

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF LETTERKENNY-MILFORD MEETING, HELD
IN THE AURA LEISURE CENTRE, ON 12 OCTOBER, 2021 AT 2:00 P.M.**

MDL462/21 MEMBERS PRESENT

Cllr. Jimmy Kavanagh (Mayor), Cllr. Liam Blaney, Cllr. Kevin Bradley, Cllr. Ciaran Brogan, Cllr. Donal Coyle, Cllr. Donal Kelly, Cllr. Michael McBride, Cllr. Ian McGarvey, Cllr. Gerry McMonagle and Cllr. John O'Donnell

MDL463/21 OFFICIALS PRESENT

Liam Ward, Director of Service, Eamonn Brown, Area Manager, Housing & Corporate Services; Bernadine McGee, Staff Officer, Housing & Corporate Services; David McIlwaine, S.E.E. / Area Manager, Roads & Transportation; Elaine McEntee, Executive Planner; Joe Ferry, A/Senior Executive Chemist, Francis Conaghan, Development Officer, Eve Anne McCarron, Local Enterprise Office

The meeting was chaired by Cllr. Jimmy Kavanagh.

Cllr. Kavanagh and the Members welcomed Eamonn Brown to the Letterkenny-Milford Municipal District, adding that they were looking forward to working with him.

MDL464/21 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There were no matters arising from the Minutes of the previous meeting.

MDL465/21 ADOPTION OF MINUTES

On the proposal of Cllr. Gerry McMonagle and seconded by Cllr. John O'Donnell the Minutes of Meeting of the MD Meeting on 14th September 2021 were adopted.

MDL466/21 FENCE ALONG BALLYRAINE ROAD AND OVERGROWN FOOTPATH

On the proposal of Cllr. Jimmy Kavanagh and seconded by Cllr. Ian McGarvey, the following motion was adopted:

“That the Council replace the fence along the Ballyraine Road in front of Trio Foods as it is broken and dangerous, and also clear the briars that are growing out over the footpath.”

Members were advised that:

“Works are currently being carried out to clear the Briars along this section of Road. Arrangements are being made to have the repairs to the Fence carried out.”

On proposing the motion Cllr. Kavanagh noted that the fence is missing in places and in some parts only the bottom board remains. This is a busy road used by walkers and students. The fence is dangerous with a drop on the other side should anyone fall over it. It is particularly dangerous at night and needs to be replaced if possible with an iron fence in case it would be hit by a car. The path is overgrown with briars and these need to be cut back. He welcomed the response given adding that the fence needs to be replaced with a stronger structure and should be addressed as soon as possible.

Cllr. McGarvey seconded the motion adding that all footpaths should be looked at and overgrowth cut back.

MDL467/21 FLOODING ISSUES ON GLENCAR ROAD

On the proposal of Cllr. Jimmy Kavanagh and seconded by Cllr. Gerry McMonagle, the following motion was adopted:

“That the Council liaise with Irish Water to ensure that the flooding issues to homes on Glencar Road, Letterkenny are addressed and dealt with before the road is resurfaced by the Council.”

Members were advised that:

“The Roads staff have liaised with Water Services Operations and they have confirmed that the obstructions that were referred to in the sewer were removed earlier this year using no-dig methods.”

On proposing the motion Cllr. Kavanagh noted that this is an ongoing issue with regular flooding at houses on the road. Cellars have been flooded in some cases. He noted that he had been in touch with Irish Water and was given several dates for work to be done but this had not been done. He noted the response given stating that he had sent 7 emails and had received no response until now. There is a communication issue between Irish Water and the Members. He welcomed the work done noting that one house is still experiencing flooding problems. This needs to be addressed before the resurfacing is done. Cllr. Kavanagh asked that he be kept informed.

MDL468/21 DISABILITY INCLUSION STRATEGY

On the proposal of Cllr. Jimmy Kavanagh and seconded by Cllr. Gerry McMonagle, the following motion was adopted:

“That we include a disability inclusion strategy as part of the Letterkenny Area Plan/County Development Plan similar to what has been done in other counties.”

Members were advised that:

“Noted and agreed. The Central Planning Unit will engage with the National Disability Authority to examine the most appropriate mechanisms to address disability in upcoming statutory development and local area plans.”

On proposing the motion Cllr. Kavanagh noted that this has been raised in the past. He thanked Trudi O’Reilly for the work she is doing. He met her on Make Way Day. He spoke to a lot of people that day who were all supportive of the initiative but noted that there is very little awareness of the issues. This is a matter for everyone not just those with disabilities. It affects the elderly, young mothers with buggies, people with temporary disabilities due to injuries/accidents. Wexford County Council has a Strategy which includes everything. He wanted to acknowledge Trudi for her enthusiasm about her role and for putting her ideas forward.

Cllr. McMonagle referred to his question in relation to audit of footpaths which he had previously requested. He noted that he was disappointed with the response advising that assessments are carried out by Roads Staff.

Cllr. Kavanagh noted that in response to a previous motion a report had been circulated which was very good but nothing had been done following that.

Cllr. McMonagle stated that a report is needed on broken footpaths and those where drop kerbs are needed.

Cllr. Kavanagh thanked Cllr. McMonagle for seconding his motion. A Strategy would help move this on. He noted the response given.

Liam Ward advised that he had raised this with Eunan Quinn and Paul Christie and noted that there is a will there to examine and address this in the Local Area Plan and County Development Plan which are currently being reviewed.

MDL469/21 SAFETY AUDIT ON FOUR LANE ROADWORKS

On the proposal of Cllr. John O’Donnell and seconded by Cllr. Kevin Bradley, the following motion was adopted:

“That this Council carry out a safety audit on the new layout on the four lane roadworks between the Pole Star Roundabout and the Dry Arch Roundabout.”

Members were advised that:

“This proposed motion has been referred to the TII and the following response has been received.

“Regular safety assessment and review are part and parcel of any traffic management by a Contactor. The current temporary traffic management arrangement particularly in respect to the ‘ghost’ lining and temporary lining has raised concern. The issue had been raised by the Site Supervision team early on. Subsequently the contractor had committed to addressing the issue

at a recent meeting with DCC M&LMD and CoC. However action was not forthcoming. The Site management team Wednesday 29th Sept asked that a Risk Assessment be carried out immediately and that the matter was actioned as a matter of urgency and without delay. In recent days some action has been progressed by the contractor to address the problem. The existing white lining causing some issues were removed on 29th and 30th October night shift. Some further white lining and arrows were carried out on night of 4th October to attempt to clarify further the delineation between lanes. We will insist on a safety assessment being carried out by the Contractor."

On proposing the motion Cllr. O'Donnell requested a safety audit on the 4 lane project as difficulties with the current layout has been brought to his attention. He noted that some of the white lines that were causing confusion have been removed. He welcomed the response given that a safety assessment will be carried out as drivers are currently unsure where to go on the road and it is causing a lot of confusion. Negotiation would need to take place with businesses along the road as they have not been considered. A relief road from the Cullion Road was to be considered for businesses affected by this. This needs to be raised with TII.

