

MINUTES OF MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF LETTERKENNY MEETING HELD
IN THE MILFORD PUBLIC SERVICES CENTRE ON
TUESDAY, 11th SEPTEMBER, 2018

MDL337/18 MEMBERS PRESENT

Cllr. Ian McGarvey
Cllr. Ciaran Brogan
Cllr. Liam Blaney
Cllr. Gerry McMonagle
Cllr. Adrian Glackin

MDL338/18 OFFICIALS PRESENT

Liam Ward, Director of Service
Fergal Doherty, S.E.E./Area Manager, Roads & Transportation
Joe Ferry, A/Senior Executive Scientist, Water & Environment
Martin McDermott, Executive Planner
Collette Beattie, Assistant Planner
Patricia McIntyre, Area Manager
Christina O'Donnell, Development Officer

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

MDL339/18 APOLOGIES

Cllr. John O'Donnell
Cllr. Jimmy Kavanagh
Cllr. Michael McBride
Linda McCann

MDL 340/18 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

No Matters were raised.

MDL341/18 ADOPTION OF MINUTES OF MDL MEETING HELD ON 10th JULY, 2018

On the proposal of Cllr. Gerry McMonagle and seconded by Cllr. Liam Blaney, the Minutes of MDL Meeting held on 10th July, 2018 were adopted.

MDL342/18 PARKING BYE LAWS

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

"That this council revisit and review parking bye laws to reflect the need of patients attending medical appointments so as to allow the same period as the Main Street in particular where older people have to be assisted for their appointment."

The Members were advised that:

"The new off street parking bye laws were adopted in the last few months at Plenary Council level and it is confirmed that there are no provisions for free parking within public car parks. The first half hour free on the main street was introduced to increase the volume of short stay shoppers, but is not appropriate for medical appointments which invariably will take in excess of half an hour. There is an abundance of private and public parking around the medical practices on Justice Walsh road."

On proposing the motion, Cllr. Brogan requested that the bye laws be revisited as a matter of urgency to allow a grace period for drivers bringing patients to medical appointments so that patients can be dropped near the entrance and helped into the surgery without the driver incurring a parking fine. Cllr. Brogan expressed disappointment at the response and expressed the wish that a common sense approach be adopted in such situations to facilitate the elderly in the community.

On seconding the motion, Cllr. McMonagle supported the motion and requested that urgent consideration be given to the motion.

Fergal Doherty advised that the matter would be reviewed but noted that allowing a period of free parking would require additional monitoring for the parking warden thus reducing warden cover elsewhere. Fergal Doherty advised that the free half hour would also attract Main Street shoppers thus reducing available spaces for medical appointment attendees.

MDL343/18 POST OFFICE CLOSURES

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

"That this M.D express regret and concern at the proposed Post Office Closures in Donegal."

The Members were advised that:

"The motion is noted and Corporate Services will convey this message to An Post should the motion be adopted."

On proposing the motion Cllr. McGarvey expressed concern for the community who were losing the post office facility and expressed regret at the closures, particularly if there were further closures as has been indicated.

On seconding the motion, Cllr. Ciaran Brogan expressed disappointment at the closures of so many post offices in Donegal which were the social fabric of rural Ireland. This decision will impact many communities and An Post should be implored to revisit the decision and seek to expand the post office network. All the Members present supported the motion.

Cllr. Liam Blaney requested that the motion would be expanded to include that An Post should actively encourage and facilitate members of the public to establish post office facilities where the premises are available. This was agreed by all the Members and it was further agreed that the motion would be forwarded to the Minister and An Post.

MDL344/18 UPGRADE OF ROAD

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

"That this M.D make an urgent request to upgrade the road from a point at Rita Smyth's, Portsalon through Carrablagh, Croaghross and Doaghbeg Portsalon to the Regional road at a point where it exits on to the Road from Fanad Lighthouse to Trialough Road and deal with the problem of access to Historical attractions that exist along the Route".

The Members were advised that:

"There is currently no funded programme for the major upgrading of roads which had formerly been upgraded under Specific Improvement Grants. The RI programme for 2018 has already been agreed by Members."

On proposing the motion Cllr. McGarvey noted the reply and requested that the Council be progressive in identifying funding for the works required. Cllr. McGarvey, and the other Members present, also acknowledged recent submissions from residents seeking the upgrade of the road.

