

**MINUTES OF MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF LETTERKENNY MEETING HELD
IN THE LETTERKENNY PUBLIC SERVICES CENTRE ON
TUESDAY, 9 OCTOBER 2018**

MDL390/18 MEMBERS PRESENT

Cllr. Ian McGarvey
Cllr. Ciaran Brogan
Cllr. Liam Blaney
Cllr. Gerry McMonagle
Cllr. Adrian Glackin
Cllr. John O'Donnell
Cllr. Jimmy Kavanagh
Cllr. Michael McBride
Cllr. Dessie Shiels

MDL391/18 OFFICIALS PRESENT

Liam Ward, Director of Service
Fergal Doherty, S.E.E./Area Manager, Roads & Transportation
Joe Ferry, A/Senior Executive Chemist
Graham Diamond, Executive Planner
Patricia McIntyre, Area Manager
Christina O'Donnell, Development Officer
Linda McCann, Senior Staff Officer

The meeting was chaired by Mayor, Cllr. Ian McGarvey.

MDL392/18 APOLOGIES

Cllr. James Pat McDaid

MDL 393/18 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There were no matters arising from the Minutes of 11 September, 2018.

MDL394/18 ADOPTION OF MINUTES OF MDL MEETING HELD ON 11 SEPTEMBER, 2018

On the proposal of Cllr. Gerry McMonagle and seconded by Cllr. John O'Donnell, the Minutes of MDL Meeting held on 11 September, 2018 were adopted.

MDL395/18 LOOP NET FISHERMEN LOUGH SWILLY

On the proposal of Cllr. Ian McGarvey and seconded by Cllr. Ciaran Brogan the following motion was adopted:

“That this Municipal District request that traditional Loop Fishermen be allocated Licences for Fishing the Swilly Estuary”

The Members were advised that:

“The motion is noted and if adopted, the motion will be forwarded to the Inland Fisheries, Ballyshannon for their consideration.”

On proposing the motion, Cllr. McGarvey highlighted the importance for the local community and asked that Inland Fisheries attend a meeting of the Municipal District.

On seconding the motion, Cllr. Brogan fully supported the motion stating that the art of Loop net fishing would disappear, which was a handed down tradition in many families. Cllr. Brogan asked that Inland Fisheries be invited to attend a future meeting of the Municipal District.

MDL396/18 TRAFFIC KILLYLASTIN JUNCTION

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

“That the Roads Section considers the preference for traffic at Killylastin Junction”

The Members were advised that:

“This junction was realigned circa 2003/2004 whereby improvements on the original road alignment were made. There are no records of accidents at this Junction, and there are currently no plans for works here”.

On proposing the motion, Cllr. McGarvey referred to the junction at Barr’s and asked that the Roads Department would investigate further.

On seconding the motion, Cllr. Kavanagh supported the motion.

Fergal Doherty advised that the road was aligned in the past as outline in the response given to the motion.

MDL397/18 SEWAGE DISCHARGE POINT AT RAMELTON

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

“That Irish Water change the discharge point proposed for Sewage from three Towns (Rathmullan, Milford & Ramelton) at Ramelton to a point much nearer the Ocean inlet to Lough Swilly”.

The Members were advised that:

“In the event that this motion is adopted by Letterkenny Municipal District Committee, Donegal County Council will forward this submission to Irish Water (IW), and request that IW respond directly to Councillor McGarvey with their response and copy it to the other Elected Members of Letterkenny Municipal District. Any response received by the Council will be passed on to Councillor McGarvey.

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.*
- IW has also provided a dedicated Local Representative Support Service email.*
- Arranging to meet with IW Staff at the Clinic for Elected Members available in the County House, Lifford prior to the County Council Plenary Meetings.”*

On proposing the motion, Cllr. McGarvey expressed concern at the level of treatment of sewage going into the River and the pollution risks at the proposed discharge point. Cllr. McGarvey asked that the discharge point be moved closer to open waters of the estuary.

On seconding the motion, Cllr. Shiels supported the motion and asked for a higher standard of treatment.

