

**MINUTES OF MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF LETTERKENNY MEETING HELD IN THE MILFORD PUBLIC SERVICES CENTRE ON TUESDAY, 12<sup>TH</sup> JUNE, 2018**

**MDL 252/18 MEMBERS PRESENT**

Cllr. Liam Blaney  
Cllr. Adrian Glackin  
Cllr. Jimmy Kavanagh  
Cllr. Michael McBride  
Cllr. James Pat McDaid  
Cllr. Ian McGarvey  
Cllr. Gerry McMonagle  
Cllr. John O'Donnell

**MDL253/18 OFFICIALS PRESENT**

Joe Ferry, Senior Executive Scientist, County Laboratory  
Linda McCann, Senior Staff Officer  
Martin McDermott, Executive Planner  
Michael McFadden, Executive Engineer  
Patricia McIntyre, Area Manager  
Liam Ward, Director of Service

The meeting was chaired by Mayor, Cllr. Jimmy Kavanagh.

**MDL254/18 APOLOGIES**

Cllr. Ciaran Brogan  
Cllr. Dessie Shields  
Fergal Doherty, S.E.E./Area Manager, Roads & Transportation  
Christina O'Donnell, Development Officer

**MDL255/18 ADOPTION OF MINUTES OF MDL MEETING HELD ON 12<sup>TH</sup> JUNE, 2018**

On the proposal of Cllr. Liam Blaney and seconded by Cllr. John O'Donnell, the Minutes of MDL Meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> June, 2018 were adopted.

**MDL256/18 NEW AREA MANAGER HOUSING & CORPORATE SERVICES**

The Members each welcomed Patricia McIntyre as the new Area Manager to Housing & Corporate Services in Letterkenny MD and wished her well in her role.

**MDL257/18 OLD MART CAR PARK, LETTERKENNY**

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

*“That the Council "open up" the car park at the Old Mart to put an end to the anti social behaviour that happens there.”*

Members were advised that:

*“The Executive is already looking at plans to replace the existing wall, with a fence, subject to funding, such that this area is opened up. Members will be informed of developments.”*

On proposing the motion Cllr. Kavanagh spoke of a recent occurrence which left the car park closed and asked that the existing wall be replaced with a railing similar to that at the Tadhg Culbert Car Park on High Road to ensure there was no further incidents of anti-social behaviour. Cllr. Kavanagh welcomed the reply received to his motion.

On seconding the motion Cllr. McBride fully supported the motion and asked that the car park was named and an advertisement campaign was run to highlight this car park which was central to the town.

Michael McFadden confirmed that this was feasible and the Council was currently looking at developing plans for this.

***MDL258/18 PLAY AREA AT MANOR VIEW ESTATE, LETTERKENNY***

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

*“That the Council turn the play area in Manor View estate into a usable amenity for the children of the area.”*

The Members were advised that:

*“The Council will make contact with residents in the estate to discuss the proposal and ascertain the associated project costs.”*

On proposing the motion Cllr. Kavanagh asked that the Council carry out the necessary works to provide a play area in Manor View that the residents could then maintain going forward. A fence also needed two panels replaced.

On seconding the motion Cllr. McMonagle fully supported the motion and asked for clarity on whether this estate had been formally taken over. Cllr. McMonagle reported dumping, tarmac area overgrown and children playing on the road.

Liam Ward agreed to follow up on the take over of the estate and advised that the Council would be agreeable to the development of an amenity as outlined in the reply.

Clr. Blaney highlighted that as parking charges generated significant funds, this project should be funded from parking budgets.

Michael McFadden confirmed that this was feasible and the Council was currently looking at developing plans.

**MDL259/18 TREES AT MANOR VIEW ESTATE, LETTERKENNY**

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

*“That the Council cut back the trees in Manor View estate as they are hanging across the road and reduce visibility for drivers in a part of the estate that has a lot of children.”*

The Members were advised that:

*“The trees are on private property. The Council will liaise with the owners with a view to having them trimmed in the first instance.”*

On proposing the motion Cllr. Kavanagh asked that the overgrown trees were cut back to improve visibility in the estate which was currently very dangerous with children playing in the estate.

On seconding the motion Cllr. McMonagle fully supported the motion and asked that the trees were removed to improve the play area.

