Minutes of Manorhamilton Municipal District Meeting held in Boardroom, HSE Offices, Manorhamilton, Co. Leitrim on Monday 20th March, 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.
Ms. Sinead Flynn, Administrative Officer, Corporate Services
Ms. Bernie O'Flaherty, Water & Communities Office
Ms. Karen Kennedy, Water & Communities Office

At the outset of the meeting, the Cathaoirleach, Councillor Justin Warnock proposed a Vote of Sympathy to the families of the crew of the Irish Coast Guard, Rescue 116. The Vote of Sympathy was unanimously supported by all members. Councillor Warnock expressed his hope that the rescue mission will be successful with the recovery of the remaining crew that were on board.

MMD 17/31
20/03/17

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 Meeting Room No. 1, HSE Headquarters, Manorhamilton, Co. Leitrim on 20th February, 2017 be adopted.”

MMD 17/32
20/03/17

Presentation from the Water & Communities Office

The Cathaoirleach, Councillor Justin Warnock welcomed Ms. Bernie O’Flaherty and Ms. Karen Kennedy from the Water & Communities Office to the meeting. Ms. O’Flaherty outlined that the Local Authority Waters and Communities Office (LAWCO) is managed jointly by Kilkenny and Tipperary County Councils and operates as a shared services on behalf of all 31 local authorities. She also outlined that the national office is tasked with delivering two key objectives in the implementation of the Water Framework Directive in Ireland, to co-ordinate the activities of all local authorities in areas connected with the WFD and to promote public participation in the WFD process by engaging in the management of their own local water environment.

Ms. Kennedy outlined the work of the Water and Communities Office in engaging with the local community and she provided an over-view of projects and funding opportunities that can be accessed by community groups. She advised that the Local Authority Waters and Communities Office are available to provide technical advice and assistance in relation to local, regional, national and EU
funding streams connected to water quality management. A copy of the presentation appears as Appendix No. 1 of the Minutes of this meeting in the Minute Book.

The Cathaoirleach, Councillor Warnock thanked Ms. O’Flaherty and Ms. Kennedy for their presentation. Councillor Warnock referred to his Notice of Motion and it was agreed to hear this Notice of Motion under this agenda item.

**Discharge from Sewerage/Waste Water Treatment Plant**

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

"I ask Leitrim County Council on behalf of the Lough Melvin Anglers and the residents of Askill and Bundoran who source their water from this lake, to contact Fermanagh County Council and question what is being discharged into the lake from its Sewerage/Wastewater Treatment Plant at Garrison which causes a very visible foam like slick which can extend from Garrison to Kinlough pier and entombs invertebrates as it travels."

**Report by Director of Service, Economic Development, Planning, Environment & Transportation**

"Leitrim County Council will contact Fermanagh District Council on behalf of Lough Melvin Anglers and residents of Askill and Bundoran who source their water from Lough Melvin and express the concerns expressed in relation to possible treated effluent being discharged from the Garrison Sewerage Treatment Plant and the alleged effects/impacts on water quality on Lough Melvin."

Councillor Justin Warnock acknowledged the reply to his Notice of Motion and he welcomed that the Council will contact Fermanagh District Council. It was also agreed that the Water Communities Office will follow up with their colleagues in Northern Ireland in relation to the matter.

The following items were also raised by the Members with regard to the presentation by the Water and Communities Office:

- Councillor Sean McDermott noted that Leitrim is in three separate River Basin Districts and that the members no longer have a direct role in relation to the River Basin Districts. Councillor McDermott also queried the impact of the increased levels of activity in the forestry industry and its impact on water quality.

Ms. Kennedy responded to Councillor McDermott’s query and outlined that the forestry industry is categorised as being the fifth most significant pressure on water. She also outlined that Stakeholder Forums will be set up to get input from communities on the Draft River Basin Management Plans.

- Councillor Frank Dolan stated that the forestry industry will continue to grow. Councillor Dolan also highlighted the importance of education and awareness of the public with regard to water policies and the protection of waterways.