MDL398/18 JANE AUSTEN LINKS TO THIS AREA

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

“That this Council promote the links to Jane Austen in this area in their tourism publications and with appropriate signage.”

The Members were advised that:

“The Council will seek to include reference to Jane Austen in the forthcoming New Tourism Brochure for the 2019 season, and will also investigate the costing and location of appropriate signage for the area.”

On proposing the motion, Cllr. Kavanagh said that two nieces of Jane Austen were buried in Conwal and Tully Graveyards and considering the worldwide interest in Jane Austen, there was a tourism opportunity for the area similar to the Amazing Grace in Buncrana.

On seconding the motion, Cllr. McMonagle supported the motion and acknowledged the work of the Cathedral Quarter in identifying this and the need to promote historical connections. Cllr. McMonagle welcomed the response.

Cllr. Dessie Shiels noted his disagreement with the proposal that Letterkenny would promote a connection with Jane Austin although she never visited the town.

MDL399/18 NAMING OF OLD MART CAR PARK

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

“That having completed works at the Old Mart Car Park this Council would consider the naming of the Car Park.”

The Members were advised that:

“The motion is noted and is a matter for the consideration of the Elected Members.”

On proposing the motion, Cllr. Kavanagh congratulated the staff of the Roads Department on the work carried out on the Car park. Cllr. Kavanagh proposed that the Car Park be named after the Hugh Duffy who was active in ensuring that the site of the car park remained in public ownership. Mr. Duffy lived in College Row and was a teacher in St. Eunan’s College.

On seconding the motion, Cllr. McMonagle indicated his support for the Motion. It was agreed that contact would be made with Mr. Duffy’s family in this regard..

MDL400/18 NON COUNTY ROAD TO DRUMHALLA SCHOOL

On the proposal of Cllr. John O’Donnell and seconded by Cllr. Liam Blaney the following motion was adopted:

“Calling on this Council to take over the non County Road leading to Drumhalla National School in Rathmullan.”

The Members were advised that:

“Roads will consider the request in relation to the adopted Take over policy. The elected member to mark on a map which road exactly his request refers to.”

On proposing the motion, Cllr. O’Donnell highlighted that this road was used daily as a link road to the school and was a burden on the community to maintain.

On seconding the motion, Cllr. Blaney fully supported the motion and had raised this road previously.

Fergal Doherty asked that Cllr. O’Donnell submit a map marking the road in line with the Policy on Take Over of Roads. Cllr. O’Donnell agreed to furnish a map to the Roads office by the end of the week.

MDL401/18 CLIMBING LANE BLUEBANKS TO KILMACRENNAN ROAD

On the proposal of Cllr. John O'Donnell and seconded by Cllr. Michael McBride the following motion was adopted:

“Calling on this Council to write to the TII to highlight concerns of a no climbing lane at the Bluebanks to Kilmacrennan Road and the lack of hard shoulder on this stretch of the road.”

The Members were advised that:

“As part of the development of the road scheme, the Designers assessed the need for a climbing lane along the Bluebanks section. A climbing lane was determined not to be required in accordance with TII Design Standards.

The scheme has been developed to a Type 2 Single Carriageway, consistent with the route to the south (N56 Letterkenny to Illistrin). Given the traffic volumes, existing constraints and route consistency, a Type 2 Single Carriageway is the appropriate road type for improvement works to this section of the network.

Additional features of the scheme include a new cycleway (both northbound and southbound), segregated from N56 traffic.”

On proposing the motion, Cllr. O'Donnell welcomed the new road at Blue Banks, but expressed concerns shared by the public that there was no climbing lane or lane for tractors to pull in to let traffic pass. Cllr. O'Donnell asked that the TII would consider putting in place a hard shoulder for breakdowns and agricultural vehicles in the area. Cllr. O'Donnell asked for a meeting on site to raise the concerns.

On seconding the motion, Cllr. McBride fully supported the motion and advised that the width of the road was a concern for people in the area.

