Minutes of Manorhamilton Municipal District Meeting held in HSE Office, Manorhamilton on Tuesday 19th March 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  
Ms Marie Mulligan, Senior Executive Engineer, North Leitrim Area Office.  
Mr Kieran Brett, Administrative Officer, Corporate Services  
Ms. Stephanie McCabe, Clerical Officer, Corporate Services

At the outset of the Meeting Councillor Felim Gurn Cathaoirleach proposed a minutes silence as a mark of respect to the lives lost in the Cookstown Tragedy and in Christchurch, New Zeland.

MMD 19/30  
19/03/2019  
Deimhniu Miontuairisci

Proposed by Councillor Padraig Fallon, seconded by Councillor Sean McDermott and UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED:

“That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Manorhamilton Municipal District held in HSE Offices, Manorhamilton, Co. Leitrim on Monday 18th February 2019 be adopted.”

MMD 19/31  
19/03/2019  
To Adopt the Allocation of Funding under the Arts Festivals Support Scheme 2019

Ms Mary Quinn gave an overview on the Allocation of Funding under the Arts Festivals Support Scheme for the Manorhamilton District. The report as circulated to the Members appears as Appendix 1 to the Minutes of the Meeting in the Minute Book.

Proposed by Councillor Mary Bohan, seconded by Councillor Sean McDermott and UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED:

“That the allocation of funding under the Arts Festivals Support Scheme, 2018 be approved.”
Ms Marie Mulligan confirmed that she would arrange an onsite meeting with National Monuments Service and Mr Shay O’Connor in relation to the wall at Abbey at Creevelea Abbey, Dromahair. Councillor Mary Bohan requested that if possible could the old church at Kilbride cemetery and Curraghs cemetery be discussed at that meeting.

Councillor Padraig Fallon enquired if a response was received from Local Link in relation to his Notice of Motion at the February Municipal District Meeting. Ms Mary Quinn confirmed that no response was received and a further letter will issue to them.

"Recognising the importance of the car as a transportation mode here in North Leitrim and the fact that many young people are reliant on this mode of transport for employment, education and other purposes I propose that this Municipal call for a review of legislation introduced 22nd December re Unaccompanied learner Drivers."

Councillor Padraig Fallon stated that this issue has been raised not only by younger people but also by parents of younger people. He said that the legislation that came into effect on 22nd December is having a huge impact on younger people in rural Ireland. He also stated that more Inspectors are needed at the very least to ensure that young people are not waiting too long to take their driving test.

Councillor Mary Bohan supported the motion and agreed that more Inspectors are needed to ensure shorter waiting times for tests.

Councillor Justin Warnock highlighted his reluctance to support the motion as too many young people have lost their lives on the roads.

Councillor Frank Dolan, Councillor Sean McDermott and Councillor Felim Gurn also supported the motion.

"I propose the installation of a Water connection, tap at Kilbride Cemetery."

"The Area office will contact the Water Services Department with a view to installing a tap within the cemetery."
"I will ask our CEO Lar Power to do whatever is necessary and honour the commitment given by the Council to have all the estates taken in charge which were proposed for the first quarter of 2019."

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

"With regard to the taking in charge of estates, I would confirm that it remains the Council's intention to progress to the public consultation stage of the taking in charge process as soon as may be possible. Whilst it had been our intention to commence this process in January of this year an issue arose in respect of the potential exposure of the Council to public liability claims.

In light of these concerns arising it was decided to postpone commencing the taking in charge public consultation process for all 40 plus estates, pending a review to determine the potential public liability exposure that could face the Council. This review has now concluded.

The outcome of this review is that certain estates should be able to proceed to commencing taking in charge but that others will have to await the engagement of Contractors to undertake the works necessary to complete these estates. The Council will first have to procure and engage appropriate Contractors for the estates for which the taking in charge process is being postponed. Once a Contractor has been engaged, only then will we be in a position to taking in charge these estates.

Certain estates have also caused delays in the taking in charge process as the wayleaves required for the maintenance of the sewers and/or watermains have not yet been finalised.

While it is regrettable that the process is being delayed, the Council has no alternative other than to protect itself from the risk of such claims and to minimise its exposure to same."

It was agreed that the list of estates to be taken in charge would be circulated to Members.

**MMD 19/36**

19/03/2019  
*To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Justin Warnock;*

"I will ask our CEO Lar Power, a) when will the new Council Offices be opened in Manorhamilton and b) what services will be provided by the Council from these offices for the people of the Manorhamilton Municipal area."

**Report by Corporate Services Department**

"Negotiations are on-going in this regard. The range of services provided through the Manorhamilton office will be considered once the current negotiations have concluded."