David McIlwaine advised that discussions have taken place between property owners, TII and Donegal County Council and issues have been raised with the Contractor.

Cllr. O'Donnell confirmed that he had spoken to the Engineers about this.

MDL470/21 TRAFFIC LIGHTS FOR JUNCTION IN KILMACRENNAN

On the proposal of Cllr. John O'Donnell and seconded by Cllr. Kevin Bradley, the following motion was adopted:

"That this Council put traffic lights at the junction in Kilmacrennan square before there is a serious accident."

Members were advised that:

"Road Design are currently developing a project brief to appoint a consultant under the Framework Agreement for Consultancy Services funded by the National Transport Authority. This brief will include Kilmacrennan Town as previously submitted to the NTA to develop a traffic / pedestrian management solution with emphasis on reduced vehicular movements and increased pedestrian/ cycling movements and to develop a plan that provokes this change."

On proposing the motion Cllr. O'Donnell stated that traffic lights are needed in Kilmacrennan. There are concerns about the junction which is dangerous. It is being used for travel to and from the school and Church. The junction needs to be regulated at busy times due to the volume of traffic. It is also dangerous for walkers trying to cross there. This needs to be done sooner rather than later.

David McIlwaine advised that the Council have been in consultation with TII and have applied for funding.

Cllr. McGarvey noted that this has been raised previously and is a death trap. He noted that Residents were not happy with the previous one way system that was in place. The safety of children crossing at this junction needs to be considered.

MDL471/21 TERMON NATIONAL SCHOOL – MILFORD CATCHMENT AREA

On the proposal of Cllr. John O'Donnell and seconded by Cllr. Kevin Bradley, the following motion was adopted:

“That this Council write to the Department and request that Termon National School be included in the Milford secondary school catchment area again immediately.”

Members were advised that:

“If the Motion is passed by Members the Executive will write to the Department as requested and seek the inclusion of Termon National School in the Milford Secondary School catchment area.”

On proposing the motion Cllr. O'Donnell stated that a request needs to be made that Termon National School is included in the catchment area for Milford. This was changed a number of years ago and has been raised by parents of children who now cannot go to Milford where there are 2 Secondary schools. He has spoken to the Vice Principal of one of the schools and the Principal of the other school and they agree that Termon should be in their catchment area. He welcomed the response given that a letter would be sent to the Department.

MDL472/21 VISIBILITY AND CLEANING OF COUNCIL SIGNAGE

On the proposal of Cllr. Donal Coyle and seconded by Cllr. Liam Blaney, the following motion was adopted:

“That this Council will undertake and ensure that all signage for which the Council has responsibility will be made clearly visible and cleaned.”

Members were advised that:

“The Cleaning Signs on National Roads are carried out through a contract managed by the TII. On all other Roads the Cleaning of Signs are part of the Routine Maintenance works. We will programme to carry out these works as soon as staff are available.”

On proposing the motion Cllr. Coyle noted that it is important for people travelling around the Town and Oldtown. A lot of the signs have green algae on them and are unsightly. Great work is being done by the Tidy Towns group and other volunteers and it is important that signs are clean and visible. Some signs are hidden behind bushes and these would need to be made visible.

MDL473/21 UPGRADE AND INSTALL FOOTPATH ON THE MC GOVERN ROAD

On the proposal of Cllr. Donal Coyle and seconded by Cllr. Ciaran Brogan, the following motion was adopted:

“That this Council will upgrade the path and install a proper footpath on both sides of the Mc Govern Road along Glenoughty Close.”

Members were advised that:

“We will carry out an Assessment of these footpaths and consider them for prioritising in the next footpath & Public Lighting programme.”

Cllr. Kavanagh noted that Cllr. McMonagle had raised a similar motion under Item No. 17. It was agreed to discuss both motions together.

On proposing the motion Cllr. Coyle noted that this matter has been ongoing for years and a lot of representations have been made in relation to it. There is a footpath on both sides and then there is a space where there is no footpath before the footpath starts again. There is an active Residents Association there and one of the members has been in touch with all the Councillors in relation to this. Cllr. Coyle advised that he had walked down there a fortnight ago and in one location there is a manhole which is raised on the path and is a trip hazard. This needs to be dealt with urgently. The estate and the road is kept well by the Residents. He added that he was delighted that Cllr. McMonagle had also raised this issue. This should be given top priority.

On proposing his motion Cllr. McMonagle noted that this is the third time this has been raised. There are good Residents Groups in the area who are keeping the area in good condition. They are frustrated as it is 16 years since this was first raised. This is the third motion passed on this.

MDL474/21 LOCATIONS OF FIRE HYDRANTS, SCOUR VALVES AND AV VALVES ON ROADS

On the proposal of Cllr. Donal Coyle and seconded by Cllr. Liam Blaney, the following motion was adopted:

“That this Council will undertake to clearly mark where fire Hydrants Scour Valves and AV valves are located on roads that have been recently tarred.”

Members were advised that:

“As part of the process of carrying out Restoration & Restoration works the Roads Team cover the Hydrants Scour Valves and AV valves prior to the

commencement of the works and then uncover and raise where necessary after the works have been completed.”

On proposing the motion Cllr. Coyle stated that he wanted to compliment the Roads team in what has been a difficult year on having successfully completed the work programme. He noted the response given. He added that he would contact David McIlwaine in relation to a few roads where this has not been done. Cllr. Coyle noted that fire hydrants need to be clearly marked. This was done in the past and needs to be done again now. He asked if this is the role of the Council.

David McIlwaine confirmed that it is the role of the Council and that this work is generally done. He agreed to follow up with the various Services and have an audit done of where they are not marked.

Cllr. McGarvey added that the marking would need to show up in the dark.

Cllr. Coyle noted that the audit should be done and the fire hydrants clearly marked.

MDL475/21 RECEPTION FOR PADDY MC SHANE

On the proposal of Cllr. Donal Kelly and seconded by Cllr. Ciaran Brogan, the following motion was adopted:

“That Letterkenny Municipal District host a MD reception for Letterkenny Boxing club Boxer Paddy Mc Shane to acknowledge his National Elite boxing title win at senior level please.”

Members were advised that:

“If the motion is passed we will include Mr McShane on the Civic Reception list for the Municipal District. As restrictions ease, further discussion will take place with the Mayor and Elected Members to agree the best approach to hosting the Civic Receptions approved in a timely manner.”

