Minutes of Manorhamilton Municipal District Meeting held in Meeting Room 1, HSE Headquarters, Manorhamilton on Monday 18th January, 2016

Members Present: Councillor Mary Bohan
Councillor Frank Dolan
Councillor Padraig Fallon
Councillor Felim Gurn
Councillor Justin Warnock

And Councillor Sean McDermott, 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. Emma Clancy, Senior Executive Librarian
Ms. Annette Lee, Clerical Officer, Corporate Services

MMD 16/01
18/01/16 Deimhniu Miontuairisci

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

“That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Manorhamilton Municipal District held in Meeting Room 1, HSE Headquarters, Manorhamilton, Co. Leitrim on Monday 14th December, 2015 be adopted.”

MMD 16/02
18/01/16 Draft Polling Scheme

Ms. Mary Quinn referred to the Draft Polling Scheme report which was listed as an agenda item at the January Council Meeting. She outlined that the preparation of the new Draft Polling Scheme is also listed as an agenda item for the Municipal District Meetings in February, 2016. Ms. Quinn stated that it is necessary to prepare a new Polling Scheme to incorporate changes to the boundary revisions that occurred in 2014. She outlined that that there are no proposals to amend the number of polling stations that are in the Manorhamilton Electoral Area and that any issues with polling stations are dealt with by Mr. Joseph Smyth (County Register). She concluded by stating that if the Members had comments/observations on the Draft Polling Scheme that they should be forwarded to Corporate Services by Wednesday 24th February, 2016.

Councillor Sean McDermott raised an issue in relation to the use of schools as polling stations and outlined that this can be an inconvenience for parents having to make alternative childcare arrangements for children on the day of an election. Ms. Quinn advised that not all schools are used as polling stations and that the Department of Education and the Department of Justice have an agreement in place in relation to the use of schools as polling stations. She also stated that if there
are any issues with schools being used as a polling station the question of alternative arrangements is ultimately a matter for the County Register. Ms. Quinn also outlined that other factors e.g. accessibility of buildings have to be taken into account in selecting a building for use as a polling station.

MMD 16/03
18/01/16

Library Presentation

The Cathaoirleach, Councillor Sean McDermott, introduced Ms. Emma Clancy, Senior Executive Librarian to the meeting and invited Ms. Clancy to give her presentation to the Members. A copy of the presentation appears as Appendix 1 of the Minutes of this meeting in the Minute Book.

Ms. Clancy thanked the Members for the opportunity to meet with them. She provided a detailed overview of the Library Service in Leitrim and highlighted a number of key initiatives that take place with various community groups and individuals. Ms. Clancy also provided statistical data in relation to the membership and number of visitors to the Libraries in the Manorhamilton Municipal District. Ms. Clancy concluded her presentation by stating that the Library Service makes a valuable contribution to the local communities in the county.

Councillor Sean McDermott thanked Ms. Emma Clancy for her informative presentation and invited any questions or comments from the Members.

Councillor McDermott queried if there are any proposals to provide WIFI services in the Part-Time Library Branches. He outlined that there is currently free WIFI available in a number of the libraries and that the service is very beneficial for members of the public. Ms. Clancy advised that part time libraries will be assessed for their suitability for WIFI.

Councillor Mary Bohan thanked Ms. Clancy for her presentation and stated that the Elected Members of Leitrim County Council have always been very supportive of the library service. She also acknowledged the work of the library staff in the network of full and part-time branches throughout the county. Councillor Bohan also relayed her concerns in relation to any proposal to introduce Shared Services for the Library Service in Leitrim.

Councillor Bohan queried if a library service could be provided in Drumkeerin. She advised that there are community owned buildings in the village that may be a suitable to provide accommodation for a Library. Councillor Bohan acknowledged that the local community in Drumkeerin avail of the Library Service in Drumshanbo, however, she outlined this option is not available if people do not have access to their own transport. Councillor Bohan proposed that a library service be provided in Drumkeerin. Councillor Padraig Fallon also supported this proposal.

Councillor Frank Dolan also expressed his concern in relation to any proposal for Shared Services to be introduced for the Library Service in Leitrim. He also requested clarification in relation to the proposed re-location of the existing library in Dromahaire to a larger building. Ms. Mary Quinn confirmed that the Council are continuing to explore possible alternative locations for the Library in Dromahaire.
Councillor Felim Gurn queried if the Genealogy Service could also be available in the branch Libraries to assist visitors to the county seeking to trace their family history. Ms. Clancy advised the members that the Manorhamilton Library is open on Saturdays and the local history resources and photographic collections are available on-line and can be accessed in the branch.