On seconding the motion Cllr. Liam Blaney requested that the upgrade of the road remain as a priority for the Council and that the Council would actively support and pursue specific funding to carrying out the upgrade works to the roads, which is a strategic route on the Wild Atlantic Way.

In reply, Fergal Doherty advised that the Council would be supportive of having the road upgraded and would continue to explore funding options available.

MDL345/18 OBSTRUCTION TO PROPERTY IN RAMELTON

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

"That this Council deal with an obstruction to their Property at Bridgend, Ramelton and to the Riverside at The Bridge, on the Lennon."

The Members were advised that:

"The Council is presently completing its investigations with a view to identifying the most appropriate and effective manner of dealing with the development that has taken place at this location."

On proposing the motion Cllr. McGarvey expressed disappointment at the delay in investigating this matter, which he had raised previously.

On seconding the motion Cllr. McMonagle urged the Council to complete their investigations as a matter of urgency.

In reply to the motion, Liam Ward advised that the investigations required the review of a number of historical files to determine the most appropriate course of action and that the matter was receiving attention.

MDL346/18 SCHOOL BUS KILMACRENNAN AREA

On the proposal of Cllr. Liam Blaney and seconded by Cllr. Gerry McMonagle, it was agreed in the absence of Cllr. John O'Donnell to defer this motion until the next meeting.

"Calling on this Council to write to Minister John Halligan of the Department of Education to address the school bus crisis for students attending Milford secondary schools from the Kilmacrennan and surrounding areas."

MDL347/18 STREET LIGHTING N56

On the proposal of Cllr. Liam Blaney and seconded by Cllr. Gerry McMonagle, it was agreed in the absence of Cllr. John O'Donnell to defer this motion until the next meeting.

"Calling on this Council to ensure TII replace all existing street lighting on the new road works on the N56 with the same number of more than what was there before works commenced."

MDL348/18 CYCLEWAY BLUE BANKS TO ILLISTRIN

On the proposal of Cllr. Liam Blaney and seconded by Cllr. Gerry McMonagle, it was agreed in the absence of Cllr. John O'Donnell to defer this motion until the next meeting.

"Calling on this Council to get the TII to continue the cycle way from the new road works at the Blue Banks to as far as Illistrin school."

MDL349/18 WATER SUPPLY GORT NA GREINE/ GLEANN TAIN

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

"That this Council take the necessary steps to ensure that the long suffering Council tenants and other residents of Gort Na Greine and Gleann Tain have regular and daily Water Supply and fast track the Take Over of these estates in order to deliver water daily."

The Members were advised that:

"Donegal County Council's Water Service is aware of problems with the privately owned and installed booster pumping station serving Gort na Greine and Glenn Tain estates. This results in high level properties not getting water at certain times. This issue has become more frequent in recent times for some reason.

Last weekend when informed about a water outage Donegal County Council in conjunction with Irish Water, decided to intervene to try to fix the pumps and resolve the problem. This work is ongoing by the Council's Water Service.

The longer term solution involves further investigations with the possible installation of new pumps and controls to Irish Water

specifications. Prices are being sought for this work and whilst there is no identified budget at present, the Council's Water Service are hopeful that monies can be sourced between the Council and Irish Water."

On proposing the motion Cllr. McMonagle acknowledged the reply and noted that a number of properties which were not situated on high ground were also experiencing water shortage. Cllr. McMonagle requested that urgent action is taken to address the water outages in the estates which is having a detrimental effect on householders and asked the Environment Section to investigate the burning of plastics at the estate.

On seconding the motion, Cllr. Ciaran Brogan acknowledged the very difficult situation for residents and noted the update provided at the workshop with the Planning Service the previous day and requested that the Members receive regular updates on progress being made to address the issue.

MDL350/18 REPAIRS RESERVOIR AND PUMPING STATION ARD O'DONNELL

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

"That this Council demands that Irish Water carry out without further delay repairs to the fence around the Reservoir at Ard O Donnell and that they erect a fence around their Pumping Station also at Ard O Donnell to prevent further acts of anti social behaviour at the site and to protect our Water Supply."

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 the Irish Water (IW) office, and request that IW respond directly to Councillor McMonagle 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 McMonagle."

