Minutes of Meeting of Carrick on Shannon Municipal District
Held in Council Chamber, Aras an Chontae, Carrick on Shannon, Co. Leitrim
On Monday 8th May 2017 at 3.35 pm

Members Present:
Councillor Finola Armstrong Maguire
Councillor Des Guckian
Councillor Sinead Guckian
Councillor Séadhna Logan
Councillor Sean McGowan

Officials Present:
Johanna Daly, Meetings Administrator
Joseph Gilhooly, Director of Services, Economic Development, Planning, Environment and Transportation
Darragh O’Boyle, District Engineer South Leitrim
Kathyne Bohan, Administrative Officer, Housing Department
Shane Tiernan, Senior Executive Officer, Housing Department
Bernard Greene, Senior Planner, Planning Department
Pamela Moran, Economic Development, Planning, Environment and Transportation

Apologies:
Councillor Enda Stenson

CMD 17/67
08/05/17

Minutes of the Meeting of Carrick on Shannon Municipal District
held on Monday 10th April 2017

Proposed by Councillor Sean McGowan, Seconded by Councillor Sinead Guckian AND UNANILOUSLY RESOLED;

“That the Minutes of Carrick on Shannon Municipal meeting held in Aras an Chontae, Carrick on Shannon, Co. Leitrim on Monday 10th April 2017 be adopted.”
Matters arising from Minutes:

Councillor Des Guckian made reference to Page 5 regarding item CMD17/52 – Presentation on the Irish Language and the obligation on the local authority to have Irish on its website. He queried the position and Joseph Gilhooly DOS stated he would get back to him on the matter.

CMD 17/70 To receive a presentation from the Leitrim Tourism Officer
08/05/17

Cathaoirleach Councillor Finola Armstrong Maguire informed the Members that the Presentation from the Tourism Officer would be taken as the next item in order to facilitate the Tourist Officer attending another engagement. None of the Members objected.

Ms. Sinead McDermott, Tourism Officer gave a presentation to the Members. It was an update on works completed in 2016 and plans for 2017. She discussed the remit and role of the Tourism Office and the various projects that Leitrim Tourism are involved in e.g. SAINTS.

Councillor Sinead Guckian thanked Ms McDermott for her presentation and complimented her on works done. She enquired as to the affect Brexit would have on the SAINTS project.

She also highlighted the Leitrim Coastline at Tullaghan and asked what could be done to promote it particularly in the context of the Wild Atlantic Way. She said it had been raised at full council meetings.

Councillor Des Guckian praised Ms McDermott on the tremendous work she has done in promoting the county. He questioned the number of actual visitors to Ireland and commented that he believes a lot of these were people travelling back to Ireland at weekends visiting family or GAA players returning for matches. He said that Leitrim has a lot to offer with regards to beauty spots, stunning scenery, good restaurants etc but he felt that the message wasn’t getting out there. He stated a publication explaining what was on offer would be of help.

He said that one thing he felt was missing was cultural displays i.e. traditional music and dancing. He said that years ago there were sessions held in the Landmark Hotel and they were well attended.

He asked what could be done to spread the benefits of tourism across the county e.g. fine hotel closed in Rooskey and it was a pity to see it like that especially when the area has so much to offer.

Ms. McDermott responded to the comments made above. With regard to the SAINTS project and Brexit she informed the Members that Derry and Scotland are part of the group but if Brexit were to become an issue it wouldn’t affect the project going forward as Leitrim had also developed good relationships with other countries so the project is not solely dependent on cross border and Brexit. She explained that there are also opportunities to engage with other partner countries on future projects.
With regard to the stretch of coastline at Tullaghan, she said it is being promoted in material for the Wild Atlantic Way, they have a drone image of it.

She said that it was hard to get the genuine number of visitors to Ireland as the results are compiled from surveys carried out at airports and seaports. The accommodation figures are compiled using approved accommodation which again is leading to problems ascertaining correct figures.