Ms. Quinn outlined that the Council remain committed to continuing to improve the quality of the Library Services in the county.

**MMD 16/04**  
**18/01/16**  
**Correspondence**

The following items were considered under Meeting Correspondence:

1. Letter dated 8th January from Mr. Martin Nolan, Chief Executive Officer, Bus Eireann in relation to a more frequent scheduled bus service between Kinlough and Bundoran advising that any such service would be likely to require ongoing subvention and could not be undertaken on a commercial basis by Bus Eireann.

   **Proposed by Councillor Justin Warnock, seconded by Councillor Sean McDermott and UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED:**

   “The members requested that a letter is sent to the National Transport Authority to further the matter in relation to a more frequent scheduled bus service between Kinlough and Bundoran”.

2. Letter dated 8th January from the Department of Social Protection in relation to individuals signing on in the Ballyshannon office being considered for as potential Tus participants.

**Part 1 – Notice of Motions**

**MMD 16/05**  
**18/01/16**  
**Enhancement Works at Corry Strand**

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

"Further to my Notice of Motion to Leitrim County Council in July, 2014 where I proposed that enhancement works be carried out at Corry Strand and that facilities be upgraded, specifically toilet and shower facilities as well as a slipway for Boats be installed. Can I ask what progress has been made."

**Report by Director of Service, Planning, Community and Economic Development**

"Planned and funded works to improve Corry Strand amenity have been carried out as part of the Harnessing Natural Resources Project. The provision of toilet and shower facilities given the scale and type of use would be very difficult to deliver given the level of demand for such facilities across a variety of similar amenities in the country. The matter of the slipway can be reviewed in conjunction with Inland Fisheries Ireland when relevant opportunities arise."

Councillor Fallon thanked the Director of Service for his reply stating that these facilities are needed
in this area. Councillor Mary Bohan proposed that Inland Fisheries meet the Elected Members on site as the water levels issue has to be addressed.

Mr. Padraig MacShera, Senior Executive Engineer said there has been an improvement to this area over the past number of years. Councillor Bohan asked if Leitrim County Council would contact the ESB regarding the water levels at this amenity.

MMD 16/06
18/01/16 Traffic Calming Measures in Kinlough and Rossinver

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

"Further to a previous Notice of Motion, I again propose the installation of traffic calming measures in the villages of Kinlough on the Rossinver Road R281 and on either side of Drumkeeran Village on the R280."

Report by Senior Engineer, Roads
"Traffic calming schemes on the R281 Rossinver road approach to Kinlough and the R280 Manorhamilton approach to Drumkerran have been included in the list schemes for Low Cost Safety Funding for Department Inspector consideration in the 2016 programme."

Mr. Padraig MacShera advised that a speed survey can be conducted and stated that signs are not a solution to all speeding problems. He stated that speeding is due to driver behaviour. Councillor Justin Warnock stated that there is a problem with speeding in this area due to a lack of gardaí. Ms. Mary Quinn advised that this problem could be raised at the next Joint Policing Committee meeting.

MMD 16/07
18/01/16 Four Masters Bridge, Kinlough

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

"I ask the Director of Services for Roads and Infrastructure to confirm when he expects works to commence on the Four Masters Bridge on the L2079, Moy Road, Kinlough. This listed structure was closed on the 19th December, 2015 after structural damage was caused by extremely high water levels and strong currents from the Drowes River. It's closure is impacting greatly on the daily lives of the people of Askill, Boynagh and those who live on or use the Moy Road. It is also having a negative impact on businesses in Kinlough."

Report by Senior Engineer, Roads
"This Council has been in discussion with Donegal County Council regarding the repairs to this bridge. Donegal County Council has agreed to take on the contract to repair this bridge. A programme for repairs will only be finalised when flood levels recede and a full survey can be completed. We will keep the Members informed of progress."
To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Justin Warnock;

"I ask Leitrim County Council as a matter of urgency with Donegal County Council to immediately seek funding from Central Government for the construction of a new bridge on the R280 between Leitrim and Donegal. This narrow old bridge has in excess of 3,500 cars, lorries and tractors crossing daily and has to operate a Stop/Go system. There is no local transportation infrastructural capacity to take this volume of traffic should this bridge suffer the same fate as the Four Masters Bridge."

