Minutes of Manorhamilton Municipal District Meeting held in HSE Office, Manorhamilton on Monday 18th February at 2.30pm

Members Present: Councillor Mary Bohan
Councillor Frank Dolan
Councillor Padraig Fallon
Councillor Sean McDermott
Councillor Justin Warnock

And Councillor Felim Gurn, Cathaoirleach of Manorhamilton Municipal District presiding

Officials Present: Ms. Mary Quinn, Director of Services, Housing and Community, Corporate Services, Cultural and Emergency Services
Mr Shay O’Connor, Senior Engineer, Roads Department
Mr Terry McGovern, Acting Senior Engineer, Roads Department
Mr Alan McGovern, Executive Engineer, North Leitrim Area Office.
Mr Kieran Brett, Administrative Officer, Corporate Services
Ms. Stephanie McCabe, Clerical Officer, Corporate Services

MMD 19/16
18/02/2019
Deimhniu Miontuairisci

Proposed by Councillor Padraig Fallon, seconded by Councillor Frank Dolan and UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED:

“That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Manorhamilton Municipal District held in Aras an Chontae, Carrick-on-Shannon, Co. Leitrim on Monday 21st January 2019 be adopted.”

MMD 19/17
18/02/2019
To Consider The Schedule of Municipal District Works 2019 (to include the Area Programme 2019)

Mr Shay O’Connor, Senior Engineer, Roads Department gave an overview on the Schedule of Municipal District Works 2019 (Appendix 1 to the Minutes of the Meeting in the Minute Book) including the Area Programme for 2019 (Appendix 2 to the Minutes of the Meeting in the Minute Book).

Councillor Mary Bohan welcomed the allocation of over €300,000 for works on Killavoggy Bridge but queried the shortfall of over €100,000 and enquired what works cannot be carried out. Mr Shay O’Connor, Senior Roads Engineer advised that as monies were granted for the design work he would be confident that once works are started additional funding will be provided.

Councillor Mary Bohan enquired about works to Annaghgerr Bridge, Drumkeerin which is a very dangerous bridge and she was of the understanding works were going to be carried out this year. Mr Shay O’Connor advised that he will examine the possibility of using discretionary maintenance funding for these works.

Councillor Mary Bohan also enquired about a footpath on the R280 extending out the Manorhamilton Road. She understand that Clar funding could be applied for, however she feels it is unfair on communities having to raise money for these works which were always carried out by the Local Authority.
Councillor Sean McDermott agreed with Councillor Mary Bohan in relation to funding being provided by the Council for footpaths and public lighting particularly the footpaths in McDermotts Terrace. Councillor Sean McDermott also welcomed the funding in relation to the N16 however he would have concerns that Sligo County Council are not being as proactive as Leitrim. Mr Shay O’Connor advised that Sligo County Council are in the process of carrying out works on the N16 and a public consultation will be taking place shortly. Councillor Sean McDermott said that it would appear that CPO payments to farmers for land purchases seems to be slow and requested that payments are made as quickly as possible. Mr Shay O’Connor advised that delays in payments are generally legal issues but agreed that payments would be made as promptly as possible.

Councillor Padraig Fallon welcomed the increase in funding but stated more is required. He also acknowledged the work being done by staff with limited resources. He is disappointed with the level of funding for bridges and also public lighting and footpaths.

Councillor Justin Warnock outlined his disappointed in relation to works on Lennox Bridge. Mr Shay O’Connor advised that the application for strategic funding was unsuccessful. Discussions will continue with the TII with regard to securing funding for this bridge.

MMD 19/18  
18/02/2019  
To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Felim Gurn;

"With the completion of the new housing estate at Taobh Tire and the work nearly completed is there any update on Houses for Life Scheme for funding and works to be completed at that estate and the state of the road going up to that estate."

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

"The development of a group housing scheme at this location requires endorsement from the HSE and discussions are ongoing in this regard. No commitment has been received from the HSE in relation to the provision of funding to enable upgrade of the road."

Councillor Felim Gurn stated that going forward more bungalows needs to be built in any new schemes and this should also be in the town plan.

All Members supported this motion.

