

**MINUTES OF MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF LETTERKENNY MEETING,
HELD IN MILFORD PUBLIC SERVICES CENTRE ON TUESDAY, 12TH
MAY, 2015 AT 2PM**

MDL 183/15 MEMBERS PRESENT

Cllr. Liam Blaney
Cllr. Ciaran Brogan
Cllr. Jimmy Kavanagh
Cllr. Michael Mc Bride
Cllr. James McDaid
Cllr. Ian McGarvey
Cllr Gerry McMonagle
Cllr. John O'Donnell
Cllr. Dessie Shiels

MDL 184/15 OFFICIALS PRESENT

Liam Ward, Director of Service
Eunan Kelly, Area Manager, Corporate & Housing Services
Fergal Doherty, S.E.E./Area Manager, Roads & Transportation
Frances Friel, Staff Officer
Ciaran Martin, Community & Enterprise
Conal Mc Gettigan, A/Senior Executive Planner
Dearn Mc Clintock, Waste Regulation Officer, Environment

The meeting was chaired by Cllr. Michael Mc Bride.

MDL 185/15 ADOPTION OF MINUTES

On the proposal of Cllr. G. Mc Monagle seconded by Cllr. J. Kavanagh, the Minutes of Municipal District of Letterkenny Meeting held on 14th April, 2015 were adopted.

Cllr. G. Mc Monagle requested update on lights at Glen Eadain with L. Ward, Director advising that the update would be provided as soon as possible.

Cllr. L. Blaney advised that it would appear that Town Centre Sign in Milford had not been erected. F. Doherty, Area Manager, Roads & Transportation outlined that the Council had arranged to erect the sign but experienced difficulties with an adjacent landowner and were looking to relocate the position of poles as original poles had been placed on land now marked as "Private Property".

Cllr. D. Shiels asked if a formal reply had been received from Aura in relation to his question 161/15. Cllr. D. Shiels was advised that the matters raised had been brought up at recent Board Meetings of Letterkenny Sports Complex Development Ltd. Cllr. D. Shiels requested a copy of the correspondence that issued to Aura.

Cllr. I. Mc Garvey referred to Motion 159/15 regarding Irish Water and asked if a reply had been received. L. Ward, Director advised that the answer remains the same as given at the meeting with Irish Water now having responsibility for Water Services and that arrangements were in place with Irish Water for councillor engagement.

MDL 186/15 PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

C. Mc Gettigan, Planning briefed Members in relation to report previously circulated. The Members were advised that it was hoped that Enforcement Report would be available for June Municipal District Meeting.

In relation to Unfinished Estates, Cllr. C. Brogan outlined that the public need to be informed of the ongoing works by the Council to progress this matter. This was agreed by Cllr. G. Mc Monagle who would welcome regular updates in this area. Cllr. C. Brogan also referred to the issue with stand alone mechanical plants not connected to the public sewer which was a serious problem. Cllr. D. Shiels referred to his questions on Unfinished Estates which were not directly answered and requested additional information on housing estates.

L. Ward, Director referred to two recent workshops and updates given at Municipal District Meeting acknowledging that Unfinished Estates need to be kept on the Agenda. L. Ward, Director further advised that work is ongoing in this area but was slow given public notice, legal issues etc. L. Ward outlined that a significant report was to go before the Members at the Plenary Council Meeting on 25th May, 2015 whereby the formal process for takeover would be presented to the Members. The Members were advised that the formal process of takeover rests with each Municipal District and it was hoped to have a report before the June Meeting with a number of estates on it to go forward for takeover and a programme going forward for other estates. L. Ward also advised that a protocol had been agreed between Irish Water and the Council in relation to the Taking in Charge of estates. The Council was responsible for the taking in charge process with responsibility then transferring to Irish Water for water and wastewater infrastructure connected to the public networks. The Council is involved in a pilot project, together with DECLG and Irish Water, in cases where there were stand alone treatment plants which were not connected to the public sewer.

A lengthy discussion followed with Cllr. C. Brogan requesting that a Workshop take place as soon as possible regarding Unfinished Estates. It was agreed that the said Workshop would take place at 10am on Thursday, 28th May, 2015.

MDL 187/15 ENVIRONMENT

D. Mc Clintock, Waste Regulation Officer briefed the Members on contents of report previously circulated with updates on the following

- Community Clean Ups, Beaches – 43 tonnes of litter collected through-out the County in April 2015
- Smokey Coal Inspections
- Food Waste Collections – Coming into operation July 2014.
- Farm Film Plastic Inspections
- Enforcement

Cllr. C. Brogan thanked D. Mc Clintock for his report welcoming fact that a representative from Environment would be attending Municipal District going forward. Cllr. C. Brogan acknowledged the great work carried out by Volunteers and all Tidy Town Groups within the Municipal District. Cllr. C. Brogan pointed out that it was important that a strong message be sent out to those illegally dumping referring to cameras in place and that prosecutions will follow. Cllr. M. Mc Bride referred to the possibility of having night-time patrols and the need to monitor bottle banks etc during bank holidays and busy periods. Cllr. G. Mc Monagle referred to the issue with the Smokey Coal Ban with Coal Merchants from outside the ban unable to transport both types if their run included Letterkenny. A brief discussion followed with the Members acknowledging the problem for Coal Merchants. Cllr. C. Brogan asked that the Council write to the Department regarding concerns and challenges of businesses in implementing the Smokey Coal Regulations. This was seconded by Cllr. I. Mc Garvey.

D. Mc Clintock advised that the air quality in the Letterkenny area has improved 9 times since the regulations came in with long term health benefits for those with respiratory issues. Cllr. C. Brogan referred to HSE report a number of years ago which outlined the excellent air quality at the time in the Letterkenny area. Members welcomed improvement in air quality in Letterkenny.

Cllr. L. Blaney referred to the need to make the public more aware of the requirement to segregate food waste from July 2014.

Cllr Kavanagh highlighted fact that over 52 tonnes of litter and fly tipping had been collected by Mobile Litter Unit in April 2015. Members also requested details on the operation of the Recycling Centres in the county.

