Minutes of Manorhamilton Municipal District Meeting held in the Dartry Centre, Kinlough, Co. Leitrim on Monday 19th June, 2017 at 2.30 p.m.

Members Present: Councillor Mary Bohan
Councillor Justin Warnock
Councillor Padraig Fallon
Councillor Felim Gurn
Councillor Sean McDermott

And Councillor Frank Dolan, 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 17/83
19/06/2017

Deimhniu Miontuairisci

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

“That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Manorhamilton Municipal District held in HSE Headquarters, Manorhamilton, Co. Leitrim on Monday 15th May, 2017 be adopted.”

MMD 17/84
19/06/2017

Presentation on the Arts

Mr. Philip Delamere, Arts Officer gave a presentation on the Leitrim Arts Strategy. The presentation appears as Appendix No. 1 to the Minutes of this meeting in the Minute Book. Mr. Delamere outlined that the Leitrim Arts Strategy 2012-2017 endeavoured to develop in Leitrim, greater access and quality participation in the Arts for all people living in or visiting the count, to nurture individuals, organisations, festivals and communities to be part of that provision and to work in partnership with local, national and international agencies to achieve common goals. Mr. Delamere also provided an over-view of the time-frame for the preparation of a new Arts and Culture Strategy 2018-2022.

The Cathaoirleach, Councillor Frank Dolan thanked Mr. Delamere for his informative presentation and he invited any comments/observations from the members.

- Councillor Mary Bohan thanked Mr. Delamere for his presentation and she commended the role of the Arts Office in promoting the Arts in Leitrim. Councillor Bohan outlined that the county is fortunate to have The Dock, the Glens Centre and the Cornmill Theatre in Carrigallen to promote the Arts. She queried if funding will be available for the Creative Ireland Project.

Mr. Delamere confirmed that funding is available for Creative Ireland Projects.
• Councillor Sean McDermott also thanked Mr. Delamere for his presentation. He welcomed that the Arts in Leitrim has attracted many Artists to locate in rural parts of the county.

• Councillor Padraig Fallon commended Mr. Delamere for his role in promoting the Arts in Leitrim. Councillor Fallon queried the level of engagement between the Arts Office and the Tourism Office.

Mr. Delamere advised that there is regular engagement between the Arts and Tourism Departments particularly in relation to festivals and building a reputation for Leitrim as a film location.

• Councillor Justin Warnock queried what support is available for professional Artists in the county?

Mr. Delamere advised that Artists could avail of the Creative Frame professional development programme for Artists. He also outlined that there are mentoring and networking opportunities available. Mr. Delamere advised that in order to move forward the Arts Office plans to develop a European network of rural based Artists.

• Councillor Felim Gurn also acknowledged the significant role of the Arts in Leitrim. He proposed that a schedule of all Arts events in the Dock, the Glens Centre and the Cornmill Theatre should be published quarterly. Councillor Gurn also proposed that an Art and Craft Trail should be developed for tourists.

Mr. Delamere thanked the members for their positive feedback.

**MMD 17/85**

19/06/2017  
**Speed Limit Bye Laws**

Mr. Michael Gallagher, Senior Engineer presented an overview of the Speed Limit Bye-Law Review. He outlined that following the review of the Speed Limits at the December, 2016 Municipal District meetings that the Roads Department had entered into discussions with Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) in relation to some of the concerns expressed by the Members on proposed revisions to the speed limits in certain locations in Leitrim. The report as presented appears as Appendix No. 2 to the Minutes of this meeting in the Minute Book. The Members again expressed concern in relation to the speed limits at a number of locations in Manorhamilton town, in Glenfarne and on the N16. Mr. Gallagher outlined that the Draft Speed Limit Bye-laws will be placed on public display by the end of June, 2017. He advised that members of the public will then have the opportunity to make submissions as part of the public consultation process. Mr. Gallagher also informed the Members that any changes to speed limits on national roads must be approved by the TII and that the matter will again be reviewed at Municipal District level in advance of the proposed adoption of the Speed Limit Bye Laws at the November Council meeting.

