Minutes of Meeting of Carrick on Shannon Municipal District
Held in Council Chamber, Aras an Chontae, Carrick on Shannon, Co. Leitrim
On Monday 11th February 2019 at 3.30 pm

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

Officials Present: Gerry Doyle, Meetings Administrator
Joseph Gilhooly, Director of Services, Economic Development, Planning & Transportation
Darragh O’Boyle, District Engineer South Leitrim
Bernard Greene, Senior Planner
Vivienne Egan, Senior Executive Planner
Shay O’Connor, Senior Engineer, Roads
Pamela Moran, Economic Development, Planning & Transportation

CMD 19/17 Minutes of Meeting of Carrick on Shannon Municipal District held on 11/02/19 Monday 14th January 2019

Proposed by Councillor Sinead Guckian Seconded by Councillor Sean McGowan AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED;

“That the Minutes of the Meeting of Carrick On Shannon Municipal District held in Aras an Chontae, Carrick on Shannon, Co. Leitrim on Monday 14th January 2019 be adopted,” subject to the following amendment:
Text contained in the Draft Minutes as follows under Ref CMD 19/02/ of 14/01/19 to be amended from:

“Councillor Sinead Guckian endorsed all the comments made on this issue and condoned this behaviour” to the following

“Councillor Sinead Guckian endorsed all the comments made on this issue and condemned this behaviour.”

Matters arising from the Minutes.

Cllr Des Guckian stated that he wanted it recorded that he had been fully supportive of Cllr Sean McGowan's Notice of Motion Ref. No. CMD 19/08 at the meeting held on 14th January 2019 and that he would again urge the Council to proceed as a matter of urgency to extend the footpath on the R202 Road from the roundabout on the Dromod Rooskey Bypass at Cloonturk to Cloonturk Church.

CMD 19/18  Chief Executive’s Report – Part 8 – Carrick on Shannon Public Realm Improvement Scheme
11/02/19

The proposed development comprises the following elements:

1. “To undertake a Public Realm Improvement Scheme within the town centre to enhance the existing streetscapes of Main Street & St. George’s Terrace to include the junction of both streets with Bridge Street. The Scheme extends from Main Street onto the old Dublin Road, lower Summerhill, the Leitrim Road, Priest’s Lane and Church Lane. The nature of the Public Realm Improvement Scheme includes, inter alia, the widening of footpaths, introduction of shared surface space at identified locations, to provide enhanced pedestrian crossings, to replace existing road surfaces, to replace existing street lights, the provision of soft landscaping measures and street furniture and to reduce the extent of on street car parking provision.

As part of the proposal, the Town Clock, a Protected Structure, will be moved by approximately 2 metres from its current position so that it is visible from Main Street, Bridge Street and St. George’s Terrace. The Public Realm Improvement Scheme is contained largely within the Carrick on Shannon Architectural Conservation Area.

2. To provide a public car park (105 no. car parking spaces) immediately north of the Primary Care Centre which is presently under construction within the area known locally as ‘Flynn’s Field’ (Townparks Townland) to the rear of Main Street and Bridge Street.

3. To replace the existing fixed boardwalk along the River Shannon at the property of le boat / Emerald Star and Carrickcraft boating companies (The Marina, St. George’s Terrace or Townparks Townland) and to provide a public floating boardwalk at this location inclusive of landscaping measures and accommodation works. The proposed public boardwalk will connect to the existing car parking area at the quayside.

The proposed development will also include necessary services and utility provision and associated site works.”
A detailed report was submitted to the Members in advance of the meeting (attached as Appendix 1 to the Minutes of this meeting in the Minute Book). Mr Bernard Greene, Senior Planner gave the Elected Members a presentation on the report circulated to them. He stated that the project was formally advertised for public consultation between Wednesday 28th November 2018 and Thursday 17th January 2019; that details of the proposed works were available for inspection during normal office hours at the office of the Planning Authority and also on the Council website and that the plans were on public display in the foyer of Áras an Chontae for the duration of the public consultation period with the closing date for submissions being Thursday 31st January 2019. He stated that in addition to this, an extensive communication exercise was undertaken by the Planning Authority involving a press release, further newspaper notices and use of social media (Twitter and Facebook) which advertised a public information event held in the Bush Hotel, Carrick-on-Shannon on Wednesday 9th January 2019 between 4.00 – 8.00p.m and it is estimated that in excess of 150 people attended this event over the course of the evening. He added that the event was attended by members of the design team and by officials of Leitrim County Council. Bernard Greene Senior Planner stated that the Council was extremely happy with the level of engagement that was evident on the night. He stated that in general terms the public appeared to be very satisfied with the plans, however the business community had expressed some concerns. He added that issues raised were primarily to do with car parking spaces and the impact their removal would have on existing businesses. He stated that the outcome of the public consultation process was the receipt of 28 no. submissions which are addressed in detail in his report as circulated to the Meeting.