**MMD 19/37**

19/03/2019  
*To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Felim Gurn;*

"Knock airport is important to the North West region and has the buy in of the councils from Galway, Mayo, Sligo, Roscommon, Donegal and Leitrim to provide funding to the airport. We need to push the airport authorities to try and get transatlantic flights from America. This would change the landscape of tourism from the east coast to the west coast along the
Wild Atlantic Way and Hidden Heartlands and Ancient East. I have been previously told the runway is not long enough but yet Joe Biden VP cane in to Knock airport. There used to be a service from Knock to New York in 2008-09."

**Report by Director of Services for Economic Development, Planning, Environment and Transportation.**
"Leitrim County Council is a small shareholder in the Connaught Airport Development Company (CADCO) Ltd which is the private company responsible for the day to day operations of the Ireland West airport. Leitrim County Council actively supports the recent developments by the board of Ireland West Airport to secure transatlantic flights by signing a sister airport agreement with Stewart International Airport in New York and by welcoming a delegation of travel, trade and tourism representatives from Rhode Island in order to explore opportunities to develop air services between the two regions. With a 2400 meter runway there is absolutely no technical restrictions from a runway length or infrastructure/operational perspective in regard to restoring transatlantic flights. The airport continues to work hard to try and get back into the transatlantic market but the outlook and current uncertainty in the aviation industry for the next 12 – 24 months means further consolidation is likely which could impede any success in the meantime."

All Members supported the motion.

**MMD 19/38**

19/03/2019   **To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Felim Gurn;**

"The proposed car park at the parish house, coming out onto Sean Mc Diarmada Street needs to be fast tracked now that funding has not been received out of the rural regeneration fund and it has got existing funding from last year. The design and planning needs to be put in place ASAP."  

**Report by Director of Services for Economic Development, Planning, Environment and Transportation.**
"The Council is currently concluding appointment of consultancy services for the preparation of the Part 8 process for the rural regeneration scheme which includes carpark provision. On approval of the Part 8 the Council will be proceeding with the development of the carpark element of the overall regeneration program for the town."

Councillor Mary Bohan and Councillor Sean McDermott supported the motion.

**MMD 19/39**

19/03/2019   **To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Sean McDermott;**

"Can I ask when vacant houses no 18 and19 at Gublaun, Rossinver can be brought to use."

**Report by Director of Services, Housing and Community, Corporate Services, Cultural and Emergency Services**
"Following the flooding incident, the Area Office have completed the flood defence works at the river, to protect the two houses and the existing treatment plant. We are currently working with Engineering Consultants to redesign and possibly relocate the treatment plant. It is planned that once these works have been finalised and a funding stream identified, work can start on renovation of the two houses."
"At the March meeting I will ask if the council can improve on the quality of the green fluorescent stripped bollards that indicates the turn off to local roads, they are easily damaged and a lot of them are missing."

Report by Roads - General
"Green junction markers are used to define the junctions between 100km/h roads and minor roads. These junction markers will be upgraded as necessary when the minor road is undergoing planned maintenance works as part of the annual programme."

Councillor Justin Warnock also stated that visibility of the ramps in Drumkeerin is poor on approach, particularly at night time and enquired if cats eyes or paint markings could be put on it. Ms Marie Mulligan confirmed that she will investigate the matter.

"I call on the HSE to provide designated disability car parking spaces at Drumkeerin Health Centre and any other centres where such spaces are not provided."

All Members supported the motion.

"I propose that this Council carry out repairs to road number L42214. This road has been damaged by recent flooding and is causing difficulties for residents and school buses."

Report by Roads - General
"Routine maintenance works have been undertaken on this road."

"I ask has Leitrim County Council any plans to provide any further family housing in Dromahaire. As of now there is no such accommodation available in Dromahaire even though there is demand for same."

Report by Director of Services, Housing and Community, Corporate Services, Cultural and Emergency Services
"Leitrim County Council actively continues to source and acquire any suitable family type properties that may come available in the Dromahaire area, which are within department unit cost guidelines. We also continue to engage with Approved Housing Bodies in order to increase the supply of social housing units."

Ms Mary Quinn confirmed the target for 2019 is 40 units through a combination of sources - 23 through direct
build, 7 acquisitions and 10 through HAP/RAS.

MMD 19/44
19/03/2019 To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Frank Dolan;

"I ask for repairs to be carried out on the loop road at Derrinaher Dromahaire off local road L4264. What is the exact status of this road, is it all a council road? Part of this road is in desperate condition."

Report by Roads - General
"Routine maintenance works have been undertaken on this road."

Ms Marie Mulligan confirmed that approximately 800m of this road is private whilst approximately 1600m of the road is public.

Any Other Business

Ms. Mary Quinn informed the Members that the next meeting of Manorhamilton Municipal District will be on Monday 15th April 2019.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

SIGNED: ___________________________________ SIGNED: _______________________________
Councillor Felim Gurn Mr Kieran Brett
Cathaoirleach, Manorhamilton Administrative Officer
Municipal District

Date: 15th April 2019