Ms. Bernie O’Flaherty outlined that the Department of Agriculture have published new guidelines on forestry. She advised that greater regard will be given to the selection of lands for re-planting and the planting of native species.

- Councillor Padraig Fallon requested clarification on the availability of funding from the Water and Communities Office for community groups.
Ms. Karen Kennedy provided an overview of the types of projects that may be funded by the Water and Communities Office e.g. organising family fun days, working with local Tidy Town’s Groups to complete clean-ups of areas, assistance with signage provision and funding to provide access to rivers and lakes.

- Councillor Felim Gurn queried what funding stream is available for a Walkway.

Ms. Kennedy advised that there is a booklet available with details of the funding opportunities that can be applied for by local community groups.

**Part 1 - Notice of Motions**

**MMD 17/33  Housing Outreach Service for North Leitrim**  
20/03/17

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

"I propose that this Municipal call on Leitrim County Council Housing Section to operate an outreach office or service in North Leitrim."

**Report by Director of Service, Housing, Corporate, Culture & Emergency Services**

"Up to this point the demand for housing services has been met satisfactorily for all of the county through the Carrick-on-Shannon offices but with the rollout of HAP to replace rent supplement the Council is considering the provision of a Housing Clinic in north Leitrim as the HAP gains momentum and the associated increase in applicants from the North Leitrim area. This clinic would involve Housing staff visiting Manorhamilton and conducting clinics on a part time per week basis."

Councillor Fallon welcomed the reply to his Notice of Motion.

**MMD 17/34  Land Drainage Scheme**  
20/03/17

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

"I propose that this municipal call on the Department of Agriculture to introduce a land drainage scheme. Almost half of the agricultural land in Ireland would benefit from reclamation and/or drainage in Leitrim the percentage would be higher."

**Proposed by Councillor Padraig Fallon, seconded by Councillor Mary Bohan and unanimously Resolved:**

"I propose that this municipal call on the Department of Agriculture to introduce a land drainage scheme. Almost half of the agricultural land in Ireland would benefit from reclamation and/or drainage in Leitrim the percentage would be higher."

The Members also agreed that the Notice of Motion be forwarded to the Department of Finance.
To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Justin Warnock;

"I ask Leitrim County Council to support the people of North Leitrim and South Donegal in calling on Donegal County Council to retain the fire stations in Bundoran and Ballyshannon, as time is of the essence when it comes to fires or accidents and lives and homes would be put at risk if they were to be amalgamated."

Proposed by Councillor Justin Warnock, supported by Councillor Sean McDermott and unanimously resolved:

"I ask Leitrim County Council to support the people of North Leitrim and South Donegal in calling on Donegal County Council to retain the fire stations in Bundoran and Ballyshannon, as time is of the essence when it comes to fires or accidents and lives and homes would be put at risk if they were to be amalgamated."

This Notice of Motion was unanimously supported by all members. The members stressed the urgency of having a rapid response to fire incidents in North Leitrim in order to protect lives and homes.

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

"Residents in Castle Street, Manorhamilton are experiencing unacceptable difficulties parking their vehicles anywhere on their street both day and night. Unfortunately due to the ongoing activities of a garage repair workshop on the street, the volume of vehicles associated with this business is resulting in limited or no parking being available for the residents. Whilst everyone is in favour of encouraging business activity in the area it should not have the negative impact currently experienced by the residents, many of whom are elderly. Therefore, I request that the executive consider restricting parking on the street for use of residents only."

Report by Director of Service, Economic Development, Planning, Environment & Transportation.
"Arrangements will be made to have this matter reviewed and monitored in the coming weeks to establish the issues and potential to address same."

Councillor Gurn called for the matter to be addressed as a matter of urgency. He outlined that many elderly residents are unable to park beside their properties. Councillor Gurn suggested that the Council need to consider the introduction of restricted parking for residents only in the area. Councillor Frank Dolan also supported this Notice of Motion.

Mr. Padraig MacShera advised that the matter will be reviewed and monitored by the Engineering Staff and the Community Wardens.