D. Mc Clintock responded to a number of issues raised including:

- Householders legally liable to burn smokeless coal.
- There was evidence to support that smokeless coal was cheaper in the long run
- Refuse will be charged by weight in future so there will be a financial incentive to segregate food waste.
- Focus on Farm Wrap is with Suppliers/Retailers

MDL 188/15 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT & ENTERPRISE

C. Martin briefed the Members on contents of report previously circulated with the following items noted;

- Fanad Lighthouse – Website currently being developed and an email marketing campaign
- Donegal Marathon – Marketing campaign currently ongoing. Investigation family day options for day of event.
- Rathmullan Beach Playground – Works to be complete by end of May 2015
- Donegal Tourism – Website www.govisitdonegal.com is performing strongly with an increase of 53% from same period last year.
- 27th Annual Earagail Arts Festival – Festival Programme to be launched on 2nd June, 2015
- Junior Achievement Programme 2015 – Delivery of Programmes in progress until School Year ending.
- IPB Pride of Place Competition 2015 – Initiative for 2015 will be acknowledged at an Awards ceremony in June 2015. National adjudication will take place mid July 2015.
- Bealtaine – Reminiscence and seeking 1916 archives and artefacts
- Bealtaine 2015 – library highlights – 18th year in Donegal
- Regional Cultural Centre - Forthcoming Exhibitions, Concerts and Events.
- Donegal County Museum – 2 Photographic Exhibitions throughout May – The Photo Album of Ulster & Evocation.
- County Donegal Heritage Plan (2014-2019) – On public review until 10th May, 2015 – will be presented to Elected Members for adoption.
- National Heritage Week – August 22nd to Sunday, 30th August, 2015
- County Donegal Heritage Plan Funding - €27,000 allocated in funding – “County Donegal in 1916” Heritage Education Pack, Study of Maritime Built Heritage, dry-Stone Walls Seminar & Workshop
- County Donegal in 19`6 – Heritage Education Pack – 5,000 copies will be produced
- Donegal Diaspora Project – Seminar 20th May 2015 COLAB @ LYIT

The Members thanked Ciaran for his report. Cllr. L. Blaney queried update on Rathmullan Ferry with C. Martin advising that same would be going out to tender this week with a closing date for end of May. Cllr. L. Blaney paid tribute to Mulroy Bay Development Group in having their area added to the Wild Atlantic Way. Cllr. L. Blaney asked that the Council would source funding for providing picnic areas and viewing/information points with maps along the Wild Atlantic

Way. Cllr. J. O'Donnell referred to the need for information points in the local areas along the Wild Atlantic Way and if the Council could work in conjunction with businesses in the area.

MDL 189/15 ROADS AND TRANSPORTATION

Fergal Doherty, S.E.E./Area Manager, Roads & Transportation briefed Members in relation to content of his report previously circulated. Report included the following follow ups from previous MDL meetings;

Woodlands – Short-term improvement of the road at Woodlands had been implemented with an additional 1metre strip adjacent to the existing widened section surface dressed. The road has also been re-lined with centreline and edge lines.

Cframs - At a meeting with the OPW in relation to the CFRAMS Study and in particular Ramelton, undertaking was received by the OPW through their subcontractor consultants, that they would fast-track the development of the Flood Risk Management Plan for Ramelton, such that the Council could apply for funding under the Minor Flood Mitigation Scheme, for any identified findings and mitigating measures identified (if any) from the Ramelton Flood Risk Management Plan. Once completed, the Flood Risk Management Plan for Ramelton will be brought to a further MDL meeting.

Additional Funding - €80,000

The Members considered contents of Supplement Report outlining details of €400,000 of historical Development Charges funding with €80,000 for each MD for capital improvement works. F. Doherty, S.E.E./Area Manager, Roads & Transportation advised that it was recommended that €20,000 be spent in each of the 4 RSS as follows;

Fanad Area - €20,000 on footpaths improvements around Ramelton

Carrigart Area - €20,000 divided among the following

- Vision lines at Mulroy Crossroads
- Parapet Railings at Tully Bridge
- Pedestrian Railings at Steps in Carrigart Main Street footpath
- Improvement works to the junction in Letterfad, Kilmacrennan

Letterkenny Rural Area - €20,000 to Ballymacool Road for further deteriorated areas

Letterkenny Urban Area - €20,000 - €20,000 to Ballymacool Road for further deteriorated areas.

The above recommendation was proposed by Cllr. James P. Mc Daid and seconded by Cllr. I. Mc Garvey. Cllr. G. Mc Monagle asked regarding the possibility of receiving a proposed schedule of the Road Works Programme.

Cllr. D. Shiels welcomed monies now available but felt that monies raised from Development Charges should be spent in the area monies generated from. In this regard, Cllr. D. Shiels asked if he could be advised as to how much of the €400,000 was raised in the Municipal District of Letterkenny area. Cllr. C. Brogan outlined that the roads in the area were in a crisis referring to the request to meet the Minister. Cllr. C. Brogan asked that a further request be made to J. Mc Hugh, T.D., Minister of State to meet the Minister. Cllr. L. Blaney welcomed the allocation but asked that a workshop take place in future in relation to funding allocations etc. Cllr. L. Blaney also referred to the need to look at materials used on roads and also need for drainage works. Cllr. M. Mc Bride advised that he could not support recommendation as presented given his responsibility as an elected Member to give fair play to all. Cllr. M. Mc Bride referred in particular to need for footpaths, play areas, street lighting in the Kilmacrennan area given the additional housing in the area in recent years. Cllr. M. Mc Bride proposed that the allocation of the additional development charges monies be discussed at a Workshop. This proposal was seconded by Cllr. L. Blaney who also asked for a breakdown of where additional monies were generated from.

E. Kelly, Area Manager advised the Members that an email had issued from the Minister's Office advising that the Minister was not in a position to meet at this time. The Members referred to their disappointment at the response given and it was agreed that a reply be sent immediately outlining the urgency in this matter and if they could be advised of a date that he would be available to meet the Members.

As there were 2 no. proposals the matter was put to a vote;

5 Members voted in favour of Cllr. J. P. Mc Daid's motion to adopt recommendation to spend €20,000 in reach of the 4 RSS areas as outlined above. 4 Members voted in favour of Cllr. M. Mc Bride's motion to hold a Workshop to discuss the allocation of funding. Cllr. J. P. Mc Daid's motion was therefore carried.

Pole Star to Dry Arch Four Lane Study NRADO update

The Members considered contents of Roads Supplementary Report No. 2 in relation to road from Pole Star to Dry Arch. The study by NRO examines the option to improve safety on the section and has been submitted to the NRA Safety Department for consideration and potential funding. A speed limit reduction to a suitable speed (80kph) for the nature and traffic levels on the route was also considered. The Members were advised that any proposal to impose a special speed limit will be assessed in light of the *Guidelines for Setting and Managing Speed Limits in Ireland* published by the Department in March 2015. These guidelines would not recommend installation of a speed limit which is substantially below the operating speed of the existing road without appropriate engineering measures to reduce

speeds. The report further advised that the NRAO are considering reduced speed limit (to 80kph) in conjunction with a central median and reduced lane widths. The report outlined that the NRADO are prepared to give an update at a workshop in the coming months.