On proposing this motion Cllr. Kelly noted that he was happy with the response. It is a fitting time to have a Reception for Paddy McShane as he has won a National boxing title. It is 39 years since this title was won at senior level in this area and that was won by a man from Downings, Eamonn Coyle. Paddy is only 18 years old and won the title about 2 weeks ago. It is a great achievement for the Letterkenny and Glenswilly areas. His father Rory is his coach and is a native of Glenswilly and is involved with the Boxing club. His mother is from St. Johnston. It is important that they get recognition for this and that his achievement is acknowledged. Other boxers have gone on to become professional including Jason Quigley who is now in line for a World title shot in November and he wishes him well with this. Paddy has the determination, hunger and skill to follow in the footsteps of these other boxers and is currently training in Dublin for the All Ireland team. He asked that the Reception be held as soon as possible. He added that Paddy’s parents were

overwhelmed when this was mentioned to them. Paddy is an idol for younger children. He welcomed the response given.

Cllr. Kavanagh noted that the winning of the title is a great achievement.

On seconding the motion Cllr. Brogan noted that this is a massive achievement and that he is a huge credit to Letterkenny. He added that he remembered Eamonn Coyle's win in 1982.

MDL476/21 ENTRANCE TO MOUNTAIN TOP ROUNDABOUT FROM ILLISTRIN SIDE

On the proposal of Cllr. Donal Kelly and seconded by Cllr. Kevin Bradley, the following motion was adopted:

“That our road Engineers examine the entrance to the Mountain Top Roundabout from the Illistrin side with a few of safety measures in mind please.”

Members were advised that:

“The safety concern at this location has been referred to the DCC Road Safety Engineer. They will report back on the need and scope of a potential HD 17 site at this location. If determined as a HD17 site then all options will be considered to deal with the specific safety issue or issues identified.”

On proposing this motion Cllr. Kelly noted the response that the safety concern has been referred to the Road Safety Engineer. He has received several phone calls in particular about the junction leading to Calhame. Traffic is not stopping at the junction and is driving out onto the road. An assessment of this junction is needed as drivers are driving straight through the roundabout. The new cycleway and walkway are currently being constructed and could be extended on to the Town. It is important that safety is addressed first.

MDL477/21 EMPLOYMENT OF APPRENTICES THROUGH ETB AND FET

On the proposal of Cllr. Michael McBride and seconded by Cllr. Gerry McMonagle, the following motion was adopted:

“That Donegal County Council engage with the ETB and FET with a view to employing a number of apprentices that would reflect the size of the organisation.”

Members were advised that:

“The Council is very committed to, and interested in, exploring any opportunities to develop apprenticeship programmes across the organisation. The recruitment and training of apprentices is included in the new Public Service Pay Agreement and in this regard the Council has been engaging with the staff representative bodies (SIPTU, FORSA) to explore how we can make

provision for the future recruitment and training of apprentices in Donegal County Council.

The Council has for a number of years employed apprentices within the Roads and Transportation Directorate as fitter mechanics. These apprentices make an important and valuable contribution to the work of the organisation.

The Local Government Management Agency which represents the Local Government sector at national level has also developed two new apprenticeship programmes in recent years in the areas of Accountancy and ICT. The Council is examining any opportunities to become involved in these programmes locally.

The Council is currently engaging proactively with the ETB through the Water & Environment and Roads & Transportation directorates, exploring opportunities to develop a traineeship programme for County Donegal, with discussions advancing on how this could be implemented locally."

On proposing the motion Cllr. McBride noted that the need for skilled labour needs to be recognised as it is in short supply and there is a difficulty getting skilled people. Donegal County Council needs to show that they are serious about helping young people qualify. To his knowledge there is currently only one apprentice in the Machinery Yard and this is not acceptable. The Council should consider employing between 8 and 12 people as this would support the young people and business people. He added that he is looking forward to the Council working with the ETB and FET.

Cllr. Kavanagh noted the positive response.

MDL478/21 REPLACEMENT OF ROAD SURFACE AT RACE END ROAD

On the proposal of Cllr. Michael McBride and seconded by Cllr. Kevin Bradley, the following motion was adopted:

"That the surface on the Race End Road between Patterson's Farmhouse and Charlie Reid's be replaced as it is in a very poor condition and particularly dangerous for cyclists."

Members were advised that:

"This road is programmed to be surfaced in the last week of October. The section that is to be surfaced starts just north of the Old Illistrin School for a distance of 900 metres in the direction of Ballyare."

On proposing the motion Cllr. McBride noted that his road is dangerous in particular for cyclists. He was happy with the response given. It will be great to have the work done for the road users.

MDL479/21 BOTTLE BANKS AT CRAOIBHIN IN TERMON

On the proposal of Cllr. Michael McBride and seconded by Cllr. Gerry McMonagle, the following motion was adopted:

“That Donegal County Council provide bottle banks at the Craoibhin in Termon as there is a demand for these facilities locally.”

Members were advised that:

“The site proposed shall be assessed for suitability for use as a bring bank site. Should this site prove suitable arrangements will be made to reach agreement with the site owner to locate bring banks at this location.”

On proposing the motion Cllr. McBride noted that owners of the Craoibhin would be happy to facilitate bottle banks there. There is a great demand for this facility at all other locations at the weekends in particular. The Council should promote and encourage the use of them. It also creates good habits for children seeing their parents use them and it would alleviate the problem of fly tipping. The Council should look into this.

MDL480/21 UNFINISHED ROAD FROM GLEN PARK/FOXHILLS TO ROUNDABOUT AT MOUNTAIN TOP

On the proposal of Cllr. Gerry McMonagle and seconded by Cllr. Jimmy Kavanagh, the following motion was adopted:

“That we investigate the possibility of upgrading the unfinished road from Glen Park/Foxhills out onto the Roundabout at Mountain Top.”

Members were advised that:

“The Road referred to is not on the Road schedule and is a private Road. Donegal County Council have no access to funding to carry out repairs to this road.”

On proposing the motion Cllr. McMonagle noted that when the Glen Park estate was built the exit was supposed to be on to the Curraghlea Road but this did not happen and Residents are using the entrance to/exit from Foxhills. There are 100+ houses in this area and it is a very busy route. School buses exiting there have to cross a busy carriageway to turn right into the Town and this is very dangerous. The Council should take over the private road for exit only from the estate as this would be a safer exit out onto the roundabout. There is a large volume of traffic in this area and traffic is moving fast at this location. This is a health and safety matter and the road needs to be taken over for safety reasons. He noted the answer that this is a private road. The Council should source funding for the work needed and take over the road. This road was supposed to be the exit route as per the planning permission. There is also a busy crèche located up there.

David McIlwaine confirmed as per the response given that this road is not on the Roads Schedule. He accepts the points made and will look at what the options might be and what funding could be sourced. The road is in poor condition and should it be taken over it would take considerable funding to bring the road up to standard.

Cllr. McMonagle added that he hoped this would be looked at earnestly and for safety reasons as this was to be the exit route for Glen Park and has become overgrown and unsightly.

MDL481/21 FOOTPATH BELOW WILLOW PARK AT MC GOVERN ROAD

On the proposal of Cllr. Gerry McMonagle and seconded by Cllr. Donal Coyle, the following motion was adopted:

“That we include the completion of the footpath below Willow Park at Mc Govern Road on next year's Footpath Programme.”