**MDL260/18 ROSEMOUNT COTTAGES, KILMACRENNAN**

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

*“Calling on this Council to deal with the drainage at the back and front of houses in Rosemount Cottages, Kilmacrennan.”*

The Members were advised that:

*“Roads carried out some drainage works to the rear of the Rosemount Cottages a few years ago, following request by Housing. The Council was not and are not aware of any issues to the front of these houses or any further issues to the rear. Cllr O’Donnell to advise the Housing Engineer of further information in relation to issues, to ensure they can be addressed.”*

On proposing the motion Cllr. O’Donnell asked that the Council investigate the drainage again and carry out essential repairs to gullies and camera survey of drains as the residents are at risk of flooding following the heavy rainfall on 1<sup>st</sup> June.

On seconding the motion Cllr. McBride fully supported the motion and asked that the drainage in front of the houses was improved.

Cllr. O'Donnell asked that the Housing and Roads Engineers meet both Members and the residents to ensure the issues were addressed.

**MDL261/18 BARRACK, GLENSWILLY**

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

*“That this Council undertakes work to clear the area of the bridge at Barrack, Glenswilly, as during the heavy rain on 1st June 2018 the bridge was unable to take the water flowing underneath causing flooding to properties at Barrack crossroads and Barrack cottages areas.”*

The Members were advised that:

*“The Council regularly clear bridges where obstruction is identified. The deluge of 1st June was so intensive that debris was washed downstream causing the obstruction that resulted in flooding. This bridge is to being cleared again.”*

On proposing the motion Cllr. Glackin praised the response of the Council staff and locals in dealing with the severe flooding. Cllr. Glackin asked that every effort was made to clear the rivers ensuring debris did not build up and block bridges as happened on 1<sup>st</sup> June.

On seconding the motion Cllr. McMonagle said this matter had been raised since August 2017 and asked that the rivers are cleared more regularly to remove rubbish, hedges, debris to alleviate flooding.

**MDL262/18 CUL NA CILLE, RAMELTON**

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

*“That this Council undertakes some repair works for visible cracks on the walls on housing belonging to the Council in Cul Na Cille in Ramelton, and administer paint to the outside walls as per the Council rent books given to those living there.”*

The Members were advised that:

*“The Council plans to carry out some maintenance works on properties in the Cul na Cille Estate in Ramelton during 2018.”*

On proposing the motion Cllr. Glackin said that tenants in the estate were very annoyed and angry at the response of the Council to painting externally in the

estate. Cllr. Glackin reported cracking in the plaster and houses needed to be painted and welcomed the reply received.

On seconding the motion Cllr. McGarvey asked that the Council facilitate the residents in the estate.

Patricia McIntyre agreed to follow up with Cllr. Glackin on this matter.

***MDL263/18*** **SHORT STAY WARD LETTERKENNY HOSPITAL**

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

*“That this Municipal District writes to the Minister for Health and ask that the short stay ward in Letterkenny University Hospital be re-opened to help reduce the number of people on trollies in the hospital, in particular the elderly.”*

The Members were advised that:

*“The motion is noted and Corporate Services will arrange to make contact with the Minister for Health, should the motion be adopted by the Members.”*

On proposing the motion Cllr. Glackin advised that this matter was also brought up at Plenary level and said he would continue to highlight the lack of funding for healthcare in the North West. Cllr. Glackin said that on average 19 people were waiting on beds in 2017 in Letterkenny which is exactly the same number of beds in the Short Stay Ward of the hospital which was closed due to lack of funding. Management applied for €1.8m to open the Ward and this had been refused. Cllr. Glackin said that Donegal was being discriminated because of its location and asked that all Public Representatives work towards North West City Region status to ensure funding was received. Cllr. Glackin also highlighted the new Maternity Ward / Facility which was never opened.

On seconding the motion Cllr. McMonagle fully supported the motion and confirmed that 19 people were waiting on beds on the day of the meeting. Cllr. McMonagle said that there was a growing need for health care and there was a need for centres of excellence in areas of diabetes, cancer, and neurology. Cllr. McMonagle urged the Minister for Health to reconsidering granting €1.8 m funding so that the people of Donegal get the same treatment as similar residents in Dublin, Cork and Galway.

Cllr. Glackin asked that a strongly worded letter be issued to the Minister for Health.