MDL402/18 FOOTPATH FROM TERMON CHURCH TO GLENVEAGH JUNCTION

On the proposal of Cllr. John O'Donnell and seconded by Cllr. Michael McBride the following motion was adopted:

“Calling on this Council to construct a footpath from the Church in Termon to the Glenveagh Junction.”

The Members were advised that:

“There is currently no funding for the construction of a footpath from Termon to Glenveagh Junction. Members have recently agreed the 3 year footpath programme for the funding available.”

On proposing the motion, Cllr. O'Donnell asked that a walkway be put behind the bridge to reduce the dangers facing pedestrians in this area when walking on this busy road. Cllr. O'Donnell said this motion was previously raised and asked that it be given priority on the 3 year Footpath Programme or to identify alternative funding sources.

On seconding the motion, Cllr. McBride fully supported the motion.

MDL403/18 **COMMUNAL AREA LEITIR ARD LETTERKENNY**

On the proposal of Cllr. Gerry McMonagle and seconded by Cllr. Adrian Glackin the following motion was adopted:

“That this Council carries out the necessary works to make the Communal area in the Leitir Ard Estate Letterkenny fit for purpose and usable by the local community.”

The Members were advised that:

“The Council previously made contact with the residents of Leitir Ard to encourage the establishment of a Resident's Association and will follow up further with the residents in this regard. In the meantime, the Council is happy to work with the residents to tidy up the communal area pending the establishment of a Resident's Association”.

On proposing the motion, Cllr. McMonagle asked that the Council would carry out the necessary works to have the play area in an acceptable standard that a Resident Association could maintain going forward.

On seconding the motion, Cllr. Glackin fully supported the motion and welcomed the response to assist establishing a Residents Association.

Patricia McIntyre said the Council would work closely with the residents in getting the area tidied up and was anxious to get residents on board to maintain the estate going forward.

Cllr. McMonagle welcomed the commitment given by the Council.

MDL404/18 **STORM DRAINS BALLYRAINE PARK**

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

“That this Council carry out an examination of the Storm Drains in Ballyraine Park, Letterkenny as locals are complaining of localised flooding due to water not getting away.”

The Members were advised that:

“The Roads office will include this section of the network under the routine maintenance programme.”

On proposing the motion, Cllr. McMonagle asked that the storm drains be examined and blockages identified as water was lying on the road surface during heavy rain.

On seconding the motion, Cllr. Glackin fully supported the motion.

Fergal Doherty advised that gullies were cleaned regularly and focus was put on areas raised by Members.

Cllr. McMonagle welcomed the response.

MDL405/18 LIGHTING AT TRAFFIC ISLAND PEARSE ROAD

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

“That we erect extra lighting at the Traffic Island on Pearse Road, Letterkenny to make it more visible at night for road users and pedestrians safety.”

The Members were advised that:

“The Public lighting along the Pearse Road has been designed and installed by Airtricity in accordance with current standards. These lights are due to be upgraded to LED's as part of the ongoing LED replacement programme.”

On proposing the motion, Cllr. McMonagle advised that overgrown trees were blocking the light and the traffic island was not visible in the dark. Cllr. McMonagle asked that reflective signs would be considered to improve visibility.

On seconding the motion, Cllr. Glackin fully supported the motion.

MDL406/18 SEWAGE TREATMENT FOR TOWNS IN LETTERKENNY MD

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

“That this Council makes all relevant documentation available to me regarding the plans it had in place to amalgamate the sewage treatment of individual towns in this Municipal District into one treatment plant prior to the setting up of Irish Water and what input did any of the Elected Members have if any.”

The Members were advised that:

“Prior to the establishment of Irish Water Donegal County Council as the Water Services Authority was progressing a project, Donegal Towns and Villages Sewerage Schemes, under the Water Services Investment Programme. This project included the following locations in the Municipal District of Letterkenny; Carrigart, Downings, Kilmacrenan, Milford & Rathmelton. Consultants were appointed to this project in 2012 by Donegal County Council and they were in the process of preparing Preliminary Reports for the various locations exploring the feasibility of various options relating to the collection and treatment of wastewater in those agglomerations when Irish Water was established in 2014. One of the options being considered by the consultants was the utilisation of a single water treatment plant to deal with the wastewater from the towns of Rathmelton and Milford.

