Minutes of Manorhamilton Municipal District Meeting held in the HSE Offices, Manorhamilton, Co. Leitrim on Monday 18th September, 2017 at 2.30 p.m.

Members Present: Councillor Mary Bohan  
Councillor Justin Warnock  
Councillor Padraig Fallon  
Councillor Felim Gurn  
Councillor Sean McDermott

And Councillor Frank Dolan, Cathaoirleach of Manorhamilton Municipal District presiding

Officials Present: Ms. Mary Quinn, Director of Services, Housing, Corporate, Cultural and Emergency Services  
Mr. Padraic MacShera, Senior Executive Engineer, North Leitrim Area Office.  
Ms. Sinead Flynn, Administrative Officer, Corporate Services.  
Ms. Stephanie McCabe, Clerical Officer, Corporate Services  
Ms. Nicola McManus, Business Adviser, Local Enterprise Office.

MMD 17/114  
18/09/2017  

Deimhniu Miontuairisci

Proposed by Councillor Mary Bohan, seconded by Councillor Justin Warnock and UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED:

“That the Minutes of the Manorhamilton Municipal District held in HSE Headquarters, Manorhamilton, Co. Leitrim on Monday 11th July, 2017 be adopted.”

MMD 17/115  
18/09/2017  

Declaration of Public Roads in the Manorhamilton Municipal District

Ms. Mary Quinn referred to the report from Mr. Joseph Gilhooly, Director of Services, Economic Development, Planning, Environment and Transportation on the proposed declaration of a public road in the Manorhamilton Municipal District. The report as circulated to the Members appears as Appendix No. 1 to the Minutes of this meeting in the Minute Book.

Proposed by Councillor Justin Warnock, seconded by Councillor Felim Gurn and UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED:

‘That the declaration of the following road as a public road in the Manorhamilton Municipal District be approved in accordance with Section 11 of the Roads Act, 1993 and Article 5 of the Roads Regulations 1994:
The road off the public road LP-2095 serving the Mill Road Housing Estate in the townland of Kinlough for a distance of 182 metres.

MMD 17/116  
18/09/2017 Presentation from the Local Enterprise Office (LEO)

The Cathaoirleach, Councillor Frank Dolan welcomed Ms. Nicola McManus from the Local Enterprise Office to the meeting to give a presentation to the Members. A copy of the Presentation appears as Appendix No. 2 to the minutes of this meeting in the Minute Book.

Councillor Dolan thanked Ms. McManus for her presentation and invited any questions from the Members. The following items were raised:

- Councillor Padraig Fallon requested clarification in relation to the funding available to businesses from the Online Trading Vouchers.

  Ms. McManus outlined that the On-Line Trading Vouchers offers financial assistance of up to €2,500 in addition to training and advice to help businesses trade online. She also outlined that if the business only spends €1,000 than 50% of this amount can be claimed.

- Councillor Gurn enquired about the Craft Trail.

  Ms. McManus advised that a Craft Trail has been developed in collaboration with four other counties. She also advised that as part of the Craft Trail there will be a pop up shop at Lough Key, Forest Park and also one at the Sculpture Centre, Manorhamilton before year-end.

- Councillor Warnock stated that there is no LEO Office in the North Leitrim area. He also outlined that young people in Kinlough and Tullaghan go to secondary school in Donegal and therefore cannot participate in the LEO Young Entrepreneur Scheme in Leitrim. Councillor Warnock also queried the Food Strategy for the North Leitrim area.

  Ms. McManus responded as follows:
  o The LEO Office holds an outreach clinic in Manorhamilton on a monthly basis.
  o Staff from the LEO Office are available to travel to Kinlough to meet with members of the public if required.
  o The LEO Office actively promotes their service on their website and social media accounts.
  o Students attending secondary school in Donegal can enter the Young Entrepreneur Scheme administered by the Donegal LEO Office.
  o The Food Strategy operates on a county-wide basis.
  o A Food Strategy event will take place next week in the Organic Centre, Rossinver.

- Councillor Mary Bohan paid tribute to Ms. McManus and all the staff of the LEO Office for their support to the business community. Councillor Bohan also referred to the Entreprise Units in Drumkeerin which may in time attract new business to the area.

- Councillor Warnock queried if funding is available to provide additional Enterprise Units.
Ms. Manus advised that funding for any new Enterprise Hub would have to be sourced from Enterprise Ireland.

- Councillor Dolan enquired if there has been an increase in the number of grant applications for schemes administered by the LEO Office.

