

MINUTES OF MEETING OF MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF LETTERKENNY-MILFORD MEETING, HELD ONLINE, ON 8 JUNE, 2021 AT 2:00 P.M.

MDL292/21 MEMBERS PRESENT

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

MDL293/21 OFFICIALS PRESENT

Liam Ward, Director of Service; Patricia McIntyre, Area Manager, Housing & Corporate Services; Bernadine McGee, Staff Officer, Housing & Corporate Services; David McIlwaine, S.E.E. / Area Manager, Roads & Transportation; Elaine McEntee, Executive Planner; Francis Conaghan, Development Officer; Geraldine Friel, A/Executive Chemist and Brenda Hegarty, Economic Development.

The meeting was chaired by Cllr. Donal Coyle

MDL294/21 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

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

MDL295/21 ADOPTION OF MINUTES

On the proposal of Cllr. Michael McBride and seconded by Cllr. John O'Donnell the Minutes of meeting of 11 May 2021 were adopted.

On the proposal of Cllr. Donal Coyle and seconded by Cllr. Ian McGarvey it was agreed to suspend the Standing Orders to allow for presentation of the Planning Service Report before the Motions.

MDL296/21 PLANNING SERVICE

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

Elaine thanked the Members for suspending standing orders and the following comments were made in relation to the Planning Services Report:

- An update on the Regeneration Strategy is included in Appendix 1.
- Clarification on the status of Termon Village in the context of the County Development Plan (CDP) as raised by Members at the last MD meeting is being sought.
- Settlement boundaries are being reviewed as part of recent workshops with Members and will be reviewed formally as part of the CDP review which commences next year.
- Cllr. McGarvey asked that consideration is given to the costs of acquiring sites and planning application fees when assessing planning applications.

- The matter of homeowners who have to demolish their homes due to mica and the need to have to apply for planning permission has been raised with the Department.

MDL297/21 FOOTPATH ON RAMELTON ROAD

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

“That Donegal County Council secures funding to upgrade the footpath at Trio Foods on the Ramelton Road. It is in need of urgent repair as it is in very poor condition and is one of the most popular walking routes in Letterkenny.”

Members were advised that:

“This footpath can be considered for prioritisation in footpath replacement and construction. Due to the location of this footpath any repair works will need to take into account of the requirement boundary treatment such as the construction of Barrier or similar type of structure.”

On proposing the motion Cllr. McBride raised concerns at the condition of the footpath for footpath users and flood issue concerns.

On seconding the motion Cllr. Kavanagh suggested that an application for funding is made under Active Travel

MDL298/21 FOOTPATHS IN ASHLAWN

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

“That Donegal County Council carry out an audit of all footpaths in Ashlawn and replace all defective sections as a matter of urgency.”

Members were advised that:

“The Roads Area Team regularly carry out assessments of the footpath network. Sections of footpath that require replacement can be considered for prioritising when opportunities for funding become available e.g. Active Travel or the Footpath & Lighting programme.”

On proposing the motion Cllr. McBride highlighted the poor repair of the footpaths in the Ashlawn Estate and that funding must be sourced to have them upgraded.

On seconding the motion Cllr. Kavanagh noted that the issue had been raised with him also.

MDL299/21 AMALGAMATE THE LETTERKENNY AND MILFORD ELECTORAL AREAS

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

"That the Letterkenny/Milford Municipal Area asks the new Boundaries Commission to amalgamate the Letterkenny and Milford Electoral Areas into one Electoral Area as it was in the past for the purpose of Council Elections going forward."

Members were advised that:

"The Motion is noted. Generally when a Boundary Commission is established to examine the electoral area boundaries, submissions are invited from any individual, Elected Members, etc. When the previous Boundary Commission was established in 2017 to examine the electoral area boundaries in advance of the Local Elections in 2019, the Council made a decision to make a submission to the Boundary Commission. The submission was agreed at a workshop with the Elected Members and a workshop of this nature can be facilitated in the future. In addition, and as noted, any individual can make a submission to the Boundary Commission when submissions are invited."

A lengthy discussion took place on the motion with all Members contributing their views as follows:

- Cllr. McBride noted that in the last review it was stated that no Electoral Area should have less than 4 seats or more than 6 seats, yet the Letterkenny Electoral Area has 7 seats. It means that in some cases citizens cannot vote for the Elected Member that is representing them. Representations should be made to have the Electoral Area as a 10 seater and not split into the areas as is currently.
- Cllr. Kavanagh noted that it is an important issue for discussion and it is not logic to split the MD into two Electoral Areas for election purposes but have one area for administration of Council business.
- Cllr. McGarvey suggested that the areas should be split 4:6 and there was a current imbalance which is detrimental to the Milford area.
- Cllr. Blaney welcomed the discussion but stated that he was not in favour of merging the two areas without having further discussion on the matter. He suggested that the Milford area should have its own MD.
- Cllr. O'Donnell noted that while the motion has merit it is premature pending further discussion. He agreed that a case should be made for Milford to have its own MD but noted that all 10 members in both Electoral Areas have worked well together for the betterment of the entire area.
- Cllr. McMonagle noted that further discussion is needed as Letterkenny has suffered since the abolition of the Town Council and resources are not divided equally at present.
- Cllr. Brogan noted that the entire area is progressing as a result of being part of the North West City Region and areas are stronger together. There should not be an urban/rural divide.

In conclusion, the reply to the motion was noted and that anyone can make a submission to the Boundary Commission when established.

MDL300/21 FOOTPATH FROM JUNCTION AT CUP AND SAUCER TO ELM COURT IN RAMELTON

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

“That this MD make an application through the Active Travel for funding to provide a Footpath from Junction at the Cup and Saucer to Elm Court at Ramelton.”

Members were advised that:

“An Application was submitted to NTA for Active Travel funding. NTA advised to refer to Green Schools programme. We will continue to seek funding for this section.”

On proposing the motion Cllr. McMonagle noted the reply and queried if an application has now been made under the Green Schools programme.

Cllr. O'Donnell seconded the motion and reiterated the need for the works to be carried out to improve safety for users.

A number of Members spoke in support of the works and it was noted that funding of €85,000 had been allocated to provide a footpath from Elm Court to the Chapel and not on this stretch of road.

David McIlwaine confirmed that an application will be made under the Green Schools Programme once the process is known.