Should this motion be passed a report on the status of the project can be provided to Cllr Blaney and the other Elected members of the Municipal District of Letterkenny.”

On proposing the motion, Cllr. Blaney welcomed the reply to his motion outlining clarity as the representative group in Ray had been advised that the Council had progressed the proposed treatment plant in Ray to this stage and that is why Irish Water was proceeding with the proposal.

On seconding the motion, Cllr. McBride said it was unacceptable that the discharge from three towns would be brought into the estuary and said locals had been treated unfairly.

Cllr. Blaney welcomed that a report would be circulated.

MDL407/18 REPORT ON COUNCIL HOUSING STOCK - MICA

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

“That the Council has a full report available on all Council housing stock that identifies which houses have MICA in this MD in preparation of a possible MICA redress scheme.”

The Members were advised that:

“Following the report of the Expert Panel on defective blocks the National Standards Authority of Ireland has developed a standard protocol for the testing of blocks to determine if Mica is present and to assist in determining the nature of remedial works that will be required. This protocol has been through a public consultation process and it is expected that the protocol will be finalised shortly. This Council has not undertaken a testing programme pending the development of the protocol and does not have a list of properties in the Letterkenny Municipal District with defective blocks. This will be prepared using the testing protocol. The Council has indicated to the

Department of Housing Planning and Local Government that it would be making a case for the recovery of the cost of remediation works to Council houses affected by Mica.”

On proposing the motion, Cllr. Glackin welcomed the announcement of a Redress Scheme for houses affected by Mica and asked that the Council ensure that Council protects its housing stock. Cllr. Glackin said that tenants were prevented from purchasing their homes because of Mica and asked that houses would be repaired to allow tenants to purchase same.

On seconding the motion, Cllr. McMonagle fully supported the motion.

Patricia McIntyre advised that the Council awaited the details of the scheme and advised that this would be a priority for the Council.

Cllr. Glackin welcomed the response.

MDL408/18 FLOOD DAMAGE ON KILLYMASNEY ROAD AT GLENSWILLY N S

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

“That the Council carries out work on flood damage to the road leading to Killymasney across from Glenswilly National School and also undertakes work to repair defective drainage which is causing flooding to a new site on the lower side of the road.”

The Members were advised that:

“The flood damaged area on the Killymasney Road was fixed up some time ago. Council will reassess any further damage that may have occurred since, with a view to repair.

The drainage issue at the new site on the lower side of the road is a private matter relating to conditions of planning permission.”

On proposing the motion, Cllr. Glackin advised that he was contacted by residents and that Charlie Cannon had agreed to investigate a possible issue with drainage.

On seconding the motion, Cllr. McMonagle fully supported the motion and asked that the necessary works be carried out to alleviate the flooding.

Fergal Doherty advised that it had not been established that works carried out by the Council had caused the flooding issue.

MDL409/18 **MAYORS BUSINESS**

Cllr. Ian McGarvey welcomed the funding awarded to Kilmacrennan, Portsalon and Kerrykeel under the Town & Village Renewal Scheme.

Cllr. McGarvey also advised of the success of the Twinning of Letterkenny Town and Rudolstadt and updated Members on the visit of 40 delegates from Rudolstadt to Letterkenny. Cllr. McGarvey commended the staff involved in the arrangements and to Karl Kerrane who works in Germany and was very involved in the success of the Twinning event. Cllr. McGarvey asked that the Council appoint a Liaison Officer to further develop tourism, education and employment potential as part of the Twinning.

The Members in turn paid tribute to the staff involved in the Twinning and the submission of the applications under the Town & Village Renewal Scheme.

Liam Ward acknowledged the success of the Twinning and commended Mary Daly and Evelyn McGuinness for the itinerary over the weekend of the visit and the work involved.

Liam Ward also welcomed the significant funding received under the Town & Village Renewal Scheme. Twelve applications had been submitted and funding was received for eleven, three of which were in the Letterkenny MD.