Report by Senior Engineer, Roads
"We are in discussion with Donegal County Council as to how best to progress this project. Both counties accept that it is desirable to have the alignment of this bridge improved. Finding a source of funding for this project will be difficult as at present the Department of Transport only provide funding for repairs of bridges."

Councillor Justin Warnock expressed his concern about the safety of this bridge, he stated that at the time of construction the bridge was built to accommodate horses and carts and that it is currently being traversed on a daily basis by large volumes of traffic. Councillor Warnock stated that the parapet walls of the bridge are badly cracked and he called for the construction of a new bridge to at this location.

Councillor Sean McDermott requested that the proposed works be prioritised and progressed without delay. Ms. Mary Quinn outlined that funding to meet the cost of the works must be sourced. Mr. Padraic MacShera outlined that the progression of the works would not seen as a priority for Donegal County Council. He also stated only one report of an accident on this bridge was communicated to Leitrim County Council in the last 4/5 years.

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

"Following yet another accident at the entrance to Drumlease Estate, Dromahaire - I ask what progress has been made on the introduction of some traffic calming measures at this junction."

Report by Senior Engineer, Roads
"Signage proposed for this area will be in place before the end of this week."

Mr. Padraic MacShera as outlined in his reply to the Notice of Motion confirmed that the signage at the entrance to the estate will be put in place, however, he cautioned that this may not fully eliminate the problem with poor visibility for persons entering/exitng the estate. Mr. MacSheara stated that it may be necessary to introduce double yellow lines to eliminate parking at the entrance to the estate to improve visibility for motorists.
To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Frank Dolan:

"Following the production of a detailed survey of the problems that exist in McDermott Terrace in Manorhamilton, I propose that Leitrim County Council meet with members of the Residents Association in an effort to work out a long term plan to address some of those problems."

Report by Director of Service, Corporate Services & Housing
"Work on an application for funding is in progress under the SEAI Better Communities Scheme. In order to assess eligibility under this Scheme and make this application for funding to the SEAI, Retrofit Ireland have completed a further Survey of the 7 properties owned by Leitrim County Council in McDermott Terrace together with an assessment of each households eligibility under the terms of the SEAI Scheme. It is then planned, provided the Households meet the eligibility criteria specified as part of the SEAI Scheme, to submit an application for funding to the SEAI for the required Energy Retrofitting Upgrade works. Residents will be kept up to date with regard to the progress of this application for funding which will take a number of months to submit. Residents will also be updated as soon as Leitrim County Council receive confirmation as to whether this application for Funding has been successful or not."

Councillor Frank Dolan acknowledged the reply to his Notice of Motion, however, he outlined that his Notice of Motion referred to a survey completed by Leitrim Integrated Development Company. Ms. Mary Quinn undertook to get details of the survey and to revert to Councillor Dolan with an update.

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

"In April 2015, I submitted two Notices of Motion regarding funding for the roadway at Eagle's Rock (L 6102-1) - (L 6101-1 and the Glencar-Glenade Road L 60991-2). Can the Executive advise if my proposal to include vital repairs to these roads in the 2016 estimates has been sanctioned? In addition, some visitors to the area have complained to me about inadequate signage to the Eagle's Rock site. The signage and information available at the site is excellent but visitors are finding it difficult to locate it. I propose that funding for additional signage be included in the estimates."

Report by Senior Engineer, Roads
"The local roads in question will be assessed and considered for funding as part of the 2016 Area Programme subject to priority. Routine Maintenance will continue to be carried out on these roads. The current directional signage to the Eagles Rock site can be assessed, any information in relation to improvements here would be welcome."

Mr. Padraic MacShera advised that there are a number of slippages on this road and Leitrim County Council is currently in negotiations with the landowners to purchase land in order to carry out the necessary repair works. Mr. MacShera outlined that the Council will have no alternative but to temporarily close the road if there are any additional slippages in the area. He concluded that the necessary funding is in place to progress the works but that the delay in reaching an agreement with
the landowners in delaying the progression of the works.

**MMD 16/12**
18/01/16

*Traffic Lights and Traffic Management on the N16/R280 Junction*

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

"Following on from the meeting between the Council and Transport Infrastructure Ireland (formerly the NRA), regarding the provision of traffic lights and traffic management on the N16 R280 junction on Manorhamilton's Main Street, could you advise what is the current situation?"