MMD 19/19  
18/02/2019  
To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Felim Gurn;

"Is there any update on start and completion work for greenway demonstration stretch from Boggaun to Ramooney Manorhamilton."

Report by Roads - General

"We are in discussion with the contractor on this project. No start date has been agreed yet. We will keep the councillor informed of progress."

Councillor Gurn expressed his disappointed that no start date has been agreed.

MMD 19/20  
18/02/2019  
To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Padraig Fallon;

"I propose that this Municipal call on our Local Authority to carry out a review of how levels of grant aid are arrived at for applicants applying for such schemes as Housing Adaption Grant for People with Disability, Housing Aid For Older
People, and Mobility Aids Housing Grant.

Report by Director of Services, Housing and Community, Corporate Services, Cultural and Emergency Services
"The Housing (Adaptation Grants for Older People and People with a Disability) Regulations 2007 – 2014, provide for the schemes of grants for the adaptation of houses for people with a disability and older people and the carrying out of necessary repairs and improvements to the houses of older people. These regulations provide for a means test on which the grant available or percentage grant available to an applicant is set out. In assessing all application and determining the amount of grant aid to be awarded in any case Leitrim County Council must abide by these regulations. The maximum grant available is made up of component parts each of which is determined by the unit rates pertaining. Currently Leitrim County Council is undertaking an exercise to review the units rates"

All Members supported this Motion.

MMD 19/21
18/02/2019
To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Padraig Fallon;

"I propose that this Municipal make contact with Local Link seeking an expansion of existing service to include Kiltyclogher."

Report by Director of Services, Housing and Community, Corporate Services, Cultural and Emergency Services
"The motion will be referred to Local Link for their consideration."

All Members supported this Motion.

MMD 19/22
18/02/2019
To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Justin Warnock;

"I will ask the elected Members to support this Motion in calling on the Minister for Health Simon Harris TD to halt the construction of the National Children's Hospital at the St James's site, as the costs are spiralling out of control, with the cost to build already standing at one thousand five hundred million Euros and hundreds of millions more needed to complete the project. I believe this is immoral at a time when over 700 000 citizens are waiting on hospital appointments and 84 000 children waiting for dental and orthodontic work and our nurses and midwives out on strike."

All Members supported this motion.

MMD 19/23
18/02/2019
To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Justin Warnock;

"In the first six months of 2018, the Simon Community identified and published that there were 54 homeless children in County Leitrim, I ask the Executive were they aware of this and if they could explain to me how the Simon Community arrived at these figures as we have been led to believe that homelessness was not a problem in Leitrim."

Report by Director of Services, Housing and Community, Corporate Services, Cultural and Emergency Services
"Leitrim county Council have clarified with North West Simon that the figure of 59 was the total presentations of families and individual who were at risk of homelessness or claiming to be homeless and who presented to NW Simon in 2018. Of this figure 17 families/individuals presented as homeless - a total of 54 children under the age of 18 relate to these 17 presentations. None of these cases were street homeless in 2018. All 17 cases were resolved by relevant agencies including Leitrim County Council."

Ms Mary Quinn, Director of Services confirmed that Leitrim County Council works closely with NW Simon and confirmed that there was not 54 homeless children in County Leitrim.
To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Frank Dolan;

"I will ask if at all possible that Leitrim County Council cut the hedges on the R286 from the junction at Moragh to the junction at Corrycullan. This is a short stretch but is badly in need of cutting."

Report by Roads - General
"The cutting of hedges is the landowners responsibility. This council has a grant scheme for cutting hedges this year. The end of the hedge cutting season is the end of Feb but if the landowners in this area wish to avail of it we can accommodate them. This council does cut the hedges at regional road junctions due to road safety issues. We will be cutting the hedges at these junctions later in the year."

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

"I ask that Leitrim County Council contact TII in relation to the signage for the reduced speed limits on the N16 from Shanvass to Manorhamilton. The signs in my opinion are far too small and maybe not positioned in the right place."

Report by Roads - General
"The size of the speed limit signs are dictated by regulation. There are speed limit repeater signs which are smaller than the sign at the start of speed limit area. We have reviewed the speed limit signs on the N16 and they are in the correct position and are the correct size."

Councillor Felim Gurn supported this motion.