Cllr. McGarvey also commended the events held during Social Inclusion Week and paid tribute to everyone involved in particular in the Connecting for Life event held in the Radisson Hotel on 5th October.

MDL410/18 **CORRESPONDENCE**

The following correspondences were raised:

On the proposal of Cllr. Jimmy Kavanagh and seconded Cllr. Gerry McMonagle the Members agreed to the Local Spiritual Assembly of Letterkenny planning an oak tree in Bernard McGlinchey Town Park on 8th / 9th November, 2018.

MDL411/18 **ROADS & TRANSPORTATION**

The Members noted the content of the Roads report circulated with the Agenda.

411.1 3 Year RI Roads Programme

On the proposal of Cllr. John O'Donnell and seconded by Cllr. Gerry McMonagle the 3 Year RI Roads Programme as circulated at a Workshop prior to the meeting was adopted.

411.2 1 Year RM Roads Programme

On the proposal of Cllr. Gerry McMonagle and seconded by Cllr. John O'Donnell the 1 Year RM Roads Programme as circulated at a Workshop prior to the meeting was adopted.

411.3 Donegal Road Safety Group Road Show

The Members commended the Donegal Road Safety Working Group on the Road Show initiative which had received national awards and asked that a letter issue to the Working Group on behalf of the Letterkenny Municipal District.

MDL412/18 HOUSING AND CORPORATE SERVICES

412.1 Approved Housing Body Development – Ardrawer, Kiltoy

Cllr. Dessie Shiels advised that there was a legal dispute ongoing in relation to ownership of the land and Ardrawer, Kiltoy and asked if Donegal County Council should be endorsing this scheme.

Patricia McIntyre advised that she would seek clarity from Cluid Housing Association and advised that the role of the Council was to nominate potential tenants from the approved social housing list.

412.2 Housing Proposal at Carrigart

Cllr. John O'Donnell commended the work of staff in the Housing office and asked for an update on the proposed housing scheme at Carrigart, was funding still available and what progress had been made.

Patricia McIntyre advised that Stage 1 approval had been received in March 2017 which was approval in principle to the development. Ms. McIntyre advised that it was identified in Stage 2, when seeking planning permission, that there was an issue with the identified site and agreed to circulate an update to Members on the current position of the proposal.

412.3 Social Housing List

Cllr. Gerry McMonagle also commended the work of staff in the housing office and noted the following:

- challenges in respect of homelessness due to the shortage of private rented dwellings available under the HAP Scheme within the MD.
- assist vulnerable families to secure private rented accommodation and give assistance with a deposit to ensure the Hostel does not become a permanent home and as a result is not available for the Council in emergency cases.

Cllr. McMonagle welcomed the proposed developments outlined in the Capital Report and asked that the Council look at where the Council had land that this would be sold off as sites, as was previously done at Orchard Grove and Ashbrook.

Patricia McIntyre acknowledged the challenges in relation to HAP and securing private rented accommodation and advised that the Council works closely with North West Simon who provide a Tenancy Sustainment Programme should applicants require this assistance. The Council was also engaging proactively with St. Colmcille Hostel.

412.4 Housing Need Figures

Cllr. Blaney, acknowledging that while the greatest need was in Letterkenny Town, asked that the Council pursue housing acquisitions to meet the need in outlying towns within the MD. Cllr. Blaney asked for an update on the Turnkey proposals and highlighted that the gross need was the figure the Council should concentrate on as the HAP properties were not secure accommodation.

Patricia McIntyre agreed to circulate a report on the Turnkey proposals to Members. The Council was at an early stage with Approved Housing Bodies in respect of a proposal outside of Letterkenny town and agreed to keep Members informed of this.

Liam Ward advised that when HAP was introduced the view of the Department of Housing was that once HAP assistance was granted the housing need was deemed to have been met.

412.5 Mica – Redress Scheme

Cllr. Dessie Shiels asked that the Council confirm if a written representation had been made by the Council in relation to the Redress Scheme. Cllr. Shiels expressed concern on eligibility of homeowners for assistance under the proposed scheme and stated the importance of the Council making a substantial claim to Government that the Redress Scheme would be a number one priority.

