Minutes of Manorhamilton Municipal District Meeting held in the HSE Offices, Manorhamilton, Co. Leitrim on Tuesday 18th April, 2017.

Members Present: Councillor Mary Bohan  
Councillor Frank Dolan  
Councillor Padraig Fallon  
Councillor Felim Gurn  
Councillor Sean McDermott

And Councillor Justin Warnock, Cathaoirleach of Manorhamilton Municipal District presiding

Officials Present: Ms. Mary Quinn, Director of Services, Housing and Community, Corporate Services, Cultural and Emergency Services  
Mr. Padraic MacShera, Senior Executive Engineer, North Leitrim Area Office.  
Mr. Michael Gallagher, Senior Executive Engineer, Roads Department  
Ms. Sinead Flynn, Administrative Officer, Corporate Services

MMD 17/44  
18/04/2017

Deimhniu Miontuairisci  
Proposed by Councillor Frank Dolan, seconded by Councillor Sean McDermott and UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED:

“That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Manorhamilton Municipal District held in Meeting Room No. 1, HSE Headquarters, Manorhamilton, Co. Leitrim on 20th March, 2017 be adopted.”

Meetings Correspondence

MMD 17/45  
18/04/2017

1. Letter dated 30th March, 2017 from Donegal County Council with regard to the retention of Fire Stations in Bundoran and Ballyshannon, Co. Donegal.  

The Members agreed to invite Mr. Eanna Rowe of Waterways Ireland to the next meeting of Manorhamilton Municipal District to discuss Lough Allen.

MMD 17/46  
18/04/2017

To note the allocation of funding under the Arts Festivals Support Scheme, 2017

Ms. Mary Quinn, Director of Services, Housing and Community, Corporate Services, Cultural and Emergency Services provided an overview of the report on the proposed allocation of funding under
the Arts Festivals Support Scheme, 2017. The report as circulated to the Members appears as **Appendix No. 1 to the Minutes of this meeting in the Minute Book.** Ms. Quinn outlined, that it is proposed to allocate €4,800 to six applications received for the Arts Festivals Support Scheme in the Manorhamilton Municipal District as follows: Digital Transformations: €800, Five Glen Arts Festival: €200, Green Door* (county wide event) €1,600, Samhain Festival: €1,000, The Fierce Moon: €800 and the Rabbit’s Riot Company: €400.

Councillor Padraig Fallon queried if any application for grant-aid had not been approved under the scheme. Ms. Mary Quinn advised all applications received for the scheme were approved for funding.

This update was noted by the Members.

**MMD 17/47**  
18/04/2017

**To note the allocation of funding under the Community Tourism & *Arts Grants Scheme, 2017**

Ms. Mary Quinn, Director of Services, Housing and Community, Corporate Services, Cultural and Emergency Services provided an overview of the report on the proposed allocation of funding under the Community Tourism & *Arts Grants Scheme, 2017. The report as circulated to the Members appears as **Appendix No. 2 to the Minutes of this meeting in the Minute Book.** Ms. Quinn advised that five applications were received from the Manorhamilton Municipal District and that it is proposed to allocate the funding as follows: Leitrim Tourism Network: €500, Holey Soles: €600, Inspirational Homes: €1,500, Melvin Gaels Festival: €1,200 and Glenfarne Development: €1,200.

This update was noted by the Members.

**MMD 17/48**  
18/04/2017

**To approve the allocation of Adopt a Bring Bank Support from the General Municipal Allocation**

Ms. Quinn, Director of Services, Housing and Community, Corporate Services, Cultural and Emergency Services provided an overview of the report on the proposed allocation of funding under the Adopt a Bring Bank Support from the General Municipal Allocation. The report as circulated to the Members appears as **Appendix No. 3 to the Minutes of this meeting in the Minute Book.** Ms. Quinn outlined that Glenfarne, Kinlough and Tullaghan were selected for funding under the Adopt a Bring Bank Support Programme for 2017.

Councillor Mary Bohan requested clarification on the selection process for the Adopt a Bring Bank Support Scheme. She advised that there is a very active Tidy Town’s Group in Drumkeerin. Councillor Padraig Fallon also advised that there is an active Tidy Town’s Group in Dromahaire. Ms. Mary Quinn advised that clarification on the selection of the locations will be provided to the members.
Proposed by Councillor Justin Warnock, seconded by Councillor Sean McDermott and unanimously adopted that ‘Manorhamilton Municipal District approve the Adopt a Bring Bank Support from the General Municipal Allocation for Bring Banks in Glenfarne, Kinlough and Tullaghan, Co. Leitrim’.

