Leitrim District Office.

BMD/15/105  
29/09/15  
Deimhniu Miontuairisci

Proposed by Councillor Callian Ellis, seconded by Councillor Gerry Dolan AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED;

“That the Minutes of the Meeting of Ballinamore Municipal District held in Meeting Room, Ballinamore Library, Ballinamore, Co. Leitrim on Monday 27th July, 2015 be adopted”.

BMD/15/106  
29/09/15  
Vote of Sympathy

The Members extended a vote of sympathy to Councillor Martin Kenny on the death of his aunt Mrs. Evelyn Byrne, Clooncoose, Gortletteragh, Co. Leitrim.

BMD/15/107  
29/09/15  
Leitrim Local Economic & Community Plan 2015 – 2021

To consider the Leitrim Local Economic & Community Plan 2015-2021 in relation to consistency with the Core Strategy and objectives of the Leitrim County Development Plan 2015-2021.

Mr. John McKeon, Head of Finance referred to the Leitrim Local Economic & Community Plan 2015-2021 and to the report previously circulated to the Members. The report as circulated appears as Appendix 1 to the Minutes of this meeting in the Minute Book. Mr. McKeon outlined that the Members were now being requested to consider the Leitrim Local Economic & Community Plan 2015-2021 in relation to its consistency with the Core Strategy and objectives of the Leitrim County Development Plan 2015-2021. Ms. Nollaig Whyte outlined that following consideration, the Members subject to their agreement, were required to adopt a statement in that regard to be
submitted to Leitrim County Council in accordance with the requirements of Section 66C (2)(b) and 66C (3)(b) of the Local Government Reform Act 2014.

Ms. Whyte introduced Mr. Mark Conway who provided a detailed over-view of the Local Economic and Community Plan 2015-2021. Mr. Conway outlined the process that has been involved to date in the preparation of the LECP and he also outlined the vision and objectives of the plan. He referred to a workshop with the Elected Members held on 14th September, 2015 and outlined that following the assessment prepared of the LECP in relation to its consistency with the core strategy of the Leitrim County Development Plan 2015 -2021 that the draft plan is being amended to take account of the two items that the report draws attention to:-

1. The target of seeking particular status for Carrick on Shannon within the National Spatial Strategy (or similar) and
2. References to the Draft County Development Plan

The Cathaoirleach Councillor John McCartin thanked Mr. Mark Conway for his presentation and a lengthy discussion took place after the presentation.

Proposed by Councillor Paddy O’Rourke, Seconded by Councillor Callian Ellis AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED;

“Ballinamore Municipal District having reviewed the Local Economic & Community Plan 2015-2021 as drafted, is satisfied that the plan is consistent with the core strategy and objectives of the Leitrim County Development Plan 2015 – 2021 and therefore recommend its adoption to Leitrim County Council”.

BMD/15/108 Rural Link Transport Plan
29/09/15
The Cathaoirleach, Councillor John McCartin, introduced Ms. Camilla Kelly, Rural Link Transport Manager to the meeting and invited Ms. Kelly to give her presentation to the Members. A copy of the presentation appears as Appendix 2 of the Minutes of this meeting in the Minute Book.

Ms. Kelly thanked the Members for the opportunity to meet with them. She outlined that there was three parts to this presentation 1) The Transport Co-Ordination Unit-TCU 2) Leitrim Transport in Context and 3) Leitrim Transport Planning.

Ms. Kelly provided an over-view of the key points of the presentation as outlined hereunder:

The Transport Co-Ordination Unit-TCU
Ms. Kelly advised the members that the Transport Co-Ordination Unit is one of 17 established by the National Transport Authority in January, 2015 following the restructuring of the Rural Transport Programme in 2014. She stated that the role of the voluntary board supporting the TCU is to act as a link within each local area to the TCU in the identification of transport needs through community and key stakeholder groups in county Leitrim e.g. the Health Service Executive, Municipal Districts, the Older Peoples Council, Men’s Shed’s, the Glens Centre and Active Age Groups.

Ms. Kelly outlined that the transport service provides house to house collections enabling cross connectivity between isolated rural areas to local villages/towns and to designated schedule
transport routes which enables passengers to link to mainline routes within Leitrim and onwards by train and bus services to other locations.

**Leitrim Transport in Context**
Ms. Kelly advised that there is an average of 363 services per month with 90 services per week. She outlined that the National Transport Authority contracted 8 private transport operators, they integrated hackney and taxi services and they have one community owned bus in Drumshanbo and one volunteer community car in Manorhamilton.

**Leitrim Transport Planning**
Ms. Kelly informed the members that the key issues for Leitrim are as follows:

- The demographic profile of Leitrim: both population size and density, town lands with 1 and 3 to 4 people who need transport, towns and villages are isolated from main centres of health and employment education and health in Sligo, Galway and Dublin.
- Leitrim is divided into north and south and the distance of the county is 72 km or 45 miles.
- There is a significant number of people with mobility difficulties requiring assistance (60.38%) with their transport needs.