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. McMonagle highlighted some incidents of anti-social behaviour taking place at the location.

On seconding the motion, Cllr. Adrian Glackin supported the motion and requested that the issue receive priority attention.

MDL351/18 FOUL SMELL - LETTERKENNY SHOPPING CENTRE TO PORT ROAD

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

"That this Council investigate the cause of the foul smell along the shuck running from Letterkenny Shopping Centre to the Port Road and put in place a works schedule to pipe the said shuck."

The Members were advised that:

"Donegal County Council will investigate this matter and will revert to Councillor McMonagle and the other Elected Members of Letterkenny Municipal District with their findings."

On proposing the motion, Cllr. McMonagle noted that this issue appeared to be a regular occurrence and requested that the matter receive urgent attention.

On seconding the motion, Cllr. Adrian Glackin supported the motion and noted that this matter had been highlighted in the past. In reply, Joe

Ferry advised that he will revert to the Members with a report on the cause of the problem and the identified solution.

MDL352/18 VOLUME OF AUDIBLE PEDESTRIAN SIGNAL ON TRAFFIC LIGHTS

On the proposal of Cllr. Gerry McMonagle and seconded by Cllr. Adrian Glackin it was agreed in the absence of Cllr. Jimmy Kavanagh to defer this motion until the next meeting.

"That the audible pedestrian signal volume be increased at traffic lights in the town to aid visually impaired pedestrians."

MDL353/18 TRAFFIC CALMING WINDYHALL ROAD

On the proposal of Cllr. Gerry McMonagle and seconded by Cllr. Adrian Glackin it was agreed in the absence of Cllr. Jimmy Kavanagh to defer this motion until the next meeting.

"That this Council install traffic calming/ramps on the Windy Hall Road."

MDL354/18 WATER OUTAGES GORT NA GREINE

On the proposal of Cllr. Gerry McMonagle and seconded by Cllr. Adrian Glackin it was agreed in the absence of Cllr. Jimmy Kavanagh to defer this motion until the next meeting.

"That this Council discuss the far too frequent water outages at Gort Na Greine, Letterkenny."

MDL355/18 COMMUNAL AREA - ARD O'DONNELL, LETTERKENNY

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

"That this Council undertakes maintenance work on the Communal Area at the Ard O'Donnell Housing Estate in Letterkenny as this

area has had no work done on it for a number of years and is falling into disrepair."

The Members were advised that:

"Maintenance works in various locations, are undertaken by arrangement, by a number of groups, such as Community Employment Schemes, Local Residence Groups etc. Cllr to liaise on site with the Town Engineer to establish specifics in relation to disrepair, such that maintenance can be arranged."

On proposing the motion, Cllr. Glackin welcomed the response.

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

MDL356/18 REPAIRS- L5944 KIRKSTOWN ROAD

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

"That this Council prioritises the L5944 Kirkstown Road for full repair work as it has descended into a very bad state of repair. Some potholes have been fixed on the road but it still requires considerable improvements"

The Members were advised that:

"The 2019 RI and RM programmes will be agreed with Members in early 2019."

On proposing the motion, Cllr. Glackin welcomed the response and acknowledged the pothole repair works carried out to the road.

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

MDL357/18 PURCHASE OF VACANT OR UNFINISHED PROPERTY

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

"That this Council considers purchasing vacant or unfinished housing or apartment developments to ease the housing crisis in this Municipal District."

The Members were advised that:

"The Council is already active in pursuing the acquisition of vacant properties, and this is one of the key elements of our strategy to deliver social housing."

In this regard, we continue to examine the acquisition of individual vacant houses on the market, in locations where we have housing demand, and where we can achieve good value for money. In addition to pursuing the acquisition of suitable dwellings that are on the market, we are also carrying out research on vacant units that are not on the market, with a view to acquisition and refurbishment.

We have also identified potential Unfinished Estates for renewal, and a number of options in this regard are being actively examined. In addition to the above, we are engaging with Approved Housing Bodies with a view to the renewal of some apartment type properties under the CALF / P&A funding mechanisms, and again there are a number of options in this regard where we are confident of progressing in the coming months.

In summary, the Council will continue to explore options for bringing vacant units back to productive use, as outlined."

On proposing the motion, Cllr. Glackin welcomed the positive reply and expressed the wish that the Council would continue to explore options to purchase vacant properties to bring them back into productive use.