*Report by Senior Engineer, Roads*
"The TII has requested that we carry out a Road Safety Audit (RSA) on the proposed works at the junction. The RSA was completed week ending 15th January, 2016 and this will to be submitted to TII in the coming week."

**MMD 16/13**
18/01/16

*Bridge on the Barr Road, Glenaniff*

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

"At the January Municipal District meeting, I will ask Leitrim County Council to make safe a bridge on the Barr Road in Glenaniff that has been recently damaged. The edge of the road has collapsed in this area and is very dangerous."

*Report by Senior Engineer, Roads*
"The bridge in question on local road L21062 at Glenaniff was damaged as a result of a Fire appliance trying to gain access along this road on the 20th December, advance warning signs and cones are currently in place to warn road users at this location. The parapet wall will be rebuilt when labour resources allow. Repairs to road edges/margins that have collapsed along the road network in this area are currently underway."

Councillor Sean McDermott welcomed the reply to his Notice of Motion, Councillor Padraig Fallon also supported this Notice of Motion. Councillor Warnock proposed that a request be submitted to the Department of Transport to seek funding for bridges that are in need of repair. Councillor Mary Bohan stated that the Elected Members had previously sought additional funding for such works, however, no funding was sanctioned by the Department.

**MMD 16/14**
18/01/16

*Camderry to Meenkeeragh Local Road*

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

"Can I ask when repairs can be done to the Camderry to Meenkeeragh local road in Glenfarne, it is in a terrible condition."

*Report by Senior Engineer, Roads*
"The local road L2211 at Camderry, Glenfarne will be assessed and considered for inclusion in the 2016 Area Programme subject to priorities."

**Parking in Manorhamilton**

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

"What is the current position regarding parking for business premises in Manorhamilton. Many businesses are finding it difficult to provide parking for customers."

**Report by Director of Service, Planning, Community and Economic Development**

"Through the delivery of the Rural Economic Development Zone initiative for Manorhamilton the matter of parking has been discussed and will be considered further as part of a town land use review during 2016 in partnership with the local REDZ team."

Councillor Mary Bohan advised that the lack of parking in Manorhamilton is a major issue and that it needs to be addressed particularly for elderly people with reduced mobility that need to have parking close to the facilities that they need to access.

Councillor Felim Gurn also supported Councillor Bohan’s Notice of Motion and called for the provision of additional car-parking spaces to be provided in the town. He suggested that if the Backland’s carpark was available to customers then this would provide approximately sixty additional car parking spaces for the town.

**Drainage Works**

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

"Has the Council any budget for this Municipal District to carry out minor drainage works to avoid flooding and damage to county to roads."

**Report by Senior Engineer, Roads**

"The need for, and the importance of, good roadside drainage is fully appreciated but it is labour intensive and costly. Drainage work is being carried out on roads in the North Leitrim Area on an annual rolling basis under National Primary, Regional and Local Road Maintenance Budgets. However, due to staff and financial constraints the amount of drainage work achieved for the last few years was less than desirable but Leitrim County Council will endeavour to concentrate on drainage works in the early part of the year whenever our limited resources are not involved in winter maintenance operations."

Councillor Mary Bohan stated that additional funding should be provided to fund necessary drainage works. Councillor Sean McDermott also supported this Notice of Motion. Councillor Justin Warnock stated that serious flooding problems are occurring due to the lack of roadside drainage."
2016 Roads Programme
Councillor Mary Bohan expressed her concern in relation to the 2016 Roads Programme. She stated that she did not agree with the methodology utilised for the allocation of funding to the 3 Municipal Districts in relation to the 2015 Roads Programme. She stated that the Manorhamilton Municipal District had been disadvantaged by the allocation of resources based on population rather than road mileage.

Peace IV Programme
Ms. Mary Quinn advised the members that the Peace Programme IV Programme will be commencing in 2016 and that a representative from Municipal District would be nominated onto the Steering Committee to oversee the Peace IV Programme. Ms. Quinn requested that the Members consider their nominee and that the appointment of an Elected Member to the Peace IV Steering Committee would be listed as an agenda item at the next Municipal District meeting.

Ms. Mary Quinn noted that the next meeting of the Manorhamilton Municipal District will take place on Monday 15th February, 2016 at 2.30pm.

This concluded the business of the meeting at 15.45pm.