She informed the Members that Emerald Starline have 20 new boats launching in June which is some positive news in relation to the waterways. With regards to a publication she has contacted the arts officer and there have been discussion on this idea. She also stated that there has been a new standard introduced by Failte Ireland regarding the standard of accommodation of B&B’s, it is known as the “Welcome Standard” and it covers glamping also. It is a more lenient standard that the star rating system.

Councillor Sean McGowan thanked Ms McDermott for her excellent work. He enquired about Angling Tourism, he said that it was very big back in the 1970’s and 1980’s. A number of Angling Clubs have started to come back to the area. He wanted to know what could be done to promote this further. He also commented that more promotion of Festivals and Irish Music events would be important, he cited the recent Crossroads Dance at Effernagh as a unique event which highlighted Irish Music and Dance. He wished Ms McDermott well in her future projects and offered his support.

Ms. McDermott said that in relation to Angling – King Angling Club were coming back to Ireland in June 2018 and it will generate a lot of publicity. She said that the plan would be to concentrate on Angling as the market had been there for years. She commented that in the United Kingdom Angling is part of the school curriculum. She said that there were also a number of young anglers even in our own county and this was very encouraging.

On the matter of Festivals she said that Leitrim Tourism would promote them as much as they can and TV3 are used to advertise festivals and events. She said she would like to see more festivals, as it was the same towns promoting festivals every year. She said that when the “Gathering” took place a lot of other towns and villages who would not normally have festivals had something that year and her hope would be that they would build on this and have an annual festival.

Councillor Séadhna Logan enquired as to whether a seasonal approach could be taken towards tourism activities e.g. walking in autumn. He said that outdoor pursuits were under resourced. He said that with the activities of Angling and Shooting there was a wealth of opportunity for promotion. He made reference to the Angling and Hunting promotion at Birr Fair held every August. It would be a good base to promote Leitrim for such activities. He informed Ms McDermott he would send her on details of the event.

Cathaoirleach Councillor Finola Armstrong Maguire thanked Ms. McDermott for all her hard work in promoting Leitrim and she said that in her personal opinion Leitrim has come on in leaps and bounds. She said that social media was being used in a positive way e.g. John Creedon tweeting about the Crossroads Dance at Effernagh and the high profile rowing event which was taking place in Lough Rynn at the weekend.
CMD 17/68  
08/05/17  

To consider a date for the Annual Meeting

It was agreed by the Members to hold the Annual General Meeting of the Carrick Municipal District on Monday 12th June 2017 at 3.00 pm.

CMD 17/69  
08/05/17  

To Approve proposed Tidy Towns Allocations under the General Municipal Allocations 2017

Documentation was circulated to the Members (Appendix 1). Mr Joseph Gilhooly explained that the funding amount was similar to last year. €12,000 was available for Tidy Town Projects in the Carrick Municipal District Area.

Proposed by Councillor Séadhna Logan, Seconded by Councillor Sean McGowan AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED;

“To approve Tidy Towns Allocation of €12,000 under the General Municipal Allocations 2017.”

CMD 17/71  
08/05/17  

Correspondence

A number of items of correspondence were received and circulated to the Members in advance of the meeting.

Item 1

Letter from Mr. Shane Smith, Operations Manager, Aura Leitrim Leisure Centre dated 13th April 2017 regarding Carrick Fins Swimming Club new contract.

Item 2


Councillor Sinead Guckian commented that the above response was the same as that received at the full Council meeting and she was disappointed.

Item 3

Letter from Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport dated 20th April 2017 regarding request for meeting regarding Regional and Local Road Allocations.
Councillor Sinead Guckian commented that the above response was the same as that received at the full Council meeting and she was disappointed.

Item 4

Letter from Mr David Franks, Chief Executive, Iarnród Eireann dated 27th April 2017 regarding car parking facilities at Dromod Railway Station.

Councillor Sean McGowan acknowledged this correspondence and the fact that Iarnrod Eireann see the need for such a facility. However, he was disappointed that there was no funding available to carry out such a project. He commented that in his opinion it would not cost a great deal of money. He asked Mr Gilhooly to contact them again seeking the costs involved in such works. Mr Gilhooly agreed to do so and commented that it was critical that such works be carried out.