Ms. McManus confirmed that the number of applications has increased over the last eighteen months. She advised that significant number related to pre start up enquiries.

**Correspondence**

2. Letter from the OPW received on 28th July, 2017 concerning the Sean Mac Dhiarmada Cottage, Kiltyclogher, Co. Leitrim.

It was noted that a meeting with the Manorhamilton Municipal District Members with representatives from the Office of Public Works took place earlier this afternoon to discuss the Sean MacDhiarmada Cottage.

**Part I - Notices of Motion.**

*MMD 17/117 18/09/2017*

*To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Padraig Fallon;*

"I ask Leitrim County Council what number of applications it has received under the Repair and Leasing scheme and if a breakdown of the applications received by Municipal District can be provided?"

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

"There has been some interest in the Repair & Leasing Scheme in Leitrim, however most of the queries or applications received are for houses in rural locations where the Council has no social housing demand or where the allowed budget would not return the properties to a useable state due to their poor condition.

Applications for the RLS scheme per Municipal District are as follows:

Manorhamilton MD - 3 applications were received, all applications were for rural properties. None of the properties were deemed suitable for the RLS scheme as there are not in an area of housing need.

Ballinamore MD - 1 application was received, the application was assessed and the property was deemed unsuitable as there are a number of fire safety issues with this house. Refurbishment works required on this property would greatly exceed the funding available under the RLS scheme."
Carrick on Shannon MD - No applications were received.

A number of queries via email/phone have also been received by the Housing Department, the property owner may have been seeking advice in relation to the terms & conditions of the scheme, areas of housing need, queries are answered and the property owner was also directed to the RLS page on the Council website.

As there is a shortage of rental properties in the tier 1 towns in Leitrim, landlords are achieving sufficient tenancy rates in the normal private rental market including short term lets before supplying the social rental market. This has resulted in the limited interest in this scheme in these areas which are also the towns of greatest social housing need."

- Councillor Fallon stated that he was aware that three applications in the Manorhamilton Municipal District that were submitted under the Repair and Leasing Scheme, however, all applications were refused as the properties were located in areas that do not have a social housing need. Councillor Fallon stated the target for delivery of outputs under this scheme for Leitrim was only six units. He stated that the scheme is not suitable for a rural county.

- Councillor Mary Bohan also supported Councillor Fallon’s comments and agreed that the Repair and Leasing Scheme is more appropriate to increase the supply of social housing in urban areas.

**MMD 17/118**  
*18/09/2017*

**To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Padraig Fallon;**

"What, if any incentives or supports exist or are available through Leitrim County Council to assist in bringing long term vacant property back into use in North Leitrim?"

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

"The Repair and Leasing Scheme (RLS) has been developed under Rebuilding Ireland to assist property owners in bringing vacant properties back into use. Where a property requires repairs to bring it up to the standard required for rented properties, the RLS will pay for the repairs up-front in return for the property being leased to a local authority or Approved Housing Body (AHB) to be used as social housing for a period of at least 10 years. Under the scheme, the cost of the repairs will be repaid by the owner by offsetting it against the rent due to the owner for the property over the period of the lease agreement. The maximum funding available is €40,000, inclusive of VAT.

The Buy and Renew scheme aims to support Local Authorities (LAs) and Approved Housing Bodies (AHBs) to purchase and renew housing units that require remediation, and make them available for social housing use in areas of housing need. This is to enhance and support urban and rural renewal and the vacant homes strategy.

The above renewal schemes are targeted at increasing supply of social housing support but do not extend to retail, commercial or work type premises."
• Councillor Fallon referred to the reply to his second Notice of Motion and he advised that there is irony with regard to the content of both replies.

Ms. Mary Quinn outlined that the Repair and Leasing Scheme and the Buy and Renew Scheme are both under review by the Department of Housing, Planning, Community & Local Government.

• Councillor Fallon noted that the many properties are not suitable for the Repair and Leasing Scheme and he proposed that the possibility of sourcing an alternative funding for these houses. He requested that the Executive contact Minister Ring and the Minister for Finance in this regard.

This proposal was supported by Councillor Mary Bohan. It was agreed to write to the relevant Departments outlining the difficulty with the Repair and Leasing Scheme and the Buy and Renew Scheme in Leitrim and to also request the re-instatement of the Housing Construction Loan Scheme.

**MMD 17/119**
**18/09/2017**

*To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Justin Warnock;*

"I ask Leitrim County Council what progress is being made in sourcing and purchasing houses for this local authority in Tullaghan?"