MMD 17/49
18/04/2017

To note report on Leitrim County Council Estate Management Grants Scheme for Local Authority Estates, 2017

Ms. Quinn, Director of Services, Housing and Community, Corporate Services, Cultural and Emergency Services provided an overview of the report on the 2017 Estate Management Grant Scheme. The report as circulated to the Members appears as Appendix No. 4 to the Minutes of this meeting in the Minute Book. Ms. Quinn outlined that the Estate Management Grant Scheme will provide for an allocation of €12,000 to pay a contribution towards the running costs of the Residents Associations in local authority estates. She advised that each Municipal District has also been allocated €2,000 to be used to fund particular local authority estate works within each Municipal District.

Ms. Quinn outlined that in 2016 the €2,000 allocation for Manorhamilton Municipal District was utilised to fund the cost of works to power wash footpaths and walls in the Drumlease Estate, Dromahaire. She advised that in 2017, it is proposed to utilise the funding to finance the costs of erecting a fence on a community allotment area in the Edenville Estate, Kinlough, Co. Leitrim.

Councillor Justin Warnock queried if private estates can apply for grant aid under the Estate Management Grant Scheme.

Ms. Mary Quinn outlined that the Council’s Estate Management Grant Scheme is restricted to local authority estates only.

This update was noted by the members and they approved the proposed local authority estate works for the Edenville Estate in Kinlough, Co. Leitrim.

MMD 17/50
18/04/2017

Presentation on the Irish Language

The Cathaoirleach, Councillor Justin Warnock welcomed Mr. Sean O’Suilleabhain and Mr. Rossa O’Snodaigh to the Manorhamilton Municipal District meeting to give a presentation on the Irish Language.

Mr. O’Suilleabhain thanked the Cathaoirleach and the Elected Members for the opportunity to address the meeting. He outlined that he and his colleagues represent Conradh na Gaeilge and Glor na Gael and that they work in a voluntary capacity to promote the use of the Irish language in Leitrim.

Mr. O’Suilleabain outlined that he is a former employee of Leitrim County Council and that as part of his role he was appointed as the Oifigeach Gaeilge. He outlined that the Council had been proactive in the past in fulfilling its obligations under the Official Languages Act by a variety of measures
including answering the phone in Irish, An Coiste Gaeilge, attendance of staff on Gaeltacht courses and the payment of Gaeltacht scholarships to a number of second level students. Mr. O’Suilleabhin queried who the current Oifigeach Gaeilge is and he called for the support of the Elected Members to ensure that Leitrim County Council meets its obligations under the Official Languages Act.

Mr. O’Snodaigh delivered the second part of the presentation titled ‘An Gaeilge in Liatrioma’ to the Members. The presentation appears as Appendix No. 6 to the Minutes of this meeting in the Minute Book. Mr. O’Snodaigh provided an over-view of the number of Irish speakers in the county and other activities that are in use to promote the Irish Language. He referred to the Annual Revenue Budget of Leitrim County Council and the allocation of funding for the various programme groups to fund local authority services. Mr. O’Snodaigh called for the support of the Members to ensure that a specific budget allocation for the Irish language be provided in the 2018 Revenue Budget.

The Cathaoirleach, Councillor Justin Warnock thanked Mr. O’Sulleabhain and Mr. O Snodaigh for their presentation. He invited any questions from the members and the following items were raised:

- Councillor Justin Warnock requested clarification on the position of Oifigeach Gaeilge in Leitrim County Council.

Ms. Mary Quinn confirmed that duties relating to the position of Oifigeach Gaeilge have been assigned to Mr. Gerry Doyle, Administrative Officer.

- Councillor Sean McDermott acknowledged the importance of the Irish language as part of Irish Heritage and Culture. He supported the call for Leitrim County Council to promote the use of the Irish language.
- Councillor Mary Bohan acknowledged that in recent years many services within the local authority had to be scaled back due to the lack of financial resources. She referred to a number of former Elected Members of the Council who had been fluent Irish speakers who actively promoted the use of the language during their terms in office.
- Councillor Frank Dolan also supported Councillor Bohan’s comments and stated that the Council could be doing more to promote the Irish language. He referred to the two Gaelscoils in the county and he also referred to proposals to establish a second level Gaelscoil in the region as evidence of the interest in Irish in Leitrim.
- Councillor Padraig Fallon thanked the delegation for their presentation and pledged his support to ensure that Leitrim County Council promotes the use of the Irish language.
- Councillor Felim Gurn also acknowledged the importance of keeping the Irish language alive for future generations and he also pledged his support to ensure that the Council will fulfill its duty under the Official Languages Act.