Before the Notices of Motion were taken Cathaoirleach Councillor Finola Armstrong Maguire informed the meeting that Mr Shane Tiernan, Senior Executive Officer, Housing Department wished to address the Members on two items:

- The first item was clarification in relation to questions raised at meeting on 10th April 2017 relating to CMD 17/51 – Council Estate Management Grants Scheme for Local Authority Estates 2017.

  He gave a breakdown as to how the allocations were determined and help available to Residents Associations with regard to public liability.

- The next item was to seek approval for a project under the General Municipal Allocations.

  Mr Tiernan informed the meeting that there was a sum of €2,000 available under the General Municipal Allocations and that the Council had put forward two projects for consideration. Only one project would be carried out.

  The projects were:

  - The development of an allotment in O’Carolan Court, Mohill
    Or
• Provide seat and concrete base at Breffni Crescent, Carrick on Shannon together with power washing in Carrick and Mohill.

Councillor Sinead Guckian commented that all Members submitted a list of works to be considered.

Mr Tiernan responded that projects are rotated on a yearly basis within the Municipal District to where the greatest need would be.

Councillor Des Guckian said he supported the idea of an allotment and that there were far more needed. He commented that the production of food has fallen.

Cathaoirleach Councillor Finola Armstrong Maguire said that she would be happy to see the development of the allotment as this was something the residents had requested. She commented that the council would reap the benefits of such a project. She also made reference to established allotments in the Breffni Area of Carrick.

Proposed by Councillor Des Guckian, Seconded by Councillor Sean McGowan AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED;

“That the sum of €2,000 under the General Municipal Allocations be approved for the development of an allotment at O’Carolan Court, Mohill, Co Leitrim.”

Part 1 – Notices of Motion

It was agreed to take the following Notices of Motion together:-

No. 6 in the name of Councillor Sinead Guckian
No. 7 in the name of Councillor Des Guckian
No. 14 in the name of Councillor Séadhna Logan

CMD 17/72 Traffic Calming Measures – Church Road, Leitrim Village 08/05/17

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

“At the May meeting of Carrick on Shannon Municipal District I will ask the Senior Engineer to investigate the possibility of providing traffic calming measures on Church Road (L3390 Church View Road) Leitrim Village, to reduce the speed of traffic entering the village from this road. Currently most vehicles are not reducing their speed until they reach the Church although they have already passed by the 50km speed limit. Is it possible to install a ramp on this road straight after the start of the 50km speed zone, or at a minimum provide ‘Children at Play’ signs.”
Report by Director of Services, Economic Development, Planning, Environment and Transportation;

“Speed enforcement on the public road is under the charge of the Garda and we will advise them of your concern at the next monthly Garda meeting. The local community have applied for funding through the town and village scheme this year to construct a footway with public lighting linking the village with Lock No. 16. If the application is successful we will endeavour to place a ramped uncontrolled crossing which will encourage speed reduction at this point.”

CMD 17/73 Traffic Calming Measures – Ballinamore Road into Leitrim Village 08/05/17

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

“That we, the Elected Members, urge that ramps or rumble strips, be placed on the Ballinamore Road into Leitrim Village, near the Church, in order to control excessive speeding.”

Report by Director of Service, Economic Development, Planning, Environment and Transportation;

“Speed enforcement on the public road is under the charge of the Garda and we will advise them of your concern at the next monthly Garda meeting. The local community have applied for funding through the town and village scheme this year to construct a footway with public lighting linking the village with Lock No. 16. If the application is successful we will endeavour to place a ramped uncontrolled crossing which will encourage speed reduction at this point.”

CMD 17/74 Traffic Calming Measures – Church Road, Leitrim Village 08/05/17

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

“Residents on the Church Road in Leitrim Village are requesting that the Council look at greater traffic calming measures on this approach to the village.”