A lengthy discussion followed. Cllr. D. Shiels advised that he would not agree with the reduced speed limits without engineering measures not having the desired effect and that reduced speeds could be achieved at a minimum cost by reducing speed limits and positioning a speed enforcement van on the dual carriageway. He requested a copy of Road Design Report on this road. He did not agree with the NRA finding that a lot of vehicles travel at maximum speed. Cllr. C. Brogan outlined that this motion had been passed 9 years ago to reduce the speed limit and that Members were not being listened to by the NRA. Cllr. C. Brogan requested that a Workshop be held in this regard. Cllr. J. O'Donnell outlined that a centre reservation to stop crossing of lanes would solve the problem.

Fergal Doherty, S.E.E./Area Manager, Roads & Transportation reiterated that it is not recommended to install a speed limit which is substantially below the operating speed of an existing road without appropriate engineering measures to reduce speeds, and to be effective, a speed limit should be self-regulating (self explaining) and regarded as appropriate by road users. If a Special Speed Limit does not appear appropriate to the road user, the road user will tend to ignore it, creating enforcement difficulties and potentially bringing the whole system of speed limits into disrepute. This is fact bourn out by numerous studies in the UK and is included in the current Guidelines for Setting and Managing Speed Limits in Ireland 2015. It is not appropriate that the successful operating of any new speed limit is dependant on the positioning of a speed enforcement van. Fergal Doherty advised that the NRA had previously allocated funding for the erection of a barrier and the reduction of speed limits in 2011, but the Electoral Area Committee recommended that the Council advise the NRA not to proceed with the installation of the central barrier. Fergal Doherty outlined that it would be best for the NRA/NRDO to come in and make a presentation to the Council as proposed.

***MDL 190/15* HOUSING & CORPORATE SERVICES**

E. Kelly, Area Manager briefed Members on contents of report previously circulated and noted the following items;

- Progress Report – Grants/Loans Reports
- Progress Report – Casual Vacancies

E. Kelly advised of progress on grants etc following discussion at last meeting.

E. Kelly, Area Manager advised that a number of offers and acceptances had taken place since the last meeting.

E. Kelly, Area Manager referred to discussion at a previous meeting re disposal of 273 Bridgend, Ramelton and that the Council now proposed to progress the matter. A brief discussion followed with the Members agreeing that 273 Bridgend be sold by the Council.

E. Kelly, Area Manager referred to the Housing Assistance Programme (HAP) as updated at last meeting and advised that it was proposed to implement in Donegal before the end of May. L. Ward, Director advised that the Members would receive a briefing at their next Plenary Council meeting.

Cllr. G. Mc Monagle once again referred to the rate of refusals and proposed that a Workshop take place in this regard. Cllr. G. Mc Monagle asked regarding notification of any approvals from the Department for new schemes with L. Ward advising that 3 no. schemes, Ardara (8), Donegal (24) and Newtown (6) had been approved for next stage. Cllr. C. Brogan referred to the need to look at a regeneration programme and the huge challenges in the area of housing together with implementation of HAP etc. Cllr. C. Brogan outlined that he would welcome a Housing Workshop and it was agreed that said Workshop would take place at 10am on 9th June, 2015.

Cllr. J. Kavanagh also referred to the high refusals welcoming review at forthcoming Workshop. Cllr. J. Kavanagh referred to issue of Tenants of Voluntary Housing Bodies being liable for Property Tax and asked that Voluntary Groups make a presentation to the Council to clarify confusion. Cllr. J. Kavanagh referred level of grants available for elderly/disability grants and allocations.

E. Kelly, Area Manager advised that level of grants are set by the Council and were reviewed a number of years ago. Grants were left the same following the review but had been higher in the past.

L. Ward, Director informed the Members this issue had been identified at Housing SPC Policy area and agreed that a review was warranted.

Cllr. L. Blaney referred to the recent announcement of €34m to comprise of approximately 507 units over 3 year period. Cllr. L. Blaney raised his concerns that the Council would not be in a position to provide such numbers.

In relation to announcement of 507 units over a 3 year period at a cost of approximately €34m, L. Ward, Director advised that it would not be all new builds and that there would be an element of House Purchase and that properties brought back into productive use would also comprise of a portion of the 507 units. L. Ward further advised that the current allocation approved for the County amounted to €5.8m relating to 38 units.

MDL 191/15 SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS

On the proposal of Cllr. C. Brogan, seconded by Cllr. G. Mc Monagle, it was agreed to suspend Standing Order Number 5 and to continue with the meeting after 6.00pm until agenda was completed.

MDL 192/15 FIXING OF DATE FOR AGM 2015

On the proposal of Cllr. C. Brogan seconded by Cllr. G. Mc Monagle it was agreed that the 2015 AGM would be held on 9th June, 2015 at 6pm in An Craoibhin Community Enterprise Centre, Termon.

MDL 193/15 RECEPTION OF DEPUTATION – GLENWOOD PARK RESIDENTS

On the proposal of Cllr. C. Brogan seconded by Cllr. G. Mc Monagle the Members agreed to request from Glenwood Park Residents Association and receive a deputation at the July Meeting of the Municipal District.

MDL 194/15 RECEPTION OF DEPUTATION – LETTERKENNY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

On the proposal of Cllr. C. Brogan, seconded by Cllr. J. Kavanagh the Members agreed to request from Letterkenny Chamber of Commerce and receive a deputation at the July Meeting of the Municipal District.

MDL 195/15 FOOTPATHS - RAMELTON

On the proposal of Cllr. J. O'Donnell seconded by Cllr. J. Kavanagh, the following motion was adopted;

That this Council reinstate the footpaths at the The Mall Ramelton and Bridge Street in Ramelton and the top of Church Street as these paths are a major safety issue.

The Members were informed that;

Maintenance of footpaths at Ramelton are currently being carried out, with areas at both The Mall and Church St. included.

MDL 196/15 CHURCHILL VILLAGE

On the proposal of Cllr. J. O'Donnell, seconded by Cllr. M. Mc Bride, the following motion was adopted;

That this Council address the speed of traffic travelling through Churchill village by putting Slow Slow on road on both sides of the village to highlight that they are entering a built up area.

The Members were informed that;

This will be reviewed in the context of the Traffic Signs Manual guidelines on the use of SLOW road markings and included in next lining programme if deemed appropriate.