MDL301/21 FOOTPATH AND LIGHTING FROM CNOC ARD TO COTTAGES AT BALLAGHERG AND ON TO RESPOND HOUSING

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

“That we provide a Footpath and extra lighting from Cnoc Ard up to the Cottages at Ballagherg and continue on to the New Housing Development built by Respond AHB.”

Members were advised that:

“These sections of footpath can be considered for prioritising when opportunities for funding become available e.g. Active Travel or the Footpath & Lighting programme.”

On proposing the motion Cllr. McMonagle advised that the footpath and lighting works are required to improve safety in the areas particularly as traffic is likely to increase due to the new housing development recently constructed in the area.

On seconding the motion Cllr. Brogan stated that he fully supports the motion as the works will make a significant difference to walkers in the area.

David McIlwaine advised that he would continue to explore any funding options available to have the works completed.

MDL302/21 TOURIST SIGNAGE AT GLENDONAN

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

“That we look at providing Tourist Signage at the L14623 Road at Glendoan highlighting the directing visitors to the Local Historical Eviction Sites and Glenveagh Castle and also carry out remedial works on the road.”

Members were advised that:

“We will liaise with Bord Failte and the OPW regarding the possibility of erecting signs at this location. We will carry out an assessment of the road condition and include it in the Road Maintenance programme.”

On proposing the motion Cllr. McMonagle noted that there has been an increase in visitor numbers in the area and it was important to have adequate signage in place, particularly in this year of St. Colmcille’s anniversary. A presentation from the Churchill Development Association had highlighted the inadequacy of signage in the area. Cllr. McMonagle welcomed the response.

On seconding the motion Cllr. Brogan noted the historical links in the area and the potential tourism benefits that could be achieved by developing the area further.

MDL303/21 SIGNAGE FOR ARDLONAN, GLENARD PARK AND LONG LANE

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

“That the Council provide signage for Ardlonan and Glenard Park and a new sign for Long Lane to replace the existing sign at the bottom of Long Lane.”

Members were advised that:

“We will carry out a review of the signage for this location and will include it in our road maintenance programme”.

On proposing the motion Cllr. Kavanagh noted that there have never been signs for Ard Lonan and Glenard Park Estates and that there is confusion about the location of these estates. The sign at the entrance to the Long Lane could also benefit from being replaced. He welcomed the response given.

On seconding the motion Cllr. McMonagle welcomed the response and highlighted the need for the signage to be addressed.

MDL304/21 ROUNDABOUTS AT OLDTOWN AND GLENCAR ROAD

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

“That the Council refresh the mini roundabouts at Oldtown and at Glencar Road.”

Members were advised that:

“We will arrange to have these works carried out as part of our Road Maintenance programme.”

On proposing this motion Cllr. Kavanagh highlighted the need for the works at the roundabouts and he welcomed the response received.

On seconding the motion Cllr. McMonagle stated his support for the works.

MDL305/21 EXTEND YELLOW BOX AT BOTTOM OF HIGH ROAD

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

“That the Council extend the yellow box at the bottom of High Road up the High Road (on the traffic down side of the road) to provide ease of access to High Road from the Port Road and Justice Walsh Road and to provide ease of access onto Main Street from High Road for emergency vehicles.”

Members were advised that:

“The Area Engineer has looked at this proposed and confirms that the current yellow box marking are sufficient at this busy junction. Where drivers adhere to the rules of the road there would be no issue with lane clearance, this would be an enforcement issue for the Gardaí.”

On proposing the motion Cllr. Kavanagh noted the response that the yellow box marking is sufficient. However, he advised that people have raised this with him and in particular the turn up the High Road which can be quite restrictive. He asked that the Council examine the matter again.

On seconding the motion Cllr. McBride supported the need for the issue to be re-examined.

David McIlwaine confirmed that the Council will examine moving the stop lines to allow for better movement and this might resolve the issue.

MDL306/21 SOUND BARRIER ON DUAL CARRIAGEWAY

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

“That this Council engage with the TII to have a sound barrier implemented on the left hand side of the Dual Carriage way on the way into Letterkenny from the Manorcunningham roundabout please.”

Members were advised that:

“We have liaised with Road Design & the TII regarding this issue and their response is given in the attached document. (See Appendix1).”

On proposing this motion Cllr. Kelly noted the response which is satisfactory to an extent. Noise levels are still an issue for residents on the left hand side of the road travelling from the Manor Roundabout to the top of the hill. He noted that the Noise Action Plan has not yet been adopted at Plenary level and this issue should be reviewed as part of the Plan and funding identified to implement the actions arising from the Plan.

Cllr. Brogan seconded the motion and noted the importance of having the issues addressed. Cllr. Coyle noted that he had a similar motion approximately 18 months ago and residents are seeking to have a barrier erected to alleviate the problem.

MDL307/21 HEDGING AND SIGN AT FIRST JUNCTION LEADING INTO DRUMOGHILL CHAPEL

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

“That this Council cut back the Hedging and also lower the sign at the first junction leading into Drumoghill Chapel as a matter of urgency please.”

Members were advised that:

“We will carry out an assessment of this issue and arrange for any necessary works to be carried out.”

On proposing this motion Cllr. Kelly advised that he has received numerous concerns from residents in the areas and believes that the concerns can be addressed by lowering the sign and cutting back the hedge. He welcomed the reply received.

Cllr. Brogan seconded the motion and reiterated the need for the matter to be addressed as a priority.

MDL308/21 SIGNS ON JUNCTION AT GLENSWILLY AND AT KILPHEAK/SEACOR JUNCTION

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

“That this Council erect a sign for Kilmacrennan on the junction at Glenswilly Chapel and also a No through road sign at Kilpheak/Seacoar junction.”

Members were advised that:

“The erection of these signs are included in our Maintenance programme. We are currently in the process of ordering these signs and will erect them as soon as resources are available.”

On proposing the motion Cllr. Kelly advised that the signage was very much needed and he welcomed the reply received.

Cllr. Blaney noted that he is happy to second the motion which had been well outlined and noted the positive answer given.

MDL309/21 RAMPS ON DROMORE ROAD

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

“That this Council replace the ramps that were removed on the Dromore Road.”

Members were advised that:

“The ramps at Dromore Road were originally removed as part of the much needed recycling works under 2020 RI Programme. Due to Covid restrictions the contractor was not permitted to reinstate the two ramps. To date the contractor will not be available until later in the year due to work programme back logs but these works will be completed as soon as programming allows.”