Members were advised that:

“We will consider this footpath for prioritising when agreeing the next footpath & Public Lighting programme.”

It was noted that this motion was already dealt with along with Motion from Cllr. Donal Coyle – Minute No. MDL473/21.

MDL482/21 WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT IN MILFORD

On the proposal of Cllr. Liam Blaney seconded by Cllr. Ian McGarvey the following motion was adopted:

“That this Council demand that Irish Water immediately upgrade the wastewater treatment plant in Milford.”

Members were advised that:

“In anticipation of this motion being adopted by Letterkenny Milford Municipal District, Donegal County Council has forwarded this motion to Irish Water (IW), and requested a response. Any response received by the Council will be passed on to the Municipal District.

There are a number of avenues available to the Elected Members to raise queries/ questions with Irish Water which include use of the dedicated Local Representative telephone number 1890 178 178 or the dedicated Local Representative Support Service email. localrepsupport@water.ie.”

On proposing the motion Cllr. Blaney noted the second part of the response stating that he has sent and received numerous emails from Irish Water. Responses generally state that Irish Water are in partnership with Donegal County Council so why is there a need to phone Irish Water. Someone in the

Council should be available to talk face to face with Members or meet with them. The treatment plant in Milford has not had any upgrades for many years. He noted that he has not received a reply from Irish Water yet. The project for the new treatment plant could be 10 years away as it is currently with An Bord Pleanála. In the Milford area people cannot open windows including in the Public Services Centre. There are housing estates there; An Garda Síochána and the HSE have offices there. At times the smell carries up through the town. The Council should write to Irish Water and request an upgrade for the current treatment plant while the new treatment plant is awaited. Extra planning permissions have been given for new housing estates there and the current treatment plant is over capacity. A short term upgrade is needed to avoid pollution in the area and allow people to open their windows.

Cllr. Kavanagh noted that there is a communication issue with Irish Water which has been raised before.

On seconding the motion Cllr. McGarvey noted that he had been in the Public Services Centre during the Summer and noted the issue with the smell. Cllr. Blaney has outlined the issue well. People should not have to phone Irish Water in Cork, someone should be available in the Council to answer questions. The Council need to address issues with Irish Water and take responsibility. The proposed RMR project is not the answer to the problem.

Cllr. Blaney acknowledged the response given.

Joe Ferry advised that Milford Wastewater Treatment Plant requires a licence to discharge and there is a mechanism in place to make complaints. An application is submitted annually for the licence. Environment Section have not received any complaints from the public. Complaints should be sent in and this might lead to remedial works being done to remedy issues.

Cllr. Blaney noted that he was surprised that Joe was not aware of this and he had advised people to contact Irish Water with their complaints this year. He will advise them to contact Environment and maybe a document could be put together with the complaints.

MDL483/21 SAND TRAP ON LURGYBRACK HILL

On the proposal of Cllr. Ciaran Brogan and seconded by Cllr. Donal Kelly, the following motion was adopted:

“That this Council carry-out immediate maintenance on the Sand-trap on the Lurgybrack hill as it has been badly neglected for a long time.”

Members were advised that:

“As part of the National primary Maintenance programme, the Works on this Sand Trap on the Lurgybrack Hill commenced on the 11th of October and are due to be completed by in the next 2 weeks.”

On proposing the motion Cllr. Brogan noted that Lurgybrack is one of the steepest hills in the County. A sand trap was provided previously and it was a great idea and was used. It is now in a very bad state and has been neglected and might not work if needed. This needs to be addressed urgently. He noted the response that works are to be completed in the next two weeks but he has not seen any work starting yet.

David McIlwaine advised that the work is included in the programme for National Primary maintenance and has not started yet but should be completed in the next two weeks.

MDL484/21 PUBLIC LIGHTING IN THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT

On the proposal of Cllr. Ian McGarvey and seconded by Cllr. Liam Blaney, the following motion was adopted:

“That ESB suppliers check and monitor Public Lighting in our MD over the Winter Season.”

Members were advised that:

“Under the terms of the Public Lights maintenance contract, Airtricity Utilities Solutions Ltd are required to patrol the network monthly to pick up faults. This is a year-round commitment. In addition to this, faults in Publics Lights can be reported on 1800 372 772 or at <http://airtricitysolutions.com>.”

On proposing the motion Cllr. McGarvey noted that winter is coming and he had spoken to Adrian Gardiner about this. Lights need to be checked to see which ones are working and which ones are not. This is very important for safety reasons.

MDL485/21 DERELICT PROPERTIES IN THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT

On the proposal of Cllr. Ian McGarvey and seconded by Cllr. Liam Blaney, the following motion was adopted:

“That this Council deal with the derelict properties in our Municipal District.”

Members were advised that:

“To date the capacity of the Council to prioritise the use of the provisions of the Derelict Sites legislation has been limited and this, coupled with the likely review of the legislation flagged in discussions under the Rebuilding Ireland initiative, has contributed to its limited application across the country.

The scope of the usefulness of the Derelict Sites Act, in conjunction with other measures such as the Vacant Sites Levy, to facilitate regeneration opportunities is being examined by the Central Planning Unit in relation to potential cross-directorate approaches to urban and rural regeneration.”

On proposing the motion, Cllr. McGarvey referred to the Derelict Sites Act 1990 which gives the Council powers to notify the owner to carry out works on a derelict site, or that the Council can do the work and charge the owner the cost of it. Buildings can be removed where required. Every Town has derelict sites including Ramelton and the problem is getting worse. One building in Ramelton in particular has something hanging from it which could fall and this is very dangerous.

MDL486/21 OBSTRUCTIONS ON PUBLIC RIGHT OF WAYS

On the proposal of Cllr. Ian McGarvey and seconded by Cllr. Liam Blaney, the following motion was adopted:

“That this Council remove all obstructions on Public Right Of Way's in our Municipal District.”

Members were advised that:

“Where obstructions to established public rights of way are placed the appropriate actions may be taken to seek the removal of obstructions. For clarity, the relevant established public rights of way are those roads covered by the roads legislation and those locations identified within the County Development Plan 2018-2024.”

On proposing the motion, Cllr. McGarvey referred to the erection of the mast in Drumonaghan Woods and noted that he had been out on site trying to stop the work taking place. He quoted an item from the County Development Plan stating that “no new sites should be occupied by masts” and that they should be on existing sites. There are plenty of other sites around. As permission has been given for this site that means that more can be allowed there now. Under EU and International law fear can be damaging to an individual and the erection of the mast is causing fear for local Residents. The Planners have a duty of care to the people. An appeal was lodged with An Bord Pleanála by 261 of them.

On seconding the motion Cllr. Blaney noted that the appeal in relation to the erection of the mast had gone through the different avenues. Permission has been given in a part of the wood where there are walks. Morally this is not right. Hopefully Cignal will see sense and change the location in the wood.

