Minutes of Meeting of Carrick on Shannon Municipal District
Held in Council Chamber, Aras an Chontae, Carrick on Shannon, Co. Leitrim
On Monday 10th July 2017 at 3.30 pm

Members Present: Councillor Finola Armstrong McGuire
Councillor Des Guckian
Councillor Sinead Guckian
Councillor Séadhna Logan
Councillor Sean McGowan
Councillor Enda Stenson

Officials Present: Ms. Mary Quinn, Director of Services, Housing, Corporate, Community & Emergency Services
Ms. Kathryn Bohan, Meetings Administrator
Mr. Darragh O’Boyle, District Engineer South Leitrim
Ms. Suzanne Duffy, Administrative Officer, Community Development
Mr. Donal Fox, CEO, Leitrim Development Company

CMD 17/103 Minutes of the Meeting of Carrick on Shannon Municipal District held on Monday 12th June, 2017

Proposed by Councillor Finola Armstrong McGuire, Seconded by Councillor Enda Stenson
AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED;

“That the Minutes of Carrick on Shannon Municipal District Meeting held in Aras an Chontae, Carrick on Shannon, Co. Leitrim on Monday 12th June, 2017 be adopted.”

CMD 17/104 Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Carrick on Shannon Municipal District held on Monday 12th June, 2017
Proposed by Councillor Enda Stenson, Seconded by Councillor Sean McGowan AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED;

“That the Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Carrick on Shannon Municipal District held in Aras an Chontae, Carrick on Shannon, Co. Leitrim on Monday 12th June, 2017 be adopted.”

Matters arising from Minutes:-

Councillor Des Guckian made reference to Item CMD17/90 (Page 4) of Minutes under the heading of “Mohill Town – Improvements to Sight Line” and stated that he had raised the issue with regard to the Parking Spaces opposite the Canon Donohoe Hall and Councillor Guckian requested an update in relation to this issue.

Mr. Darragh O’Boyle confirmed that he had discussed the issue of the removal of this one parking space with the Committee of the Canon Donohoe Hall and the Committee do not want to loose this Parking Space.

CMD 17/105 Presentation – LCDC Social Inclusion & Community Activation Programme (SICAP)

10/07/17

Mr. Donal Fox, CEO, Leitrim Development Company gave a presentation to the Members regarding the LCDC Social Inclusion & Community Activation Programme (SICAP) (Presentation appears at Appendix 1 to these Minutes)

Cathaoirleach Councillor Séadhna Logan thanked Mr. Fox for his informative presentation.

Councillor Enda Stenson asked if there was an excessive level of “Red Tape” involved in making an application for funding under Leader. Mr. Fox advised that the process is made as simple as possible and every assistance is provided to persons making such Applications.

Councillor Sinead Guckian referred to the current Level 4 Course in Horticulture & Tourism at Lough Allen College. Some of the students on this Course wish to progress to the Level 5 Course which is currently only available at the Organic Centre in Rossinver. Councillor Sinead Guckian asked if it would be possible to consider running a second Level 5 Course at the Lough Allen College as well as in Rossinver in order to facilitate all students. Mr. Fox stated that transport is available to the Course in Rossinver but he will consider the merits of running a second course at the Lough Allen College.

Councillor Des Guckian asked a number of questions with regard to how areas of disadvantage are measured, the need for more funding for apprenticeship programmes, need for better mental Health & Psychiatry Services, need for students to be able to complete the Applied Leaving Certificate in Schools in County Leitrim, need for better career guidance at secondary schools, difficulties involved in setting up development groups and overall need for more investment in local communities. Councillor Des Guckian welcomed the emphasis on Lifelong Learning and asked for more details with regard to Self Employment Schemes. Mr. Fox in response stated that while there is a large amount of disadvantaged areas in County Leitrim, it is the way in which disadvantage is measured and many areas in Leitrim show up as being only marginally
disadvantaged. Mr. Fox stated that every assistance possible is provided with the setting up of development groups and that the “Back-to- Work” Allowance is provided by the Department of Social Protection.

Councillor Finola Armstrong McGuire enquired if the LDC operate within a county boundary and Mr. Fox advised that they do operate within the county boundary.