**MDL264/18 RECOGNITION OF PAST MAYORS / TOWN CLERKS IN LETTERKENNY PSC CHAMBER**

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

*“That this MD implement the motion passed by Letterkenny Town Council and erect the photos of previous Mayors and Town Clerks around the Chamber in Letterkenny Public Service Centre.”*

The Members were advised that:

*“The Council will review the most appropriate arrangements to have information in relation to the holders of the offices of Mayor and Town Clerk of the former Letterkenny Town Council displayed in the Council Chamber in the Letterkenny Public Service Centre. Whilst some research has been done to secure photos of the office holders it may not be possible to obtain these in all cases and consequently an alternative approach may be required to comply with the spirit of the motion.”*

On proposing the motion Cllr. McMonagle asked that the Council acknowledge the great work of previous Mayors and Town Clerks by way of an exhibition in the Museum, photos in the Chamber of Letterkenny PSC or a Role of Honour was erected. Cllr. McMonagle asked that the Chain of Office of the former Letterkenny Town Council be included in the exhibition and asked where the Chain of Office was currently kept.

On seconding the motion Cllr. Glackin fully supported the motion and asked that the work of the former Mayors and Town Clerks would be publicly recognised.

Cllr. Micheal McBride added that he fully agreed with the motion and that a similar recognition would be displayed in the LYIT, ETB and Council Headquarters in Lifford.

Liam Ward acknowledged that recognition should be given and expressed concern at the availability of photos. A Role of Honour should be done as a minimum and available photos should be displayed.

**MDL265/18 PAINTING OF OLDER PERSONS DWELLINGS**

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

*“That this MD looks at aspects of our policies in relation to preventing residents of our estates from painting the houses especially our Older Persons Dwellings.”*

The Members were advised that:

*“The policy on painting social housing stock provides that while the tenant is responsible for the internal painting and decoration, the Council is responsible for external painting.*

*In this regard, the Council is commencing an annual external painting programme this year, and tenders will be sought in the coming weeks. The initial phase of the programme will involve the painting of Older Persons Dwellings.”*

On proposing the motion Cllr. McMonagle asked that the Council review the policy on painting Older Persons Dwellings and work with the Residents Association by supplying paint to allow the Resident Groups to carry out the works. Cllr. McMonagle felt that this was a more cost effective policy which was effective in the past and thus encouraging communities to help communities.

On seconding the motion Cllr. Glackin fully supported the motion and said that this was a more cost effective way of maintaining the houses.

Cllr. Blaney said that the Members agreed €50,000 budget for external painting of Council properties and agreed fully with Cllr. McMonagle’s motion.

Liam Ward said that this motion should go be referred to the Housing SPC as it proposed a policy change.

***MDL266/18 UPGRADE ROAD AT CARABLAGH, PORTSALON***

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

*“Will this MD provide the necessary Funding to upgrade the road around Carablagh, Portsalon for a safe route in tourism on the Wild Atlantic Way to Fanad Lighthouse and other areas.”*

The Members were advised that:

*“The Restoration Improvement programme is agreed annually by Members and the previously funded Specific Improvement grants are not funded at present.”*

On proposing the motion Cllr. McGarvey asked that the Council source funding from Failte Ireland / Tourism Donegal to improve the safety of the route along the Wild Atlantic Way.

On seconding the motion Cllr. Blaney fully supported the motion and highlighted the need to widen and improve this road. Cllr. Blaney said that the current allocation was not sufficient and that specific improvement grants would be vital for this area.

**MDL267/18 SAFETY CHECK AT DRUMNACRAIG BEACH, PORTSALON**

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

*“Will this Council carry out a safety check the Lifebelts & Hangings on Drumnacraig Beach, Portsalon.”*

The Members were advised that:

*“The site will be visited/assessed and the ringbuoys will be repaired/replaced as necessary.”*

On proposing the motion Cllr. McGarvey asked that safety checks were carried out at all the beaches in the county.

On seconding the motion Cllr. Blaney fully supported the motion and welcomed the response.

**MDL268/18 SEWAGE TREATMENT FACILITIES FOR RATHMULLAN**

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

*“Will this M.D impress on Irish Water the importance of Sewage Treatment facilities at Rathmullan that the Blue Flag Status can be restored.”*

The Members were advised that:

*“If this motion is passed Donegal County Council will write to Irish Water accordingly.”*

On proposing the motion Cllr. McGarvey stated that the Blue Flag would be reinstated in Rathmullan if funding was provided to address the issue of sewage in Rathmullan.