Ms. Kelly advised the members that the National Transport Authority will be tendering all rural transport services and are calling for an expression of interest to tender on e-tenders.ie in September/October 2015.

Councillor Callian Ellis thanked Ms. Kelly for her presentation and queried if the Rural Transport Service can facilitate transport for persons wishing to visit relatives in private nursing homes. Ms. Kelly confirmed that a door to door service is available and that a social car scheme is also available to assist people with their transport needs.

The Members thanked Ms. Kelly for her informative presentation and acknowledged the role of providing a transport service for persons that do not have access to their own transport.

**BMD/15/109**

29/09/15

**Meetings Correspondence**

1. Ambulance Service – Ms. Sinead Flynn informed the Members that an update from the HSE had been sought in relation to this matter and that a reply in this regard is awaited from the HSE.

2. The Members noted the response from the ESB in relation to recent correspondence from the Ballinamore Municipal District.

3. St. Patricks Hospital, Carrick-on-Shannon – the Members requested that a letter issue to the Minister for Health, Minister Leo Varadakar to establish if funding will be available to upgrade the facilities at this location.
Part 1 – Notices of Motion

BMD/15/110
29/09/15

Street Lighting

To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor John McCartin;
“In the interests of both health and safety and the development of an important driver for the local economy, I propose that Leitrim County Council provide street lighting for half a kilometre on the Ballinamore side of Druncoura Cross. The immediate area is home to a bar, restaurant, equestrian centre, marina, financial services company head quarters, a large housing development and a number of separate private residences. The area also hosts a very large annual country music festival which is attended by thousands of people.

Report by Senior Engineer, Roads
“A design and cost estimate will be prepared for the public lighting requested. Any works at this location will be contingent on securing the necessary funding.

BMD/15/111
29/09/15

Newtowngore Village

To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor John McCartin;
“Following on from our proposal to realign the wall at Newtowngore Hall and provide a footpath to a pedestrian crossing leading to the carpark in the middle of the village, can these works be done in conjunction with the earlier proposed resurfacing of the village street? Also has there been any progress with the examination of under-grounding the overhead power lines in the village?”

Report by Senior Engineer, Roads
“A scheme design and cost estimate have been obtained for the undergrounding of overhead services at Newtowngore. Ideally these works would be undertaken in advance of other works including street surfacing and improvements to footpaths.

Works at this location are contingent on securing the necessary funding.”

BMD/15/112
29/09/15

Traffic in Fenagh Village

To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Callian Ellis;
“I propose that Leitrim County Council take steps to slow down the traffic coming into the village of Fenagh possibly flashing lights showing what speed the traffic is doing.”

Report by Senior Engineer, Roads
“The request for traffic calming at Fenagh will be under the Low Cost Accident Scheme. Traffic flows and speeds will be monitored as part of this process and appropriate measures implemented as necessary subject to securing necessary funding.”
Councillor Callian Ellis and Councillor John McCartin raised the issue of safety at Edentinny as there had been 2 accidents at location during the week, it is extremely dangerous at present. There is a bush at roadside which is causing a distraction to drivers, in that it is blocking a clear view of road.

BMD/15/113  
29/09/15  
**Drain opposite graveyard in Aughawillan**

To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Callian Ellis;
“I propose that Leitrim County Council pipe the drain opposite the new graveyard in Aughawillan.”

Report by Senior Engineer, Roads
“A considerable length of the roadside drain at this location has already been piped for the purpose of facilitating car parking. An estimate of the cost of the additional works requested will be prepared. It will be necessary to secure necessary funding for additional works”.

BMD/15/114  
29/09/15  
**Traffic Calming measures at Fenagh National School**

To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Brendan Barry
“I request that additional traffic calming measures be put in place on the R202 at Fenagh National School. A relatively small amount of money spent improving safety at our schools could prevent a devastating loss to our community.”

Report by Senior Engineer, Roads
“The request for traffic calming at Fenagh will be under the Low Cost Accident Scheme. Traffic flows and speeds will be monitored as part of this process and appropriate measures implemented as necessary subject to securing necessary funding.

The NRA standard school warning lighting scheme is in place at the National School.”

Following a discussion with Mr. Michael Flynn, Senior Engineer it was agreed that the provision of traffic calming measures at schools in general would be referred back to the Transportation & Infrastructural Policy SPC for consideration with a view to preparing a policy document on the matter.

BMD/15/115  
29/09/15  
**Street Lighting at Carraig Breac, Housing Estate**

To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Brendan Barry
“I request that Leitrim County Council make every effort to have the street lighting working in the Carraig Breac Housing Estate, Drumshanbo for this coming winter. This estate has not yet been taken in charge.”

Report by Director of Services, Planning, Community and Economic Development
“This estate is not in the charge of the Local Authority and remains a private development. Until such time as the development has been taken in charge by the Local Authority,
Leitrim County Council has no responsibility with respect to this estate and no legal entitlement to undertake any works therein. It is understood that the Development Company which was established to take responsibility for the maintenance of the estate was dissolved in July, 2014. Leitrim County Council will endeavour to make contact with any relevant stakeholders to ascertain the position on progressing a long term resolution to the development.