Cathaoirleach Councillor Séadhna Logan asked if the level of Inter-Generational Disadvantage is still an issue. Mr. Fox observed that this is very difficult to change and will only change over a long period of time.

The Councillors in turn each thanked Mr. Fox for his presentation and praised the work of Leitrim Development Company.

CMD 17/106  Community Facilities Scheme
10/07/17

Mary Quinn, Director of Services, presented the Report on Grant Applications and Recommended Grant amounts under the Community Facilities Scheme in respect of Carrick on Shannon Municipal District. Report dated 10th July, 2017 was circulated to the Members at the meeting. (Report appears at Appendix 2 to these Minutes).

Ms. Quinn outlined that Leitrim County Council had received an allocation of €64,500 under this Scheme which provides small funding to projects which enhance communities and address disadvantage at a local level.

Councillor Des Guckian asked if organisations/groups not included for funding in 2017 will be considered for funding in 2018 and Ms. Quinn advised that if an Allocation is received in 2018, the Scheme will be advertised again in 2018.

Councillor Sinead Guckian asked for details of the breakdown between Municipal Districts. Ms. Quinn gave an overview of the overall number of eligible applications and indicative funding allocation for each Municipal District.

Councillor Sinead Guckian observed that Groups such as Leitrim Sub-Aqua Club provide a very important service and provide a service to all of the county and that it was difficult to measure groups against each other. Mary Quinn advised that the Scheme will be reviewed as it develops and if any of the Groups do not draw down their funding, this funding will be re-allocated to existing eligible groups.

Councillor Sean McGowan welcomed the Scheme and expressed his hope that the Scheme would continue in future years and that funding would increase.

Councillor Enda Stenson asked if amounts paid out would be based on actual expenditure and it was confirmed that grant payments would be based on vouched expenditure.

Councillor Finola Armstrong McGuire suggested that next year, County Wide organisations/groups be taken first when allocating funding.
Proposed by Councillor Sean McGowan, Seconded by Councillor Enda Stenson AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED;

“That the Recommendations on Grant Applications under the Community Facilities Scheme for the Carrick on Shannon Municipal District as set out in Report dated 10th July, 2017 be approved”

CMD 17/107 Correspondence 10/07/17

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

Item 1
Letter from the Office of the Taoiseach dated 26th June, 2017 regarding Resolution passed at the meeting of 12th June, 2017 regarding the need for automatic inquests into all maternal deaths in Ireland.

Item 2
Letter from Irish Water dated 3rd July, 2017 regarding the request from Leitrim County Council in respect of the Disposal of Septic Tank Waste to the Irish Water Waste Water Treatment Plant in Carrick on Shannon.

Item 3
Letter from Irish Water dated 3rd July, 2017 regarding the request from Leitrim County Council for the Upgrade to the Mains Water Supply at Drumsna.

Part 1 – Notices of Motion

CMD 17/108 Realignmnet of Castlecarra Road – L3408 - 0 10/07/17

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

"That we instruct the Engineering staff to prepare a plan to cater for the increasing volume of traffic on the too narrow Castlecarra Road L3408-0. There are a number of very sharp bends on this road which were never designed to carry heavy lorries. At one such turn 400 m from the Kiltoghert end there was a very serious accident involving two heavy lorries on Tuesday 13th June, 2017."

Report by Senior Engineer, Roads;
"Works that require realignment of regional and local roads require specific improvement grants or large low cost safety grants. The normal RIG and RMG will not cover any type of work that involves land acquisition. We will apply to the Department of Transport, Tourism & Sport for a Low Cost Safety Grant at this location. Once the accident involving the two lorries has been officially reported, it should gain traction on this application."

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Councillor Des Guckian outlined that this is a very busy road which is not designed to cope with the volume and type of traffic using this road and that the bends on this road need to be taken out. Councillor Guckian asked that signage be erected on this road to warn road users.

Mr. O'Boyle advised that the Council would arrange for the erection of signage and would also discuss the recent accident with the Gardai.