On seconding the motion Cllr. Blaney said that following a meeting with Irish Water two weeks ago the Members welcomed that Irish Water were proceeding to Planning stage for Milford / Ramelton and Rathmullan sewage scheme.

**MDL269/18 REINSTATE THE ROAD AT LOUGH KEEL**

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

*“That this Council ask Irish Water to urgently reinstate the road at Lough Keel to a safe standard for road users.”*

The Members were advised that:

*“Roads is liaising with IW regarding reinstatement and have advised them of their obligations to keep the road useable for the public. The road referred to is currently under a road closure order. Roads is currently in discussions with the contractor regarding proposed measures.”*

On proposing the motion Cllr. McBride asked that Irish Water would be requested to reinstate the road to a usable standard at Lough Keel during the current water pipeline installation.

On seconding the motion Cllr. O’Donnell fully supported the motion and advised that he had received a number of complaints from residents in the area. Cllr. O’Donnell asked that Members were given contact names and details when such works were ongoing.

**MDL270/18 BARRACK, GLENSWILLY – FLOOD PREVENTION**

On the proposal of Cllr. James Pat McDaid and seconded by Cllr. Ian McGarvey, the following motion was adopted:

*“That this Council assess and carry out flood prevention works in Barrack, Glenswilly where there was recent flooding.”*

The Members were advised that:

*“The Council regularly clear bridges where obstruction is identified. The deluge of 1st June was so intensive that debris was washed downstream causing the obstruction that resulted in flooding. This bridge is to be cleared again.”*

On proposing the motion Cllr. McDaid asked that the Council liaise with local landowners to ensure that hedgerows and rivers are cleared regularly to avoid flooding. Cllr. McDaid said that he had received a number of complaints from residents regarding safety at the Barrack Junction and asked that public lighting was installed. Cllr. McDaid commended the local Council staff for their work and quick response to the flooding on 1<sup>st</sup> June.

On seconding the motion Cllr. McGarvey fully supported the motion and highlighted the need to deal with flooding risks by removing and clearing debris on rivers.

**MDL271/18 SAFETY SIGNAGE AT ROCKHILL ROAD AT CRIEVESMITH**

On the proposal of Cllr. James Pat McDaid and seconded by Cllr. Michael McBride, the following motion was adopted:

*“That this Council put in safety measures and extra road markings at the junction heading out the Rockhill Road in Crievesmith area.”*

The Members were advised that:

*“Councillor to further clarify location of junction referred to, and specific safety concerns, to allow proper assessment, and inclusion in lining programmes after surface dressing season if appropriate. There are no proposals for any safety scheme on this road.”*

On proposing the motion Cllr. McDaid asked that signage and road markings were put in place to improve safety at the junction from Leck Road adjoining the Bomany Road.

On seconding the motion Cllr. McBride supported the motion and highlighted the heavy volume of traffic on the road and significant development in the area.

Michael McFadden agreed to look at improving road markings and signage in this area.

***MDL272/18 RASHEDEOGE BRIDGE IN GLENSWILLY***

On the proposal of Cllr. James Pat McDaid and seconded by Cllr. Ian McGarvey, the following motion was adopted:

*“That this Council carry out preservation works and tidy up the old Rashedeoge Bridge in Glenswilly.”*

The Members were advised that:

*“The Rashedeoge Bridge is not a protected structure and as such does not qualify for any of the typical 'conservation' funding streams such as Structures at Risk or Heritage Funding. There are currently no other identified sources of funding for such works.”*

On proposing the motion Cllr. McDaid asked that the Council carry out preservation works and remove the trees/roots on this bridge. Cllr. McDaid asked that it would be added to the List of Protected Structures and that funding was sought through the Heritage grants.

On seconding the motion Cllr. McGarvey fully supported the motion.

Liam Ward agreed to forward the matter to Colette Beattie for examination.