**MMD 17/86**

19/06/2017  
**Correspondence**

1. Letter dated 13th May, 2017 from the Department of Health concerning the Primary Care Centre in Kinlough, Co. Leitrim.
2. Letter dated 8th June, 2017 from Transport Infrastructure Ireland in relation to the N15 Bundoran Bypass.
It was agreed that this correspondence will be forwarded to Donegal County Council.

3. Copy of Notice of Motion from Councillor Des Guckian that the Carrick-on-Shannon Municipal District Members agreed to circulate to all three Municipal Districts. The Members supported the Notice of Motion.

**Part 1 - Notice of Motions**

**MMD 17/87**  
*19/06/2017*  
**Assistance for Farmers**

**To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Padraig Fallon;**
"I propose that this Municipal District call on the Department of Agriculture and relevant Ministers to ensure that any farmer whose land was burnt due to the actions of others will not be penalised."

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

‘This Municipal District call on the Department of Agriculture and relevant Ministers to ensure that any farmer whose land was burnt due to the actions of others will not be penalised."

**MMD 17/88**  
*19/06/2017*  
**Corry Strand**

**To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Padraig Fallon;**
"I propose the installation of waste disposal, refuse and recycling bins at Corry Strand."

**Report by Director of Services for Economic Development, Planning, Environment and Transportation.**
"This Council does not provide new refuse bins in such locations. Our experience is that they are used for the disposal of domestic rubbish causing a more serious problem."

Councillor Fallon acknowledged the reply to his Notice of Motion, however, he stated that it was unfortunate that a bin could not be provided at this location. This Notice of Motion was also supported by Councillor Mary Bohan.

A discussion ensued in relation to the provision of bins at tourist locations. It was noted that these facilities are no longer provided due to households using the bins to dispose of domestic waste. Mr. Padraig MacSheara advised that the Council organise a clean-up at Corry Strand two-three times per year and that arrangements will be put in place to complete a clean up in the coming weeks.

Councillor Felim Gurn requested that additional signage be put in place for Spencer Harbour, Drumkeerin and that the hedge needs to be trimmed back on the entrance to Spencer Harbour.
Parking for Coach Tours in Manorhamilton

To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Felim Gurn;
"As a result of discussions I had recently with representatives of the Coach Hire Industry regarding the provision of parking for Coach Tours visiting or passing through the town, I propose that the Executive allocate a designated bus parking area in Manorhamilton. The favoured area suggested is on the Park Road and I request that the Executive give consideration to same."

Report by Director of Services for Economic Development, Planning, Environment and Transportation.
"The sighting of a designated Coach Tour parking bay on the Park Road will eliminate at least 3 parking spaces that currently exist for cars in this area. Consideration should be given to the provision of this bay on the R282 Rossinver Road close to the Castle. A funding source would need to be identified for this installation to proceed."

Councillor Gurn outlined that Manorhamilton needs to provide a suitable location for coaches to park in the town in order to generate additional income from tourists visiting the area. This proposal was unanimously supported by all Members.

Mr. Padraic MacShera advised that the current Parking Bye-laws would have to be changed to permit parking of coaches at Park Road, Manorhamilton.

Councillor Frank Dolan suggested that parking adjacent to the Castle in Manorhamilton may be a more preferable location or that coaches could arrange to drop off passengers in the town and then park on the outskirts of the town.

Traffic Lights in Manorhamilton

To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Felim Gurn;
"Following the installation of traffic lights in Manorhamilton on the instructions of the designated authority Transport Infrastructure Ireland, it is apparent that signage is required to advise motorists that they must drive their vehicles up to the respective stop lines at the junctions in order to activate the lights. Some motorists are unaware that without so doing there will be an additional delay in the lights changing."