**CMD 17/109  Hedgecutting at Junctions of Local Roads with Regional & National Roads – L1601 at Aughamore**

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

"That where traffic is emerging on to a regional road or a national road, checks should be carried out to see if the line of vision is clear. Where it is not clear, the hedges or bushes should be cut back. One such place is where the lane from the Morans' houses joins the L1601 above Rooskey, at Aughamore Townland."

**Report by Senior Engineer, Roads:**

"In general the local authority do not carry out hedge cutting on hedges or verges belonging to private citizens, however in cases where site distances and regulatory signage visibility are affected on regional road junctions, we will endeavor to trim back hedges and verges. These junctions would have connecting local roads intersecting regional roads and not private lane ways or 'cul de sacs'."

Councillor Des Guckian advised that this is a very busy road and motorists need clear vision. Mr. O'Boyle advised that the dates for hedge cutting are restricted and that as this is private property, the cutting of the hedges is the landowner’s responsibility and the Council does not have the funding to cut all such hedges. However, Mr. O'Boyle advised that if the names of the landowners involved were provided, they could be served with a Hedge Cutting Notice under the Roads Act.

Councillor Des Guckian said that some of the property may be owned by Leitrim County Council.

Mr. O'Boyle said that we would check who owns the property and if it is owned by Leitrim County Council and is causing a possible traffic hazard, the Council would arrange to cut the hedges at this location.

**CMD 17/110  Playground at Aura Leisure Facility – Refurbishment & Repair Works**

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

"At the July meeting of Carrick on Shannon Municipal District I will ask the Senior Engineer when will refurbishment and repair works, be carried out and completed, on the children's playground, adjacent to Aura Leisure Facility, Carrick on Shannon."
Report by Senior Engineer Roads;
"We will endeavour to carry out the repairs as soon as possible. The repair to the damaged panels and gate posts will require specialist Contractors and a separate budget."

Cathaoirleach Councillor Séadhna Logan stated that there are sharp edges on the Fencing at this Playground which would need to be attended to.

CMD 17/111 Waste Collection - Houses on the Leitrim Gaels Community Grounds Road
10/07/17

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

"At the July meeting of Carrick on Shannon Municipal District, I will ask the Director of Services, Economic Development, Environment, Planning & Transport to confirm whether or not the Waste Collection Company have agreed to collect bins from the homes along the Leitrim Gaels Community grounds road (L33902), as per our numerous requests and in line with their commitment to extend their collection routes?"

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

"This has already been reviewed by the waste collector and it is not feasible to turn the collection lorry on this road."

Councillor Sinead Guckian stated that one of the main selling points of the introduction of the Pay by Weight System was the extension of the waste collection service to people who did not already have the service. It is not feasible for a person to be available to open the gates of the Leitrim Gaels Grounds on each waste collection morning. Councillor Sinead Guckain requested that the Waste Collection Company be contacted again in relation to this issue.

Councillor Sinead Guckian requested that some arrangements needed to be put in place in order to facilitate waste collection from homes on this road. All other Councillors supported the motion. Councillor Sinead Guckian also asked for details of what new routes have been added to the Waste Collection Service since the introduction of the Pay by Weight system.

CMD 17/112 Funding from OPW for Dredging of Rivers within the Carrick on Shannon Municipal District
10/07/17

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

"At the July Meeting of Carrick-on-Shannon Municipal District, I will ask the Director of Services, Economic Development, Environment, Planning & Transport has there been any success in discussions with the OPW with a view to securing a funding package over the next 4 to 6 yrs to clean and dredge all those rivers which feed into the main rivers and lakes within the Carrick-on-Shannon Municipal District."
Report by Senior Engineer, Roads:

"We have ongoing discussions with the OPW regarding drainage works on rivers and streams. The only funding available at present is through the OPW Minor Flood Mitigation Works & Coastal Protection Scheme. With this scheme there has to be a risk to property before funding is successful. The general maintenance of rivers and streams is the responsibility of the local riparian owners or in the case of Drainage Districts the local authority. It is recognised that current funding is inadequate for such works but alternate sources of funding are not available at present."

Councillor Sean McGowan asked if there is any indication that the Council will get funding for such works.