Each of the Elected Members spoke in relation to the proposed development. Amongst the matters raised were:

- The reduction of car parking on Main St and severe traffic congestion likely on Summerhill with the national school / new medical centre etc and the reduction in parking spaces at the bottom of Summerhill;
- Whether Flynn’s Field where a proposed car park is proposed to be built under the plans was in the ownership of the Council; flood risk in relation to the new car park and whether the car park would be a paid car park;
- The necessity to publicise the existing car park adjacent to the Fire Station to the public as a free car park with easy access to the centre of town;
- Whether works were proposed within the grounds of the Market Yard as part of the project;
- Whether the consent of local boat companies had been received to the erection of the floating boardwalk and whether it would be safe from vandalism particularly at night time;
- Whether the gradient from the new public park to Main St would be suitable for people with disabilities;
- Lack of funding to assist owners to maintain protected buildings;
- Difficulties likely for businesses in accepting deliveries after works were completed and when works were ongoing;
- Assistance required for businesses when works were ongoing in marketing their businesses so that the public know they are still open for business and after this when improvements were complete so that local businesses can be boosted by the economic benefit from the works upon their completion;
- The success of the project will be based on whether there is a major increase in footfall in the town and
• When works were likely to start and when would they be completed.

Bernard Greene Senior Planner addressed issues raised as follows:

• He stated that this proposal was a design proposal consenting to the physical works proposed and that the Councillors were not considering whether or not to allow paid parking when deciding on the current proposal before them;
• He stated that no works were being proposed for the Market Yard even though a submission from the Market Yard Management Company had suggested this should be considered;
• He stated that from the very earliest stages of the preparation of the design proposal local boating Companies had been consulted and letters of support had been received from them. He added that the development is to be completed in such a way that security along the moorings would be maintained and that these matters had been agreed also with the local boat companies;
• He stated that it was common place for the acquisition of lands to follow planning consent and that there was no requirement under Planning law that the Council had to own lands affected by a Part VIII proposal. He added that he was satisfied that the proper procedures had been followed. He clarified that the Council does not own the site of the proposed car park but that he was satisfied that it would be acquired and stated that the Council had a number of options available with respect to acquiring the site in question;
• He stated that the route from the new public car park to Main Street complied with the building regulations requirements regarding accessibility when it was constructed but that at detailed design stage proposals to further improve the gradient would be examined;
• He stated that he considered that funding to assist owners to maintain protected buildings had been insufficient historically but that there had been some major increases in funding provided by the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht under the Built Heritage Investment Scheme and the Historic Structure Fund in recent years;
• He stated that when the proposals were being drawn up it was apparent that Carrick-On-Shannon had many outstanding features but people who come to the town can’t enjoy many of these due to an over reliance on cars and the numbers of cars being parked in the central areas of the town. He stated that the proposals looked to rebalance matters in favour of the pedestrian whilst still providing for access to cars at easily accessible car parking locations;
• It was proposed taken into consideration the views expressed regarding reduction in car parking in the town to have a loading bay at Mulvey’s Shop and a Local Link Bus stop;
• He stated that the turnover of car parking spaces on Main / Bridge St was a problem as many people were parked there for extended periods thus not freeing up spaces for others who may wish to do their shopping in the town;
• He added that the distance from the existing free car park at the Fire Station to Main Street would not be appreciably different to that from the proposed new car park at Flynn’s Field to Main Street and should be utilised more by the general public;
• He stated that a detailed flood risk assessment of the proposed car park had been completed by the same consultants who had done the CFRAMs study and that they considered that both flood risks and impacts associated with the proposed development are negligible. He added that a car park is not considered to be a vulnerable land use from a flood risk perspective;
Mr. Greene stated that in order to alleviate traffic congestion that the Executive considered that there may be merit in considering further a one way system incorporating the Leitrim Road towards Main Street (from the junction with the Link Road to Priests Lane), the section of Main Street from the junction with the Leitrim Road to Priests Lane, Priests Lane as far as the link road (just before the Fire Station) and the link road from Priests Lane to the Leitrim Road. He stated that the direction of flow would be clock wise and that this would be introduced, on a trial basis and then reviewed and considered further in advance of the completion of the detailed design phase of the project. This he added would necessitate modelling and further analysis by traffic management consultants.