***MDL273/18*** **MAYORS BUSINESS**

Cllr. Kavanagh advised that he had attended the following in the past month:

1. Attended Active Retirement at Regional Cultural Centre as part of Bealtaine Festival on 10<sup>th</sup> May
2. County Museum DVD launch on 11<sup>th</sup> May
3. Attended talk by Dr. Una Carthy, Lecturer, LYIT on secondary school language courses on 15<sup>th</sup> May
4. Attended Busty Blake commemoration as part of Heritage Week on 18<sup>th</sup> May
5. Attended Polish Olympics at Errigal College on 19<sup>th</sup> May
6. Attended Opening of the Outside Gym in Bernard McGlinchey Town Park, Launch of National Bike Week and Talk on Strikes in St. Conal's as part of Heritage Week on 19<sup>th</sup> May.
7. Attended the Launch of the Donegal International Rally, GAA School boys Summer League and Launch of Business Awards at Century Cinemas on 25<sup>th</sup> May
8. Hosted the Mayor's Reception on 29<sup>th</sup> May for Margaret Toner and Johnny McCollum which was very well received and attended.
9. Attended the prize giving at Errigal College on 31<sup>st</sup> May
10. Opened the Rathmullan Toilet Facilities with Cathoirleach Gerry McMonagle on 1<sup>st</sup> June.

***MDL274/18*** **CORRESPONDENCE**

On the proposal of Cllr. Michael McBride and seconded by Cllr. Gerry McMonagle the Members gave permission to Donegal Youth Service to use the Bernard McGlinchey Town Park on 24<sup>th</sup> August from 12 noon to 6 pm for their annual Party in the Park.

On the proposal of Cllr. Gerry McMonagle and seconded by Cllr. Michael the Members gave permission to Ferry School of Irish Dancing to use the Bernard McGlinchey Town Park on 24<sup>th</sup> June at 1 p.m. 5K fun run / walk.

***MDL275/18*** **PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

The Members noted the content of the Planning Report circulated with the Agenda which included:

1. Summary of planning applications for the District
2. Enforcement
3. Upcoming Month Schedule
4. Central Planning Unit Updates

Martin McDermott advised that the next planning clinic would be held on 20<sup>th</sup> June, 2018.

Cllr. Michael McBride noted the increase of planning applications received and expressed concern on the pressure of this on Planners and staffing resources. Liam Ward acknowledged the increase in level of work and advised that staff resources would be kept under review.

### **275.1 - Letterkenny Local Area Plan**

Martin McDermott advised that work had commenced on the Letterkenny Local Area Plan and a number of events had commenced during the week which were well attended.

Cllr. McBride asked for feedback on the public engagement on the Plan and expressed the importance of the public's vision for the town.

Cllr. McDaid asked for feedback on the Public Consultation, number attended and number of submissions received.

Liam Ward advised that the public consultation was different from the past and that more focussed sessions were held and a positive level of engagement had been received.

### **275.2 - Hericoast**

Martin McDermott highlighted the update circulated with the Agenda on the Hericoast Project.

### **275.3 – Carraig Croabh, Letterkenny**

Cllr. McMonagle raised concern on the retaining walls at Carraig Craobh Estate, Letterkenny and asked if this estate had formally been taken over. Cllr. McMonagle asked that the walls were inspected as a matter of urgency and works done where required. Cllr. McMonagle reported that the roads and footpaths were deteriorating and urged that this issue was sorted as a matter of urgency.

Liam Ward acknowledged that this matter had been raised several times and that a structural survey was commissioned by the Housing Office on the retaining wall. The matter of the retaining wall did present challenges as the estate had not been taken over.

## ***MDL276/18*** **ENVIRONMENT**

Joe Ferry presented the Environment Report and particularly highlighted the following points to Members:

- Green Schools Awards – Donegal
- Errigal College – Overall National Winners of SEAI Competition
- Trash'n'Fashion
- Local Agenda 21 Partnership Fund – Closing date for applications was 20<sup>th</sup> June 2018

- Dog Fouling Awareness Campaign
- Farm Plastic Collection – Donegal
- Waste & Litter Management –
  - Tonnage collected by Mobile Litter Unit circulated
  - 34 Litter Fines issued in 2018 to date
  
- Coastal Management
  - Blue Flag & Green Coast Beach Awards 2018 – 12 Blue Flags Awards and 1 Green Coast Award
  - New Beach Wheelchair in Marble Hill Beach unveiled on 29<sup>th</sup> May
- Water Quality
  - Public Service Announcement for Septic Tank owners
  - Water Framework Directive – Staff were currently working on priority actions areas.

The Members welcomed the report.

Cllr. McMonagle acknowledged the great event and creativity presented by the youth in the Trash'n'Fashion event sponsored by the Council.

#### **276.1 - Grass Cuttings**

Cllr. McMonagle asked that composting areas for grass cutting and garden waste would be made available at the recycling centres as resident groups were finding it difficult to dispose of this when maintaining open/green areas in estates.