Cllr. Kavanagh noted that the possibility of relocation of the mast has been raised before but this has not been taken up by the company. There is not much that this forum can do. All the Members are sympathetic to this matter.

Liam Ward stated that this was also raised at a Plenary Council Meeting recently. The points raised in relation to the application were taken into consideration when assessed. In response to the statement that policies were not considered Liam advised that it is evident from the file that they were considered as part of the decision. If this had not been the case An Bord

Pleanála would have reviewed the decision and would have made a separate decision. The policy referred to must be read in conjunction with other policies in the Plan. The permission granted is in compliance with the Plan.

MDL487/21 ROAD AT LECK GRAVEYARD

On the proposal of Cllr. Kevin Bradley and seconded by Cllr. Donal Kelly, the following motion was adopted:

“That this Council take another look at the road at Leck Graveyard even the Residents are fearing for their lives.”

Members were advised that:

“This has been referred to the Gardaí and they are to arrange to have Speed Checks set up.”

On proposing the motion Cllr. Bradley noted that this road needs to be looked at. Residents are living in fear. Ramps are needed to slow cars down. All of the Councillors have been contacted about this.

MDL488/21 FOOTPATH AT NOWS, MANORCUNNINGHAM

On the proposal of Cllr. Kevin Bradley and seconded by Cllr. Donal Kelly, the following motion was adopted:

“That this Council look at the footpath at the Nows at Manorcunningham, it needs to be continued the whole way.”

Members were advised that:

“This will be considered for prioritised when agreeing the Footpath & Public Lighting Programme.”

On proposing the motion, Cllr. Bradley noted that this footpath needs to be finished. He welcomed the response that it would be considered for the Footpath & Public Lighting Programme for next year.

MDL489/21 CALMING SYSTEM AT ILLISTRIN SCHOOL

On the proposal of Cllr. Kevin Bradley and seconded by Cllr. Michael McBride, the following motion was adopted:

“That this Council consider some kind of calming system at Illistrin School.”

Members were advised that:

“There is currently Traffic Calming measures in place at the Illistrin Junction. We will refer this issue to the Road Safety Engineer to review the current measures .They will report back on the need and scope of a potential HD 17 site at this location. If determined as a HD17 site then all options will be considered to deal with the specific safety issue or issues identified.”

On proposing the motion Cllr. Bradley stated that he appreciated the response given. Residents are dropping off children at this junction. Traffic calming is needed due to a high volume of traffic at this location. This was raised before five years ago. A roundabout is needed at this location.

On seconding the motion Cllr. McBride noted that this had been discussed before at Municipal District level. Parents and children who are attending the school are having to dash across the road. A roundabout would be a solution but may be problematic. It would however slow down the traffic. A workable solution is needed for the safety of parents, children and teachers. He thanked Cllr. Bradley for raising the motion. There is plenty of room there for a roundabout.

MDL490/21 MAYORS BUSINESS

490.1 Colmcille 1500 Exhibition

Cllr. Jimmy Kavanagh advised that he had attended the launch of the Colmcille 1500 Exhibition on 17th September in the County Museum.

490.2 Cathedral Quarter

Cllr. Kavanagh advised that he had attended the unveiling of a plaque at Cathedral Quarter on 17th September.

490.3 Poly tunnel at Errigal College

Cllr. Kavanagh advised that he had attended the opening of the poly tunnel at Errigal College on 20th September. The Tidy Towns Group were involved in getting it ready and the Irish Wheelchair Association will be making use of it too.

490.4 Make Way Day

Cllr. Kavanagh attended Make Way Day along with Cllr. Jack Murray on 24th September in Letterkenny.

490.5 Plaque in James Larkin Court

Cllr. Kavanagh attended the unveiling of a plaque in James Larkin Court, organised by Colm McDaid, on 7th October which marks the location where two local people, Annie Harold and Daniel Doherty, drowned in an old well near the laundry.

490.6 Austrian Ambassador

Cllr. Kavanagh advised that he and Cllr. McMonagle, Liam Ward and Eamonn Brown had this morning met with the Austrian Ambassador Thomas Nader and

Commercial Counsellor Josef Trembl who were making a courtesy call to the Letterkenny Public Services Centre.

490.7 Letterkenny Cathedral Quarter Literary Festival

Cllr. Kavanagh referred to the Letterkenny Cathedral Quarter Literary Festival which will take place this weekend and advised that he would be attending the launch in the LYIT on Friday night.

490.8 Rudolstadt Delegation Visit

Cllr. Kavanagh referred to the visit by the Rudolstadt Delegation which has been cancelled due to the uncertainty with Covid. He advised that the Mayor and seven others would be in the Radisson Hotel this weekend for a private visit.

Cllr. McGarvey noted that the proposed visit by West Dunbartonshire Council would be an important visit.

MDL491/21 CORRESPONDENCE

Eamonn Brown thanked the Members for their welcome to him to the Municipal District and thanked them for their phone calls. He added that he looks forward to working with the Members on the challenges in the Municipal District. He referred to the two previous Area Managers who were very capable in their roles and added that he had called on them for their expertise in the past. He noted from recent workshops that he has attended that it is an exciting time in the Municipal District and hopes that his previous experience will help him contribute to future projects. From his experience in the Glenties Municipal District which is a rural area he is aware of the smaller Towns and Villages and their needs. It is important to get the correct share when developing Housing between rural and urban areas.

Eamonn referred to the Workshop with the OPW which Patricia McIntyre has been trying to organise. He noted that John Kelly has recently retired from the OPW but that he will follow up with them to get the Workshop organised to discuss the various items.

Cllr. Kavanagh said he wished to thank Patricia McIntyre for the work she has done in the Municipal District.

MDL492/21 HOUSING & CORPORATE SERVICES

The contents of the Housing and Corporate Services report as circulated with the Agenda were taken as read.

Cllr. McGarvey asked how numbers in need of Housing would be catered for in this Municipal District compared to rural areas and how this might be progressed.

Eamonn Brown advised that he is currently reviewing the new strategy, Housing for All, with Senior Management and Housing Construction. He hopes

to get the views of the Members at the Workshop and will work to maximise the potential over the lifetime of the plan.

492.1 Respond Housing – Phase 2

Eamonn Brown advised that the final payment has been made and the legal business is being finalised on this project. He added that Respond are expecting to get the keys this week and hope to meet to agree when the tenants will get the keys. The end of the October is the deadline discussed for this. All offers made bar one have been accepted and they are looking at getting the final property allocated.

492.2 Kasmor 30 Units

Eamonn advised that the sale has been completed for these units which consist of 2 blocks of 15 units each, 24 x 2 bed units and 6 x 1 bed units. Housing is currently reviewing files for proposed tenants and hope to get offers out as soon as possible. He hopes to view the properties shortly and noted that if Members wished to see the properties they should contact him.

492.3 Need for 4 Bed units

Eamonn noted that there is a shortage of 4 bed units in this Municipal District and will look at this and consult with the Members.