On proposing the motion Cllr. Coyle advised that it is important to have the ramps reinstated for traffic calming purposes and he welcomed the response received.

Cllr. Blaney seconded the motion.

MDL310/21 BRIDGE IN CARRYGAWLEY

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

“That this Council carry out a full inspection on the bridge in Carrygawley to determine its safety and to examine the feasibility and costing of widening the bridge.”

Members were advised that:

“This bridge is being referred to the Bridge Engineer to carry out an inspection and produce a report. The parapet was recently hit and has been dislodged. The road width is only 3m at this location, which is a very busy road and the speed of vehicles in both directions is resulting in a very dangerous scenario due to the single lane width. It is proposed to be included in future bridge programmes for widening or complete replacement.”

On proposing this motion Cllr. Coyle highlighted the condition of the bridge and the need for repairs to be carried out to improve road safety. He welcomed the response received.

Cllr. Blaney seconded the motion and noted that this issue had been raised previously and it is disappointing that it is only now being included on the Bridge Programme.

MDL311/21 REPAIRS TO MONCLINK AND SALLYBROOK ROADS

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

“That this Council liaise with the Roads Engineer in the Inishowen Municipal District, as a matter of urgency to have immediate repairs carried out on the Monclink and Sallybrook roads and to also ensure that both roads are included in the roads programme of the above MD.”

Members were advised that:

“The Monclink Road referred to is not in the charge of Donegal County Council. We have referred the concerns regarding the Sallybrook road to the Inishowen MD for their consideration.”

On proposing the motion Cllr. Coyle highlighted the poor condition of both roads and sought clarification as to the status of the Monclink Road.

Cllr. Blaney seconded the motion and noted that he has raised the condition of the Monclink Road in the past. He asked that the Inishowen Members be asked to prioritise repairs to the Sallybrook Road.

David McIlwaine confirmed that the Monclink Road is not on the Roads Schedule, but that he will investigate further the history of the status of the road and revert to the Members.

MDL312/21 DOG FOUL BINS IN LETTERKENNY

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

“That this Council install more dog Foul bins in around Letterkenny.”

Members were advised that:

“Through the promotion of the “Any Bag Any Bin” initiative we are actively promoting the use of litter bins rather than Dog Foul bins only. This initiative has included the painting of stencils on the ground, the erection of information signage and a promotional video on Dog Fouling. By liaising with colleagues in the Roads Section we have identified a need for additional Litter Bins in Letterkenny. Work has begun on progressing this.”

On proposing the motion Cllr. Bradley noted that more people are out walking now with dogs and additional bins on roads and in parks are required. He acknowledged the response received.

On seconding the motion Cllr. O’Donnell said he was happy to support the motion.

MDL313/21 LIGHTS FOR FOOTPATH AT GREEN HILLS AROUND TO THE KNOWES

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

“The Residents of Manorcunningham have asked for to put lights on the footpath at Green hills around to the Knowes a lovely walk but no light.”

Members were advised that:

“This can be considered for inclusion in the 2022 footpath & Lighting programme or be considered for prioritising as part of other funding opportunities. These works were included in the 2021 Active Travel application to the NTA but no funding was received.”

On proposing the motion Cllr. Bradley highlighted the good footpaths in the area but it is important to have lights especially in the winter months. He noted the response received.

Cllr. Kelly noted that this is a popular walk for people and lights would be very effective in this area.

MDL314/21 SAFETY OF THE QUAY IN RAMELTON

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

“That Donegal County Council check the safety of The Quay in Ramelton as it appears to have dangerous subsidence.”

Members were advised that:

“A safety assessment of all piers in the County was carried out in 2017 the assessments did identify some minor early stage subsidence and defects in

the quay wall in Ramelton. This location will now be inspected for any further visual signs of subsidence and determine if remedial action is necessary.”

On proposing the motion Cllr. McGarvey noted that flags previously erected by a family were moved and there are concerns about early stage subsidence at this location. He welcomed the reply that the location will be inspected again and asked for the flags to be replaced to their original location.

Cllr. Blaney seconded the motion and welcomed the response received.

MDL315/21 FOOTPATHS FROM BRIDGEND, RAMELTON TO DRUMONAGHAN WOOD AND AT CUP & SAUCER TO SHOP AT MOORFIELD

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

“That the Council provide a safe footpath from Bridgend, Ramelton to the Walk in Drumonaghan Wood and provide a footpath on the Letterkenny Road to the Cup & Saucer and to the Shop at Moorfield.”

Members were advised that:

“A section of footpath from Bridgend to Drumonaghan Wood is on the 2021 Footpath & Public Lighting programme that has been agreed with the members. Other footpaths have been included in Active Travel applications and can be considered for prioritising as part of future funding opportunities.”

On proposing the motion Cllr. McGarvey noted that the footpath is required in the interest of public safety. In relation to the footpath from Bridgend, he noted that the hedge is overgrown and whilst it is the responsibility of the landowner to address, the Council should be minded to resolving the issue.

Cllr. Blaney seconded the motion and sought clarification on the timelines for the works to commence on funded footpath works.

David McIlwaine confirmed that works have been delayed as a result of Covid 19 but footpath works are due to commence from September onwards.

MDL316/21 PROPERTY AT BRIDGEND, RAMELTON AND OWNERSHIP OF LAND AT CHURCH STREET, RAMELTON

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

“That this Council provide a statement on their intention for the property they have acquired at Bridgend, Ramelton and a statement on the ownership of land at Church Street, Ramelton.”

Members were advised that:

***“Property at Bridgend (Ballyboe), Ramelton
Donegal County Council has no immediate plans for this property other than
carrying out some maintenance work thereon.***

***Land at Church Street, Ramelton
Donegal County Council owns a small strip of land situated between Church
Street and the Steeples Ramelton. A number of persons have expressed an
interest in acquiring sections of the land which backs on to their back
gardens.***

***In line with normal practice where land is to be disposed of, the matter will be
brought before the Municipal District Members in due course for approval
prior to the issue of the formal Notices under Section 211 of the Planning and
Development Act, 2000 and Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001 to
the full Council.”***

On proposing the motion, Cllr. McGarvey expressed his annoyance at being prevented from tabling an alternative motion. He outlined details of an issue with a right of way at a property in Bridgend and his proposed solution. He also highlighted issues with a parcel of Council owned land at Church Street.

Cllr. Blaney seconded the motion and noted the frustration felt by Cllr. McGarvey. He suggested that a workshop be arranged to discuss the issue in detail.