Joseph Gilhooly Director of Services stated that it was critical for Carrick-On-Shannon to be able to move with the times. He stated that it was important that visitors and locals alike can have the best possible experience while in the town. He stated that funding would be provided as part of the overall project for marketing the town and communication would be ongoing with local businesses both during the works and after project completion to ensure disruption was minimised and so that the maximum benefit would be got for the town when works are complete. He added that works were proposed to start next September and to be finished ahead of summer 2020. He stated that in addition there would also be discussion with local businesses as to how best disruption to them over the Christmas period could be minimised.

Proposed by Cllr Sean McGowan and seconded by Cllr Finola Armstrong McGuire and resolved that;

The proposed development comprising the following elements:

“**To undertake a Public Realm Improvement Scheme** within the town centre to enhance the existing streetscapes of Main Street & St. George’s Terrace to include the junction of both streets with Bridge Street. The Scheme extends from Main Street onto the old Dublin Road, lower Summerhill, the Leitrim Road, Priest’s Lane and Church Lane. The nature of the Public Realm Improvement Scheme includes, inter alia, the widening of footpaths, introduction of shared surface space at identified locations, to provide enhanced pedestrian crossings, to replace existing road surfaces, to replace existing street lights, the provision of soft landscaping measures and street furniture and to reduce the extent of on street car parking provision.

As part of the proposal, the Town Clock, a Protected Structure, will be moved by approximately 2 metres from its current position so that it is visible from Main Street, Bridge Street and St. George’s Terrace. The Public Realm Improvement Scheme is contained largely within the Carrick on Shannon Architectural Conservation Area.

**To provide a public car park** (105 no. car parking spaces) immediately north of the Primary Care Centre which is presently under construction within the area known locally as ‘Flynn’s Field’ (Townparks Townland) to the rear of Main Street and Bridge Street.

**To replace the existing fixed boardwalk along the River Shannon** at the property of le boat / Emerald Star and Carrickcraft boating companies (The Marina, St. George’s Terrace or Townparks Townland) and **to provide a public floating boardwalk** at this location inclusive of landscaping measures and accommodation works. The proposed public boardwalk will connect to the existing car parking area at the quayside.
The proposed development will also include necessary services and utility provision and associated site works”

be approved in accordance with Section 179 of the Planning & Development Acts 2000-2018 and Part 8 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001-2018.

CMD 19/19  **Schedule of Municipal District Works 2019 (including Area Programme 11/02/19)**

Copies of the Schedule of Municipal District Works 2019 and Annual Area Programme 2019 were circulated to the Members (included as Appendix 2 to the Minutes of this meeting in the Minute Book)

Joseph Gilhooly Director of Services stated that the Schedule of Municipal Works includes for proposed maintenance works in 2019 across two key service divisions – Housing and Transportation. He stated that it was not always possible to predetermine at the start of the year a major proportion of works required as many were reactive in nature and could not be foreseen.

Shay O Connor Senior Engineer Infrastructure gave a detailed briefing in respect of the Annual Area Programme

Some of the main points he made were as follows:-

- He stated that the overall area programme was €16,398,072 which includes capital schemes on national roads with the budget for road maintenance works being €9337569 an increase of 16% from the 2018 allocation.

- Funding for Local Improvement Schemes is down 9% on last year.

- The Restoration Maintenance and Improvement Grants have increased by 11% overall.

- The Discretionary Maintenance Grant has been increased by 13% which was the first increase in a number of years.

- The Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport have advised they are not setting aside contingency funding to deal with possible severe weather events. He stated that they recommend that each local authority should make a contingency provision from their overall resources to deal with such events. He added that no such provision has been made in Leitrim within this programme as there is not adequate funding available to do so.

- He stated that the Council had received funding of €200000 for the Dromod to Carrick-On-Shannon road scheme and has applied to Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) to start the process of appointing a consultant for the design phase. He added that the overlay on the roadway from the Attifinlay roundabout to the bridge in Carrick-On-Shannon and the overlay on the Jamestown to Drumnsa road would also take place in the first half of 2019.
He stated that a Part VIII planning consent had been received in 2003 for the redevelopment of the Hartley Bridge and given the passage of time and new planning and environmental legislation now in place the Council had decided having received legal advice to seek a new planning approval. He stated that this would take approx six months to completion including preparation of plans; reports etc and to give the required public notice including the period for submissions required and

He added that while the increase in roads maintenance was welcome the allocation still fell some way short of what he would consider necessary to address all of the works which ideally the Council would like to complete. He also noted that no provision for the improvement / installation of public lights or new footpaths had been provided for 2019. He added that the challenge in delivering the roads programme is to deliver the most efficient level of service possible within the limited budget available.