Mr. O'Boyle advised that there is no indication at present. Mr. O'Boyle stated that a sum of €10,000 is available for drainage in the Carrick on Shannon Municipal District but this is not sufficient for such works.

Councillor Sean McGowan asked that efforts be made to complete any drainage works as early as possible in the year. Mr. O'Boyle stated that the completion of these works is dependent on the completion of the Road Works Programme, agreement from the Inland Fisheries Board and agreement from individual farmers/landowners involved.

CMD 17/113 Repair Work to the Tooman Road – L1626 - 1
10/07/17

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

"At the July Meeting of Carrick-on-Shannon Municipal District I will ask Mr. Darragh O Boyle, Area Engineer to have the Patching Unit carry out repairs to the section of the Tooman Road (Road No. L-1626-1) that was not covered under this year’s Restoration Improvement Grant as there are a number of potholes and the surface is ravelling in certain areas. I also ask that the remaining sections of the road are included in next year’s Roadwork’s Programme."

Report by Senior Engineer, Roads:

"We will dispatch the maintenance unit to this area. The RIG grants for 2018 have been approved at the 3 year 2016 Roads Programme."

Councillor Sean McGowan asked that the remaining sections of this road be included in the 2018 Roads Programme. Councillor Sinead Guckian supported the motion.

CMD 17/114 Trimming of Grass Verges & Overgrowth – Hartley Bridge to Carrick on Shannon and along Sli na Slainte
10/07/17

To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Finola Armstrong-McGuire;
"I ask that grass verges and overgrowth in areas of heavy traffic and used a lot by walkers are given attention in the coming days. From Hartley Bridge towards the town of Carrick-on-Shannon as well as along Sli na Slainte is particularly bad and dangerous for pedestrians and walkers. These areas were attended to in 2016 and should be done as soon as possible."

Report by Senior Engineer, Roads:
"In general, Leitrim County Council do not carry out hedge cutting on privately owned hedges and verges. In some incidences, where road safety is an issue, the Council may trim hedging and verges at regional road junctions and regional road regulator signage positions. We will encourage land owners to carry out hedge cutting on their property during the hedge cutting season (September to March) and can enforce these requests under the Roads Act."

Councillor Finola Armstrong McGuire stated that the grass verges & overgrowth from Hartley Bridge to Carrick on Shannon has been attended to recently.

CMD 17/115  Footpaths in Carrick on Shannon – Main Street and at Dental Practice on Summerhill
10/07/17

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

"I ask that the footpaths in Carrick-on-Shannon along Main Street and at the Dental practice on Summerhill are upgraded at soon as possible. When is the work likely to be undertaken? I ask that the shop owners and managers of businesses affected are involved in some discussions prior to the work being undertaken. Every effort must be made not to disrupt businesses and offer customers the best shopping experience possible."

Report by Senior Engineer, Roads:
"The Carrick-on-Shannon Municipal District has no allocation within its budget to carry out footpath replacement. When specific funding becomes available we will endeavour to carry out Main Street and Summerhill footpath replacement. We have funding for the construction of a pedestrian crossing at the school in Summerhill and will hope to commence these works in September."

Councillor Finola Armstrong McGuire asked that residents and business’s be consulted prior to any such works and that any such works be completed as quickly as possible and not in the busy retail period of November and December.

Mr. O’Boyle stated that if Funding does become available, the footpaths on Main Street, Carrick on Shannon will be done first and residents and business’s will be consulted..

CMD 17/116  Low Cost Safety Scheme – Works at Kilnagross Post Office
10/07/17

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

"May I ask what are the exact works that will be carried out at Kilnagross Post Office under the Low Cost Accident Scheme."
**Report by Senior Engineer, Roads:**
"The low cost safety works at Kilnagross Junction include the erection of a number of regulatory signs, and minor road markings for pedestrian and cyclists. The flashing school signs will also be replaced under separate Clar funding."

Councillor Enda Stenson noted the reply.

**CMD 17/117  Availability of Social Housing to meet Housing Demand in Mohill**
**10/07/17**

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

"May I ask are there enough Local Authority houses to meet the social housing demand in Mohill, this includes family type houses and one/two bedroom houses."