Report by Director of Services for Economic Development, Planning, Environment and Transportation.
"Motorists with valid driver licences should be familiar with the general rules of the road which should allow them to manoeuvre through a junction with traffic lights. This junction on the N16/R280 at Manorhamilton is no different than any other junction of this type in the country and it is not felt necessary to install signs to advise motorists how the junction operates."

Councillor Gurn outlined that a number of motorists continue to experience difficulty with the sensor system to activate the traffic lights. Mr. Michael Gallagher advised that the once motorists go over the sensor the lights are activated. Overall, the Members agreed that the installation of the traffic lights at this junction has been positive and has improved the safety of motorists and pedestrians when crossing this junction.
### Proposed Walking/Cycling Route, Manorhamilton

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

"I ask Leitrim County Council on behalf of the people of Manorhamilton now and for future generations to scrap the proposed walking/cycling route to the new GAA pitch as it is too dangerous. A walkway/cycleway must be developed parallel to the R280 from the town to the pitch in the interest of public health and safety. The Roads Department must look at what is already available to them along the R280 and develop this section of road and if necessary reduce the speed from 100km to 80km/h from the town to the pitch."

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

"The current proposed walking/cycling route to the GAA pitch has been developed, progressed through the Part 8 Planning process for Local Authority own development and approved accordingly. There are no plans currently to review this matter."

Councillor Justin Warnock expressed dis-satisfaction with the reply to his Notice of Motion. He stated that the Council must review the matter and locate the proposed walkway/cycleway parallel to the R280 and not continue with the selected route on the grounds of safety for children and young adults that will be using the route to travel to the local GAA pitch.

Councillor Felim Gurn did not agree with Councillor Warnock’s Notice of Motion. He stated that the selected route for the walkway/cycleway is not a dangerous road compared to the R280. Councillor Gurn stated that it will be a matter for the GAA to develop a rear entrance to the GAA pitch.

### Speed Limit at Tullaghan, Co. Leitrim

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

"I ask Leitrim County Councils Roads Department to have a 50km speed limit introduced on the L2059 Coast Road from the N15 junction at Bunduff to the village of Tullaghan. This narrow coastal road is Leitrim’s claim to fame on the Wild Atlantic Way, as a result there has been a significant increase in motorists, cyclists and walkers. A reduction in speed is warranted in the interest of road safety for the local people and the visitors to enjoy this scenic road."

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

"The Department of Transport has published Guidelines for the Setting of Speed Limits in Ireland. It recommends that speed limits in rural areas should only be provided in areas where there are minimum of 28 houses over a 400m of road. The road in Tullaghan does not meet this criteria."

Councillor Warnock did not agree with the reply to his Notice of Motion. Mr. Padraig MacShera outlined that speed limits are put in place in accordance with the guidelines issued by the Department of Transport. He advised that a 50km speed limit at this location could set a precedent for other locations in the county.
To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Frank Dolan;
"I will ask that Leitrim County Council start the usual verge and grass trimming as soon as possible as a result of the massive growth we have had recently."

Report by Director of Services for Economic Development, Planning, Environment and Transportation.
"Works on verge trimming at Regional junctions are currently under way which should improve site distance for road users. The Council propose to cut back growth on over 200 junctions along the Regional road network in Manorhamilton Area and the entire length of the N15 and N16 in the coming weeks."

To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Frank Dolan;
"I will again ask that some surface maintenance be carried out on the Conray/Glenague road (past Paddy McTernan's house) as this section of the roadside say it is in very poor condition."

Report by Director of Services for Economic Development, Planning, Environment and Transportation.
"This section of road in question is an unsurfaced road that allows access to farmland and forestry. Due to our current work load on surfacing works and the completion of schemes with funding claim deadlines we have only been able to carry out priority repair works. When staff resources allow repairs will be completed on the road in question."