Ms. Mary Quinn agreed to revert to the members with an update once the monitoring and review of
possible solutions to address the matter is concluded. Ms. Quinn also referred to a previous commitment given at a Manorhamilton Municipal District meeting to prepare a Traffic Management Plan for Manorhamilton. She advised that the plan will be presented at the next meeting of Manorhamilton Municipal District.

MMD 17/37  Dillon Court, Manorhamilton, Co. Leitrim
20/03/17

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

"Could the executive give an update on their investigation into any potential breach of fire regulations at Dillon Court, Manorhamilton which I raised at the District's January Meeting."

Report by Director of Service, Housing, Corporate, Culture & Emergency Services
"Leitrim fire authority has carried out a further inspection of the apartment blocks at Dillon Court and has forwarded a list of fire safety deficiencies to the representative of the management company. We have given them a period of time to have the deficiencies rectified and have informed them that we will be carrying out a further inspection in early April."

Councillor Felim Gurn expressed his concern in relation to the Dillon Court Complex, Manorhamilton. He stated that there is an issue with anti-social behaviour and illegal dumping in the complex. Councillor Gurn also referred to the compliance of the building with the fire safety regulations. He stated that if the building is deemed to be in breach of the fire regulations, that the local authority will be required to provide alternative accommodation for the existing residents.

Ms. Mary Quinn outlined that Councillor Gurn’s Notice of Motion refers exclusively to the fire safety of the building and that the reply outlines the current status in this regard.

Councillor Mary Bohan stated that not all residents in the Dillon Court Complex are engaged in anti-social behaviour or illegal dumping.

MMD 17/38  CCTV Cameras
20/03/17

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

"I propose that CCTV cameras be provided at bring centres in the Manorhamilton Municipal District and at other areas where illegal dumping is taking place"

Report by Director of Service, Economic Development, Planning, Environment & Transportation.
"The Council on an annual basis endeavour to utilise CCTV on a periodic basis as resources allow. The areas referred to will be considered as part of the next rollout."

Councillor Mary Bohan highlighted her concern in relation to the increased prevalence of illegal dumping in the county. She proposed that the Environment Department gather evidence at locations where illegal dumping has occurred in order to identify the offenders and to be in a position to initiate legal proceedings. Councillor Bohan also outlined that the increased use of CCTV will act as a deterrent to potentially reduce incidents of illegal dumping.
Councillor Bohan’s Notice of Motion was unanimously supported by all members and they agreed that the Council should increase their enforcement activity to prosecute offenders. The members also called on the Council to promote the use of the Civic Amenity Centre in Manorhamilton.

MMD 17/39

20/03/17

Proposed Greenway

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

"What is the current status of the proposed Greenway project in relation to funding for same."

Report by Director of Service, Economic Development, Planning, Environment & Transportation.

"The portion of the project linking Sligo to Manorhamilton is currently subject to a funding application with Failte Ireland capital grants. The outcome of this application is awaited. The section from Manorhamilton to Enniskillen failed to be funded through the Intereg Program recently despite a lengthy and comprehensive application process. The Council will continue to engage with all partners with a view to progressing matters relating to land access and planning permission though pending the sourcing of funding."

This Notice of Motion was unanimously supported by all Members. It was noted that in order to benefit from the number of visitors travelling on the Wild Atlantic Way that Leitrim needs to develop facilities and points of interest to attract visitors to the county.

Councillor Mary Bohan referred to her recent official visit to New York as Cathaoirleach of Leitrim County Council. She advised that during the trip that she attended a meeting with Failte Ireland which featured a presentation on the Wild Atlantic Way. Councillor Bohan advised that Bord Failte highlighted the importance of developing projects ‘off’ the Wild Atlantic Way to attract visitors to counties like Leitrim.

MMD 17/40

20/03/17

Killanummary National School

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

"I will ask the Area Engineer to look at the possibility of putting in place some form of safety measure along the wall in front of Killanummary National School: such as a footpath or a row of bollards in order to prevent cars from reversing back towards the wall."

Report by Director of Service, Economic Development, Planning, Environment & Transportation

"The location in question is private property and Leitrim County Council has no responsibility in relation to carrying out any works here."