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

MDL358/18 WIDENING OF PORTSALON / DOAGHBEG / FANAD HEAD ROAD

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

"That this Council supports the call from residents on the Portsalon/Doaghbeg/Fanad Head road for funding to widen that road."

The Members were advised that:

"There is currently no funded programme for the major upgrading of roads which had formerly been upgraded under Specific Improvement Grants. The 2019 RI and RM programmes will be agreed with members in early 2019"

On proposing the motion Cllr. Blaney noted that the motion was discussed under item MDL344/18.

MDL359/18 SEWERAGE TREATMENT PLANT RAMELTON/RAY AREA

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

"That this Council requests Irish Water not to proceed any further with their plans to construct a sewerage treatment plant in the Ramelton/Ray area until a Public Consultation meeting is held in that area".

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 the Irish Water (IW) office, and request that IW respond directly to Councillor Blaney 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 Blaney.

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. Blaney sought clarification on the relationship between Irish Water and Donegal County Council. He noted that when some issues were raised, it was noted that the matter would be referred to Irish Water. However, in some press releases being issued, it is noted that Irish Water are carrying out works in conjunction with Donegal County Council and vice versa.

Liam Ward advised that Irish Water is the Water Authority and they have a Service Level Agreement with the Council for the operation and maintenance of the water and wastewater infrastructure in the County. The staff are employed by Donegal County Council and all complaints are logged with Irish Water initially.

Cllr. Blaney noted that Irish Water propose to pump sewage from Milford, Ramelton and Rathmullan to Ray and that residents are very concerned at the proposal and the fact that no consultation has taken place. Cllr. Blaney noted that Irish Water has agreed to hold consultations on the 15th October 2018 and Cllr. Blaney requested that contact is made with Irish Water to hold this event in the Ray Community Centre.

On seconding the motion, Cllr. McGarvey supported the motion and expressed disappointment at the lack of engagement from Irish Water on the proposals. Cllr. Brogan noted the recent meeting with Irish Water and the request for Irish Water to meet more frequently with the Members.

MDL360/18 SCHOOL BUS SERVICE TO MILFORD COLLEGES

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

"That this Council requests the relevant Departments to add an additional school bus to take students from the Kilmacrennan, Termon Ballyare areas to Mulroy College and Loreto Community College Milford."

The Members were advised that:

"The motion is noted and Corporate Services will arrange to make contact with the Departments should the motion be adopted."

On proposing the motion, Cllr. Blaney noted that this issue arises on an annual basis and that an additional school bus is required on this route. Cllr. Blaney noted the very difficult situation for students and their parents and requested that contact is made with both Minister Halligan and the Department of Education.

On seconding the motion, Cllr. Brogan noted the significant stress that this matter was causing for parents and that a common sense solution should prevail.

MDL361/18 MAYORS BUSINESS

Cllr. Ian McGarvey advised that he is very willing to attend any event and that he had attended a number of events in the last month, including the following:

- Busking Festival in Letterkenny;
- Youth Service Football Tournament.

MDL362/18 CORRESPONDENCE

The following correspondence were raised:

- Request from St. Eunan's College for use of the Bernard McGlinchey Park in October 2018 for National Maths Week. On the proposal of Cllr. Ciaran Brogan, seconded by Cllr. Gerry McMonagle, the request was granted.

- Request from the Ten-T N56/N13 LK-Manor Residents Committee to make a deputation to the October meeting of the Letterkenny MD. On the proposal of Cllr. Blaney, seconded by Cllr. Brogan the request was agreed. The Members requested that a representative from the NRDO would attend the meeting
- The Members noted a telephone message from Mrs. Pat Hume to convey appreciation to the Members of the Municipal District and convey acceptance of the offer to name the new Social Enterprise Centre the John Hume Social Enterprise Centre.
- Liam Ward advised of an email circulated to Members earlier this day from Cllr. Jimmy Kavanagh in relation to the forthcoming visit from citizens of Rudolstadt for the twinning with Letterkenny. Mr. Ward advised that an itinerary will be produced and circulated to the Members.

MDL363/18 HOUSING AND CORPORATE SERVICES

The Members noted the content of the Housing and Corporate Services Report circulated with the Agenda.