Each of the Elected Members raised matters regarding the Schedule of Municipal Works and Annual Area Roads Maintenance Programme 2019. A summary of the matters raised is as follows:

**Cllr Sean McGowan**

He stated that he welcomed the funding of €200000 for the Carrick-On-Shannon to Dromod Road Scheme. He urged that lay by’s should be considered at regular intervals along the route proposed as happens on the Continent.

Cllr Sean McGowan stated that he was disappointed that no funding was received for Rooskey Bridge albeit he was aware that any works on the bridge would be for Roscommon County Council to manage and to apply for funding for;

Cllr Sean McGowan queried whether amenity grants for local Tidy Towns community groups were included in the programme and if the allocation to them this year could be increased particularly those in the smaller towns and villages who do not have the same facility to raise funds as larger towns and

Cllr Sean McGowan stated that there were a couple of incidents on the Cloonturk roundabout since works had taken place there recently and asked that further safety measures be considered there.

**Cllr Sinead Guckian**

Cllr Sinead Guckian stated that she had raised previously the differences in allocations across all Municipal Districts with the Carrick-On-Shannon Municipal District not faring as well as the other Municipal Districts in the county;

Cllr Sinead Guckian stated she wished for N4 road works Jamestown to Drumsna to be completed in advance of the County Fleadh to be held in Drumsna in April;

Cllr Sinead Guckian queried the basis on how Local Improvement Schemes monies from the Department were paid out and

Cllr Sinead Guckian stated that there was she was very concerned over there being no Contingency Funding allocated for possible severe weather events and that she felt it was unacceptable that government is imposing this extra burden on this Council. In relation to this
matters it was agreed to write to the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport regarding the lack of Contingency Funding for possible severe weather events.

Proposed by Councillor Sinead Guckian, Seconded by Councillor Finola Armstrong McGuire;

“That Carrick on Shannon Municipal District write to the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport in relation to the lack of Contingency Funding for possible severe weather events and that the matter be reviewed.”

Cllr Des Guckian

Cllr Des Guckian stated that he considered that a ring road around Carrick-on-Shannon was of vital importance but that he was opposed to an extension of the Dromod Rooskey by pass. He stated that he considered that currently the bypass was very inadequate.

Cllr Des Guckian stated that he welcomed the funding for works starting at Derrywillow L-3468-1;

Cllr Des Guckian stated that he had been at a house in the Carrick-On-Shannon Municipal District where a lane up to it was in terrible condition. He stated that the last time works were done on the road was in 1967 and he asked that it be given priority for works under a Local Improvement Scheme in 2019; Cllr Seadna Logan

Cllr Seadna Logan asked how many roads would be completed under the Local Improvement Scheme 2019 given the additional allocation recently announced and Cllr Seadna Logan enquired as to the nature of the works proposed at Glebe St. Mohill.

Cllr Enda Stenson

Cllr Enda Stenson stated that the Carrick-On-Shannon ring road needed to be a priority given the increasing massive volumes of traffic going through Carrick-On-Shannon and asked how long it would take for it to be built.

Shay O Connor Senior Engineer Infrastructure stated that an in depth study of the proposed Carrick-on-Shannon Ring Road had already been done some time ago and consultants appointed would use this as a base line for making an updated report. He stated that there was no indication of when the route would go to construction and this could take many years. He added that there would be extensive public consultation process conducted prior to any works starting.

Shay O Connor Senior Engineer Infrastructure stated that the Council will be bound by National Guidelines re width of lanes / hard shoulders etc in relation to any proposal re Dromod / Rooskey which is a Type 2 carriageway and the Carrick-On-Shannon ring road and the process which was at its initial stages had not moved on to considering these matters in depth to date;

Shay O Connor Senior Engineer Infrastructure stated that the Council could not do works immediately on the private lane which Cllr Des Guckian had referred to but that it would be considered in respect of the long waiting list for Local Improvement Schemes under the order of priority already established. Cllr Des Guckian stated that this was a case of extraordinary urgency and needed to be addressed by the Council.
Shay O Connor Senior Engineer stated that the Department’s methodology in allocating grants across Municipal Districts is similar to that which applied in previous years. He added that the method of allocating funding under the Local Improvement Schemes had not changed also. He added that the number of Local Improvement Schemes to be completed in 2019 would depend on the overall area of road to be improved and this will vary from one road to another. He also said that while an additional allocation of €250000 for Local Improvement Schemes had been reported in the media the Council had not yet heard from the Department in respect of same.