Liam Ward welcomed the Redress Scheme and advised that this was at an early stage with no detail available. Liam Ward advised that there was been continual engagement with senior staff of the Council and the Department and the Expert Panel Protocol would be a key factor on this issue. Liam Ward further advised that Minister of State, Damien English, had met with Elected Members and Officials on a number of occasions, most recently in Lifford, where there had been an opportunity to raise the local concerns directly with the Minister responsible.

412.6 Longterm Leasing Unit

Cllr. Blaney asked for a report on when the Longterm Leasing Programme expires, number of tenants in Longterm leased units and the length of time left in these units.

MDL413/18 PLANNING SERVICES

The Members noted the Planning Report circulated with the Agenda.

413.1 Planning Clinics

Graham Diamond advised that the next Planning Clinics would be held on 7th November and 5th December, 2018.

Cllr. Michael Bride advised that it was agreed that Planning Clinics would be held twice in each month. Liam Ward advised that this was the intention but was not possible to meet over the summer months. Liam Ward confirmed however that the twice monthly clinics would be reinstated.

413.2 Invalid Applications

The Members raised concerns at the high number of invalid applications and asked if the Council had engaged with Agents. Liam Ward advised that a commitment was made to meet with Agents and this would be done as part of the County Development Plan which would aim to reduce the number of invalid applications and the impact this had on the Planning Services

MDL414/18 ENVIRONMENT

The Members considered the report circulated with the Agenda as follows:

- Free Household Hazardous Waste Collection
- Stats for Litter and Waste from January to August 2018
- Enforcement
- Bikes 4 Africa Campaign

Cllr. McBride raised concern following a fire near the Letterkenny Post Office where there was an issue with an asbestos roof and that the site had not been secured properly to eliminate contamination.

Joe Ferry advised that Warning Letters had been issued to the owner and agreed to circulate Members with an update on this.

MDL415/18 COMMUNITY ENTERPRISE & CULTURAL SERVICES

The Members considered the report circulated with the Agenda as follows:

- Social Enterprise Building
- Fanad Lighthouse
- Town & Village Renewal
- Playgrounds Maintenance
- One Donegal

Christina O'Donnell advised that the Ulster Dance Championships would be held in Letterkenny between 1st to 4th November with up to 5,000 to 8,000 expected to attend.

Questions

MDL416/18 OVERGROWN VERGE LETTERKENNY TO LOUGHNAGIN ROAD

In an answer to his question on whether the Roads Section would cut the overgrown Verge on the left hand side going from Letterkenny to Loughnagin as it is dangerous exiting the Junction at Paddy Boyle's below Blacks Garage, Cllr. Ian McGarvey was advised that;

“The hedges along this Regional Road are programmed to be cut back within the next number of weeks.”

MDL417/18 PARKING FEES/FINES LETTERKENNY

In an answer to his question requesting details of the amount collected in Parking Fees & Fines collected in Letterkenny, Cllr. Ian McGarvey was advised:

“In 2017, €282,097 was collected from parking fees, and in 2018 to date, €217,510 has been collected in parking fees. Those monies collected within car parks are subject to 23% VAT.

Countywide approximately €168k has been collected from Parking Ticket Payment/Payment of Court Costs and Summons Settlements in 2017, whilst the equivalent figure in 2018 to date has been approx. €158k. At this juncture, the breakdown per MD is not available.”

MDL418/18 SAFETY MEASURES ROADS INTERSECTION AT KILLYCLUG

In an answer to his question requesting this Council to look at possible safety measures at the intersection of the roads at Killyclug, possibly a mini roundabout, Cllr. Jimmy Kavanagh was advised:

“The current junction layout at Killyclug is a crossroads which is in good condition and has appropriate vision lines. There have been no records of accidents at this location. The current layout is deemed more suitable for pedestrians”.

MDL419/18 CLEANING OF GULLIES

In an answer to his question requesting to know when would the gullies be cleaned at Ashbrook, Glenwood and Circular Road, Cllr. Jimmy Kavanagh was advised:

“The Gullies on these sections of the roads network are included within the Routine Road Maintenance programme.”