Liam Ward noted that he had spoken to Cllr. McGarvey in relation to an original motion being tabled which he believed to be wholly inappropriate and would have exposed Cllr. McGarvey to a conflict of interest. Liam Ward confirmed that he would be happy to facilitate a workshop as suggested.

MDL317/21 PORTALOOS AT PORTSALON

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

“That Donegal County Council provides Portaloos at Portsalon during the summer months.”

Members were advised that

“A public convenience is provided at the Blue Flag beach in Magherawarden, Portsalon which has been fully redecorated in recent months. These public conveniences provide separate ladies, gents and accessible toilet facilities and they are open from 8am to 9pm during the summer months.”

On proposing the motion Cllr. Blaney noted that Magherawarden and Portsalon are two different locations and that it is a two mile walk from Portsalon to Magherawarden and unacceptable to expect people to make this journey for public conveniences. He requested that the provision of portaloos

at Portsalon be piloted over the summer months and also requested specific dog fouling bins be provided in the area.

Cllr McGarvey seconded the motion and noted that the issue had been brought to his attention also. He is happy to support the motion and hopes that the matter can be resolved.

Geraldine Friel advised that she will highlight the request to her colleagues. She noted the “Any Bin – Any Bag” policy but will refer the request for specific dog fouling bins to the relevant person.

MDL318/21 TRAFFIC CALMING MEASURES IN VICINITY OF SECONDARY SCHOOLS AND NATIONAL SCHOOL IN MILFORD

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

“That this Council puts traffic calming measures in place in the vicinity of the two Secondary Schools and the National School in Milford.”

Members were advised that:

“We will forward a request to the Roads Safety Engineer to carry out a Safety Assessment of this location and consider should it be prioritised for future Roads Safety Funding.”

On proposing the motion Cllr. Blaney welcomed the reply given that a safety assessment would be carried out. He highlighted the need for the assessment to be carried out at all three locations to improve road safety. He also highlighted congestion problems at the National School and planning permission sought by the school to address this, which was not acceptable to the Planning Authority.

Cllr. McGarvey seconded the motion and supported the need for roads safety issues to be addressed.

Cllr. O’Donnell noted that he owns an area of land across from the school and has agreed to lease it to the school. At the suggestion of the Mayor, he agreed to discuss with Cllr. Blaney after the meeting.

MDL319/21 CORNER/JUNCTION AT LURGY/KNOCKBRACK

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

“That the Council Road, design/safety Officer look at the corner/ junction at Lurgy/ Knockbrack (known locally as the creamery corner) with a view to improvement and safety measures.”

Members were advised that:

“We will forward a request to the Roads Safety Engineer to carry out a Safety Assessment of this location and consider should it be prioritised for future Roads Safety Funding.”

On proposing the motion Cllr. Brogan noted safety concerns at this area and is satisfied with the response that a Safety Assessment will be carried out.

Cllr McMonagle seconded the motion and noted the response given.

MDL320/21 BINS AT STATION ROUNDABOUT AND JUSTICE WALSH CAR PARK

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

“That this Council put in place additional bins at the Station Roundabout area and the Justice Walsh car park (alley way rear of A.I.B.).”

Members were advised that:

“The Roads and Environment Section will liaise about supplying bins at these locations agreeing arrangements for emptying of these Bins.”

On proposing the motion Cllr. Brogan noted that there are a number of businesses operating in this area and bins are required. It is important to support the work of the various volunteers and committees who are keeping Letterkenny tidy. He requested a workshop with Roads and Environment to address the issue of the provision of bins.

Cllr. Kelly seconded the motion and supported the suggestion for a workshop with the Roads and Environment Section.

Liam Ward confirmed that a workshop could be held with Environment and Roads to outline their programmes.

MDL321/21 MAYORS BUSINESS

321.1 Launch of 2021 North West 10K Road Race and Walk

Cllr. Donal Coyle advised that he had represented the Municipal District at the launch of the 2021 North West 10K Road Race and Walk which will be held virtually this year

321.2 Launch of Irish Language Plan

Cllr. Coyle advised that he had also represented the Municipal District at the recent launch of the Irish Language Plan for Letterkenny as a Gaeltacht Service Town by Minister of State, Jack Chambers. This is a great step forward and complimented the hard work which has been done on the plan.

321.3 Book Launch

Cllr. Coyle advised that he had attended the recent book launch by Adrian Gallagher called the “Wild Mountain Way”. This is an excellent book covering 400kms of walking in the Mountains and Hills of Donegal.

321.4 Grant

Cllr. Coyle welcomed the allocation of funding last week of €540,000 to the Letterkenny-Milford Municipal District.

321.5 Blue Flag Beaches

Cllr. Coyle welcomed the retention of Blue Flag Beaches and in particular those in this Municipal District.

321.6 New Housing Estate

Cllr. Coyle congratulated the Housing Service on the provision of 29 new housing estate and welcomed the opportunity to visit the estate known as Ard Ban on the Long Lane.

MDL322/21 CORRESPONDENCE

Patricia McIntyre advised of the following correspondence.

322.1 North West Opera Society

North West Opera Society seeking permission to hold and Open Air Recital in the Town Park at the end of June / beginning of July.

On the proposal of Cllr. Gerry McMonagle, seconded by Cllr. Donal Kelly this was agreed.

322.2 Walk Talk Walk

Lucy Kerr of Walk Talk Walk seeking permission to use the park. The purpose of this is to talk about Mental Health in a safe place to talk.

On the proposal of Cllr. Jimmy Kavanagh, seconded by Cllr. Ian McGarvey this was agreed.

322.3 Letterkenny Cricket Club

The Letterkenny Cricket Club are looking for permission to use the Town Park 2 days a week, Friday and Sunday for Cricket Ireland where sessions will be available with Coaches under the Smash It Cricket Programme.

On the proposal of Cllr. Michael McBride, seconded by Cllr. Gerry McMonagle this was agreed.

Cllr. Gerry McMonagle referred to correspondence received from the OPW and their refusal to meet with the Members in relation to the Flood Relief Schemes for the Municipal District. The Members expressed their disappointment at the reply from the OPW particularly when it was apparent from their reply that they had met with other groups. It was agreed that contact will be made with the OPW to express the disappointment of the Members and seek clarification

on the reason for the refusal to meet. The OPW will also be asked to reconsider their refusal to meet with the Members.