MDL 197/15 LOADING BAY – LOWER MAINS STREET

On the proposal of Cllr. J. O'Donnell seconded by Cllr. J. Kavanagh, the following motion was adopted;

That this Council introduce a loading parking bay at Lower Main Street on right hand side of the street

The Members were informed that;

A location has been identified for the demarcation of a loading bay at Lower Main St. Letterkenny

Following clarification, Cllr. J. O'Donnell outlined that he was not in favour of loading bay on the left hand side given the number of resident parking permits etc. Cllr. J. O'Donnell pointed out that a loading bay on the left hand side would cause massive disruption. Cllr. J. O'Donnell referred to wide footpath on the right hand side outside Déjà Vu which could be narrowed to accommodate a loading bay. This motion was seconded by Cllr. J. Kavanagh who also agreed that loading bay should be on the right hand side of the street. Fergal Doherty advised that there was insufficient room outside Déjà Vu to install a loading bay and leave a footpath in place to specifications, and the Council have no plans to remove existing footpath for a loading bay at this location

MDL 198/15 CASUAL TRADING – MARKET SQUARE

On the proposal of Cllr. J. Kavanagh, seconded by Cllr. G. Mc Monagle the following motion was adopted

That the Council actively promote the vacant Casual Trading slots at the Market Square in Letterkenny, and use any monies raised from their rental to go towards improving the Market Square area.

The Members were informed that;

Planning Department deal with the licensing of Casual Trading on an 'as requested' basis. Unfortunately there is currently no resource or facility to undertake the promotional activity as suggested in the Motion. Overall the monies collected barely covers the ongoing administration and related costs and unlikely if there would be any substantial funds available for capital investment for environmental improvement works or similar.

On proposing the motion, Cllr. J. Kavanagh outlined that he did not agree with the answer given and that the 4 casual trading spots on the Square could be made available for the Summer at a cost of €300. Cllr. J. Kavanagh asked that the Council promote same on Council website, Face book etc referring to businesses in the area looking to have problems in the Square addressed. On seconding the motion, Cllr. G. Mc Monagle also agreed that the Council should try and promote the Market Square area given the history of market trading in the area.

MDL 199/15 DOG LITTER BIN – SENTRY HILL

On the proposal of Cllr. J. Kavanagh seconded by Cllr. G. Mc Monagle, the following motion was adopted

That the Council move the dog litter bin from beside the monument at Sentry Hill and place it further down at an appropriate distance from the monument.

The Members were informed that;

Donegal County Council intend to move the Dog Fouling Bin from its current position at Sentry Hill and relocate it to a new site in the area as soon as these works can be carried out.

MDL 200/15 BARRIERS – KERRYKEEL TO MILFORD ROAD

On the proposal of Cllr. J. Kavanagh seconded by Cllr. L. Blaney the following motion was adopted;

That Donegal County Council consider replacing the barriers along the Kerrykeel to Milford Road, as they are no longer fit for purpose.

The Members were informed that;

The budget cost for the replacement of the Safety Barriers is €75k. There is currently no identified budget to replace these barriers.

On proposing the motion Cllr. J. Kavanagh referred to the possibility of replacing the barrier nearer to the road and allow a scenic walk inside it. Cllr. L. Blaney referred to his previous question re repairing some of the barrier which was quite dangerous.

MDL 201/15 TRAFFIC LIGHTS – JUSTICE WALSH ROAD

On the proposal of Cllr. G. Mc Monagle seconded by Cllr. C. Brogan, the following motion was adopted;

In order to improve traffic management and safety I propose we erect Traffic Lights at the bottom of the Justice Walsh Road Junction with Pearse Road.

The Members were informed that;

Based on previous costings, the approximate cost estimate for the erection of Traffic Lights at this location are between €25k and €30k, depending on the extent of civil works required. There is currently no identified budget for the erection of Traffic Lights at this location.

On proposing the motion, Cllr. G. Mc Monagle referred to dangers at this junction with poor vision with parking bays for retail units. Cllr. G. Mc Monagle pointed out that traffic lights would be in the interest of both traffic and pedestrian safety.

Cllr. C. Brogan also pointed out that traffic lights would be in the best interest of traffic management and help with pedestrian linkages between old and new retail units

MDL 202/15 TOURIST MAP

On the proposal of Cllr. G. Mc Monagle seconded by Cllr. C. Brogan the following motion was adopted;

That this Municipal District takes a leading role in working with local businesses and tourist agencies to draw up a tourist map showcasing the areas of outstanding beauty and interest for visitors and locals when visiting the Letterkenny Municipal District

The Members were advised that;

The Council will through its Tourism Section consult with the tourism agencies in the Municipal District of Letterkenny with regard to the preparation of a tourism map for the district.

Following the consultation and costing a draft shall be presented to the MD for their approval.

On proposing the motion, Cllr. G. Mc Monagle asked that the Council consult with local businesses to help fund the initiative. Cllr. G. Mc Monagle referred to the possibility of a brochure with a map showcasing all we have to offer in the Municipal District of

Letterkenny. This would help to enhance the area and attract more tourists and visitors.

On seconding the motion, Cllr. C. Brogan referred to Letterkenny Chamber of Commerce who were currently working on a map and number other groups doing great work. Cllr. C. Brogan also pointed out that Failte Ireland Northwest should also be taken on Board and referred to the possibility of a workshop going forward.

MDL 203/15 1916 COMMEMORATION

Cllr. G. Mc Monagle proposed the following motion;

That as part of our commemoration of 1916 Rising next year this Municipal District set aside a piece of Land in Ballymacool Park and ask our Gardener to develop a Garden of Remembrance that will mark the centenary of the Rising and act as a memorial to all those that lost their lives during that period and that we also consider renaming the park in memory of the leaders of the Rising i.e.: The 1916 Martyrs Park.

On proposing the motion Cllr. G. Mc Monagle outlined that a number of Councils have adopted the Garden of Remembrance Theme to mark the 100th anniversary of the 1916 Rising.

On seconding the motion, Cllr. C. Brogan advised that a public meeting was taking place in Letterkenny next week re 1916 commemorations that that the Cultural Sector has a huge role to place in these events. Cllr. C. Brogan advised that he would not be in favour of renaming the Ballymacool Park. Cllr. G. Mc Monagle outlined that the motion read “consider renaming” and that the decision would be for the Members. A brief discussion followed with the Members agreeing with the Garden of Remembrance but did not agree with the renaming of the Ballymacool Park.

L. Ward, Director advised that the council through Community & Enterprise will be drawing up a programme of events and that that the proposed Garden of Remembrance would be passed on to the team involved.

MDL 204/15 PROVISION OF HOUSING

On the proposal of Cllr. I. Mc Garvey seconded by Cllr. L. Blaney the following motion was adopted;

That this Municipal District draws up a plan to minimise delay in providing the maximum number of houses under the proposed Housing Policy by the Department.