Mr. O’Suilleabhin and Mr. O’Snodaigh thanked the members for their support.

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**Part 1 - Notice of Motions**

*MMD 17/51*

**18/04/2017 Road Slippage at Killavoggy, Co. Leitrim**

*To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Padraig Fallon;*
"I propose that road works be carried out to address road slippages in Killavoggy and on L4221 Tawnyhoosy, Co. Leitrim."

Report by Senior Engineer, Roads
"These roads will be inspected to see what works can be carried out within our current budgets."

MMD 17/52
18/04/2017

Windmill Park, Drumkeeran

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

"I propose that works be carried out at Windmill Park, Drumkeeran, specifically works are required to repair or replace some fencing at the estate boundary."

Report by Senior Engineer, Roads
"This local authority does not maintain fencing in housing estates. This is a matter for the property owners themselves."

Councillor Padraig Fallon requested that this matter be reviewed and he suggested that minimum funds would address the issue. He also queried if the CE Scheme employees could be tasked with maintaining the green areas in this estate.

Mr. Padraig MacShera advised that Leitrim County Council has no responsibility for the completion of works in private estates. He also advised that the CE Scheme employees are engaged to carry out the maintenance of green areas exclusively in local authority estates.

MMD 17/53
18/04/2017

Glencar Waterfall

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

"Glencar Waterfall attracts an estimated 100,000 visitors annually and the improvements undertaken by the Council to the walkways are greatly welcomed. In order to exploit the undoubted tourist potential the area offers with regard to water based activities, will the Executive consider building a jerry or boardwalk at the lake similar to that being established at Acres Lake, Drumshanbo."

Report by Director of Service, Economic Development, Planning, Environment & Transportation
"The Boardwalk referred to is being provided by Waterways Ireland as part of their strategic investment in the development of the Blueway stretching from Lough Allen onwards to Carrick on Shannon and further south along the waterways. The cost associated with such a structure is very substantial and it would therefore be necessary to be a critical component of a larger strategic project to be a viable funding proposition. However, should opportunity arise in the future to attract funding for a project feasibility element in regard to that suggested the matter will then be pursued."
To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Felim Gurn;

"Could the Executive give an update on the progress regarding the identification of the land/homeowners that has delayed the construction of a footbridge originally proposed by Councillor Frank Dolan at Castle Street, Manorhamilton and whether the funding earmarked for the project is still in place."

Report by Senior Engineer, Roads
"This item will be discussed in the Traffic Management and Parking report presented at the Workshop at this meeting."

Councillor Gurn noted that the new proposed Traffic Management Plan for Manorhamilton with the proposed introduction of a one-way system on Sean McDermott Street may eliminate the need for a footbridge at Castle Street.

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

"I ask Leitrim County Council to call on the Minister for Health Mr. Simon Harris, TD to ensure that Kinlough retains its Primary Care Centre, the urgent need for a better GP service and also to have other services reinstated which have been withdrawn over the past number of years."

The Members unanimously supported Councillor Warnock’s Notice of Motion. Councillor Justin Warnock also requested that the Notice of Motion would also call on the HSE to ensure that Kinlough falls within the remit of the Sligo/Leitrim region of the HSE and not be in the Donegal administrative areas of the HSE.

Proposed by Councillor Justin Warnock, seconded by Councillor Mary Bohan and unanimously resolved that: "I ask Leitrim County Council to call on the Minister for Health Mr. Simon Harris, TD to ensure that Kinlough retains its Primary Care Centre, the urgent need for a better GP service and also to have other services reinstated which have been withdrawn over the past number of years. The Members also requested that the Health Centre in Kinlough should fall under the remit of Sligo/Leitrim/West Cavan branch of the HSE rather than Donegal branch of the HSE."

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

"I ask Leitrim County Council to become a stakeholder in the development and promotion of Tullaghan for the people of Leitrim, as it is our only coastal village on the Wild Atlantic Way."

Report by Director of Service, Economic Development, Planning, Environment & Transportation
"Leitrim County Council has been engaging with the local development group in regard to a number of options for the development of the area. At the most recent meeting steps were agreed that would help to further develop these projects. The Council will be happy to be a stakeholder in relation to the development of Tullaghan and to assist where the opportunity presents itself."

Councillor Justin Warnock called upon Leitrim County Council to progress the development of Tullaghan and to attract tourists that are travelling on the Wild Atlantic Way to Tullaghan. He stated that the local community should not be responsible for progressing this initiative and that the Council should be at the forefront to develop and promote Tullaghan.

**MMD 17/57**  
**18/04/2017**  
**Request for Steel Barrier**

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

"I ask that a steel barrier and some signage be erected at the bend beside Veronica O'Connor's house in Killanummery as quite a number of vehicles have left the road at this point."