MDL420/18 CARRIGART TO DOWNINGS FOOTPATH

In an answer to his question requesting an update on the latest developments of the Carrigart to Downings footpath, Cllr. John O'Donnell was advised:

“There is no development in relation to the Carrigart /Downings footpath since the previous update. Roads have submitted an application under the Outdoor Recreational Infrastructure Scheme 2018 and await feedback/outcome of application.”

MDL421/18 FOOTPATH-ABBEY VILLAGE TO VILLAGE HALL KILMACRENNAN

In an answer to his question on when work would commence to construct the footpath from Abbey Village to the Village Hall in Kilmacrennan, Cllr. John O'Donnell was advised:

“It is proposed to commence works before the end of 2018, with works to be completed by end of March 2019. However as this is capital expenditure, with no time expiry, this programme may change in the event that time dependent funding is made available at short notice. eg LIS”

MDL422/18 BOARDWALK DOWNINGS BEACH

In answer to his question on when work would commence on the construction of the boardwalk from the car park to the beach in Downings, Cllr. John O'Donnell was advised:

“A site meeting is scheduled to take place this week to advance the proposed boardwalk access to Downings Beach.”

MDL423/18 SAFETY BARRIER GLENMAQUINN N.S.

In answer to his question requesting an update on his previous motion at this M.D. requested a safety barrier at Glenmaquinn National School, Cllr. James Pat McDaid was advised:

“Roads have referred this to outside Engineering design Consultants, for a design to current specifications, which we will progress when available. I am advised that a design should be available in the coming weeks.”

MDL424/18 INCLUSION OF MEENABALL ROAD IN ROADS PROGRAMME

In answer to his question requesting the inclusion of the Meenaball road above Stramore N.S. in Glendowan on next years Roads Programme, Cllr. James Pat McDaid was advised:

“A section of the Stramore Road is on the Draft 3 year programme considered by members.”

MDL425/18 FOOTPATH LETTERKENNY TO CONWAL GRAVEYARD

In answer to his question requesting to know when could this Council expect the works to start on the Letterkenny to Conwal Graveyard Footpath and have we an approximate finishing date, Cllr. James Pat McDaid was advised

“It is proposed to commence works before the end of 2018, with works to be completed by end of March 2019. However as this is capital expenditure, with no time expiry, this programme may change in the event that time dependent funding is made available at short notice, eg LIS etc”.

MDL426/18 ROAD MARKINGS ST EUNANS COURT

In answer to his question on when would the Yellow Box be installed at St Eunans Court, Back Road, Cllr. Gerry McMonagle was advised:

“Road Lining in Letterkenny is carried out by appointed contractors, this work is schedule for completion on the contractors return to the area.”

MDL427/18 DRAIN AT LETTERKENNY SHOPPING CENTRE

In answer to his question on whether any tests of the Water in the Drain at Letterkenny Shopping Centre had been conducted to date by the Water and Environment section and if so can he be informed of the results, Cllr. Gerry McMonagle was advised:

“Over the past year, the Laboratory service have investigated the issue of sporadic odours in the Sprack Burn as experienced at Portland House on the Port Road and have concluded that the cause may be attributed to two separate sources, (1) discharges from private treatment plants, as confirmed by dye tests and sample test results, and (2) defects in the sewerage network further upstream, which may be exacerbated by storm events. The private businesses in the area have been issued with enforcement notices requiring them to engage with Irish Water regarding the provision of a sewer connection, while the upcoming Irish Water sewerage network upgrade programme is expected to deal with the second source, which is sporadic in nature.”

MDL428/18 OLDTOWN FOOTBALL PITCH

In answer to his question on whether there had been any progress made in relation to the upgrading of the Oldtown Football Pitch as per his motion, Cllr. Gerry McMonagle was advised:

“Arrangements are being made to carry out an assessment at the Oldtown Playing Pitch with a view to determining the feasibility of making a funding application.”