The Members were informed that;

The Social Housing Strategy as published in November 2014 sets out an ambitious delivery programme to deal comprehensively with the housing list and to reform key elements of social housing policy.

The Strategy proposes a range of mechanisms to meet the housing need including;

- *A new Social Housing Capital Construction/Acquisition Programme for both the Local Authority and the Approved Housing Body Sector*
- *The return of vacant Local Authority units to productive use*
- *The lease of a number of units under the Social Housing Leasing Initiative and*
- *The provision of housing solutions through the Housing Assistance Payment (H.A.P.) and Rental Accommodation Schemes (R.A.S.).*

The Council made a submission to the Department for the delivery of 600 housing units in Donegal during the programme. It is proposed that these units will be spread across the Municipal Districts based on the number of approved applicants for social housing support with 220 having been earmarked for the M.D. of Letterkenny

Initial Proposals for over 90 units in the County have already been submitted to the Department including 28 units in Letterkenny. While approval has been received for 48 units, unfortunately none of these are in the M.D. of Letterkenny. It is hoped that further approvals will be forthcoming.

In general terms, the sites/locations for new schemes, based on the social housing need, have largely been identified and where there are difficulties, Council staff is looking for suitable lands e.g. in Letterkenny Town. Initial meetings have also been held with Planning staff to discuss the programme. Other options including the acquisition of built houses and unfinished schemes are also being considered.

The Social Housing Strategy is highly dependent on the Department as all proposals require their technical/ financial approval in stages and they exercise full financial control.

The imminent introduction of the Housing Assistance Payment (HAP) Scheme in Donegal will provide an opportunity to meet the housing needs of a significant number of housing applicants. Work is ongoing preparing for the introduction of the scheme to ensure the Council is in a position to enable a significant number of transfers to HAP over the coming months.

When the final shape of the Programme is known, it is intended that meetings will take place at Municipal District level and as Schemes

are advanced through the Planning process, they will be brought before the Council for formal approval.

MDL 205/15 RATHMULLAN – PUBLIC TOILETS ETC.

On the proposal of Cllr. I. Mc Garvey seconded by Cllr. L. Blaney, the following motion was adopted;

That this Municipal District ask the Director of Water Services (Mr. Joe Peoples) to initiate the Plan to provide the long delayed toilets for Rathmullan with a facility shop and Tearoom to create some employment locally.

The Members were informed that;

A meeting has been arranged for the 20th May, 2015 to initiate the consultation process with the residents in Rathmullan on the provision of Public Toilets

MDL 206/15 RAMELTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

On the proposal of Cllr. I. Mc Garvey, seconded by Cllr. L. Blaney the following motion was adopted;

That the Members of this Municipal District support the reopening of the Library service in Ramelton.

The Members were informed that;

There will be an opportunity to review Library Services across the county later this year when the Council prepares its new Strategic Plan for Cultural Services. At this time Members may wish to consider the current network of service points and the current levels of service vis a vis the resources available.

At present the Council is focusing on managing its existing network of libraries across the county. There are increasing instances of ad hoc closures across the county as reduced staffing levels make it impossible to provide consistent opening hours despite best efforts. The Council is planning some changes through the workforce planning process and the aim is to incrementally reach sustainable staffing levels and sustainable levels of service.

MDL 207/15 HOUSING ESTATES – TAKING IN CHARGE

On the proposal of Cllr. D. Shiels, seconded by Cllr. I. Mc Garvey, the following motion was adopted;

That this Municipal Council engage in a public awareness campaign (including by publishing public notices in Local Newspapers/local Radio/local online news websites) to advise the residents of all estates in the Municipal District of Letterkenny area which have not been taken in charge of the Council of their rights as owners or occupiers of houses in those estates to apply to the Council under section 180 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 to have their estates taken in charge by the Council.

The Members were informed that;

Following the adoption of the Taking in Charge Policy in July 2013 the Planning Authority engaged in a Taking in Charge public awareness exercise through newspaper notices, radio bulletins and through the DCC's website to promote and heighten public awareness of the Taking in Charge process. The Planning Authority also wrote to housing associations in the Letterkenny Town Council area, in 2014, whose housing developments had not been taken over inviting the submission of an application.

The Council is not adverse to repeating this public awareness campaign however as this is a costly exercise the Taking in Charge team needs to consider this action within available resources and expand any awareness campaign to all Municipal Districts. The Taking in Charge team shall revert back to members once it considers the availability of resources.

On proposing the motion, Cllr. D. Shiels referred to a number of estates that were in good condition but that the public were not aware of the taking in charge process pointing out that it may be too late when estate deteriorates. Cllr. D. Shiels asked that a renewed effort be made in relation to public awareness and that the Council write again to each estate given that only 62 estates had applied for take over. On seconding the motion, Cllr. I. Mc Garvey asked that the Council appeal to the Department for funding in this regard. Cllr. C. Brogan referred to the several workshops that have already taken place over the last number of years and also public ads in local newspapers etc.

MDL 208/15 COURTHOUSE, LETTERKENNY

On the proposal of Cllr. D. Shiels seconded by Cllr. C. Brogan, the following motion was adopted;

That this Municipal Council calls on the Department of Justice and

The Office of Public Works to fast track the construction of the new Courthouse in Letterkenny given the very many inadequacies of the existing Letterkenny Courthouse Building where persons attending court suffer the consequences of over crowding and lack of consultation facilities on a daily basis.

On proposing the motion, Cllr. D. Shiels referred to previous announcement that construction of new Courthouse would commence in 2013. Cllr. D. Shiels outlined that the current Courthouse was not fit for purpose with court lists growing day by day. Cllr. D. Shiels asked to amend his motion to include "Court Service". This amendment was seconded by Cllr. C. Brogan and agreed. Cllr. C. Brogan on seconding the motion asked that the matter be addressed as a matter as urgency and would welcome a response from the Department of Justice.

MDL 209/15 LETTERKENNY GOLF CLUB – SPEED REDUCTION

On the proposal of Cllr. D. Shiels, seconded by Cllr. I. Mc Garvey, the following motion was adopted;

That this Municipal Council consider the installation of suitable speed reduction measures at both sides of the entrance to Letterkenny Golf Club to alleviate any road traffic safety issues given the ever increasing numbers of members at the Golf Club following its very successful period of redevelopment of its Golf Course and its facilities in recent years.

The Members were informed that;

The Council will consider this. There are however no indications that speed reduction measures are required at this entrance. The requirement for a speed survey will be referred to the Road Design Dept.