#### **276.2 – Rathmullan Toilet Facilities**

Cllr. Blaney commended the great design and facility at Rathmullan and how well it fitted into the Rathmullan environment.

#### **276.3 – Blue Flag Beach Awards**

Cllr. Blaney asked that every effort is made to increase the Blue Flag Awards in 2019 to equal or better other counties.

#### **276.4 – Environmental Partnership Fund**

Cllr. Blaney asked that every assistance would be given to Glen Village to ensure a successful application would be submitted.

Joe Ferry advised that a small Fund was available and that an application had been submitted by Glen Village.

#### **276.5 – Recycling Centre at An Craobhinn, Termon**

Cllr. McBride asked for an update on his request to have bottle banks installed at An Craobhinn Centre following the success of the Banks at Trentagh.

### **276.6 – Sewage Treatment Plants in Estates**

Cllr. O'Donnell asked that the issues experienced with sewage treatment plants in private housing estates be addressed as a matter of urgency. The use of tankers was only a short term solution.

Joe Ferry acknowledged the frustrations in relations to sewage treatment plants in private estates which was being addressed by the Planning service by way of limited funding available through the relevant Bonds.

## ***MDL277/18 COMMUNITY ENTERPRISE & CULTURAL SERVICES***

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

- Social Enterprise Building
- Fanad Lighthouse
- Outdoor Fitness Gym – Letterkenny Town Park
- Pride of Place 2018
- Donegal Youth Council
- Donegal Tourism – Promotional Shows
- Donegal Gathering Project
- Rural Development Programme/LEADER

The Members welcomed the report.

### **277.1 – Funding Schemes**

Liam Ward advised of the following additional items to the Report Funding Programmes announced:

**Community Enhancement Scheme** was recently announced and was administered through the LCDC. A Fund of €159,000 was received and 30% had been earmarked for small projects. It was agreed that each Municipal District would receive €32,000 and the closing date for applications was 30<sup>th</sup> July, 2018.

**Outdoor Recreational Fund** – aimed towards, walkways, trails and greenways and funding was as follows:

Less than €20,000 – LCDC to apply and limited to 10 applications.

€120,000 to €200,000 – Local Authority to apply and limited to 4 applications.

€200,000 to €500,000 – Local Authority to apply and limited to 1 application.

**Town & Village Renewal** – applications needed to be submitted by the end of June

### **277.2 – Upcoming Events**

Liam Ward also spoke of the following events in the County; Cómortas Peile na Gaeltachta, Donegal Rally and Irish Open Golf Championship.

#### **Cómortas Peile na Gaeltachta**

Cllr. Blaney commended the Downings GAA Club on hosting the gaelic championship and the organisation involved in this. Cllr. Blaney acknowledged the contribution the Council made to ensure the event was successful. Cllr. Blaney congratulated: Downings Junior Ladies, Milford

Intermediate Ladies and Glenfin Senior Ladies on their success in their competitions. Cllr. Blaney also congratulated the host Club on winning the Junior Mens Title.

Cllr. McBride congratulated Downings GAA on the great event and the Rosapenna Hotel for the support they gave to the GAA Club

### **Donegal Rally**

Cllr. O'Donnell concurred with Cllr. Blaney and also wished the Donegal Rally success in their upcoming event and asked that Donegal County Council increase funding to the Motor Club going forward.

Cllr. McMonagle acknowledged the work of the staff in tourism in attracting tourists and events to the County.

### **Donegal Youth Council**

Cllr. McBride asked that the Council write to the Youth Council and acknowledge their contribution during their term.

### **277.3 Kilmacrennan**

Cllr. McBride asked that the Council write to acknowledge the investment and mosaic of Colmcille on Strains Old House in Kilmacrennan by the new owners Chris Fitzsimmons and his wife who now live in France. Cllr. McBride said that this was very fitting with the upcoming Colmcille 2021 celebrations.

## ***MDL 278/18 ROADS & TRANSPORTATION***

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

### **278.1 Electric Cars Charging Points**

In a report circulated with the Agenda the Members were advised that there were 6 electric car charging points in Letterkenny MD, and the recent parking bye-laws enacted within the town of Letterkenny included for the prohibition of parking on these spots, for other an electric vehicles.

### **278.2 CIS (Community Involvement Scheme) Allocations**

The Members were circulated a list of the successful schemes in the Letterkenny MD following funding of €6.215m received.