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

"Regarding the availability of social housing in Mohill, the Council returned 20 units to productive use within the past 18 months consisting of:

- 5 No. one bedroom Limited Accommodation dwellings
- 10 No. two bedroom Limited Accommodation dwellings
- 4 No. three bedroom Family-Type Accommodation dwellings
- 1 No. four bedroom Family-Type Accommodation dwelling

The Council currently have the following number of units coming back into availability through surrender of tenancy which will be subject to refurbishment works, and will then be available for re-letting:

- 2 no. one-bedroom dwellings
- 1 no. two-bedroom dwelling
- 2 no. three-bedroom family type dwellings

The availability of all the above units in Mohill and the further vacant possession return of LA properties in the future, coupled with the provision of assistance by this authority to eligible households under the HAP Scheme, should be adequate to meet the current demand for social housing support in Mohill town but the situation has to be kept under continuous review subject to housing demand in Housing Area South 3 and suitably available stock."

Councillor Enda Stenson asked if there was need for further Social Housing in Mohill, would the Council be more likely to construct houses or purchase houses.

Mary Quinn, Director of Services, stated that purchase of houses would be more likely than the construction of Houses.
To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Séadhna Logan;

"That this Council prioritise access points onto the footpaths for wheelchair access on Glebe Street Mohill, particularly on both sides of the road close to the Post Office. This issue has been raised with me a number of times by multiple people in wheelchairs that struggle getting on and off the footpaths."

Report by Senior Engineer, Roads:

"There is a dropped kerb 9m on the town side of the Post Office and a dropped kerb at the pub adjacent the Post Office. The main issue regarding Glebe Street is that the footpath on the Post Office side is too narrow and we will actively seek funding to widen this section of footpath. The positioning of the post box also adds to the difficulty for mobility impaired citizens on the public realm."

Cathaoirleach Councillor Séadhna Logan stated that the current situation presents problems for wheelchair users. He also stated that wheelchair users have problems accessing the footpaths from Casey’s to the Fire Station due to cars parking up on the footpaths.

Mr. O’Boyle stated that we would write to An Post with regard to the location of the Post Office Box beside the Post Office as this is creating an obstruction for wheelchair users. Mr. O’Boyle also stated that he would meet with Cathaoirleach Councillor Séadhna Logan and those affected by these issues in Mohill in order to review the issues involved.

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

"I am calling on this Council to move the Pedestrian Crossing on the Castlecarra road on the outskirts of Carrick -on -Shannon. Walkers descending the Hill from the Aughameeney side are completely hidden from motorists on the Castlecarra Road. The crossing at the bottom of the hill is very sudden and walkers are entitled to walk straight out. Secondly a barrier similar to those erected outside schools could be erected to guide walkers around the corner and the path extended 5-10m back towards the N4 with the pedestrian crossing realigned accordingly."

Report by Senior Engineer, Roads:

"The existing location of the pedestrian crossing was defined by the availability of land. It is not our intention to move the existing pedestrian crossing. It is imperative that walkers do not walk directly out onto any pedestrian crossing without indicating to oncoming motorists of their intent to use the crossing. However, we will endeavour to erect a speed ramp on the Carrick side of the crossing to reduce traffic speed at this location."

Cathaoirleach Councillor Séadhna Logan welcomed the proposal to erect the speed ramp but
stated that this may not solve the problem. He stated that there is a tree in the sight line which is causing difficulties.

Mr. O’Boyle stated that the Council can write to the land owner involved requesting that the tree be cut back/removed.

CMD 17/120 Any Other Business
10/07/17

Councillor Enda Stenson proposed a Motion of Congratulations to the Roscommon Senior Football Team on their win in the Senior Connacht Championship Final. All Councillor supported the motion.

The next meeting of the Carrick Municipal District is scheduled to take place on Monday 11th September, 2017 at 3.30 pm in the Council Chamber.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed: ___________________________________________  ____________________________

Councillor Séadhna Logan  Kathryne Bohan
Cathaoirleach  Meetings Administrator

Date: ______________________________