MDL323/21 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

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

323.1 Workshop for Rural Programme

On the proposal of Cllr. Donal Coyle, seconded by Cllr. Ian McGarvey it was agreed to hold the workshop at 9am on 10th June 2021.

323.2 Town Bus

Francis advised that a date is needed for another workshop in relation to the Town Bus and it was agreed to set a date at the July MD meeting.

MDL324/21 ROADS & TRANSPORTATION

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

324.1 2021 Local Improvement Schemes

David referred to the allocation of €205,981 to the Letterkenny-Milford Municipal District and to the priority list presented at the workshop held on 1st June.

324.2 Specific Improvement (Polestar Roundabout & Junctions)

David advised that works commenced on 17th May.

324.3 Joe Bonner Road

David advised that the road would be fully open on 18th June and that he is currently arranging the official opening and will be in contact with Members in relation to this.

324.4 TII Update

David advised that an update on the schemes has been provided in his report and that works should commence on the N56 before the end of June.

David referred to an addendum to his report which had been circulated to the Members in relation to 7 different schemes – New Mills; Sea Wall; Drainage at Manor; Downings Sea Wall and Port; R247; Chapel Road, Rathmullan. He advised that he will have a report for the Members at the next meeting.

The following comment were made in relation to the Roads and Transportation Report.

- Cllr. Kelly welcomed the allocation of funding for the banks of the River Swilly and thanked David and his team for the work done in securing funding.

- Cllr. McMonagle welcomed the work being done at the Polestar Roundabout including the feeder lanes. He asked for confirmation in relation to the contract for the 4 lane project. He welcomed the drainage works done at Manor which has addressed some serious flooding issues.
- Cllr. Brogan acknowledged the work being done and the money allocated for the cycleway from Illistrin to the Mountain Top. There is huge potential in this project and he welcomed the progress on this. He acknowledged the work being done on the Polestar Roundabout and welcomed the money secured for flooding.
- Cllr. McBride welcomed the allocation of funding under the Local Improvement Scheme. He referred to the discussion on the Programme that took place at a recent workshop and advised that he could not support the project in the name of Cllr. O'Donnell.
- Liam Ward advised that if a Member has an interest in a matter being discussed, legislation provides that the Member concerned will excuse herself/himself from the meeting.
- Cllr. O'Donnell noted that he would like to excuse himself from the discussion as the application had been submitted in his name. He noted that other applications have been submitted in his name. The project referred to was submitted in 2016. He has since purchased a dwelling in 2019 which is at the end of the lane. He has no interest in the project when it is completed and does not stand to benefit from it.

At this point, Cllr. O'Donnell left the meeting.

- Cllr. McGarvey noted that where there is no personal gain, there is no reason for a Member to leave the meeting and representations can be made on behalf of others.
- Cllr. Brogan noted that the recommendation had been made by the Executive based on the circumstances of the applicants and in accordance with the Scheme. He has every confidence in the Executive and is satisfied to proceed with the recommendation made.
- Cllr. Kavanagh sought clarity on the application process and noted from the information given at the workshop that there was very compelling circumstances for the works to be carried out.
- Cllr. Blaney noted that the laneway in question is used by wheelchair users and the project was prioritised on this basis. It is not correct that a project will not qualify for funding if an Elected Member's name is on the application.
- Cllr. McMonagle noted that the focus should be on the application meeting the criteria and not whether an Elected Member has their name on the application. The decision on this application is not being questioned. However, he requested clarification on the application process and in particular whether the supporter of an application must be one of the applicants.

- Liam Ward clarified that the Local Government Act – Ethics Framework is covered in Part 15, Section 177. A Member is obliged to declare his/her interest and remove him/herself from the discussion.
- David McIlwaine advised that the process is covered in the Guidelines from the Department. Firstly applications are assessed to see if they qualify, this is covered by Section 3. Schemes are then prioritised based on guidelines in Section 4 e.g. the condition of the road, number of houses on it, whether there are people living there with disabilities, who are elderly or have other hardships etc. The name on the application is not taken into account when assessing the applications which are then presented to the Members for approval.
- In relation to query from Cllr. McMonagle on the N56 Four Lane project David confirmed that the contract is as agreed. The conditions in the contract were discussed when the TII met with the Members. He agreed to get more details for the Members at next meeting but can follow up in advance if required.
- Cllr. McBride clarified that he did not question the integrity of the Engineer or the Executive. He fully supports the other applications but could not support the application in the name of a Councillor. Cllr. McBride advised that he needed to leave the Meeting at this point.
- Cllr. Kavanagh stated that clarity is needed on whether Councillors should submit applications in their own name where they have no interest.
- David advised that he is not aware that the guidelines refer to this scenario. The Roads Service follow the guidelines from the Department.

MDL325/21 HOUSING & CORPORATE SERVICES

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

325.1 Allocation of Housing

Patricia McIntyre advised that offers have issued today for the 29 houses on the Long Lane, Letterkenny.

325.2 Housing Workshop

Patricia advised that a date is required for a Housing Workshop to discuss maintenance, Capital Programme, etc. She suggested the morning of the next MD Meeting on 13th July. Cllr. Coyle suggested that the workshop be held at 10am. This was agreed by the Members.

The following comments were made in relation to the Housing and Corporate Services Report.

- Cllr. Kavanagh welcomed the news that offers have issued for the estate. He has seen the estate and it is very impressive. He congratulated those involved in the provision of the estate.
- Cllr. Kelly thanked Patricia for all the hard work done. He added that it is positive news that offers have gone out.

- Cllr. McMonagle stated that he wished to be associated with comments made. He is pleased that offers are out today and he wished everyone all the best. It is an excellent development. Cllr. McMonagle referred to the 20 houses that are still vacant. These houses need to be made ready and allocated to families. Cllr. McMonagle asked for a report in relation to the Council's proposals to acquire 4 bed properties, timelines, etc.
- Cllr. McGarvey asked for a report on the works required to re-let properties.
- Cllr. Blaney welcomed the news that there are 29 new houses for Letterkenny but highlighted the need for housing in Milford which is experiencing a significant shortage of properties to rent under the HAP Scheme. He also sought an update on progress to address the issue of defective blocks in the social housing stock.
- Patricia McIntyre thanked the Members for their comments and noted that an update on the issues relating to the housing capital programme, casual vacancies and the acquisition programme would be provided at the workshop arranged for the 13th July 2021. In relation to the defective blocks in the social housing stock, the test results are being considered by the technical team to determine the most appropriate remedial action. This will then form the basis of the submission to the Department for funding. A further update will be provided by the technical team at the forthcoming workshop.