492.4 MICA

Eamonn noted that this is a substantial issue in this Municipal District but had not been as much of an issue in the Glenties MD. He advised that he will liaise with Senior Management and Housing Construction and will discuss the matter with Members at the Workshop.

Eamonn thanked the Members for agreeing to postpone the Workshop and advised that he will agree a suitable date with the Members to reschedule it.

492.5 Disposal of land / property

Eamonn referred to the two no. draft Section 183s which are before the Members for consideration.

On the proposal of Cllr. Kevin Bradley, seconded by Cllr. Ian McGarvey, the disposal of small farmer's cottage at Gortnabrade, Carrigart to Peggy Doherty, Bridie Canning and Ann Brogan was passed.

On the proposal of Cllr. Ian McGarvey, seconded by Cllr. Liam Blaney, the disposal of plots of land situated between Church Street and The Steeples, Ramelton was passed.

Eamonn asked the Members for a date for the rescheduled Workshop and it was agreed to hold it on Tuesday 26th October commencing at 10am in the Aura Leisure Centre.

The following items were raised by the Members:-

- Cllr. Ian McGarvey asked what provision is being made for house owners whose houses will have to be demolished and asked that a survey be done of how many are needed.
- Cllr. Gerry McMonagle thanked Eamonn for the confirmation in relation to the Respond units and Kasmor units and welcomed the news that allocations are imminent. The Kasmor development is a well finished development.
- Cllr. McMonagle added that he is glad that a date has been set for the Workshop and asked that SI houses be included for discussion as there is a difficulty/reluctance to provide these.
- Cllr. McMonagle referred to Expressions of Interest which had been sought and noted that there are 33 submissions made. He asked that Members be kept up to date on this.
- Cllr. Liam Blaney referred to MICA which is a massive issue in this area. He added that a lot of people don't know that they have the problem yet. He referred to his request that testing of properties be carried out by a reputable company and asked what testing has been done on the 30 apartments which are being acquired. He noted that he has only seen them from the outside. He added that he is aware of blocks that have not been manufactured for long but are showing defects. A thorough test is needed.
- Cllr. Michael McBride referred to The Pines in Churchill adding that the Council have failed the people there. Houses were to be bought in the estate by the Council, this matter had dragged on and now the Council are not buying them. He wondered if there may be a problem with MICA there. In relation to the sewerage treatment plant there he noted that the land is in receivership, the receiver has passed away and there is now uncertainty as to what is happening. Someone needs to take responsibility and get the paperwork sorted in relation to the Treatment Plant. It is a disgrace and the Residents there should not have to live with this. Small Villages are not being supported with Council Houses. There needs to be a balance. The Council should be actively looking for property to support rural communities as there is currently no hope for locals wanting houses in the area.
- Cllr. McBride referred to the Hillview Estate where there are manholes collapsing, this may be an issue for Roads and Housing. Ramps in the estate also need to be looked at.
- Cllr. McBride referred to his previous request for the provision of log cabins for the Municipal District to support those having to move out of their homes because of MICA. This has also been raised at the Plenary Council Meeting by Cllr. Martin McDermott. He is concerned that his motion has not been put forward for consideration. This has not been raised at meetings held in Dublin. These would be cost effective and there are serviced sites available. He asked for a response on this for the next Meeting. The need for these should be raised with the Department.
- Cllr. Donal Kelly stated that he agrees with Cllr. McBride in relation to the problem with The Pines, Churchill and supports him on that.
- Cllr. Kelly added that the need for rural houses needs to be looked at.

- Cllr. Kelly noted that at the last MD Meeting there were 27 properties awaiting refurbishment and only 1 has been refurbished and offered since then. At that rate it would take 27 months to make the 27 houses ready for allocation. There is currently a housing crisis with students staying in hotels, mothers sleeping on couches with children. Better resources are needed to push this forward. He asked if there not enough maintenance staff. This needs to be reviewed and process speeded up.
- Cllr. Donal Coyle advised that he agrees with Cllr. McBride that houses are needed in rural Villages. There are vacant sites in Manorcunningham that could be considered for housing. Housing was last provided there when the area was under the Inishowen Municipal District.

Eamonn Brown responded to items raised as follows:-

- Query from Cllr. McGarvey in relation to number of dwellings that need to be demolished will be discussed at the Workshop.
- Query from Cllr. McMonagle in relation to SI Houses will be included on the agenda for discussion at the Workshop.
- In relation to the provision of housing in rural Villages and small Towns the Department use actual approved housing need figures. Under the new Policy there may be an opportunity to change this.
- He noted that there are over 30 submissions for expressions of interest and that it will take time to work through them. This can be included on the agenda for the Workshop.
- In relation to the housing need for those affected by MICA he noted that testing is ongoing and agreed to revert to Cllr. Blaney in relation to this.
- He advised that he will look at the file on The Pines, Churchill and then talk to Cllr. McBride.
- He will liaise with Roads Service in relation to problems at Hillview.
- He will discuss the provision of log cabins with Housing Construction.
- In relation to casual vacancies there are different factors which can affect refurbishment including availability of materials and Contractors. He will look at the length of time it takes and accepts the comments made.

Liam Ward advised Eamonn to contact Paddy Mullen in relation to The Pines, Churchill.

MDL493/21 ENVIRONMENT

The contents of the Environment report as circulated with the Agenda were taken as read.

Joe Ferry advised the Members that they would be receiving notification about Climate Change training online on 29th October.

The contents of the Economic Development, Information Systems and Emergency Services report as circulated with the Agenda were taken as read.

494.1 Buy Donegal Initiative

This Initiative will run until the end of December.

494.2 Donegal Connect

This will be held on 28th October and is an initiative of the Local Enterprise Office and the Economic Development Unit to encourage business people to consider Donegal for locating their businesses.

494.3 Information Systems – WiFi4EU

The WiFi4EU network was recently launched by Minister Humphreys. Details of this are on the report.

494.4 Tourism – Domestic Marketing Campaign

The ceiling has been extended on this campaign to encourage people to come to Donegal

494.5 Francis Browne Literary Festival

This festival took place last weekend.

494.6 Local Enterprise Office

There has been a high level of enquiry from new start ups. There were 35 grant applications in 2020.

The Creative Coast Website has been launched and this was attended by over 70 businesses and stakeholders.

At Food Coast 8 Donegal Producers have taken home 12 awards.

Donegal Enterprise Award is open for applications with a prize fund of €12,000. Award ceremony is to be held on 3rd of December.

Under Brexit to Export customs training is being provided.

Donegal Engineering Cluster will take part in a tradeshow in Dublin in November.

Cllr. Gerry McMonagle welcomed the report. He noted the funding for a Halloween event in Swan Park. Letterkenny are trying to explore the possibility of a Halloween event and he enquired if there is an opportunity for Letterkenny to get funding under this initiative. The Community Development Project and the Letterkenny Chamber of Commerce run events over Halloween in Letterkenny

Eve Anne McCarron advised that she would get more information in relation to the background of the funding from the Tourism section.