On proposing the motion, Cllr. D. Shiels referred to the blind exit from the Golf Club and asked re possibility of a sign to alert Golf Club Entrance. Cllr. D. Shiels also asked re provision of rumble strips below and above entrance. Fergal Doherty advised that accident statistics showed no accidents at this location, and that the requirement or not of rubblestrips would be in accordance with current guidelines. This motion was seconded by Cllr. I. Mc Garvey asked that the Council also look at junction at Main Road.

MDL 210/15 ROADS PROJECTS

On the proposal of Cllr. C. Brogan seconded by Cllr. L. Blaney the following motion was adopted;

I propose that this Council bring an up to date report on the current status of projects at Lisnennan/Unifi , Woodlands, Sallaghraine, Coolboy to Termon and the Joe Bonnar Road to ensure that these projects are ready to go to construction if funding becomes available.

The Members were informed that;

The design status of the various roads referred to will be brought to a subsequent meeting. There is currently no identified budget for the furtherance of any of the roads indicated other than the Joe Bonnar Road for which a commitment from finance is in place.

On proposing the motion Cllr. C. Brogan advised that if Government decide to allocate monies soon that the Council need to be ready with specified projects. Cllr. C. Brogan asked that a report indicating what is required and estimated cost etc be made available for next meeting. Cllr. C. Brogan outlined that the Members should be made aware of what projects Road Design are working on and proposed an email each month to update Members or a work in progress document every 2nd month. F. Doherty advised that Road Design are working on projects for which funding is allocated and that in the event that funding was available for a particular scheme they could be diverted accordingly.

MDL 211/15 WATER & ENVIRONMENT - INFRASTRUCTURE

On the proposal of Cllr. C. Brogan seconded by Cllr. L. Blaney, the following motion was adopted;

I propose that this Council meet with Senior Management of Water and Environment to discuss ongoing infrastructure in our area.

The Members were informed that;

While the provision of Water Service infrastructure is now a matter for Irish Water, arrangements can be made for The Water & Environment service to meet with the members of the Letterkenny Municipal District of Letterkenny to update on proposals for the provision of water service infrastructure in the district.

On proposing the motion, Cllr. C. Brogan proposed that a Workshop be held as soon as possible to discuss challenges being faced on a daily basis and seek opportunity to maximise funding in this area.

MDL 212/15 BALLAGHERG PRE SCHOOL - FOOTPATH

On the proposal of Cllr. C. Brogan seconded by Cllr. J. Pat Mc Daid, the following motion was adopted;

I propose that this Council construct a footpath to the Ballagherg Pre School.

The Members were informed that;

There is currently no identified budget for the construction of new footpaths, with current maintenance resources concentrated on the repair of existing footpaths such as Ballyraine, Slate Row and Long Lane.

On proposing the motion Cllr. C. Brogan referred to a number of disabled children at the school and that if weather is good that the children are taken out in their Wheelchairs. Cllr. C. Brogan acknowledged issue with funding but advised that he had an Engineer assess the required and asked that F. Doherty, examine and report back re cost etc. Cllr. C. Brogan asked that if money is available in the future that the Council consider the provision of this footpath.

On seconding the motion, Cllr. J. Pat Mc Daid urged the Council to try and access funding for these works.

MDL 213/15 LIGHTS – MC FADDENS SHOP BREENAGH

On the proposal of Cllr. J. Pat Mc Daid, seconded by Cllr. J. Kavanagh, the following motion was adopted;

That this Council erect lights across from Mc Fadden's Shop Breenagh to help identify car registrations at night time. This area has been subject to numerous break ins recently and lights across from the shop would help the Gardai immensely in identifying vehicles.

The Members were informed that;

There is currently no identified budget for the erection of new streetlights, with current maintenance resources concentrated on the repair and maintenance of existing.

On proposing the motion, Cllr. J. Pat Mc Daid asked that the Council assess the area for the provision of lights.

On seconding the motion, Cllr. J. Kavanagh outlined that the provision of lights would be a practical solution to the problem. Cllr. C. Brogan

also referred to area being a focal point for the community with Post Office, shop etc.

F. Doherty, S.E.E./Area Manager, Roads & Transportation outlined that any lights erected are on the basis of identified road user need and budget. A brief discussion followed and it was agreed that the Council seek a quotation for the erection of these lights acknowledging that currently there is no identified budget for same.

MDL 214/15 ROAD SIGNS – FANAD

On the proposal of Cllr. L. Blaney seconded by Cllr. I. Mc Garvey, the following motion was adopted;

That this Council erects 3 road signs with " Fàilte Go Fànaid" on them at 3 entrance routes to Fanad i.e. Kerrykeel, Warden and Harry Blaney Bridge.

On proposing the motion Cllr. L. Blaney asked that the Council consider erecting these signs which would assist local Irish group who have entered National Glor Na nGael competition.

Cllr. I. Mc Garvey, on seconding the motion pointed out that the erection of these signs would also serve as information for the Wild Atlantic Way.

MDL 215/15 GRITTING PLAN

In answer to his question as to what is the update on the road gritting plan for the winter ahead, Cllr. J. O'Donnell was advised that;

The road gritting plans for the 2015-16 season are the same as last year, with gritting of the identified routes to be carried out at the discretion of the Duty Engineer. There are currently no plans to modify or amend the existing routes.

MDL 216/15 THE GRANGE – VISION LINES

In answer to his question if the Council can address the vision lines at the entrance to no 1-10 The Grange Letterkenny as resident can't see what is coming down the hill from Killyclug direction, Cllr. J. O'Donnell was advised that;

Traffic calming measures including signage and lining and the installation of rumble strips were installed on the Killyclug approach to 1-10 The Grange. There are no plans at present for any further measures.

MDL 217/15 AUDIT – FIRE HYDRANTS

In answer to his question as to when was an audit of fire hydrants in estates in the Letterkenny area last carried out, were all hydrants in working order, and when is another audit due to be carried out, Cllr. J. Kavanagh was advised that;

Under Section 29 of the Fire Services Act, 1981 the provision and maintenance of fire hydrants is a function of a sanitary authority. That responsibility now lies with Irish Water.

The provision and maintenance of fire hydrants on private housing estates and other private property is the responsibility of the property owner.

A limited and ongoing programme of hydrant inspections is carried out by the brigades as part of their annual training programme. Fire hydrant inspections were last carried out during a three hour drill in the June, July and August Quarter of 2014. It is envisaged that the same will be done in 2015. However this would be subject to training requirements.

Fire hydrant inspection sheets are completed as part of the fire brigade inspection / familiarisation process and details are forwarded to the body having responsibility for the fire hydrants.