Members requested an update, in due course, on the response to the expressions of interest sought for turnkey developments in Milford, Letterkenny and Carrigart.

363.1 Nomination of a Representative from the Letterkenny MD to the Corporate Policy Group.

On the proposal of Cllr. Adrian Glackin, seconded by Cllr. Liam Blaney, it was agreed that Cllr. Gerry McMonagle would represent the Letterkenny MD on the Corporate Policy Group.

363.2 Agree Date for MDL Budget Workshop and Meeting

It was agreed to hold the MDL Budget Workshop at 12 noon on the 9th October 2018 in the Letterkenny PSC and to hold the budget meeting

at 2pm on the 23rd October 2018 in the Letterkenny Public Services Centre.

MDL364/18 PLANNING SERVICES

The Members noted the Planning Report circulated with the Agenda.

364.1 Planning Clinics

The members queried if the planning clinics could be held more frequently than once a month given that the pre-planning meeting is relied on by a large number of applicants prior to lodging a planning application. Liam Ward advised that the matter will be kept under review and if resources permitted, the scheduling of planning clinics will be reviewed.

364.2 Letterkenny Local Area Plan

The Members expressed concern at the perceived delay in advancing the Letterkenny Area Plan and sought a timeframe as to when it is envisaged that the Plan will be considered for adoption. Liam Ward advised that the Council is anxious to progress the Letterkenny Area Plan and has undertaken extensive public consultation on the Plan which must be factored into the overall timescale for reviewing and adopting a new Plan. Once the draft plan is published, Liam Ward advised that Planning Services will set out a roadmap for the stages and timescale in adopting a new Plan. He noted that it might be overly ambitious to have the plan adopted before the end of term of the current Council but it would likely be due for adoption in the second half of 2019.

It was agreed to hold a workshop on the Letterkenny Local Area Plan on **Thursday 15th November at 2 pm in the Letterkenny PSC.**

364.3 Planning Enforcement

Cllr. Ian McGarvey highlighted a number of cases that are being pursued for unauthorised development. Liam Ward advised that it would be inappropriate to discuss the specific cases at this public forum but that he had obtained details of the cases from Cllr. McGarvey the previous day and that he would revert directly to Cllr. McGarvey on the specific cases.

364.4 Taking in Charge of Estates/Unfinished Estates

The Members noted that an informative workshop was held the previous day and it was agreed to hold a further workshop to update the Members on the progress made in dealing with issues in unfinished estates on the 13th November 2018 from 12 noon - 1pm in the Milford PSC (prior to the November Letterkenny Municipal District meeting).

364.5 Proposed Additions to the Record of Protected Structures.

On the proposal of Cllr. Liam Blaney, seconded by Cllr. Ian McGarvey it was agreed to defer a decision on the addition of the 2 no. properties at Carrickart (ref 40808009 and 40808010) until the properties were registered in the name of the owner.

On the proposal of Cllr. Liam Blaney, seconded by Cllr. Ian McGarvey it was resolved in accordance with the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended) to add Killydonnell Friary (reference 40904655) to the Council's Record of Protected Structures.

MDL365/18 ENVIRONMENT

Joe Ferry presented the Environment Report as circulated with the agenda.

The Members expressed their appreciation to the work of the Litter Wardens and the Lifeguards.

MDL366/18 COMMUNITY ENTERPRISE & CULTURAL SERVICES

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

Cllr. Liam Blaney extended best wishes to Ray Community Centre in the Pride of Place competition 2018 and also mentioned the good work being carried out by Tamney community group.

An update on the progress made on the Social Enterprise Centre was provided to Cllr. Ciaran Brogan to note that it is anticipated that the

planning permission application will be ready for submission in January 2019.

MDL367/18 ROADS & TRANSPORTATION

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

367.1 Letterkenny Four Lane Update

Fergal Doherty advised that Irish Water are proposing to start to lay the new water main from the Dry Arch roundabout towards the Pole Star roundabout from January 2019 onwards.

367.2 Part 8 - Cathedral One Way System-Letterkenny

Fergal Doherty noted that funding was approved in March 2018 and the Council is currently exploring funding opportunities to carry out the works.