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

"In 2016 Leitrim County Council purchased 13 houses in North 1 area of choice; Kinlough/Tullaghan.

Of these 13 houses, 6 of the houses were allocated to tenants on the Housing list, the remaining 7 houses are undergoing refurbishment works and energy efficiency works to return them to productive use in 2017. The Council is not intending progressing further acquisitions in this housing area until these properties are allocated for tenancy in the interest of encouraging sustainable communities and ensuring minimum vacancy rates."

Councillor Warnock acknowledged the reply to his Notice of Motion, however, he stated that Mr. Frank Curran, former Chief Executive of Leitrim County Council gave a commitment that the Council would pursue the purchase/acquisition of dwellings in the Tullaghan area. Councillor Warnock stated that households residing in Tullaghan do not want to move to social housing accommodation in Kinlough.

Ms. Mary Quinn, Director of Services agreed to review the matter.
To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Justin Warnock;

"I ask Leitrim County Council's Environment Department if every household in the Manorhamilton Municipal District Area is registered for waste collection where a service is currently provided. What steps are being taken to ensure that those who are not registered proceed to register for Waste Collection?"


"Countywide approx 70% of households are registered for a kerb side waste collection service. Data is not available at a sub-county level but this level of registration would be similar across the county. Based on current regulations there is no requirement on a household to register for a waste collection service. Therefore there is no basis for steps to be taken to ensure registration. Through the work of regional waste planning service periodic promotion of waste services including the brown bin service is carried out nationally in order to encourage maximum participation in the kerb side collection services."

It was also agreed by the Chairperson, Councillor Frank Dolan to hear Motion No. 16 in the name of Councillor Mary Bohan concurrently as the Notice of Motion related to the same item.

To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Mary Bohan;

"What progress has been made regarding the provision of CCTV cameras at the Bring Centre's as requested in previous Notice of Motions."


"Leitrim County Council sought quotations for a CCTV company to monitor on a rolling basis a number of specific areas throughout the county for illegal dumping. We are now in the process of appointing the successful company and we hope to have this process in place in the coming weeks. The locations selected are areas that have been identified as litter Black-spots and these include some of the Bring Bank Sites."

Councillor Justin Warnock acknowledged the reply to his Notice of Motion, however, he stated that he had requested the details of the number of households that are registered with a Waste Collector in the Manorhamilton Municipal District. He outlined that the issue of illegal dumping is becoming more widespread and that the Council need to pursue enforcement proceedings.

Ms. Mary Quinn advised that the response to the Notice of Motion is based on the existing regulations and that the Council has no way of pursing the non-registration of households.

Councillor Mary Bohan welcomed the reply to her Notice of Motion confirming that the Council has sought quotations for a CCTV company to monitor a specific number of specific areas throughout the county for illegal dumping. Councillor Bohan again appealed to the media to urge households to refrain from illegal dumping of waste. She also commended the voluntary work of the Tidy Town's
Committee’s throughout the county.

- Councillor Frank Dolan referred to the Civic Amenity Facility in Manorhamilton which is available to the public to dispose of their waste at a reasonable cost.

- Councillor Justin Warnock queried if an additional Litter Warden will be appointed to have a Litter Warden assigned to each Municipal District.

Ms Mary Quinn, Director of Services advised that there are no plans to appoint an additional Litter Warden.

- Councillor Felim Gurn queried when the CCTV Cameras will be installed.

Ms Mary Quinn, Director of Services advised that quotations have been sought and that the installation of the cameras will proceed following the examination of the quotations.

**MMD 17/121**
18/09/2017

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

"In the interest of safety, I will ask Leitrim County Council if a barrier could be erected in the townland of Cloonaghmore, Glenfarne? Large numbers of people gather there on occasions where there is a shrine to Our Lady. There is a dangerous drop down into the river which is very close to the edge of the road across from the statue."

*Report by Senior Engineer, Roads*
"Delineators will be installed along the margin of the local road opposite the shrine to highlight the edge of road to road users in this area"

**MMD 17/122**
18/09/2017

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

"At the September meeting of Manorhamilton Municipal District, I will ask Leitrim County Council to make safe the footpaths in Kiltyclogher between the National School and the old Garda Station."