MDL326/21 ENVIRONMENT

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

326.1 Flood Relief Schemes

Geraldine referred to the updates provided in the report and in particular the update on Downings Flood Relief Scheme.

326.2 Decarbonising Zone (DZ) Initiative

Geraldine referred to the report circulated to the Members and noted the commitment made under Action 165 of the Climate Action Plan 2019. Under Part 1 of the report details of the Background are given with Part 1.5 giving details of what was agreed. Part 2.2 gives an overview of feedback from groups that came forward following Public Consultation. There is feedback from CARO and the DHLGH under Part 2.3. There is no legislative footing for the DZs. The Zone must be submitted to the Department by 30th June 2021. There will be another meeting with the Members before 30th June in relation to this. The Council will contact all groups in relation to the selection process and will provide assistance to the groups.

Cllr. Coyle thanked Geraldine for her support and asked that the Standing Orders be suspended to allow for any questions on the report and to proceed with the Economic Development, Information Systems & Emergency Services report as it was now past 6pm. On the proposal of Cllr. Liam Blaney, seconded by Cllr. Ian McGarvey the Standing Orders were suspended.

MDL327/21 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, I.S. & EMERGENCY SERVICES

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

327.1 Minor Tourism Related Works Grant Scheme 2021

Brenda advised that the Minutes of the Workshop had been circulated to the Members and the agreed allocations need to be adopted.

On the proposal of Cllr. Liam Blaney, seconded by Cllr. Jimmy Kavanagh the allocations under the Minor Tourism Related Works Grant Scheme 2021 were adopted.

327.2 Information Systems

Brenda advised that the land lease agreement is a priority under the National Broadband Plan.

327.3 WiFi in Letterkenny

Brenda advised the WiFi is now fully operational in Letterkenny.

327.4 Economic Development SPC

Brenda advised that the next Economic Development SPC would be held in June.

QUESTIONS

MDL328/21 THE OLD ABBEY IN KILMACRENNAN AND OLD CHURCH BUILDING AT GARTAN GRAVEYARD

In answer to his question requesting an update on the tenders for the restoration works at The Old Abbey in Kilmacrennan and the old Church building at Gartan Graveyard, Cllr. Michael McBride was advised:

“Both Kilmacrennan Abbey (DG045-01001-) and St. Colmcille’s Chapel, Gartan (DG044-017005-) are Recorded Monuments protected under the National Monuments Acts. Funding has been secured under from the North West Development Fund and from Donegal County Council for the conservation of these archaeological monuments. Both historic graveyards are in the guardianship of Donegal County Council. The Roads and Transportation Directorate in partnership with the Housing, Corporate & Culture Directorate are commissioning the work as part of the Colmcille 1500 commemorations and the implementation of the County Donegal Heritage Plan. Dedalus Architecture will be providing architectural, archaeological and structural engineering supervision for stabilisation and conservation works to the ruins of both structures. Statutory consent is now being sought for the works from the National Monuments Service and contractors are being procured to undertake these specialist works. It is intended that the works will be complete in time for the 1,500th anniversary of the birth of St. Colmcille on December 7, 2021.”

MDL329/21 MEETING WITH GOVERNMENT MINISTERS TO DISCUSS PROVISION OF SERVICES

In answer to his question asking if Donegal County Council has received any reply on foot of his motion requesting a meeting with relevant Government Ministers to discuss the provision of water, sewage and roads to facilitate housing development on the south side of the River Swilly so we can provide scope for the planned development of Letterkenny as our County's economic driver and support our 2040 plan, Cllr. Michael McBride was advised:

“Donegal County Council, through the office of the Chief Executive and the Cathaoirleach has made a formal request to the Department of an Taoiseach and the Shared Island Unit seeking a meeting to present the supports and investments needed in County Donegal in the context of the challenges presented by Brexit and also in relation to supporting the development of Letterkenny, as a Regional Growth Centre in the National Planning Framework, and as part of the wider North West City Region.

The discussions in relation to Letterkenny will include the investment and infrastructure required to provide for the development and growth of the town towards 2040 and are key to our discussions locally in relation to the Local Area Plan for Letterkenny which are ongoing at present. It will also include the infrastructural deficits which are preventing growth on the southern side of the River Swilly, including Roads, Water and WasteWater. In a recent engagement with Irish Water, they confirmed a willingness to work with the Council in terms of making the case for this investment.

At a recent meeting of the Corporate Policy Group, the Chief Executive indicated that it was hoped that the meeting with the Department of an Taoiseach and the Shared Island Unit will take place in the coming weeks and arrangements will be made to keep the Letterkenny-Milford Members informed in this regard.”

MDL330/21 TRANSPORT HUB FOR LETTERKENNY

In answer to his question as to what lands owned by Donegal County Council would have the capacity to accommodate a suitable transport hub for the town of Letterkenny, Cllr. Michael McBride was advised:

“Members will note the presentation made by the consultants engaged to prepare the Letterkenny 2040 Regeneration Strategy (Atkins and The Paul Hogarth Company) to the Letterkenny-Milford MD workshop on Tuesday 25th May 2021 to explore the scope of a future Regional Transport Hub and the next steps in relation to a multi-criteria assessment of potential future locations. This assessment will provide the evidence base to determine the optimum site to accommodate a future Regional Transport Hub including consideration of Council owned lands. Members will be further briefed on the outcome once the multi-criteria assessment has been further advanced”.

MDL331/21 INFORMATION BOARDS AT BERNARD MCGLINCHEY PARK

In answer to his question asking if any work has been done yet on his motion in relation to updating the Information Boards at Bernard Mc Glinchey Park, Cllr. Gerry McMonagle was advised:

“We have included this in our programme of works and will commence works on this project as soon as staff are available.”

MDL332/21 FOOTPATHS IN DR MCGINLEY ESTATE

In answer to his question that now that the Road in Dr Mc Ginley estate has been resurfaced when will the footpaths be done, Cllr. Gerry McMonagle was advised:

“The Area Roads team have assessed these footpaths and are in agreement that they should be prioritised for funding when funding opportunities become available.”