MDL429/18 PIPE REPLACEMENT CARLAND ROAD KERRYKEEL

In answer to his question on when did Irish Water intend to have the pipe replacement project complete on the Carland Road, Kerrykeel , Cllr. Liam Blaney was advised:

“This is a matter for Irish Water who has 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.*
- IW has also provided a dedicated Local Representative Support Service email.*
- Arranging to meet with IW Staff at the Clinic for Elected Members available in the County House, Lifford prior to the County Council Plenary Meetings.”*

MDL430/18 TREATMENT PLANT ERRIGAL VIEW HOUSING ESTATE

In answer to his question requesting to know what progress had this Council made regarding funding for the Sewerage Treatment Plant at Errigal View housing estate, Cllr. Liam Blaney was advised:

“The planning authority and Area WES are preparing a Site Resolution Plan for Errigal View which will be submitted to IW as a means of sourcing monies for remediation of the water service infrastructure serving the development. A camera survey of the foul network within the estate is scheduled to take place this week which will inform any remedial work to the foul network. Members will be kept abreast of further developments on this matter as they happen.”

MDL431/18 SCHOOL BUS SERVICE TO MILFORD COLLEGES/ SEWERAGE TREATMENT PLANT RAMELTON/RAY AREA

In answer to his question on whether this Council had received any correspondence from the various Departments it was to make contact with following the passing of his Motions on September 11th to add an additional school bus to transport students from Kilmacrennan, Termon, and Ballyare areas to Mulroy College and Loreto Community College Milford and for Irish Water not to proceed any further with their plans to construct a sewerage treatment plant in the Ray/Ramelton area until a public consultation is held in that area, Cllr. Liam Blaney was advised:

“The motion in relation to the school bus transport has been followed up with the various Department and a response has been received to advise that the Minister is making some enquiries about the matter and will be in touch again when there is further news.

In relation to the Irish Water motion, the motion has been forwarded to Irish Water via the Local Representative dedicated email with a request that a reply will issue directly to the Members.”

MDL432/18 RELIEF ROADS PORT BRIDGE LETTERKENNY

In answer to his question requesting to know whether there was any reason why the Port Bridge, Letterkenny adjoining the Polestar Roundabout cannot be widened to create 2 additional relief roads leading into and out of Letterkenny, Cllr Dessie Shiels was advised:

“The key recommendations from the Letterkenny Land Use and Transportation Study, are for the construction of a new bridge over the Swilly as part of the Bunagee Link, rather than the widening of the existing Port Bridge. The Bunagee Link is currently being designed by the DNRDO.”

MDL433/18 MDL RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES - MICA

In answer to his question requesting this Council provide a list of all residential properties owned by it in the Letterkenny Municipal District area where Mica has been confirmed as present and can the Council confirm what representations it has made to have a redress scheme put in place for such properties, Cllr. Dessie Shiels was advised:

“Following the report of the Expert Panel on defective blocks The National Standards Authority of Ireland has developed a standard protocol for the testing of blocks to determine if Mica is present and to assist in determining the nature of remedial works that will be required. This protocol has been through a public consultation process and it is expected that the protocol will be finalised shortly. This Council has not undertaken a testing programme pending the development of the protocol and does not have a list of properties in the Letterkenny Municipal District with defective blocks. This will be prepared using the testing protocol. The Council has indicated to the Department of Housing Planning and Local Government that it would be making a case for the recovery of the cost of remediation works to Council houses affected by Mica.”

MDL434/18 CROSSROADS JUNCTION CULLION ROAD LETTERKENNY

In answer to his question requesting to know what plans are in place to upgrade and improve the existing crossroads junction at Cullion Road, Letterkenny (adjoining the Letterkenny Readymix site), Cllr. Dessie Shiels was advised:

“This Junction is part of the wider Leck Road (southern Relief Road) alignment and the Ten T Route which are still at design stage and will only be confirmed after Ten T proposals are finalised”

MDL435/18 DATE AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING

It was agreed that the next MDL Meeting would be held on 13th November 2018 at the Milford PSC commencing at 2:00 p.m.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Mayor

Meetings Administrator