Joseph Gilhooly Director of Services stated that an open call for applications goes out regarding the Town and Village Scheme annually and it was open to community groups to apply for this funding. He stated that assistance in this regard can be provided by the Council to them in completing such applications. He added that there was no extra provision in 2019 under the Amenity Grant Scheme.

**Proposed by Councillor Finola Armstrong McGuire, Seconded by Councillor Enda Stenson;**

“That the Schedule of Municipal District Works 2019 (including Area Programme 2019) for the Carrick on Shannon Municipal District be adopted”

Councillor Des Guckian asked that the Minutes reflect that he was opposed to the adoption of same as he felt the amount received was inadequate to deal with the amount of works required to be done.

CMD 19/20 Correspondence 11/02/19

**Item No. 1**

Follow up letter dated 22nd January 2019 from Group Customer Complaints, Bank of Ireland relating to letter issued from Carrick on Shannon Municipal District in relation to ongoing issues with ATM in Mohill town. *(Appendix 3 to the Minutes of this meeting in the Minute Book).*

**Item No. 2**

Letter dated 29th January 2019 from Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) regarding the proposed meeting with delegation from Leitrim County Council. The TII are happy to facilitate a meeting on Thursday 21st February 2019 at 11.00 am. *(Appendix 4 to the Minutes of this meeting in the Minute Book).*

Mr Gilhooly Director of Services informed the meeting that an Agenda will be sent out prior to the meeting.
To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Sinead Guckian:

"At the February Meeting of Carrick on Shannon Municipal District, I will ask the Senior Engineer to once again contact Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) and request that public lighting is erected on the N4 at Annaduff GAA Grounds. Further consideration should be given, by the TII, to the provision of public lighting at the entrance to this busy community facility and, it's location on a National Primary Route warrants special funding arrangements under their policy of providing public lighting at junctions/areas where there is a history of accidents or considerable danger at night time."

Report by Roads – General:

“We have discussed the provision of public lighting along this section of the N4 with the TII on numerous occasions. They will not provide funding for public lighting for such locations. I doubt if the TII will alter their position if we submit a new request.

There is funding available through Clar or other funding programmes. If the local football club and/or the GAA wish to pursue this avenue this local authority will help them with any applications for funding.”

Councillor Sinead Guckian noted the reply and suggested that this would be one of the items to be included on the agenda for the forthcoming meeting with the TII.

Cllr Des Guckian stated that the works were required urgently and that he was fully supportive of the Motion.

Councillor Sean McGowan also supported the motion and said that this was very timely, as the members have asked before to have the public lighting extended. He made reference to a recent match held at the grounds and said that only for the assistance of the Gardai who were present there would have been the potential for a serious accident to occur at this location.

Councillor Sinead Guckian said that it was important to note that the county and local clubs have tried everything to secure funding to complete the works but have been unsuccessful in their efforts.

This Motion was supported by all Members.
To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Sinead Guckian:

"At the February Meeting of Carrick on Shannon Municipal District, I will ask the District Engineer to carry out repair and improvement works on the Effrinagh/Lisduff road, L74351-0, particularly from the junction off the Effrinagh Road towards Lisduff."

Report by Roads – General;

“We will dispatch our patching unit carry out routine maintenance on this local road.”

Councillor Sinead Guckian thanked Mr O'Boyle District Engineer for the reply and added that the worst part of the road is on the Effrinagh side.

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At this stage of the meeting Cathaoirleach Councillor Enda Stenson requested that Motions 13 and 14 in his name be moved next, as had to leave for another meeting.

This was agreed to by the Members.

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

"May I ask have the Local Authority or the ESB a policy for cutting down over-grown trees near power lines, as power outages are occurring on a regular basis due to fallen trees on lines."

Report by Roads – General;

“Any land owner can contact the ESB on 1850 372 757 or +353 21 2386555 regarding this problem. ESB will then arrange for a tree cutting crew to make an inspection. If tree cutting is necessary, ESB will aim to carry out the work within 4 weeks.”

Cathaoirleach Councillor Enda Stenson commented that there were an awful lot of dangerous trees throughout the county and even after weather conditions which were not particularly severe many homes have been left without power for extended periods on many occasions recently when trees fell on power lines.

He proposed that the Council write to the ESB asking them why power outages are becoming more prevalent even after weather conditions which were not particularly severe.

It was Proposed by Councillor Enda Stenson and Seconded by Councillor Sean McGowan that
the ESB be written to in relation to the frequency of power outages.

CMD 19/24  Cleaning of Headford River
11/02/19

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

"May I ask when is work due to start on the cleaning of the Headford River."