MDL333/21 MICA IN SOCIAL HOUSES

In answer to his question as to how many of our Social Houses in Letterkenny MD have now been tested for MICA and when will we get the report and results, Cllr. Gerry McMonagle was advised:

“The Council has had engagement with officials of the Department of Housing, Local Government & Heritage in order to highlight the issue of Mica within social houses, and to source funding for the remediation of affected houses. As a result of this engagement, it was recommended that the Council should follow the testing and assessment process similar to the Scheme for private homeowners.

The Council has commenced this process, which involves a range of steps including the taking of core samples from external, internal and rising walls, submission of the samples to laboratories for testing, the preparation of Building Condition Assessments, and the preparation of a final Engineers Report in respect of each house.

The primary focus of the first tranche of thirty three houses relates to vacant properties in the Letterkenny/Milford and Inishowen Municipal Districts. Fifteen of the houses that have been tested are in the Letterkenny/Milford MD. It is anticipated that all testing and analysis will be completed shortly on these houses, and an application for funding can then be submitted to the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage. The Council will be in a position to share the outcome of the testing and analysis at that time.

Once we obtain funding approval, we will proceed to tender, so that we can commence remedial works on the first tranche of houses as soon as possible. In parallel with same, we will be preparing applications for the further tranches of houses on a continuous rolling basis.”

MDL334/21 PLAY AREA AT BERNARD MCGLINCHY TOWN PARK

In answer to his question asking if there is any further update on the refurbishment of the play area at Bernard McGlinchey Town Park, Cllr. Jimmy Kavanagh was advised:

“Following the tender process, the successful contractor has been identified. We are final stages of appointing the contractor to carry out the works and have requested the contractor to commence works as soon as possible. It should be noted that owing to delays in the delivery of play equipment due to COVID-19, it is envisaged that construction will not be complete until September 2021 at the earliest.”

MDL335/21 STOP SIGN AT THE HIDEOUT CORNER

In answer to his question could the Council erect a stop sign at the Hideout Corner for motorists coming in from Rahan, Cllr. Jimmy Kavanagh was advised:

“This junction is very tight and the erection of a stop sign at this location will effectively block the footpath, the Area office will explore other options on how to resolve this issue.”

MDL336/21 PUBLIC LIGHTS AT FYCORRENAGH

In answer to his question requesting an update on when the two new public lights at Fycorrenagh, Letterkenny, will be installed, Cllr. Jimmy Kavanagh was advised:

“The erections of these lights have been delayed due to the Covid 19 Restrictions. It is currently planned to have these lights installed and operational by October 2021.”

MDL337/21 NEWMILLS BRIDGE

In answer to his question requesting an update on if and when the Newmills Bridge will be resurfaced please, Cllr. Donal Kelly was advised:

“The adjacent R250 Newmills Rashedoge Regional road is included in the 2022 Roads Restoration programme. The surfacing of Newmills bridge will be carried out as part of this project.”

MDL338/21 LIGHTS AT BARRACK JUNCTION GLENSWILLY

In answer to his question requesting an update on when the lights will be erected at Barrack junction Glenswilly, Donal Kelly was advised:

“The erections of these lights have been delayed due to the Covid 19 Restrictions. It is currently planned to have these lights installed and operational by October 2021.”

MDL339/21 WORKS AT MEENAROY BRIDGE

In answer to his question requesting an update on the works to be carried out at Mennaroy Bridge please as this is a matter of urgency Cllr. Donal Kelly was advised:

“A request for funding to carry out repairs to this bridge has been forwarded to the Bridge Engineer. As yet we have received no confirmation of funding. When funding becomes available we will include it within our works programme.”

MDL340/21 VOLUME OF TRAFFIC ON LETTERKENNY / MILFORD ROAD

In answer to his question what is the volume of Traffic on the Letterkenny / Milford Road at present, Cllr. Ian McGarvey was advised:

“The Traffic Counters on the R245 Ramelton and Letterkenny Road show that there is an Annual Average Daily Traffic Flow between 8600 - 9200 vehicles per day.”

MDL341/21 SIGNAGE AT THE CUP AND SAUCER

In answer to his question what happened the request for advance Signage at the Cup & Saucer for Town Centre and Toilets, Cllr. Ian McGarvey was advised:

“We will carry review of the signage required at location and if additional signage is necessary we will include it in the Maintenance Programme.”

MDL342/21 O'DONNELL CASTLE, RAMELTON

In answer to his question will this Council mark the area of the O'Donnell Castle in Ramelton with a Plaque for identification and will this Council look at the possibility of providing details of the people from Ramelton who became famous all over the world at a suitable location, Cllr. Ian McGarvey was advised:

“The Culture Division of Donegal County Council will be pleased to provide advice and assistance to community groups in Ramelton and to private landowners who wish to commemorate the location of the former castle in Ramelton (DG046-005001-) which is an archaeological monument protected under the National Monuments Acts. In recent years, there has been a community initiative in an open area in Ramelton to acknowledge the contribution of famous people from Ramelton and the Culture Division will be pleased to provide advice and assistance to support these community efforts and to direct them to possible sources of funding.”

MDL343/21 JOE BONNER ROAD

In answer to his question when will the Joe Bonner Road be completed and open to traffic, Cllr. Ciaran Brogan was advised:

“The Joe Bonner road is substantially complete; it is intended to formally open this section of road on the 18 June specific times to be arranged. Initially the Road will be opening onto the Neil T Blaney Road without the Traffic signals in places which will restrict exiting from Joe Bonner Road onto Neil T Blaney Road to Left Turn only. When traffic signals have finally been installed the left turn restrictions will be lifted.”

MDL344/21 ACTIVE TRAVEL PROGRAMME

In answer to his question requesting an updated report on the Active Travel Programme and a timeframe for the scheduled work, Cllr. Ciaran Brogan was advised:

“Due to the Covid restrictions the commencement of these projects have been delayed. It is currently programmed to complete these projects between July and November 2021.”

MDL345/21 REPORT ON URDF AND TIMEFRAME

In answer to his question requesting an updated report on the URDF and a timeframe for same, Cllr. Ciaran Brogan was advised:

“An update on the work programme of the Regeneration and Development Team in respect of the URDF, RRDF and related has been submitted for the information of Members to the June Municipal District Meetings. A detailed report on the URDF as specifically requested will now be prepared for Members as soon as possible. The Regeneration and Development Team is also happy to facilitate a workshop with Members in respect of this matter and it is suggested that a date for same be agreed at the next MD Meeting. The URDF report will be prepared in advance of same.”