367.3 Part 8 - Rathmullan One Way System

Fergal Doherty advised that a further public consultation event is being arranged for the 20th September as requested by the Members. Cllr. Liam Blaney advised that he did not agree with the noted outcome of the workshop where it was stated that a further public consultation event would be arranged. He advised that he had requested for staff to meet with relevant stakeholders in advance of a further formal event. It was noted that staff in the Road Design section will follow up directly with Cllr. Liam Blaney on this issue.

367.4 DUGS Update

Fergal Doherty advised that consultations had taken place with a workshop held with the Members on the 27th July and business owners along the Port Road met, and that it is planned to present the Part 8 to the Plenary meeting at the end of September 2018 for the Members consideration.

367.5 Three Year Footpath Programme.

Fergal Doherty noted that a workshop was held with the Members to agree the 3 year footpath programme, details of which were circulated at the meeting. Members welcomed the agreed 3 year programme.

The MDL 2 year footpath and public lighting programme and 1 year provisional programme as agreed at the MDL workshop prior to the meeting was proposed by Cllr. Gerry McMonagle and seconded by Cllr. Liam Blaney.

Cllr. Ian McGarvey sought to have the footpath works at Rectory Road, Ramelton included in year 1 of the programme but it was noted that this would involve moving a year 1 project to year 2 and there was no proposal in this regard.

367.6 Round 2 - LIS for 2018

Fergal Doherty advised that at the May 2018 Letterkenny Municipal District meeting, a second list was agreed and forwarded for consideration in the event that additional funding be made available. Fergal advised that Members will be advised of the extent of that list to be funded in the event that the Department of Rural and Community Development agreed to fund a Round 2.

367.7 Waste Reception Plan 2018 - 2021

Circulated for the Members information and to note that public consultation will be undertaken in the review of the Plan.

367.8 Kilty Roundabout Design

Fergal Doherty circulated the concept design for the Kilty Roundabout and asked members to revert with any comments/views to Michael McFadden. In the event that there were no comments, it was agreed that the Parks and Open Spaces team would commence construction forthwith.

Questions

MDL368/18 ROAD MARKINGS AT POLESTAR ROUNDABOUT, LETTERKENNY

In an answer to his question on what steps had been taken by the Roads Department following his motion to introduce yellow boxes at the Polestar Roundabout in Letterkenny, Cllr. C. Brogan was advised:

"Road Design has investigated the option of installing yellow boxes at roundabouts and the DTTAS guidelines state that "yellow box MAY be used at road junctions including roundabouts as deemed appropriate by the Local Authority, where blocking back affecting a cross flow is a significant problem".

There are significant challenges at the polestar roundabout, most notably, the uneven spread of flow on the arms at various times during the day, causing difficulty in vehicles accessing the circulating carriageway.

A design is currently being finalised for the inclusion of a yellow box on the polestar roundabout. A safety audit will then be required prior to same being issued to the TII/NRDO design office for consideration and approval on this national route. A request shall also be issued (subject to approval of the design) for the funding and completion of the works through the TII Lining Term Maintenance contract.

It is important to note that yellow box installation at this roundabout will require a high level of maintenance due to traffic continuously crossing the box resulting in a tendency for same to wear out fast and will result in delays while repair works are ongoing.

Road Design is currently working on the design and planning for an integrated traffic management system for Letterkenny which will, once funded and installed, will assist considerably in the management of the traffic at this roundabout and around the town."

MDL369/18 OLD COURTHOUSE LETTERKENNY

In an answer to his question requesting an updated report on the steps taken to have a Tourism/Culture Centre in the Old Courthouse and if the Council have had any success in engaging Failte Ireland to secure additional funding for this project, Cllr. C. Brogan was advised:

"The Council has had a number of engagements with Failte Ireland in relation to developing potential Tourism uses in the Old Courthouse in Letterkenny. Failte Ireland is very positively disposed to exploring such

options and in conjunction with Donegal Co. Council hosted a Workshop for local Tourism operators in Letterkenny and its Environs in late July 2018 to develop ideas and options in this regard. The feedback from this Workshop is being considered and Donegal Co. Council will work closely with Failte Ireland in terms of bringing these options forward for assessment and implementation."