*Report by Senior Engineer, Roads*
"This section of footpath would benefit from upgrading works; we presently do not have the resources available to undertake these works, some minor repairs will be carried out in the short term."
To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Felim Gurn;

"The recent erection of bollards along St. Patrick’s Terrace (Teapot Lane) has resulted in parking along this street being made more difficult and as a consequence two enterprises trading on the street are unable to receive deliveries. I understand that the bollards were introduced to afford protection to the residents; however, I believe the number of bollards could be reduced without impacting on pedestrian safety. I call on the Executive to liaise with the business owners affected and to determine if a mutually acceptable alternative to the bollards could be introduced that would not be to the detriment of these businesses or the public’s safety."

Report by Senior Engineer, Roads
"Local area staff are available to speak with business owners affected along Teapot Lane."

Councillor Gurn stated that while he was mindful that the placement of bollards in St. Patrick’s Terrace (Teapot Lane) was arranged to assist the residents residing there, however, he outlined that valuable car-parking spaces have been lost which is having a negative impact on local businesses. Councillor Gurn also stated that there had been no consultation with the local business community in this regard.

Councillor Frank Dolan stated that the issue highlights the urgent need to address the lack of car parking facilities in the town.

Ms. Mary Quinn advised that the matter will be reviewed as part of the Manorhamilton Traffic Management Plan.

To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Felim Gurn;

"As there is no bus shelter in Dromahair for passengers availing of the Rural Lift service or the Bus Eireann Service, I call on the Executive to examine the feasibility of providing such a shelter as soon as possible."

Report by Senior Engineer, Roads
"We will discuss with the operators the possibility of providing a bus shelter in Dromahaire."

This Notice of Motion was unanimously supported by all Members.

Councillor Justin Warnock stated that if there is a population of less than 1,000 people in an area that it is a matter for the Local Authority or businesses to provide a bus shelter. He also requested that consideration be given to providing a bus-shelter in Kinlough.
To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Frank Dolan:

"At the September meeting of the Manorhamilton Municipal District I will ask that some work be carried out on Road Number 253A in Greaghnafarna (Blast Hill) as this road is actually dangerous in places."

Report by Senior Engineer, Roads

"This local road will be assessed and considered for inclusion in the 2018 Maintenance Programme subject to priority. Routine Maintenance will be carried out until funding becomes available."

Councillor Dolan acknowledged the reply to his Notice of Motion, however, he asked that the Area Engineer review one dangerous section of the road pending the inclusion of the road in the 2018 Maintenance Programme.

Mr. Padraig MacShera agreed to examine the road and to arrange for routine works to be carried out.

To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Frank Dolan:

"I will propose that Leitrim County Council draw up plans for further extension of parking facilities and sewerage capacity at Glencar Waterfall. This tourist attraction is proving to be a great success and we must be ready to facilitate this."

Report by Senior Engineer, Roads

"We are currently drafting proposals for such improvement works at Glencar. The provision of these works will obviously depend on sourcing funding for them."

Councillor Frank Dolan outlined that he had been contacted by a Coach Operator and asked to raise the issue to extend the parking and sewerage facilities at Glencar Waterfall.

Councillor Felim Gurn supported Councillors Dolan's Notice of Motion and stated that there is a requirement to extend the car park as the tourist attraction attracts approximately 100,000 visitors annually.

To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Mary Bohan:

"I purpose that repairs be carried out on the Geaglom Road as soon as possible"
Report by Senior Engineer, Roads
"Routine repairs have been planned for this local road LT 82411 at Geaglom"

Mr Padraig MacShera that the Forestry are currently removing timber and he is awaiting proposals from the Forestry regarding their contribution etc.

MMD 17/128
18/09/2017

Withdrawal of afterhours Doctors Service at Our Lady’s Hospital, Manorhamilton.

Councillor Mary Bohan with the consent of the Cathaoirleach Councillor Frank Dolan raised a separate issue in relation to the removal of the afterhours Doctor on Call Service for Our Lady’s Hospital, Manorhamilton. Councillor Bohan stated that access to a Doctor for the residents of the hospital is now reliant on CareDoc – a service which covers Sligo and North Leitrim. She requested that a letter issue to the HSE outlining the Members serious concern in relation to the withdrawal of the afterhours Doctor on call service at the hospital.

This proposal was unanimously supported by all Members.

Any Other Business

Ms. Mary Quinn advised that the next meeting of Manorhamilton Municipal District will take place on Monday 16th October, 2017 at 2.30 p.m.

This concluded the business of the meeting at 3.30 p.m.

SIGNED: __________________________  SIGNED: __________________________
Councillor Frank Dolan
Cathaoirleach, Manorhamilton
Municipal District

Date: 16th October, 2017

Sinead Flynn
Meetings Administrator