MDL346/21 DATE AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING

Cllr. Coyle noted that this would be his last Municipal District Meeting as Chair of the Meeting. He thanked everyone including the Members for their cooperation during his term as Chair. He said he wished to sincerely thank them for the goodwill and respect shown to him. He stated that he appreciated the work done by the officials in preparation of reports and answering questions raised. He added his compliments to everyone involved. He thanked Liam Ward for his advice and for keeping him right. He hoped that in the coming year everyone will be able to meet in person.

All the Members paid tribute to Cllr. Coyle as Mayor for representing the Municipal District with distinction and for the efficient manner in which he conducted the large number of meetings and workshops. They thanked him for

his courtesy and kindness during this time in office. On behalf of the staff, Liam Ward complimented Cllr. Coyle on his year as Mayor and the manner in which he conducted all business.

It was agreed that the next MDL Meeting would be held on 13th July, 2021 in a venue to be confirmed.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Mayor

Meetings Administrator

Appendix 1 (Motion No. 11)

Directive 2002/49/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council relates to the assessment and management of environmental noise, and is commonly referred to as the Environmental Noise Directive or END. The aim of the Directive is *“to define a common approach intended to avoid, prevent or reduce on a prioritised basis the harmful effects, including annoyance, due to exposure to environmental noise”*.

And to that end three stages are set out:

- Undertake strategic noise mapping to determine exposure to environmental noise;
- Ensure information on environmental noise and its effects is made available to the public;
- Adopt action plans, based upon the noise-mapping results, with a view to preventing and reducing environmental noise where necessary and particularly where exposure levels can induce harmful effects on human health and to preserving environmental noise quality where it is good.

Designating major roads

In Ireland, the Environmental Noise Regulations (S.I. No. 140 Of 2006) relate to the assessment and management of environmental noise and require data and reports from designated noise mapping bodies (NMB) to be supplied to the designated national competent authority, namely the Environmental Protection Agency. Reporting relates to those roads designated as Major Roads under the Environmental Noise Regulations, with Major Roads clarified to consist of all roads classified as “National” roads or “Regional” roads with a total flow above 3,000,000 vehicle passages per year, approximately 8,220 vehicle passages per average 24 hours.

Noise Mapping

To date, consultants have undertaken this noise measurement and mapping tasks to identify areas of concern for both National Routes and relevant non-national roads. Those roads in Donegal which meet the criteria of “major road” in this regard are as identified below and are included in the Council’s Draft Noise Action Plan 2018-2023:

1. N15 route from Drowes River in the townland of Magheracar to a point 106m southeast of the junction between Bridgestreet and the N15 in Lifford. This route bypasses the towns of Bundoran, Ballyshannon and Donegal Town. The route traverses through the towns of Ballybofey, Stranorlar and Lifford and villages of Killygordan, Liscooley and Castlefinn.
2. N56 route from the Roundabout in the townland of Drumlonagher to the junction between the R263 and the N56 in the townland of Aghayeevoge. This route bypasses Donegal Town but passes through some residential/industrial areas to the west of the town and bypasses the village of Mountcharles while it goes through the villages of Inver, Dunkineeley and Bruckless.
3. N56 route from the Polestar roundabout in the townland of Ballyraine to the Pramerica Roundabout in the townlands of Knocknamona/ Windyhall.
4. N13 route from the junction between the N13 and the N15 in the townland of Stranorlar to Bridge End to a point 1.1km south east of the junction between the R238 and the N13 in the

townland of Bunnamayne. This route bypasses the villages of Drumkeen, Manorcunningham and Newtowncunningham.

5. N14 route from the Polestar Roundabout in the townland of Ballyraine to the Dry Arch Roundabout in the townland of Bunnagee and a second section of the N14 route from the Roundabout junction between the N13 and N14 in the townland of Raymoghey to the Roundabout junction between the N14 and N15 in the townland of Townparks and located in the town of Lifford.
6. R229 route from the Polestar Roundabout to Station Roundabout to Oatfield Roundabout to the Hospital Roundabout and on to the Pramerica Roundabout where it joins in with the N56. This route is within the urban area of Letterkenny.
7. R250 route from Station Roundabout in the townland of Letterkenny to Ballymacool Roundabout in the townland of Ballymacool.
8. R245 route from a point 0.39km southwest of the junction between the R245 and the N56 in the townland of Ballyraine (Creamery Junction) to the junction between the R245 and the L-5884-1 (Woodlands NS).
9. R238 route from the Bridge End Roundabout junction with the N13 in the townland of Carrowreagh to the junction between the Looking Glass Brae road and the R238 in the townland of Ballymacarry Lower . Donegal County Council Draft Noise Action Plan 2018 - 2023 VI
10. R238 route from Liberty Bridge in the townland of Craig located in the village of Muff to the junction between the R238 and the R240 in the townland of Carrowkeel.

Noise Action Plan

In accordance with the regulations, there has been a requirement to adopt a Local Authority Noise Action Plan since 2008, with various amendments to the requirements during the intervening period, with each plan set for a 5 year period. **There is no national budget or grant allocation available to implement the actions set out in a LA NAP and it is currently a matter for the Council to fund any identified actions or works.**

NAP Round 1: 2008 – 2013

- The threshold for Round One focused on noise generated by road traffic for roads with an annual volume >6 million vehicles. For Round One County Donegal fell under this threshold so no Noise Action Plan required.

NAP Round 2: 2013 – 2018

- The threshold for Round Two was reduced to roads with an annual volume >3 million vehicles. Under this new threshold Donegal County Council was required to prepare a Noise Action Plan.
- NAP was presented to Elected Members and NAP was adopted at Plenary Council meeting
- Over the 5 year period a Road Design nominated representative attended 5 EPA Workshops on the matter.
- Over 5 year period of plan, no actions were undertaken as no revenue budget had been allocated.

NAP Round 3: 2018-2023

- The threshold for Round Three remained the same and applied to roads with an annual volume >3 million vehicles. Donegal County Council was again required to prepare a new 5 year Noise Action Plan

- This new NAP was presented to Elected Members at MD workshops and was supported at each but thereafter Members did not adopted the current draft plan at Plenary Council meeting, as no funding provision had been made to implement any of the plan's actions.

Summary

In summary, the NAP 2018 – 2023 has not been adopted by Donegal County Council nor has any revenue budget been allocated by the Council in the first 3 years of said draft plan and so no actions have been undertaken nor can be funded.