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

"Can I ask the Council to make safe the road that floods in heavy rainfall on the Kiltyclogher side of Dessie Mc Dermott’s house in the townland of Loughaphonta, Manorhamilton, on Regional Road R283. This location is extremely dangerous when flooding occurs as it is on a bad turn."

Report by Roads - General
"This location is included in our list of works to be completed under the Drainage Grant for the 2019 Area Programme."

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

"At the February Meeting I will ask the Council to make safe Regional Road R281 between Glenfarne and Kiltyclogher, this road has sunken terribly and is very dangerous. The location is on the Kiltyclogher side, where there is a signpost for Sean MacDiarmada’s Homestead in the townland of Ardmoreen."

Report by Roads - General
"The area staff will inspect this section of road to ascertain the problem. If possible we will rectify the problem under this year’s programme of works. We will keep the councillor informed."

Councillor Justin Warnock supported this motion.

To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Mary Bohan;
"a) How many L.I.S schemes are currently on the list, and with this years allocation of money how many schemes will be completed in 2019?

b) Has the Minister agreed to meet a delegation from Leitrim County Council to discuss getting a special allocation to reduce the waiting time"

**Report by Roads - General**

"(a) There are a total of 153 Applicants on the LIS Waiting List as at 1st January, 2019. However, a second funding allocation of €300,120 was received from the Department of Rural & Community Development in November 2018. A total of 12 LIS Schemes will be completed in 2019 with this 2nd 2018 Funding Allocation. In addition, in our correspondence with applicants on foot of this 2nd 2018 Allocation, 3 No. LIS Applicants have been removed from the LIS Waiting List (Schemes no longer eligible/Applicants not proceeding with Scheme etc.). This then leaves a total of 138 Applicants on the LIS Waiting List. We understand that a further allocation of €250,000 has been made to Leitrim County Council for these Schemes in 2019 (but we have not been officially notified of this Allocation as of yet) and this will enable approx. 10 - 12 further LIS Schemes to proceed in 2019.

(b) In relation to the Delegation to the Minister from Leitrim County Council in relation to Local Improvement Schemes, this request was made following discussion at the January Leitrim County Council meeting. It will be discussed again at the March Council meeting."

Councillor Mary Bohan enquired if the 153 application on the housing waiting list included the 37 applications which had been received recently which may or may not be on the list. Mr Shay O’Connor confirmed that the 153 applications did not include the 37 recently received applications. He also advised that 12 LIS’s are to be completed this year leaving 142 remaining on the list. The current list will take 13-14yrs to clear. Councillor Mary Bohan urged that a meeting be arranged with Minister Ross in relation to Local Improvement Schemes.

Mr Shay O’Connor stated that discussions are taking place with the Department.

Councillor Frank Dolan stated that Minister Shane Ross’s Department should provide match funding to that given by the Department of Rural and Community Development.

Councillor Padraig Fallon advised that he will be putting forward a motion for the March Council Meeting that the Local Improvement Scheme re-opens.

Councillor Sean McDermott welcomed the allocation and acknowledged the work Minister Ring is doing for Rural Ireland.

**MMD 19/29**
**18/02/2019**

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

"I propose that Leitrim County Council examine the possibility of providing extra funding to Tidy Towns groups throughout the county."

**Report by Roads - General**

"This funding has already been included in the 2019 budget which was agreed by this council last year."

All members supported this motion.

**Any Other Business**

Councillor Warnock highlighted his extreme disappointment with the recent funding announcement under the Rural
Regeneration Scheme. This was supported by all the members. Ms Mary Quinn outlined that a significant amount of works had been put into the development of the scheme was very disappointing. She advised that feedback will be sought from the Department.

Ms. Mary Quinn informed the Members that the next meeting of Manorhamilton Municipal District will be on Tuesday 19\textsuperscript{th} March 2019.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

\textbf{SIGNED:} \hspace{2cm} \textbf{SIGNED:}  
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Councilor Felim Gurn  
Cathaoirleach, Manorhamilton Municipal District  \\
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Mr Kieran Brett  
Administrative Officer  \\
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Date: \hspace{1cm} 18\textsuperscript{th} March 2019