MDL495/21 PLANNING SERVICE

The contents of the Planning report as circulated with the Agenda were taken as read.

495.1 Wind Energy Workshop

Elaine advised that a date is required for a Wind Energy Workshop with the Members in the week commencing 26th October. It was agreed to hold the Workshop after the Budget Meeting on Thursday 28th October commencing at 11am in either the Aura Leisure Centre or the Letterkenny PSC Chamber.

MDL496/21 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

The contents of the Community Development Division report as circulated with the Agenda were taken as read.

496.1 Streetscape Enhancement Scheme 2021

Francis Conaghan advised that Milford has been selected to participate with 23 applications approved.

496.2 Workshop on Social Enterprise Centre

Francis advised that a date is required for a Workshop on the Social Enterprise Centre. It was agreed to hold this workshop on Tuesday 26th October commencing at 2pm.

MDL497/21 ROADS & TRANSPORTATION

The contents of the Roads report as circulated with the Agenda were taken as read.

497.1 2022-2024 Multi Annual Restoration Improvement Programme

David advised that following the recent Workshop to agree this programme, the programme would need to be formally adopted.

On the proposal of Cllr. Gerry McMonagle, seconded by Cllr. Donal Coyle the 2022-2024 Multi Annual Restoration Improvement Programme was formally adopted.

The Members raised the following items:-

- Cllr. Michael McBride advised that lights on the Golf Course Road are not working and this would need to be followed up.
- Cllr. McBride referred to the cycleway from the Mountain Top to the Blue Banks and asked if a path could be provided from Illistrin to the football field in Ballyare.
- Cllr. McBride referred to his question in relation to the provision of grit bunkers at Cashelgay, Coolboy and Illistrin and noted the response that

they would be put in place in the next 6 weeks. He advised that these bunkers need to be provided as a matter of urgency and given that gritting has started he asked if the provision of these bunkers could be brought forward.

- Cllr. Blaney asked a question in relation to the junction at Illistrin.

David McIlwaine responded as follows:-

- He will follow up with Airtricity in relation to lights not working on the Golf Course Road.
- He will investigate the possibility of extending the cycleway to Ballyare.
- He will try to have the grit bunkers provided quicker noting that there is an issue with resources.

Cllr. Kavanagh congratulated David on the additional funding of €25,000 provided for winter gritting in this Municipal District.

QUESTIONS

MDL498/21 RECYCLING OLD PAINT

In answer to his question is there any update on a day for recycling old paints at the recycling centres, Cllr. Jimmy Kavanagh was advised:

“The Council is in the concluding stages of a tender process for the operation of the Recycling Centres. The establishment of a service for the acceptance of paint for disposal will be part of the new contract.

The Council is also working with the Rediscovery Centre on a feasibility study on the viability of a paint reuse social enterprise initiative in the County for non – hazardous water based paints. A draft report has been prepared and final report will be ready in due course.”

MDL499/21 SURFACING OF BUS AREA AT ERRIGAL COLLEGE

In answer to his question can the area inside the bollards where the buses pull in at Errigal College, be included in the road resurfacing scheduled for that area, Cllr. Jimmy Kavanagh was advised:

“The area concerned is under the ownership of the HSE. We will refer this issue to the HSE to see if they can arrange to have the repairs carried out.”

MDL500/21 REDUCE HEIGHT OF BARRIER OUTSIDE SHAPLA AT CULLION ROAD JUNCTION

In answer to his question can the Council ask the contractor to reduce the height of the barrier outside Shapla at the Cullion Road junction, as the height of the current barrier makes it difficult for motorists turning on to the Cullion road to see smaller cars in the right hand lane coming into town, and there is potential for accidents as a result, Cllr. Jimmy Kavanagh was advised:

“A Safety Assessment is to be carried out on completion of current ongoing ‘ghost’ lining removal and temporary lining improvements. As part of this safety assessment the contractor will also be asked to look at the issue raised and action appropriately.”

MDL501/21 CROSSING AT TERMON NATIONAL SCHOOL

In answer to his question as to when will work be complete on the new crossing at Termon National School, Cllr. John O’Donnell was advised:

“The works at this location are currently in progress and are programmed to be completed by the end of October 2021.”

MDL502/21 LIGHTS ON COOPERS ROAD AND INFILL LIGHTS BETWEEN MILFORD AND LIDL

In answer to his question when will the lights be erected on Coopers Road, Figart in Carrigart and the infill lights between Milford and Lidl retail shop, Cllr. John O’Donnell was advised:

“The works for the erection of these lights are currently in progress and are programmed to be completed by the end of November 2021.”

MDL503/21 DIGITAL HUB IN CARRIGART

In answer to his question When will the digital hub be opening in Carrigart, Cllr. John O’Donnell was advised:

“1. The Main Contractor, Joseph MC Menamin & Sons (Stranorlar) Ltd, is finalising the remainder of the outstanding work items such as, internal finishes, sanitaryware, external lights and commissioning of heating & ventilation. It’s expected that these work items shall be complete week ending Friday 22nd October 2021.

2. The closing date for tender submissions for the supply, delivery and installation of office furniture is October 15th 2021. Following tender assessments and appointment of a suitable supplier, it’s expected that the office furniture shall be installed end of November/start of December 2021.

3. Tender documents for the Facility Management of the Digital Hub are currently been prepared. Following the release of the tender documents, tender period, tender assessments and appointment, it’s expected that the Digital Hub will be in a position to open to the public December 2021/January 2022.”

MDL504/21 SPEEDING ON LECK ROAD

In answer to his question requesting an update on Council consultation with the Gardaí regarding excessive speeding on the Leck Road, Cllr. Donal Coyle was advised:

“This has been referred to the Gardaí and they are to arrange to have Speed Checks set up.”

MDL505/21 LETTERKENNY AIRFIELD

In answer to his question has the Council met with the owners of Letterkenny Airfield and if it has could I have an update please, Cllr. Donal Coyle was advised:

“Contact with the land owners at Letterkenny Airfield will be made in the coming weeks following the adoption of the motion at the July 2021 MD meeting and minutes of same at the September meeting. Feed back on the general discussion with the land owner can be given at that stage with their consent.”

MDL506/21 ART WORK FOR N56

In answer to his question as to when will the Colmcille art work commissioned for the N56 be unveiled, Cllr. Donal Coyle was advised:

“The foundations are in place and it is programmed to have the Statue in place by the 12th of October 2021. The TII are in consultation with Cultural Services regarding the possibility of an unveiling.”

MDL507/21 FUNDING FOR WALKING/CYCLING LANE FROM CONWAL GRAVEYARD TO NEWMILLS

In answer to his question requesting an update on the funding application that was submitted to extend a walking/Cycling lane from Conwal Graveyard to Newmills please i.e. what stage it's at thanks, Cllr. Donal Kelly was advised:

“An Application was made to the NTA in February 2021 for Active Travel funding. As the proposed scheme was outside the Speed limits the NTA did not allocate funds for a design or works to proceed. We will continue to seek opportunities for the funding of this scheme.”