Councillor Frank Dolan acknowledged the reply to his Notice of Motion and accepted that the Council has no responsibility to carry out these works.

Mr. Padraig MacShera advised that the Area Office can provide assistance to the school in relation to
the safety measures that the school could consider.

**MMD 17/41  McDermott Terrace Residents Association  
20/03/17**

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

"I ask Leitrim County Council what progress if any has taken place between the Council and McDermott's Residence Association in relation to proposals they have put forward some time ago and is there still dialogue between both."

**Report by Director of Service, Housing, Corporate, Culture & Emergency Services**

"The Housing Department met with the Residents association in 2016 and have been in communication with the Community Development Co-ordinator regarding the McDermott Terrace Residents Associations concerns. These concerns centred around work on the community house and the condition of the public infrastructure. The Roads Department have carried out a survey of the area in question and have advised that the estimate cost of this work would be between €45,000- €50,000. The Housing Department have advised the Coordinator that although desirable, there is no funding for these works under the current roads programme budget.

With regards to the proposal to renovate McDermott Terrace Community House it is envisaged that an application will be submitted to Leader for funding to progress this project. The Coordinator is to provide details of the precise funding requirements following a meeting with the Residents Association which took place recently."

Councillor Frank Dolan acknowledged the reply to his Notice of Motion, however, he queried if there is any funding stream that may be accessed to upgrade the footpaths in this estate.

Ms. Mary Quinn stated that the Council has no funding available to repair the footpaths in this estate. Mr. Padraig MacShera also confirmed that there is no funding available from the 2017 Roads Budget to repair the footpaths in McDermott Terrace, Manorhamilton. He outlined that the footpaths were damaged during the severe weather events in 2009 and 2010 when excessive salt was applied to the footpaths. Mr. MacShera stated that the footpaths are not classified as high risk or hazardous.

Councillor Dolan called for a proposal to be put in place to provide for the upgrading of footpaths in a number of local authority estates in the county. He also requested that the Council continue to engage with the McDermott Terrace Residents Association.

Ms. Mary Quinn agreed to this request and she advised that she will revert to Councillor Dolan with an update in this regard.

**MMD 17/42  Routine Repairs on the R283  
20/03/17**

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

"I will ask if a deep trench that has occurred along the side of the R283 between Manorhamilton and Kiltyclogher in the townland of Loughphonta can be repaired as it is worsening."
Report by Director of Service, Director of Service, Economic Development, Planning, Environment & Transportation
"Routine repairs will be carried out here when resources allow."

Councillor Sean McDermott welcomed the reply to his Notice of Motion.

MMD 17/43 Footpath Repairs, Kilcoo Road, Kiltyclogher
20/03/17

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

"I will ask if the footpath can be repaired on the Kilcoo Road in Kiltyclogher. This footpath is uneven and potholes are appearing."

Report by Director of Service, Director of Service, Economic Development, Planning, Environment & Transportation

"The replacement of sections of footpath at this location in Kiltyclogher is desirable, however there is no funding in place in this year’s road works programme for this work, minor routine maintenance works will be carried out in the short term"

Other Business

- Ms. Mary Quinn informed the Members that the next meeting of Manorhamilton Municipal District will take place on Tuesday 18th April, 2017 in Meeting Room No. 1, HSE Headquarters, Manorhamilton, Co. Leitrim at 2.30 p.m.
- Ms. Quinn also informed the Members that the Corporate Policy Group at their meeting on Monday 7th March, 2017 agreed that a presentation by Mr. Sean O’Suilleabhain on the Irish language will be facilitated at the three Municipal District meetings in April, 2017.
- Councillor Justin Warnock, welcomed the expansion of the Rural Link Bus Service in North Leitrim to operate a number of daily services from Kinlough, Co. Leitrim to Ballyshannon, Co. Donegal.
- Councillor Warnock also paid tribute to Councillor Frank Dolan and Councillor Sean McDermott for their role in organising the recent visit by the Taoiseach, Mr. Enda Kenny to the Homestead of Sean MacDiarmada in Kiltyclogher, Co. Leitrim.

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.