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

“Speed enforcement on the public road is under the charge of the Garda and we will advise them of your concern at the next monthly Garda meeting. The local community have applied for funding through the town and village scheme this year to construct a footway with public lighting linking the village with Lock No. 16. If the application is successful we will endeavour to place a ramped uncontrolled crossing which will encourage speed reduction at this point.”
Councillor Sinead Guckian commented that she was aware of this discussion on speeding. She is a member of the Joint Policing Committee and at the moment there are plans for the development of specific village speed awareness campaign.

Councillor Des Guckian said that his motion was similar but not the same, he was enquiring about ramps/rumble strips. He noted the reply and said he hoped the rumble strips would be put in.

Councillor Séadhna Logan commented that the fact that there are three notices of motion tabled today regarding the same issue speaks volumes.

Darragh O’Boyle said that he had met with the Leitrim Development Company and that they have applied for funding through the Town and Village Scheme this year to construct a footway with public lighting linking the village with Lock No. 16. He said at the moment the council will have to wait to see how they get on with this application and look at incorporating ramps into same. This of course will be subject to funding through the Town and Village Scheme, in the region of €5,000 or €6,000 would be required as the works would also require signage and ancillary lining.

Councillor Sinead Guckian requested Mr O’Boyle to keep this matter to the forefront for consideration especially as we do not have any Low Cost Safety Schemes at the moment.

Mr O’Boyle responded that if the application was unsuccessful the Council could look at a cheaper option for example – rumble strips.

Councillor Des Guckian enquired as to the difference in cost between ramps and strips. Mr O’Boyle informed the meeting that ramps can cost approx €5/€6,000 and strips could be €1000 or €1500 approx., the strips are only used to indicate to the driver that they are coming into an area of different speed and they are noisy.

Councillor Sean McGowan supported this motion.

CMD 17/75 Liberalisation of Planning Laws to allow for viability of Rural Communities
08/05/17

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

“That we the Elected Members of Leitrim County Council are concerned at the rapid decline taking place in rural areas and urge Leitrim County Council to liberalise its planning laws to allow viable rural communities to exist here.”

Report by Director of Service, Economic Development, Planning, Environment and Transportation;

“Firstly, the planning legislation is not set by Leitrim County Council, it is decided upon by the Oireacthas. Secondly, Ministerial Guidelines with relate to planning matters which includes rural housing must be adhered to by Planning Authorities. In the event that a Planning Authority proposes to depart from the Ministerial Guidelines in the preparation of their Development Plans the Minister has the power to direct Planning Authorities and has done so in a number of well
The principal issue which is preventing the Planning Authority permitting a greater number of individual houses relates to the sub soils in large parts of the county failing to satisfy the assessment requirements under the EPA publication Code of Practice: Wastewater Treatment Systems for Single Houses. At present, such sites are not acceptable for the use of conventional wastewater treatment systems that dispose treated effluent to groundwater. This is in the interest of environmental concerns arising from the permeability of the sub soils and the public health of the inhabitants of proposed dwellings. The need for such systems to adhere to the Code of Practice is enshrined in the current Building Regulations Part H 'Drainage and Waste Water Disposal'.

Leitrim County Council continues to work with interested parties to facilitate the design of a wastewater treatment and disposal facility that would have the potential to have a zero discharge of effluent. Suitable pilot designs have been identified and 11 no. landowner applicants were given initial approval to commence the design process phase of this Pilot Scheme. At the end of 2015, 7 of these designs had the benefit of planning permission with construction having commenced on 4 sites. The first of these houses was occupied during 2016.

The Planning Authority re-opened this scheme for further applicants over the course of 2016 with a further 26 applications received within the specified period. Following a short listing process, 13 applications have been invited to participate in the extended pilot scheme. The Council is now also commencing a process to develop the parameters within which this extended phase of the scheme will operate taking into account complexities such as revisions to the Building Regulations Technical Design documents.

The Council recently brought the Technical Working Group who are reviewing the existing Code of Practice to visit 2 of the Zero Discharge Pilot Sites in the county. The Planning Authority is therefore doing everything within its powers to facilitate sustainable rural communities and would reject any contention to the contrary."