MDL508/21 LEFT TURNING LANE AT TOURIST OFFICE

In answer to his question as to when will the left turning lane at the Tourist Office be open please, Cllr. Donal Kelly was advised:

“Further to a Safety Assessment it was established that for Safety reasons it is not possible to open the left turning lane until the Traffic Signals are installed. This cannot be completed until the close out of the four lane project. This is because with the inclusion of the turning lane the crossing on the Neil T Blaney approach is too wide to facilitate an uncontrolled crossing, we have investigated the potential of signaling this crossing but it would require lights across the width of the road i.e. on the inbound leg of the Neil T Blaney which would create a backlog of traffic on the Port road approach. In was necessary

to construct the Left Turning Lane at this stage to drawdown the appropriate funding for these works from the Department of Transport. The remaining works at the Polestar Roundabout including the signalisation are to be funded by the TII."

MDL509/21 NEW FOOTPATH IN MANORCUNNINGHAM

In answer to his question requesting an update on when the works on the new footpath in Manorcunningham will start please, Cllr. Donal Kelly was advised:

"Works are programmed to commence on this footpath in the next 2 weeks with the target of being completed by the end of November."

MDL510/21 GRIT BUNKERS FOR CASHELGAY, COOLYBOY AND ILLISTRIN

In answer to his question as to when will the grit bunkers be put in place at Cashelgay, Coolboy and Illistrin as discussed at a previous MD meeting, Cllr. Michael McBride was advised:

"The Grit Bunkers referred to have been obtained and they will be programmed to be put in place in the next 6 weeks."

MDL511/21 CYCLEWAYS FROM ILLISTRIN TO MOUNTAIN TOP

In answer to his question as to when are the cycleways from Illistrin to the Mountain Top due for completion and what maintenance programmes are in place for these cycleways, Cllr. Michael McBride was advised:

"The Contractor has advised that the Works will be completed by 21st October 2021. We are liaising with the TII concerning the provision of funding for the maintenance of these Cycleways."

MDL512/21 PEDESTRIAN CROSSING ON PEARSE ROAD AT COMMUNITY CENTRE

In answer to his question as to when will the Pedestrian Crossing on Pearse Road at the Community Centre be completed, Cllr. Gerry McMonagle was advised:

"The footpaths on the eastern side of the Pearse Road are completed. The remaining works are due to be completed by February 2022."

MDL513/21 AUDITS OF FOOTPATHS IN LETTERKENNY

In answer to his question have we carried out the audit of our footpaths in Letterkenny as per my motion and when will we get the report, Cllr. Gerry McMonagle was advised:

“The Roads Staff regularly carry out assessments of all footpath Network and from this recommend schemes for inclusion in funding schemes such as the Footpath & Public Lighting programme to get Footpaths Repaired.”

MDL514/21 WORKS ON L1274 ROAD AT DRUMOGHILL

In answer to his question requesting an update on what works were carried out to date on the L1274 Road at Drumoghill and are there any further outstanding works to be carried out on this road, Cllr. Gerry McMonagle was advised:

“There are no works programmed for this section of Road. The Road has been assessed and is considered suitable for Surface Dressing. This will be considered for prioritising as part of the 2022 Restoration Maintenance Programme. The adjacent L5464/2 Drumoghill to Errity road is proposed to be surfaced in 2020 as part of the Draft 3 year programme.”

MDL515/21 ONE WAY SYSTEM FOR CATHEDRAL SQUARE / COLLEGE ROW

In answer to his question requesting an updated report on the new-proposed one-way system for the Cathedral Square / College Row and a timeframe for this project, Cllr. Ciaran Brogan was advised:

“It is anticipated that the documents will be published on etenders by mid Oct, It is hoped that the tender assessment and recommendation will be made by the end of November and the contractor appointment, subject to NTA approval at this time. The start date is to be confirmed but it is anticipated that the project will be completed by September 2022.”

MDL516/21 FOOTPATH PROGRAMME AND TRAFFIC LIGHTS AT PEARSE ROAD / JUSTICE WALSH ROAD

In answer to his question requesting an updated report on the proposed footpath programme works and a timeframe for same, and the erecting on the traffic lights at Pearse Road / Justice Walsh Road, Cllr. Ciaran Brogan was advised:

“The footpaths on the Eastern side of the Pearse Road are completed. The remaining works are due to be completed by February 2022.”

MDL517/21 ROAD IMPROVEMENTS ON GLENCAR ROAD AND TRAFFIC CALMING AT KILLYLASTIN JUNCTION

In answer to his question requesting an updated report on the proposed road improvements on Glencar Road and the proposed traffic calming measures at the Killylastin junction and the completing of the footpath a timeframe for same, Cllr. Ciaran Brogan was advised:

“These works are programmed to be completed by the end of November 2021.”

MDL518/21 LETTERKENNY WATER SOURCE

In answer to his question is the present water source adequate to serve Letterkenny now and in the future, Cllr. Ian McGarvey was advised:

“This is a matter for Irish Water who have advised that queries of this nature concerning Irish Water Plans and Operations should be directed through the Local Rep Support system provided by Irish Water.

There are a number of avenues available to the Elected Members to raise queries/ questions with Irish Water which include use of the dedicated Local Representative telephone number 1890 178 178 or the dedicated Local Representative Support Service email. localrepsupport@water.ie.

A copy of this query has been submitted to localrepsupport@water.ie on behalf of Cllr McGarvey for response back to him directly.”

MDL519/21 13 ROAD PROJECTS

In answer to his question as to what progress has been made on the proposed 13 Road Projects in our Municipal District, Cllr. Ian McGarvey was advised:

“The Priority list for the 5 year Specific Improvement schemes was agreed by the members at Municipal District Level at a Workshop on the 14th of July 2020. At a subsequent Plenary Workshop a County Wide Priority list was agreed. In September 2020 applications were submitted for the schemes that had been prioritised for year 1 to the Department of Transport. As of yet there has been no notification of any funding for these schemes from the Department of Transport. The Cathedral one way System One way System which is number 1 on the Priority list has received Active Travel Funding from the NTA and is being progressed to Tender Stage by Road Design. The Meeniroy Bridge Realignment Project was priority number 2 on the Priority List and Road Design are commencing Design on this project in preparation for the possibility of funding being received.”

MDL520/21 SLÁINTECARE – COOPERATION WITH THE NORTH

In answer to his question what is the position of Letterkenny University Hospital if and when Sláintecare is introduced; will there be more Co - operation between North & South, Cllr. Ian McGarvey was advised:

“The Council will write to Letterkenny University Hospital highlighting the question and seeking a reply for the Elected Member.”

MDL521/21 DATE AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING

It was agreed that the next MDL Meeting would be held on 9th November, 2021 in a venue to be confirmed.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Mayor

Meetings Administrator