Report by Roads - General;

“The works commenced 2 weeks ago.”

Cathaoirleach Enda Stenson noted the reply.

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At 5.15 pm owing to the departure of the Cathaoirleach Councillor Enda Stenson the meeting was then chaired by Leas-Cathaoirleach Councillor Finola Armstrong Maguire
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CMD 19/25  Traffic Calming Measures & Signage – St Joseph's Church, Cloonturk, Dromod (R202)
11/02/19

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

"At the February Meeting of Carrick on Shannon Municipal District, I will ask the District Engineer, South Leitrim, to look at the possibility of providing some form of Traffic Calming measures and signage on the very busy R202 at St. Josephs Church, Cloonturk, Dromod. Worshippers and the local community are concerned at the speed of motorists along this section of the road."

Report by Roads – General:

“Previous requests have been made to provide a footpath from the Dromod roundabout to the church. Once footpath funding is made available we can carry out a footpath design and construction of same. Alternatively, the local community can submit an application form for funding through CLAR or Town and Village schemes.”

Councillor Sean McGowan stated that he was not happy with the response. He told the meeting that this was a straight stretch of road where motorists often exceeded the speed limit. He stated that something needed to be done urgently to try to slow down traffic as they come near the
roundabout. He added that there have been a couple of accidents at this location in recent weeks.

This motion was supported by Councillor Sinead Guckian and Councillor Des Guckian.

Mr O’Boyle District Engineer said that the issue at this location was primarily poor driver behaviour in particular driving in excess of the speed limit. He said that the Council could apply for funding to have the works completed under a Low Cost Safety Scheme if there was sufficient data to support such an application. He added that another possibility would be for the local community to make an application for funding under the CLAR or Town & Village Schemes.

CMD 19/26 Cleaning and Piping of Roadside Drain in Tooman, Gortletteragh
11/02/19 (L-1054-0)

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

"That a roadside drain in Tooman, Gortletteragh, be cleaned and piped and the water be sent down the original main drain to the nearby Rinn River. This open drain lies, along the L1054-0, on the Mohill side of Fox’s pub. A number of years ago, Water tables were made from the road in towards the drain, but in times of heavy rain the water from the drain pours out onto the public road and floods into Ollie Gilhooley’s driveway. The distance is 60m approx, from Fox’s sign to Gilhooley’s. Pipes are needed to stop people drowning in the drain if they step in off the road."

Report by Roads – General;

“We can construct water cuts to remove rain water from the side of road. More complex works will require a roads grant on this section of road. Water flowing from existing road surfaces is the responsibility of the land owner and clearly indicated on both planning permissions and under the Roads Act.”

Councillor Des Guckian said that there seemed to some confusion with respect to the reply given. He informed the meeting that this road was redesigned and as a result of this it lead to some difficulties with flooding. He added that the area in question needs to be cleaned up and a pipe installed for to remove any potential for flooding.

Mr O’Boyle District Engineer said that he will arrange to have the road inspected as a matter of priority to see if it is necessary for the Council to pipe this drain and if so whether funding could be sourced to do the works.

Councillor Sean McGowan supported this Motion.
To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Des Guckian;

"That we agree that “a village” needs to be declared by Leitrim County Council, for the Clogher area along the L3408-0 Castlecarra Road. There are many houses on both sides of this narrow, but busy road, including Ferguson’s, Burke’s, Flynn’s, etc. There have been many accidents along this stretch and locals cannot go out walking along the road."

Report by Roads - General;

“The creation of a village within the environs of Carrick on Shannon is unlikely and would be of no benefit to the community. The existing speed limit sign will be placed 300m further out from town in line with our approved speed limit review. Regarding footpaths, we have no funding available, however the community may consider applying for funding through T&V or Clar funding streams.”

Councillor Des Guckian said that there is a critical need to have village status for the area at Clogher. He said that residents have told him that the road is being used to bypass the centre of Carrick-On-Shannon town by an ever increasing number of vehicles and that this road was never intended to take that amount of traffic. He said that residents were very concerned regarding the potential for accidents arising from this level of traffic along narrow roads.

Mr O’Boyle District Engineer referred back to the response already given. He said the speed limit will be placed 300m further out in line with the review of speed limits which was adopted by the Members of the Municipal District a few months ago.

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

"At the February Meeting of Carrick on Shannon Municipal District, I will ask the District Engineer, South Leitrim, to investigate the street drainage along the R202 at Boeshill, Mohill. I have been contacted by a number of local people claiming that the road gullies from the entrance to Boeshill estate to Mc Nabola’s garage are blocking up on a regular basis and are unable to cope after heavy rainfall, resulting in water flowing across the road and into some homeowners drive-ways."