**Report by Senior Engineer, Roads**

"This section of road will be inspected to see what improvements can be provided here."

**MMD 17/58**  
**18/04/2017**  
**Road Works**

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

"I ask that some maintenance be carried out on the Dromahaire side of Drumanny Line until there is a grant for same. This part of the road is in poor condition especially the verges."

**Report by Senior Engineer, Roads**

"Routine maintenance works will be carried out at this location"

**MMD 17/59**  
**18/04/2017**  
**Road Works**

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

"When will the Council complete the road works on the Garvagh to Tullynaskreena School section of road."

**Report by Senior Engineer, Roads**

"There is no road grant along this road this year. Routine maintenance works will be carried out as required."
To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Mary Bohan;

"What discussions take place between Coillte, Private Forestry Companies and Leitrim County Council prior to planting or extraction of timber."

Report by Senior Engineer, Roads

"Initial afforestation is exempted development under the Planning & Development Regulations, 2001-2015 (Article 8 (a)). No planning permission is therefore required. Whilst most forestry operations are exempt from the requirement to obtain planning permission, some forestry activities require, by law, a license or approval (consent) from the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine. It is an offence to undertake the following forestry activities unless you first obtain a license or approval from the Department: Tree felling - Under the Forestry Act 1946, a Felling License is required to uproot any tree over ten years old or to cut down any tree (subject to certain exemptions). Afforestation - Under the European Communities (Forest Consent and Assessment) Regulations 2010, the approval of the Minister is required for all afforestation projects where the area involved is greater than 0.10 hectares (approximately 0.25 acres). Construction of an entrance onto a roadway requires planning permission. The construction of a forestry road internal to a forested area is also exempted development. Other than an involvement as a referee from the Department regarding applications to plant, to fell or to construct internal roads within forests, the Planning Authority have no engagement with Coillte or private forestry developments as the developments are exempted development. Area staff regularly have meetings with forestry companies regarding extraction of timber and attempt to agree on how best to extract the timber without damaging the road network. Council staff reviews haulage routes proposed for this timber and for carrying stone and other materials for constructing and repairing of internal forestry roads. Monetary contribution is sought for certain sites to go towards the cost of the upkeep of the road network. Leitrim County Council have requested that forestry companies supply a five year programme of their proposed activity in this District and this will be useful when preparing multi annual road works programmes Better communication has been established with some of the private forestry operators but this is always not the case. Regular site meetings take place with Coillte staff and private operators when difficulties arise in relation to damage to the public road to try and agree a solution to the problem. The difficulty is that planting and felling licences and funding for the construction of forest roads are granted by the Department of Agricultural, Food and the Marine without any input from Local Authorities road sections in relation to the suitability of the haul route along local roads to these sites. Most of these local roads are not capable of withstanding the excessive haulage that will result in relation to the grant of licence or funding for forest road construction. Agreement in relation to timber haul routes needs to be a condition of any felling licence or planting approval or grant of any funding for forest roads or the current situation will continue in relation to the damaging of local roads as a result of forestry activity."

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

"I will ask at the Municipal District Meeting, if water tables can be checked on the regional roads from Manorhamilton to Kiltyclogher and from Glenfarne to Kiltyclogher, as there was heavy traffic on these roads when the N16 was closed recently."
Report by Senior Engineer, Roads
"This section of road will be inspected and any works required will be carried out."

MMD 17/57
18/04/2017

Any Other Business

1. The Cathaoirleach, Councillor Justin Warnock raised the National Reserve Scheme for Young Farmers under this item. He outlined that the scheme will be closing to applications after

Proposed by Councillor Justin Warnock, seconded by Councillor Frank Dolan and unanimously supported:

"I ask Leitrim County Council to call on the Minister for Agriculture, Food & the Marine to allow all young farmers apply for the 2017 National Reserve and Young Farmers Scheme. The Members have requested that the eligibility condition that an applicant has an agricultural qualification at FETAC Level 6 or its equivalent by 15th May, 2017 should be amended. The proposed amendment would allow any young farmer that is on a waiting list to complete an agricultural course apply for the scheme."

Ms. Mary Quinn informed the Members that the next meeting of Manorhamilton Municipal District will be on Monday 15th May, 2017 @ 2.30 p.m.

This concluded the business of the meeting at 4pm.

SIGNED: ___________________________________________ SIGNED: ___________________________________________

Councillor Justin Warnock
Cathaoirleach, Manorhamilton Municipal District

Sinead Flynn
Meetings Administrator

Date: 18th April, 2017.