MDL 218/15 FUNDING - GREENWAYS

In answer to his question if the INTERREG Programme will be funding greenways this year, and if so has any application been made for funding to include a greenway in this area, Cllr. J. Kavanagh was advised that;

INTERREG V contains a Sustainable Transport element where Cross Border Greenways will be supported. The Council will be working closely with our colleagues in the newly established Cross Border Councils in developing a proposal under this measure

MDL 219/15 LIGHTS – MC FADDENS SHOP BREENAGH

In answer to his question if the Council can erect a “No Through Road” sign at Ashbrook, Letterkenny, Cllr. J. Kavanagh was advised that;

This will be erected following the identification of a suitable location.

MDL 220/15 COUNCIL HOUSING STOCK – FIRE/SMOKE ALARMS

In answer to his question if a survey of all Council housing stock can be carried out to ensure that all the Fire/Smoke Alarms are working and fit for purpose, Cllr. G. Mc Monagle was advised that;

The general advice is that alarms and heat detectors should be checked by Tenants on a weekly basis and where the battery has expired, it should be replaced immediately. Alarms / detectors should also occasionally be cleaned of excess dust using a vacuum cleaner to prevent the sensors getting clogged. Where, if after changing the battery and cleaning dust etc, a detector does not operate correctly following a test, the Council will have it replaced where necessary.

Under the terms of the formal Letting Agreement, the Tenant is responsible for ensuring that smoke alarms are maintained in working order. With over 1,300 units in the Letterkenny Municipal District, there is a significant resource implication arising from a survey of all units which it is believed, could lead to a false sense of security given the need for regular checks.

Notwithstanding this, where the Council are carrying out retrofit works to any dwellings and where works are being carried out on vacant stock, alarms will be tested to ensure that they are fit for purpose. We will also engage with the Fire Service in the context of information leaflets which could be provided for Tenants in conjunction with Fire Safety Week.

MDL 221/15 ROAD WORKS PROGRAMME

In answer to his question if the Members can be given a schedule and approximate dates for start and completion of our approved Road Works programmes across the Municipal District, Cllr. G. Mc Monagle was advised that;

Both the RI and RM roads programmes have already commenced with preparatory works ongoing throughout the MD since the programme was agreed. With regards to the finishing works (surfacing):

- the bitmac contract tenders have recently been opened and pre-contract meetings are taking place with the successful contractors to tie down a programme for completion of these works at the earliest. (Ballymacool, Pearse Road, Woodquarter, Tyroddy and Milford Chapel) It is anticipated that these works, to the value of the Roads Works Programme allocations, will be substantially completed by end of August but are obviously weather dependent.*
- The Road Reconstruction and Surface Dressing of the remainder of the RI and RM programmes carried out by DCC direct labour, are carried out countywide by three 'Surface Dressing Trains' staffed by outdoor staff from across the County with a programme that*

allocates equal time across the 5 Municipal Districts. The programme allows for a 'Surface Dressing Train' in RSS Area Carrigart for a week from 25th May, returning to Fanad and Letterkenny RSS areas after the Donegal Rally weekend of 20-21 June. As the programme is weather dependent, and also depends on progress in other MD's, it is not possible to plan exact dates as to when each particular road will be completed, but the surface dressing train will remain in MDL to end of August or to when works are complete.

- *As outlined in previous meetings, there has been no specific funding allocated by the NRA this year for the repair of surfacing to the Dual Carriageway. Minor repairs to the surface where deteriorated, both on the Dual Carriageway and N56 at Mountain Top are to be carried out by MDL direct labour over the coming weeks.*

MDL 222/15 GROUP WATER SCHEMES

In answer to his question as to what is the position regarding the takeover of Group Water Schemes in Donegal, is there any agreement on conditions and terms and what information will promoters of Group Water Supply Schemes need to provide for such takeover, Cllr. I. Mc Garvey was advised that;

The responsibility for taking group schemes in charge has transferred to Irish Water and it is expected that the consents and conditions attaching to the taking in charge of schemes will be similar to that applied by the Council. This would relate to such matters as way leaves and the transfer of the assets-pipe network, pump houses etc. The Council will continue to work with Irish Water in the process of taking schemes in charge.

MDL 223/15 ESTATES - TAKEOVER

In answer to his question if the Council can provide a list of all estates in the Letterkenny Municipal area broken down into the following categories (1) estates which are in the charge of the Council (2) estates which have applied to be taken in charge by the Council and (3) estates which have not applied to be taken in charge by the Council, Cllr. D. Shiels was advised that;

The attached spreadsheet illustrates the total no. of housing estates in the Municipal District of Letterkenny. In total there are 234 no. housing estates in the Municipal District of Letterkenny, 62 of which have made applications for the taking in charge of the estate. (highlighted entries).

MDL 224/15 ESTATES

In answer to his question if the Council can provide a list of all estates in the Letterkenny Municipal area in which it owns Council houses and provide the number of houses held in each estate and can the Council confirm with regard to each estate (1) how many of these houses were purchased by the Council and (2) how many of these houses were acquired by the Council pursuant to Part V of the Planning and Development Act as social housing from developers, Cllr. D. Shiels was advised that;

The attached table contains details of each Estate together with the number of houses owned by the Council. These units would primarily have been acquired / delivered through a combination of the following methods:- land acquisition followed by direct construction by the Council; design and build, turnkey developments, NBA developments, unsold affordable converted to standard social housing, acquisition of one off dwellings and acquisitions through Part V. Given the range of methods through which the units were delivered and the period of time involved, spanning over 50 years, sufficient information is not available to differentiate at estate level the specific means by which the units were acquired.

In line with the Councils approach to Part V generally, the vast majority of units acquired through this mechanism was for the provision of Affordable Housing with 74 such units having been acquired in the Letterkenny Municipal District. There are presently 18 unsold affordable units leased to Approved Housing Bodies and allocated to Tenants, with 5 of these recently having been converted to Standard Social Housing.

MDL 225/15 SPEED LIMIT – PORT ROAD/MOUNTAIN TOP

In answer to his question if the Council can provide an update as to when a report will be ready on his proposals to apply a special reduced speed limit at (a) the Port Road, Letterkenny between the polestar Roundabout and the Clanree Hotel Roundabout and (b) at the Mountain Top area of Letterkenny out as far as the Illistrin School and can the council confirm that it has made it known to the NRDO/NRA that this is a priority matter, Cllr. D. Shiels was advised that;

Road Design have completed the required speed counts that enable an application to be submitted to the NRA for the implementation of a periodic speed limit at Illistrin and Lurgybrack and are in the process of submitting application accordingly.