To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Sean McDermott;
"At the June Meeting I will ask, would it be possible for our neighbouring Tourist Offices in Sligo and Bundoran to provide more tourist information for North Leitrim?"

Report by Director of Services for Economic Development, Planning, Environment and Transportation.
"Relevant Tourist Offices including those in close proximity to the County are supplied with information and brochures on County Leitrim Visitor attractions within available resources. Arrangements will be made to review and update the mentioned offices with available material."

Councillor Sean McDermott outlined that additional tourists/visitors need to be attracted into North Leitrim. This Notice of Motion was unanimously supported by all Members. Councillor Felim Gurn called for a Development Officer for North Leitrim to work in partnership with the neighbouring counties to promote and develop tourist attractions on a regional basis.
**MMD 17/96**  
**19/06/2017**  
One-way Traffic System, Manorhamilton

*To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Sean McDermott;*  
"Can I ask if there is any update on the proposed One Way Traffic System for the town of Manorhamilton."

*Report by Director of Services for Economic Development, Planning, Environment and Transportation.*  
"It is our intention to carry out a public consultation on this proposal. Due to our current workloads we have been unable to organise this yet. We hope to have it advertised within the next two months."

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**MMD 17/97**  
**19/06/2017**  
Abbey Manor Hotel, Dromahaire

*To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Mary Bohan;*  
"What is the current position regarding the Abbey Manor Hotel in Dromahaire?. Following the Section 59 Notice served on the owners, the necessary works have not been carried out in the specified legal timeframe."

*Report by Director of Services for Economic Development, Planning, Environment and Transportation.*  
"Leitrim County Council served a Section 59 Confirmation Notice (Endangerment of a Protected Structure) on the 2 no. surviving part owners of the Abbey Hotel, Dromahaire on 29th June, 2016. The notice took effect within 2 weeks of the issuance of same, by 12th July, 2016 as no appeal against the notice was made to the District Court by the registered owners. The completed works were required to be completed within 16 weeks of said notice coming into effect which was 1st November, 2016. As correctly stated, no works have commenced on foot of the Notices having been served. The Council were advised in writing on 3rd November 2016 that the present owners were at an advanced stage of transferring the hotel to new owners. The Council have held talks with 2 no. perspective purchasers of the hotel in 2017 but to date it would not appear that the hotel has been sold / disposed of. The seeking of a prosecution through the courts for non compliance with the terms of the Section 59 Notice against the current owners would, if successful, not compel the current owners to undertake the works which are required to prevent the hotel structure from continuing to be endangered. The Planning Authority will once again contact the current owners of the hotel and separately seek legal opinion of the most effective course of action to be pursued."

Councillor Mary Bohan expressed serious concern in relation to the condition of the Abbey Hotel, Dromahaire. She stated that it was unfair to the people of Dromahaire and she called on the owners of the hotel to take responsibility for the building. Councillor Bohan requested that Leitrim County Council seek an urgent update on the legal proceedings that the Council may initiate in order to protect the structure which is a listed building.

This Notice of Motion was unanimously supported by all Members.
To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Mary Bohan; "What funding has been made available for drainage works in the Manorhamilton Municipal District in the current year?"

Report by Director of Services for Economic Development, Planning, Environment and Transportation.
"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 Manorhamilton Engineering Area on an annual rolling basis under National Primary, Restoration Improvement, Restoration Strengthen, Regional and Local Road Maintenance Budgets. At least €300,000 will be spent on drainage works in the Area in 2017."

Any Other Business

- Ms. Mary Quinn advised that the next meeting of Manorhamilton Municipal District will take place on Monday 17th July, 2017 at 2.30 pm in the HSE Offices, Manorhamilton, Co. Leitrim.

This concluded the business of the meeting at 4.30pm

SIGNED:  
__________________________  SIGNED:  
Councillor Frank Dolan  
Sinead Flynn  
Cathaoirleach, Manorhamilton  
Meetings Administrator  
Municipal District

Date:  
17th July, 2017