Councillor Des Guckian commented that it seems that the current government policy being implemented is to close down rural Ireland, moving people into Unfinished Estates in towns and villages and closing down Garda Stations, Post Offices etc. He said that the correct policy would be to support keeping the elderly in their own rural homes as long as possible and have their relatives living close by. With regard to the response dealing with Zero Discharge Schemes he commented that it is taking too long to assess and that there needs to be a big improvement in timescales. He said it should been done and implemented first before any applications were made.

Mr Gilhooly responded by giving an overview of the current government policy in relation to planning and also an update on the position of the Zero Discharge Pilot Wastewater Scheme.

Mr Greene echoed the points made by Mr Gilhooly.
Councillor Des Guckian commented that very few permissions are given in rural areas and that this appears to be more restrictive in the South. He asked who makes these decisions.

Mr Greene responded that the Councillors make these decisions when they review and adopt the County Development Plan as it is the policy contained in the Plan which governs the decision making process. He said that there are certain areas which have been under higher pressure than others and as a result areas the county is divided into 3 area of capacity to accommodate further individual one off housing:

- High Capacity
- Medium Capacity
- Low Capacity

In the areas of Low Capacity which coincides with the N4 corridor from Roosky / Dromod and along the R280 to Drumshanbo as well as areas around Ballinamore, this area is identified as Low Capacity. A more stringent policy applies here which favours persons local who are or who are originally native to the area. In response to a query from Cllr. Guckian following a recent newspaper article that the issue of local need was to be dispensed with, Mr. Greene indicated that this arose from a decision of the European Court of Justice now known as the ‘Flemish Decree’. The result of same was for each member state to re-examine their policies with respect to the free movement of people and goods throughout the EU. The restrictions on local need which are included in the Department Rural Housing Guidelines were found to be in breach of this policy. The Guidelines are being reviewed at present but are subject to environmental assessment. It is not expected that the guidelines review will be finalised this year. He also added that if you did not have this policy in place it would be an effective free for all. Sites would become overpriced and the locals would end up being out priced of their own area.

Councillor Des Guckian said that he would like to make one last point and he felt that this was the strongest point of all – he felt that National Parks and Wildlife exert undue pressure on the planning process.

Councillor Sean McGowan commented that there were difficulties in obtaining Planning Permission in Leitrim due to the poor soil quality. He also commented on the Tree Planting and that he felt it should be subject to Planning Permission. He said that there were parishes being closed off with the number of trees being planted around them.

Mr Gilhooly responded that the vast majority of forestry is outside the planning code.

Councillor Des Guckian stated that the planning laws are impinging on rural areas. In the next few years the rural communities will be gone and we need to stand up now.

Councillor Sean McGowan stated that until forestry comes under the guidelines we will continue to have this.

Cathaoirleach Councillor Finola Armstrong Maguire asked if the issue of tree planting is unique to Leitrim.
Mr Greene responded that the issue of forestry is acute in Leitrim and the issue was brought to Minister English’s attention recently. He added that the Minister seemed somewhat taken aback by the concerns of the members as he considered forestry a crop like any other. However, he ceded following intervention from the members present that it had the effect of changing the landscape for a much longer period than any other crop.

Councillor Sinead Guckian commented that there appears to be two parts to Councillor Des Guckian’s notice of motion. The issue of the decline in rural Ireland and the urgent need for Leitrim County Council to liberalise the planning laws. She said that the role of the Elected Member is to set policy in the county and that the Members have worked very hard to get to the point to facilitate people to seek planning on their own land and looked at solutions to facilitate this e.g. Pilot Schemes.

Councillor Séadhna Logan commented that he did not know what the motion is setting out to achieve and that a common sense approach is needed.

Mr Gilhooly commented that the preparation of the County Development Plan was a long detailed process over 2 years. It was not something that can be gone through easily. The decline of rural areas, businesses closing, services being reduced is a real issue. There is work happening to reverse this e.g. through the Town Development Association to help regenerate town centres, lots of work has been done.