MDL370/18 ROADWORKS FOUR LANE LETTERKENNY

In an answer to his question requesting an updated report on the proposed Four Lane roadworks and proposed new water main on the Four Lane and the time frame for these works, Cllr. C Brogan was advised:

"It is currently planned to tender the scheme in early 2019 with a view to commencing on site immediately after the completion of the IW watermain works. The IW works in this area are programmed to commence in Q1 2019 and to be completed by Q3 2019. At present based on the IW timescale the earliest start date for the Four Lane Road is in the last quarter of 2019."

MDL371/18 SEWERAGE TREATMENT PLANTS

In an answer to his question requesting proposed plans for Sewerage Treatment Plants be progressed as soon as possible, Cllr. I. McGarvey was advised:

"Donegal County Council has forwarded this question to the Irish Water (IW) office, and requested 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."

MDL372/18 SAFETY MEASURES KILMACRENNAN CROSSING

In an answer to his question requesting what Safety measures could be introduced at the crossing in Kilmacrennan as it very dangerous for all users, Cllr. I. McGarvey was advised:

" The issue of the Kilmacrennan Cross roads in the Main Street has been passed to the TII Safety division to access but at present there are no plans in place to carry out any safety works here."

MDL373/18 TRAFFIC VOLUME LETTERKENNY TO MILFORD ROAD

In an answer to his question requesting details of the volume of Traffic on the Letterkenny to Milford Road and should it be upgraded, Cllr. I. McGarvey was advised:

"The last survey of Regional Roads done in 2008/2009 had an AADT figure of 8692 on the Ramelton Road.

There is no programme in place at present to upgrade it."

MDL374/18 SOCIAL HOUSING CONSTRUCTION

In answer to his question on when works would commence on the new social houses that was promised to be delivered and funded by the Department in 2016, Cllr. J. O'Donnell was advised:

" This housing scheme at Long Lane consists of 29 units and Part VIII planning approval has been obtained. An architect led design team has been appointed and is progressing the detailed design. The Council expects to have the next approval request submitted to the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government in September 2018. This approval will enable the Council to proceed to tender the works for project and it is envisaged that the tender process will commence within one month of departmental approval being received."

MDL37518 HOUSING NEED CHURCHILL

In answer to his question requesting to know what the housing need for Churchill was, Cllr. J. O'Donnell was advised:

"The current gross housing need for Churchill is 9 units and the net need is 2 units. The gross need takes into account the number of applications who are currently in receipt of a Housing Assistance Payment (HAP)."

MDL376/18 MAPS OF PROPOSED NEW BOUNDARY

In answer to his question requesting to know when he would receive the new boundary maps as requested at previous meetings, Cllr. J. O'Donnell was advised:

"Maps showing the proposed new electoral area boundaries are currently being prepared and will be forwarded to members over the coming week together with the extract of the Boundary Commission Report in relation to proposed changes in Donegal."

MDL377/18 SAFETY WORKS FOUR LANE LETTERKENNY

In answer to his question requesting the start date for the Safety Works at the Four Lane Letterkenny, Cllr. G. McMonagle was advised

"It is currently planned to tender the scheme in early 2019 with a view to commencing on site immediately after the completion of the IW watermain works. It is programmed to commence in Q1 2019 and to be completed by Q3 2019. At present based on the IW timescale the earliest start date for the Four Lane Road is in the last quarter of 2019."

MDL378/18 ROAD MARKINGS ST EUNANS COURT

In answer to his question requesting this Council to provide a Yellow Box on road at St. Eunan's Court, Back Road Letterkenny, Cllr. G. McMonagle was advised:

"Yes, Roads will arrange for installation in the next scheduled lining in the coming weeks."

MDL379/18 SOCIAL HOUSING SCHEME LONG LANE

In answer to his question requesting he be advised on what the delay was in awarding the contract for building houses on the Long Lane Scheme and when did we now hope to actually start on site and what was the proposed completion date, Cllr. G. McMonagle was advised:

"Tender documentation for the Social Housing Scheme at Long Lane Letterkenny, incorporating 29 social housing units is practically complete. A detail design review has been carried out with the Architect Led Design Team in advance of the Stage 3 submission to the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government for approval to proceed to tender.

Upon receipt of approval from the Department, the project will be advertised for tender on E Tenders and the Official Journal of the European Union.

Tenders will be reviewed in line with Pre-tender Estimates and a tender report with recommendation forwarded to the Department.

The successful tenderer will be required to furnish Bond and Insurance in advance of award of contract.