Michael McFadden advised that the Director of Roads had advised that a workshop would be arranged for all Members in Lifford at the end of June to discuss the funding received under the CIS.

Cllr. Blaney said that Letterkenny had submitted 45% of the applications under this scheme and was angered to learn that only 15% of the funding was being allocated to Letterkenny MD. Cllr. Blaney said that a lot of work had gone into submitting applications by Communities, Council staff and Members in order to obtain

funding under this scheme and was very annoyed to learn that the funding would be divided equally between the MDs when other MDs made little effort to submit applications. Cllr. Blaney said this MD should be awarded for the effort made and requested that the list is withdrawn.

The Members fully concurred with Cllr. Blaney.

### **278.3 – N56 Blue Banks – Kilmacrennan**

Cllr. O'Donnell & Cllr. McBride asked that the traffic lights adjacent to the shop and petrol station in Kilmacrennan would be moved as they were impacting on the business.

Cllr. McBride asked that a car park be reinstated on the Forest Trail which had been impacted by the road realignment and that Council write to the TII to have this reinstated as part of the ongoing works.

### **278.4 – Grass cutting on Dual Carriageway**

Cllr. McBride asked that the grass cutting on the dual carriageway be done as soon as possible.

Michael McFadden advised that this would be done in the near future.

## ***MDL279/18 HOUSING & CORPORATE SERVICES***

The Members noted a progress report circulated with the Agenda on Housing and Corporate Services which included updates on the following:

- HAP
- Casual Vacancies/Offer of Accommodation
- Extensions
- Grants
- Loans
- Social Housing Investment Programme – SHIP 2015 – 2020 / Rebuilding Ireland 2021 including Turnkey, Social Housing, Acquisitions & C.A.S.

### **279.1 – Social Housing Investment Programme**

Cllr. Blaney asked that the Council support social housing development in rural areas and noted the programme circulated in concentrated to Letterkenny town area only which was forcing people out of rural areas. Cllr. Blaney asked for an update on the Carrigart proposal as it was no longer reported on.

Cllr. McBride said that the lack of the housing development in Kilmacrennan was now impacting on newly built schools in the town with registration of new pupils decreasing. Cllr. McBride said that schools should be consulted and areas targeted for social housing development.

### **279.2 - HAP**

Cllr. O'Donnell asked that Council vacant houses were turned around sooner as people on the housing list were experiencing a lack of security of tenure under the HAP Scheme. Cllr. O'Donnell asked why there was a delay in reallocating Council houses.

Liam Ward advised that out of the 17 properties that were current vacant offers had been issued or were pending on 13.

Cllr. McMonagle said there was a serious housing problem for sometime and that the demand was primarily in Letterkenny town. Cllr. McMonagle felt that the Council was proactive in that of the 17 vacant properties 13 of them were offered or had pending offers. Cllr. McMonagle said that applicants housed by Approved Housing Bodies should be allowed to remain on the Housing List and also highlighted concerns around the HAP scheme household CAPS and increasing rents in the private rented market.

### **Questions**

#### **MDL280/18 TAKING IN CHARGE OF ESTATES**

In an answer to his question requesting an update on when the next batch of Estates be ready for taking-in-charge in Letterkenny MD, Cllr. Kavanagh was advised:

*“The planning authority will be initiating the taking in charge procedures for the second tranche of residential estates this month (June).”*

#### **MDL281/18 RETAINING WALL AT CARRAIG CRAOIBH, LETTERKENNY**

In an answer to his question had an examination of the Retaining Walls at Carraigh Craoibh, Rahan, Letterkenny been carried out and if so can I have the report, Cllr. McMonagle was advised:

*“Donegal County Council carried out a preliminary assessment of this estate for the purpose of establishing if it is suitable for taking in charge. A topographical survey is currently being procured and a further detailed assessment/report will be prepared when this survey is available. This assessment/report may contain recommendations for works to be carried out within the estate in accordance with the Council's policy and procedure for the taking in charge of residential developments of May 2015. The final assessment/report will be made available to the Members when completed.”*

#### **MDL282/18 REINSTATE TRAFFIC ISLAND AT BERNARD MCGLINCHEY TOWN PARK**

In an answer to his question on when the traffic island outside Bernard Mc Glinchey Town Park would be replaced before a serious accident occurs at this

crossing point, and be given a definitive date for its reinstatement, Cllr. McMonagle was advised:

*“Irish Water has advised that there were delays relating to pressure testing of the installed pipes that delayed the installation of the traffic island. This is now programmed to be installed week commencing 11th June.”*

**MDL283/18 BEACH GUARD COVER**

In an answer to his question was there Beach Guard cover on all beaches within our M.D, Cllr. McGarvey was advised:

*“Beach Lifeguard cover is provided within the Letterkenny MD at Rathmullan, Magherawarden and Downings beaches. This service is provided from July 1st to August 31st, with weekend cover continuing until mid-September.”*

**MDL284/18 COMMUNICATION BETWEEN ROADS & IRISH WATER**

In an answer to his question was there the necessary communication between Roads and Irish Water to minimise the impact on Road users for safety reason, Cllr. McGarvey was advised:

*“Roads and Irish Water communicate on a regular basis with the aims including the minimisation of impact on roads users.”*

**MDL285/18 MINOR POTHOLE REPAIRS CHECK**

In an answer to his question requesting that all the minor Roads have a check for Pothole repair with the suitable conditions, Cllr. McGarvey was advised:

*“Roads continue to repair on an ongoing basis, potholes on minor as well as other roads.”*

**MDL286/18 SAFETY MEASURES AT GLENSWILLY GAA CLUB**

In an answer to his question requesting an update on my recent motion calling on safety measures and traffic calming measures to be carried out at the junction at Glenswilly GAA Club, Cllr. McDaid was advised:

*“Measures as previously outlined were carried out. This was referred for assessment under Low Cost Accident measures, but does not qualify for traffic calming expenditure.”*

**MDL287/18 SAFETY MEASURES AT GLENMAQUINN N.S.**

In an answer to his question requesting an update on my recent motion calling for a safety barrier and improved vision lines at Glenmaquinn National School, Cllr. McDaid was advised:

*“Roads have referred this to specialist consultants for potential design of a solution, pending the longterm funding of the identified solution as presented to Members at a previous meeting.”*

**MDL288/18 BLUEBANKS/COOLBOUY TO KILMACRENNAN**

In an answer to his question requesting the timeframe for the Bluebanks/Coolbouy to Kilmacrennan Scheme, Cllr. Brogan was advised:

*The Time for Completion of the N56 Coolboy Kilmacrennan Road Scheme is 18 months.*

*The Start date was 07th March 2018.*

*The Completion date is 07th September 2019.*

**MDL289/18 LECK ROAD/SOUTHERN RELIEF ROAD DESIGN**

In an answer to his question requesting the timeframe for the Leck Road/Southern Relief Road Design and how much money has been allocated to this project, Cllr. Brogan was advised:

*“The timeframe for construction of this road is of the order of 26 months if funding is received in one package and longer depending on allocations received. No money has been allocated for the construction of this road to date. Members will be advised of developments.”*

**MDL290/18 TEN T PROJECT**

In an answer to his question requesting the timeframe for the Ten T project, Cllr. Brogan was advised:

*COMPLETION OF PHASE 2 - Selection of a Preferred Route Corridor*

*Towards the end of 2018, a Preferred Route Corridor will be identified and presented to the public for each section of the project.*

*PHASE 3 – DESIGN*

*RPS Barry Transportation will develop the Design from the identified Preferred Route Corridor for each section of the project during the first half of 2019.*

*PHASE 4 – EIA / EAR & STATUTORY PROCESSES*

*Following this Design development, RPS Barry Transportation will undertake to complete an Environmental Impact Assessment for the entire project. It is anticipated this will occur during the second half of 2019 and the first half of 2020.*

*It is anticipated that, the EIS and CPO Documentation will be published 2nd half of 2020.*

*Subsequently, it is anticipated that an Oral Hearing will be held by An Bord Pleanála in late 2020 / early 2021.*

*Following the Oral Hearing and subject to receiving a positive decision to proceed with the project, procurement for a contractor and construction will take place.*

*Programme and key milestones can be found on the 'Home Page' of the Donegal Ten-T website. [www.donegal-ten-t.ie](http://www.donegal-ten-t.ie)*

**MDL291/18 DATE AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING**

It was agreed that the next MDL Meeting would be held on 10<sup>th</sup> July, 2018 at Letterkenny Public Services Centre commencing at 2:00 p.m.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

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Mayor

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Meetings Administrator