In relation to the 4 lane between the Dry Arch and the Pole Star roundabout, the NRA have not ruled on the various options as referred to in previous meeting. Given that the 85% ile speed is over 90kph on this road, design guidance affirms that a simple reduction of speed limit will not have the desired effect of simply reducing speeds hence

*the required consideration of physical measures as well. Any updates will be brought to further meeting.
No funding is identified in the MDL for the implementation of any of the measures required for the reduction of speed limits.*

MDL 226/15 ROADWORKS BACKROAD/BALLYMACCOOL

In answer to his question as to when will the roadwork's start to repair roads at the Back Road and Ballymacool as agreed in our programme, Cllr. C. Brogan was advised that;

Both the RI and RM roads programmes have already commenced with preparatory works ongoing throughout the MD since the programme was agreed. With regards to the finishing works (surfacing):

- the bitmac contract tenders have recently been opened and pre-contract meetings are taking place with the successful contractors to tie down a programme for completion of these works at the earliest. (Ballymacool, Pearse Road, Woodquarter, Tyroddy and Milford Chapel) It is anticipated that these works, to the value of the Roads Works Programme allocations, will be substantially completed by end of August but are obviously weather dependent.*
- The Road Reconstruction and Surface Dressing of the remainder of the RI and RM programmes carried out by DCC direct labour, are carried out countywide by three 'Surface Dressing Trains' staffed by outdoor staff from across the County with a programme that allocates equal time across the 5 Municipal Districts. The programme allows for a 'Surface Dressing Train' in RSS Area Carrigart for a week from 25th May, returning to Fanad and Letterkenny RSS areas after the Donegal Rally weekend of 20-21 June. As the programme is weather dependent, and also depends on progress in other MD's, it is not possible to plan exact dates as to when each particular road will be completed, but the surface dressing train will remain in MDL to end of August or to when works are complete.*
- As outlined in previous meetings, there has been no specific funding allocated by the NRA this year for the repair of surfacing to the Dual Carriageway. Minor repairs to the surface where deteriorated, both on the Dual Carriageway and N56 at Mountain Top are to be carried out by MDL direct labour over the coming weeks.*

MDL 227/15 MANHOLE COVERS

In answer to his question as to when will this Council carryout repairs on the manhole covers around the town, Cllr. C. Brogan was advised that;

The Council have recently carried out extensive repairs to in excess of 51 manholes and gullies, and have further plans to repair another 12.

In addition, the service provider eNet are shortly to commence repairs to 6 identified manholes on their network that are in need of repair.

MDL 228/15 SPEED LIMITS – HOUSING ESTATES

In answer to his question as to when will we be reviewing speed limits in housing estates as part of the national review, Cllr. C. Brogan was advised that;

As per previous meeting report, this is ongoing with DCC having requested submissions from public/community groups etc. With guidance still to be issued by the Dept of Transport, with regards to criteria etc, it is not possible to advise yet as to when the speed limits will be reviewed.

MDL 229/15 CONVENT ROAD

In answer to his question if the Council can give an update to when the Convent Road in Letterkenny will be repaired? Road users are getting very angry with the state of this road and vehicles are crossing the white line to avoid the deteriorated part of the road, Cllr. J. Pat Mc Daid was advised that;

Initial works to the Convent Road have been carried out, and gullies have been installed upchainage of the location in question, such that surface runoff is diverted from any future repairs, and an identified drainage blockage is currently being resolved. With regards to the finishing works (surfacing), this is to be carried out by contract and tenders have recently been opened and pre-contract meetings are taking place with the successful contractors to tie down a programme for completion. It is anticipated that these works, to the value of the Roads Works Programme allocations, will be substantially completed by end of August but are obviously weather dependent. Temporary surface repairs are in place pending the completion by contract of the final works.

MDL 230/15 LIGHTS – LINWOOD ESTATE

In answer to his question if the Council can please give an update and clarify their position in relation to the lights in the Lynwood Estate Mountain Top, Cllr. J. Pat Mc Daid was advised that;

The ESB disconnected public lighting at Lynwood as the energy bills were not being paid.

This is a private estate and the public lighting in the estate has not been taken in charge by the Council. In order for Council to take-over public lighting in an estate it requires the Council's maintenance contractor Airtricity, to certify that the lights meet the required technical standards. In Lynwood's case some of the infrastructure

associated with the lights does not comply with required technical standards and Airtricity were requested to give a quote to bring the lights to a standard that could be taken in charge – the amount quoted was €1,500.

The Taking In Charge team in Planning contacted Airtricity since the public lighting was disconnected and given the circumstances it sourced some parts that may provide a lower cost solution. However that cost is likely to be around €500 and as the Council doesn't have a fund to bring lighting in private estates up to take-over standard, funding will have to be sourced elsewhere, potentially from the residents or other sources.

MDL 231/15 PUBLIC TOILETS – RATHMULLAN

In answer to his question as to why did the public consultation with Rathmullan residents regarding proposal for the development of public toilets, not take place before the end of April as I had been informed at our previous meeting on 14 April, Cllr. L. Blaney was advised that

A meeting has been arranged for the 20th May, 2015 to initiate the consultation process with the residents in Rathmullan on the provision of Public Toilets

MDL 232/15 FERRY SERVICE – RATHMULLAN TO BUNCRANA

In answer to his question as to when does when does this Council intend to advertise for a Ferry Service Provider for the Rathmullan to Bunrana route now that a Budget has been allocated to same, Cllr. L. Blaney was advised that;

It is expected that the tender for the ferry service will be advertised this week.

MDL 233/15 FOOTPATHS – GREY ROCKS, MILFORD

In answer to his question if he can have an update on the progress with the footpaths at Grey Rocks, Milford, Cllr. L. Blaney was advised that

An Enforcement Notice was served by Donegal County Council upon the developer, in December 2010, instructing construction of the footpath, as per the Grant of Planning Permission connected with the Grey Rocks.

A footpath later constructed by the developer, in an attempt to comply with the Enforcement Notice (in May / June 2013) was in the opinion of the Council defective, and unsafe.

The matter of non compliance with the EN was pursued by the Council, and was before the District Court in December, 2013, June 2014, and

was listed for hearing in early 2015. The Council could not proceed with the prosecution of the case as the relevant Planner & court witness, who had prepared the initial Enforcement Reports on the matter, was on extended leave.

The Judge on the day refused to grant a period of adjournment, & struck out the case.

The Enforcement Notice as originally served remains valid, and the Council will now seek to bring a new prosecution for non compliance with this Notice in the coming months.

MDL 234/15 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was agreed that the next meeting would take place on Tuesday, 9th June, 2015 in An Craoibhin Community Enterprise Centre, Termon.