Report by Roads – General;

“We will carry out gully maintenance at this location when the road sweeper is in the town of Mohill. Additional rain waters are coming from private residences which overloads the existing gully systems. These residences should contain any waters egressing onto the public footpaths/roadways.”

Councillor Sean McGowan noted the reply and asked that the road sweeper be sent out to this
area as soon as possible. He also asked that the pipe from the gullies going into the main drain be checked, as sometimes it can be blocked. He added that water coming off the land has nowhere to go and it can cause quite a bit of flooding.

Mr O’Boyle District Engineer replied that if there is a problem with water coming off land onto the road then this is the responsibility of individual landowners and provision is made in the Roads Act in respect of same.

CMD 19/29 Proposed changes to Carrick on Shannon Town Centre
11/02/19

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

“The planned and proposed changes to Carrick on Shannon Town Centre are welcome overall. However, the period of reconstruction and reconfiguration will impact on the comfort for all in business and their customers. What plans do Leitrim County Council have to help ratepayers whose trade may be impacted negatively due to the works?”

Report by Roads – General;

“The Council are of the view that these works will add significantly to the attractiveness of the town and will provide considerable benefit to the business community in the town post completion. During the construction phase the Council intends to liaise closely with the traders and in order to assist this process will be appointing a full time resident engineer along with ensuring that construction contract conditions will require that similarly the contractor will have in place a traders liaison person throughout the duration of the works. It will be the responsibility of both to ensure weekly engagement with the traders. In addition during the detailed design stage consultation will be carried out with the traders in regard to informing the preparation of the works programme for the works.”

Councillor Finola Armstrong Maguire noted the response and reiterated the need to keep business people informed of what is happening as the works are ongoing. She also stressed that the public should be made aware that the Town Centre is still open for business and that the Council should assist business owners in putting this message out to the public. She added that there needs to be very large signs placed on the outskirts/entrances to the town to let the public know that this will be business as usual. She suggested that the signs would be significantly larger than any of the usual signs erected and that they may possibly have the names of the businesses trading in the town.

Mr Gilhooly Director of Services said that he understood that business owners were concerned about the scale of works and of the impact this they may have on trade in the town but that the Council were committed to assisting local businesses by ongoing liaison with them and the general public whilst the works are ongoing.

CMD 19/30 Junction R209/L3385/L7389 – improvement to bus stop/set down areas
To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Finola Armstrong McGuire;

"Recent funding announcements have allocated €120,000 for Junction R209/L3385/L7389. This is very welcome funding. This Junction is also a stopping point for School Bus's serving 4 Schools. Can the safety be improved as a drop off and pick up space by improving the stop / set down area of the bus for students with this allocation?"

Report by Roads – General;

“The funding we received from the department is to construct a safer at grade junction allowing more visibility to the R209. We considered the possibility of providing a bus stop at this location but we were unable to find a location where the bus driver would have adequate sight distance along the regional road. The canal bridge is the main problem and any alterations to the bridge would be very expensive and outside the scope of our grant. We would not encourage buses to stop at unofficial bus stops on the regional road.”

Councillor Finola Armstrong McGuire stated that people from the area were anxious to have a safer bus stopping point at this location.

Mr O’Connor Senior Engineer said that there were serious concerns about this location being used as a bus stop. He stated that there was no area available to provide a safe bus stop at this junction.

Mr O’Boyle District Engineer said that he was surprised to find out that there was an unofficial bus stop operating in this location as he considered it to be very unsafe.

CMD 19/31 Assessment of Public Walkways and Footpaths – Mohill Town

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

"That an assessment be undertaken by Leitrim County Council on all public walkways and footpaths in and around Mohill town, and if necessary any funding for upgrades, replacement or repairs be immediately sought as a priority. Over the last number of years very little work with footpaths has been done locally. Mohill, as a town that had been identified as a pilot for an age friendly town, should be leading the way in ensuring footpaths and accessibility for all."

Report by Roads – General:

“The District Engineer’s Office are fully aware of the current conditions of the footpaths in the town of Mohill. If funding becomes available, our priority is the widening of Glebe Street footpaths on the post office side along with settlement repairs to the opposite side.”

Councillor Séadhna Logan said that he was happy with the response.
Councillor Sean McGowan supported the motion.

CMD 19/32  Litter and Fly Tipping Problem
11/02/19

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

"Littering and fly tipping have escalated rapidly across the county in recent months. I am calling on Leitrim County Council to increase resources in order to tackle this issue as a priority."