Councillor Des Guckian said that he rejected the ideas being put forward and is referring to the reality of here and now. He concluded by saying that he wanted to seek real changes in the planning process.

Mr. Greene asked what steps the Members expected to occur if the motion was passed? He pointed out that the policy of the County Development Plan is a matter for the full Council to consider.

This motion was not supported by any of the Members.

CMD 17/76 Works on Drainage System along Upper Main Street, Mohill
08/05/17

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

“At the May Meeting of Carrick-on-Shannon Municipal District I will ask Mr. Billy Lowe, Senior Engineer, Water Services what plans are in place to carry out necessary works on the drainage system along upper Main Street, Mohill. There have been days over the past couple of weeks when there was a terrible stench coming from the drainage along that area of the town.”

Report by Senior Engineer, Water Services;

“The cause of this odour problem in Mohill is most likely caused by one or more waste water connections being wrongly connected to the storm networks, giving rise to the release of odours through the street gullies, particularly during dry spells. We propose to commence dye-testing all toilet connections along Upper Main St. We hope to carry out this survey shortly. Subject to the
results of this study we will then seek approval from Irish Water to carry out the required remedial works.”

Councillor Sean Mc Gowan noted the reply and asked that every effort be made to sort out this problem. He felt it needs to be sorted quickly through Irish Water as it is not fair to rate payers. Councillor Séadhna Logan supported the motion and stated this wasn’t a new issue it’s a recurring one that needs to be sorted.

Darragh O Boyle stated that Irish Water will be contacted on the matter as the asset belongs to them.

Councillor Des Guckian supported the motion and asked why the works hadn’t been carried out when this problem had been highlighted last year.

Darragh O Boyle said he would bring it up with Irish Water and get the matter spearheaded through.

CMD 17/77 Secure Fence along both sides of Railway Bridge at Dromod Railway Station 08/05/17

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

“At the May Meeting of Carrick-on-Shannon Municipal District I will ask Mr. Shay O’Connor, Senior Engineer, Roads to have immediate discussions with Irish Rail with a view to providing a safe and secure type of fence along the footpath on both sides of the Railway bridge at Dromod Rail Station, the hedge that is there presently is falling away and it is quite dangerous for the many people who use the footpath on a daily basis, with a drop of between 10 and 15 feet into both Reilly’s and Duignan’s gardens.”

Report by Director of Service, Economic Development, Planning, Environment and Transportation;

“We will make contact with Irish Rail and can meet with them at any stage. However, any works regarding the construction of a new parapet extension will require large amounts of funding. Due to back yard developments and slope settlement, a retaining wall or piling design and construction will be required on both approaches to the bridge. A specific grant will be required from both the LA and IR. If immediate footpath funding was available we could provide a temporary solution before settlement re-establishes on the approach embankments. Similarly, if safety barrier funding was made available, a temporary containment system could be constructed.”

Councillor Sean MC Gowan asked that Irish Rail be contacted. He said it would be very easy for a fall to happen as it is very dangerous. He asked if a joint approach were to be taken regarding funding to find a solution.

Darragh O Boyle said he had a meeting arranged with Irish Rail but there is not funding available and this will be a costly job.

Councillors Des Guckian and Sinead Guckian supported the motion.

CMD 17/78 Removal of Bridge Debris and Trees in water at Drumsna Bridge 08/05/17
To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Finola Armstrong-Maguire;

“What plans are in place to remove large pieces of old bridge and trees that are in the water at Drumsna Bridge. With water levels low at present they are easily seen and their removal should be relatively easy.”

Report by Senior Engineer, Roads;

“While these works are desirable we have no plans or funding to carry out any drainage works on the River Shannon at present.”

Cathaoirleach Councillor Finola Armstrong-Maguire asked if Failte Ireland or Waterways Ireland could be contacted with a view to helping in some form of a clean-up.

Councillor Sinead Guckian supported the motion and said that they had not got a positive response on this matter previously from Roscommon County Council when dealing with tidy towns.