The tendering process is required to satisfy the demands of the Public Spending Code, Public Financial Procedures and EU and National Procurement Requirements.

The proposed completion date for the scheme is Quarter 1 2020 and represents an investment of approx €5m."

MDL380/18 PROPOSED NEW ELECTORAL BOUNDARIES - ROADS PROGRAMME

In answer to his question requesting whether with the new electoral boundaries set to change next year, would the additional Manor area to the Letterkenny area be included for the roads program for next year, or what would be the process around this, Cllr. J.P.McDaid was advised:

"The MD Roads Programmes will take account of any alterations to boundaries which are currently being proposed. It should be noted that the roads programme already provides for the maintenance and improvement of the roads network so any boundary changes that are made will mean that the responsibility will shift from one MD to another. The current arrangement for allocating monies is based on road mileage and this will continue to apply."

MDL381/18 ROADS PROGRAMME 2019

In answer to his question on whether this Council could ensure that the High Road in Letterkenny was included for next years Roads Programme, Cllr. J.P.McDaid was advised:

"The 2019 RI and RM programmes will be agreed by Members in early 2019."

MDL382/18 L.I.S. FUNDING

In answer to his question on whether this Council was expecting any additional LIS money this year, Cllr. J.P.McDaid was advised:

"The Department of Rural and Community Development have advised that they are now considering what capacity it might have to allocate a further round of LIS funding in 2018 and expects to be in a position to make final decisions in that regard by the end of September."

MDL383/18 AN GRIANAN THEATRE EXIT

In answer to his question requesting this Council to erect a "No Left Turn" sign at the exit from An Grianan Theatre, Cllr. J. Kavanagh was advised:

"Roads will review signage in this location and erect requested sign if deemed appropriate."

MDL384/18 DISABLED PARKING BAY - COLLEGE ROW

In answer to his question requesting this Council to provide a Disabled Parking Bay at the last parking slot at College Row, Cllr. J. Kavanagh was advised:

"Roads will review in the context of overall numbers of disabled spaces to regular parking spaces, and the appropriate location for the space in that area."

MDL385/18 GRASS CUTTING NEW LINE ROAD

In answer to his question requesting this Council to cut the grass and clear the area along New Line Road to the back of St.Eunan's College pitch, as it was badly over grown and looks bad, Cllr. J. Kavanagh was advised:

"Maintenance works in various locations, are undertaken by arrangement, by a number of groups, such as Community Employment Schemes, Local Residence Groups etc. Cllr to liaise on site with the Town Engineer to establish specifics in relation to maintenance."

MDL386/18 PIPE INSULATION BRIDGE BARRACK GLENSWILLY

In answer to his question on whether, after concerns raised to him by locals, there was sufficient insulation on the pipe carrying water over the Bridge in Barrack Glenswilly, some locals fear freezing temperatures could bust the pipe, Cllr. A. Glackin was advised:

"Councillor Glackin with their answer and copy it to the other Elected Members of Letterkenny Municipal District. Any response received by the Council will be passed on to Councillor Glackin."

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.

MDL387/18 ROAD SIGNS RASHEDOGE LANE

In answer to his question whether as locals living on the "dark lane" at Rashedoge in Glenswilly were asking if it was possible to have signs erected at its entrances for no HGV vehicles to use it and instead use the main road and junction at Foxhalls, due to health and safety concerns of pedestrians and cyclists in the area. This is a narrow lane way and locals are afraid an accident could occur, Cllr. A. Glackin was advised:

"Roads will arrange for the erection of two advisory signs."

MDL388/18 BARRACK BRIDGE GLENSWILLY

In answer to his question requesting the maximum weight allowance for vehicles on the bridge at Barrack, Glenswilly, Locals are concerned with the amount of heavy loaded vehicles travelling on the Tullyhullion to Barrack road via the bridge, Cllr. A. Glackin was advised:

"The maximum weight laden is 46 Tonnes as per Council Directive 96/53/EC. In light of concerns raised, Roads will arrange for a bridge inspection to be carried out at the next round of inspections."

MDL389/18 DATE AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING

It was agreed that the next MDL Meeting would be held on 9th October 2018 at the Letterkenny PSC commencing at 2:00 p.m.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Mayor

Meetings Administrator