Report by Head of Finance & Water Services;

“In 2017 and 2018 a number of litter ‘blackspots’ were identified by Leitrim County Council and works were undertaken to clean up these sites through successful Anti Dumping Initiative campaigns. Enforcement measures such as temporary CCTV and additional signage were installed to prevent further illegal dumping at these areas.

Through regular litter patrols, inspections, responding to complaints, CCTV campaigns, Leitrim County Council issued 91 Litter Fines in 2018, and 20 No. €75 FPNs in relation to Leitrim County Council Household waste by-laws were issued during 2018.

There were 5 prosecutions initiated in relation to litter and waste offences during 2018, one of these have yet to be concluded. Most recently Leitrim County Council had a successful conviction under the Waste Management Act 1996 in Ballyshannon District Court.

Leitrim County Council also carry out regular media awareness campaigns highlighting the problem of illegal dumping and the penalties that will be imposed on offenders.

In 2018 LCC purchased drone technology to enable Waste Enforcement personnel to target incidents of illegal dumping and ameliorate waste management.

Leitrim County Council also held a hazardous waste collection event in Mohill in October 2018 to cover South Leitrim and on Saturday 26th Jan 2019 held another in Manorhamilton to cover North Leitrim. Hazardous waste such as disused paint, Oil etc were collected which got a great response. Also LCC held a free Mattress Recycling event in Manorhamilton and Carrick on Shannon during 2018 and over 400 mattresses were collected and brought for recycling.

The Litter Management Plan, due to expire in 2019 and any new initiatives proposed, will be reviewed by the Council this year.

An additional Community Warden was also recruited during 2018 adding to the resources within the waste enforcement area."

Councillor Séadhna Logan stated that there was quite a serious issue with fly tipping in South Leitrim. He made reference to areas on the outskirts of Mohill town. He added that there were a number of local scenic spots which have been turned into dumps. He said that it was not viable to install CCTV or use drones to pick up this kind of dumping as it was being done in secluded areas where it could not be easily detected. He also raised concerns in relation to obvious signs of
illegal burning around the county and in relation to how some people are disposing of their household waste when they are not presenting bins for collection.

Councillor Sean McGowan supported the motion and stated that illegal dumping was a huge problem and raised in particular illegal dumping on the R201/R202. He said that the Council have done their best and had delivered excellent anti litter educational initiatives for many years. He called on the media to assist the Council in the getting the message out there for people to dispose of their litter in a proper manner.

Leas Cathaoirleach Councillor Finola Armstrong encouraged anyone who sees black bags which have been dumped to immediately contact the Environment Department of the Council. She said that if bags are identified before foxes and vermin get to them there may be a chance of salvaging some information which could lead to identifying the person who dumped the rubbish.

Mr Gilhooly Director of Services made reference to the recent successful mattress collection held in Leitrim and also to a pilot scheme being run in Sligo which involves identifying households for targeted calls regarding how they dispose of their waste.

Councillor Séadhna Logan made reference to a stretch of the R202/R201 which is covered by the “Adopt a Road” scheme. He said that this is a particularly busy stretch of road which has frequent dumping on it, however it is not safe for volunteers to pick up this rubbish as ditches aren’t readily accessible. He also referred to the response of Coillte when there is illegal dumping on their lands which has to date he considered had been very positive.

CMD 19/33 Any Other Business
11/02/19

- Comhairle Na nÓg
  Councillor Sean McGowan extended congratulations to Leitrim Comhairle na nÓg who were winners in conjunction with Leitrim County Council of the National Impact Award 2019 in the all-Ireland Community & Council Awards, presented by IPB Insurance and LAMA. The 'Use Your Brain Not Your Fist' project won the award for its positive effect upon the nation as a whole.

  Elected Members present also expressed their congratulations to all involved in this project.

- Correspondence
  Councillor Des Guckian raised an issued in relation to Correspondence on the agenda. He said that all of the correspondence had not been dealt with – he made particular reference to correspondence received from Bank of Ireland.

  He was informed by the Leas-Cathaoirleach Councillor Finola Armstrong Maguire that this matter had already been dealt with under the item on correspondence on the Agenda Cllr Des Guckian stated that he was disappointed with the reply from the Bank of Ireland. He
added that works on the ATM in Mohill had commenced and that he hoped this would sort out the issue which had been causing difficulties for many people in the town.

- Date of next meeting scheduled for Monday 11th March at 3.30 pm

- This concluded the business of the meeting at 5.56 pm

Signed: _______________________________ _______________________________

Councillor Enda Stenson Gerry Doyle
Cathaoirleach Meetings Administrator

Date: _______________________________