Councillor Des Guckian supported the motion and said the bridge had been damaged in the 1920s and subsequently collapsed in 1967 and what had fallen in the river was neglected and left there. He said responsibility lies with Waterways Ireland and they should be contacted.

Darragh O’Boyle stated that Waterways Ireland don’t use this a navigation stream so they wouldn’t have any concerns with it. He stated that if any alternative funding stream comes on line for this that he would keep it in mind.

CMD 17/79 Widening of road to Gowel from Leitrim/Drumsna Road 08/05/17

To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Finola Armstrong Maguire;

“The road to Gowel from Leitrim/Drumsna road has become very busy with traffic. While locals understand that part of it is too narrow to allow cars to meet, those not familiar with the narrow width of the road are causing difficulties. Are there plans to widen this road at the narrow section? It’s a short section of perhaps 200 metres and should be attended to as soon as possible.”

Report by Director of Service, Economic Development, Planning, Environment and Transportation;

“There are no plans to widen this section of road and there are no RIGs or RMGs assigned to L3409 to Gowel. Regardless, no road widening or land acquisitions associated with road widening can be carries out under these grants. Only a Specific Improvement Grant or Low Cost Safety Grant provides road widening mechanisms to the local authority and currently we have no access to this funding stream.”
Cathaoirleach Councillor Finola Armstrong-Maguire said that the road is too narrow for the amount of traffic on it. Councillor Sinead Guckian supported the motion and asked if there was anywhere for a lay-by on this as some sections are particularly difficult.

CMD 17/80  
**Update on Structural Assessment – Hartley Bridge**

08/05/17

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

“What is the up to date position regarding the structural assessments of Hartley Bridge, Carrick-on-Shannon. Is there a detailed plan in place with regard to accessing funding for any necessary repair works if required.”

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

“All site investigations for the Stage 2 report on Hartley Bridge are complete. We have not yet been received consultants full report and have reopened the bridge to the initial 3T loading limits.”

Councillor Séadhna Logan asked when was the consultants final report expected and if it came back in a negative light could we looking at closing the bridge.

Darragh O Boyle said we needed to wait to see what is in the report before anything can be decided.

CMD 17/81  
**Repairs to Bridges in Carrick Municipal District Area**

08/05/17

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

“May I ask what bridges, are to be repaired in this Municipal area, and what work will be carried out, just pointing or rebuilding”

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

“There are 3 No. Bridge repairs being carried out within the Carrick municipal district. Kiltoghert Bridge adjacent the Creamer where parapet repair will be carried out. Foxborough Bridge adjacent Gills Garage where we will carry out repointing and parapet repair. Laheen on the R201 adjacent the Eslin turn off where we will rebuild the arch and carry out de-vegetation of the structure.”

CMD 17/82  
**Directions Signs on N4 for Tourism Purposes**
To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Enda Stenson:

“May I ask are we any closer to having directional signs placed on the N4 to show tourists as to what’s available in our towns and villages.”

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

“There is currently 36 No. official brown tourist signs along the 15kM stretch of the N4 which gives tourist information on Carrick, Jamestown, Drumsna, Dromod, Mohill and Rooskey. It is unlikely that the TII will give approval for further signage along the national road.”

CMD 17/83 Any Other Business

Councillor Séadhna Logan referred to an email regarding the Lough Rynn Regatta and stated that he personally was against the introduction of timber in the weir.

Councillor Sean Mc Gowan asked that a guarantee be given that the timbers will be gone.

Joseph Gilhooly stated that the timber would be removed by the 15th May and he would brief the members after the meeting.

Cathaoirleach Councillor Finola Armstrong-Maguire mentioned recent staff transfers that had been announced and welcomed Kathryne Bohan to the role of Meetings Administrator. She thanked Johanna Daly who had carried out this role to date and she wished them both well in their new posts.

Councillor Séadhna Logan asked that following these transfers if an up to date list of staff and their positions in the organisation could be circulated.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed: ________________________________  ________________________________

Councillor Finola Armstrong-Maguire  Kathryne Bohan
Cathaoirleach  Meetings Administrator

Date: ________________________________