BMD/15/116
29/09/15 Provision of additional Social Housing

It was agreed that Councillor Brendan Barry would move both Notices of Motion submitted by Councillor Martin Kenny.

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

“I propose that Leitrim County Council seek funding to build additional houses in both Drumshanbo and Ballinamore to accommodate the rising numbers on the Council’s Housing waiting list in these areas.”

There are currently 42 no. qualified housing applicants on the waiting list for South 5 Area encompassing Ballinamore, Aughnasheelin and Fenagh of which 67% are in receipt of rent supplement and accommodated in private rented accommodation. Leitrim County Council have a current Housing Stock of 47 no. Housing Units in the South 5 Area (Ballinamore - Lahard & Sean Bhaile & Aughnasheelin - Church View, Aughnahsheelin).

There are currently 74 no. qualified housing applicants on the waiting list for South 1 Area encompassing Drumshanbo, Drumcong and Keshcarrigan of which 57% are in receipt of rent supplement and accommodated in private rented accommodation. Leitrim County Council has a current Housing Stock of 92 no. Housing Units in the South 1 Area (Drumcong - Naomh Bride, Drumcong and Drumshanbo – Dristernan/Toastal Terrace, Naomh Padraig and Dowra Road.

With regard to meeting the needs of the Applicants on the Housing Waiting List, Leitrim County Council are actively undertaking the following:-
• Any casual vacancies arising in estates in the above locations are prioritised for vacant repairs (according to demand) and are re-let within the shortest time frame possible having regard to demand and the level of vacant repair works required
• The Council recently engaged in a Media Campaign requesting expressions of interest under both the Rental Accommodation Scheme (RAS) and the Long Term Leasing Scheme in a number of areas across the County including the Ballinamore and Drumshanbo areas. Submissions received in response to this Media Campaign are currently being assessed with a view towards meeting the needs of some of the qualified applicants under the RAS and/or Long Term Leasing Scheme
• A submission for funding under the Capital Assistance Scheme from a voluntary housing body is currently being progressed with the Department and will provide for the construction of 2 no. 3 bedroom units in Ballinamore.
• Throughout the County, approval has been received from the Department for 9 no. Housing Units under the Voids Programme. The Voids Programme provides funding for the refurbishment of Long Term Vacant Council Housing Stock which requires a substantial volume of works. Any housing applicants have the option of obtaining Private Rented Accommodation while on the Housing Waiting List and if eligible, obtaining Rent Supplement to assist them with the costs of same.
**BMD/15/117**
29/09/15

**Land Drainage & Reclamation Scheme**

To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Martin Kenny
“I propose that Leitrim County Council call on the Government to put in place land drainage and reclamation scheme for the heavy soil type in this region, which would include up to 65% grant aid for farmers to carry out works.”

---

**BMD/15/118**
29/09/15

**Road No. 1506 Drumdiffer and R204 Aughoo**

To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Paddy O’Rourke
“I ask that the junction of Road No. 1506 from Drumdiffer and the R204 at Aughoo be made safe. Can the drain be piped and infilled as it is very dangerous presently?”

**Report by Senior Engineer, Roads**
“The junction in question will be examined to determine what measures are necessary to improve safety. Works at this location will be contingent on securing necessary funding.”

---

**BMD/15/119**
29/09/15

**Barrier between Glan Cross and Corns Fest Bridge**

To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Paddy O’Rourke
“I ask that the roadside where a barrier was put in place approximately half way between Glan Cross and Corns Fest Bridge, Road No. 1586 be made safe by the provision of support of the road edge as in its present condition it is dangerously undermined and presents a great risk”.

**Report by Senior Engineer, Roads**
“The section of road in question will be examined and necessary remedial works undertaken as necessary.”

---

**BMD/15/120**
29/09/15

**Car Parking Spaces at Oughteragh Graveyard**

To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Gerry Dolan
“I call on this Council to extend the car parking space for users of Oughteragh Graveyard in Ballinamore by piping and surfacing both sides of the slip road from the junction at the bottom of the road up past P.J McLoughlin’s to ease the problem of parking there especially at funeral times”.

**Report by Senior Engineer, Roads**
“Options for the provision additional parking at Oughteragh Graveyard are presently being considered”

---

**BMD/15/121**
29/09/15

To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Gerry Dolan
“I ask this Council when is it intended to have the road known locally as Barry’s Cross, Aughacashel up past Derreen be resurfaced for there is serious accidents as a result of the road collapsing”.

**Report by Senior Engineer, Roads**

“The section of road will be examined and necessary remedial works will be undertaken. The road can be considered for inclusion in future road improvement programmes”.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed:  
Councillor John McCartin  
Cathaoirleach, Ballinamore Municipal District

Signed:  
Sinead Flynn  
Meetings Administrator

Date:  
27th October, 2015