

**MINUTES OF MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF LETTERKENNY MEETING HELD
IN THE MILFORD PUBLIC SERVICES CENTRE ON TUESDAY, 12 FEBRUARY 2019**

MDL541/19 **MEMBERS PRESENT**

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

MDL542/19 **OFFICIALS PRESENT**

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

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

MDL543/19 **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

There were no matters arising from the Minutes of 15 January 2019.

MDL544/19 **ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING**

Cllr. Ian McGarvey opened the meeting and on the proposal of Cllr. Ciaran Brogan and seconded by Cllr. Michael McBride the meeting was adjourned to allow Superintendent David Kelly speak to the Members at their request following media coverage on Garda Resources within the Municipal District.

MDL545/19 **ADOPTION OF MINUTES OF MDL MEETING HELD ON 15 JANUARY, 2019**

On the proposal of Cllr. Michael McBride and seconded by Cllr. Jimmy Kavanagh, the Minutes of MDL Meeting held on 15 January 2019, were adopted.

MDL546/19 DISABLED PARKING AUDIT

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

“That the Council carry out an audit of the disabled parking spaces in Letterkenny and make sure they are all fit for purpose.”

The Members were advised:

“Roads are shortly to carry out an audit, following the erection of additional disabled parking signs, that are currently being erected.”

On proposing the motion, Cllr. Kavanagh reported the following:

- There are no lowered kerbs at the following premises:
MABB’s building, Harkin’s Chiropodists, Elevery Sports, Spec Savers, Opposite Library on Oliver Plunkett Road, Entreo Office, Cathedral and Conwal Parish Church.
- No disabled parking on the right hand side of the street – only on the left and this is causing traffic to build up.
- Asked that all disabled bays would be painted blue.
- People are abusing the disabled bays.
- Asked that the Local Letterkenny Area Plan address these issues.

On seconding the motion, Cllr. Brogan requested a report at the March / April meeting of the cost and funding available to improve disabled parking in Letterkenny.

MDL547/19 SIGNAGE AT MARKET SQUARE, LETTERKENNY

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

“That the Council erect signage warning that large vehicles cannot go down Market Square.”

The Members were advised that;

“Roads will review, with a view to erecting appropriate advisory signage.”

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

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

MDL548/19 ROAD TAKE OVER AT COLLEGE FARM ROAD

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

“That the Council reconsider the decision not to takeover a section of road at College Farm Road, Letterkenny as per my previous motion.”

The Members were advised that:

“The section of private road at College Farm Road, Sallaghagrane was assessed in accordance with the “Adopted Policy on the Creation of Public Roads” to establish whether it was in order for this road to be made a Public Road in accordance with the Roads Act 1993.

The road does not conform to the adopted policy, and is not suitable for declaration as a Public Road accordingly. The full report is available on the members extranet.”

On proposing the motion, Cllr. Kavanagh asked that the Council reconsider the decision and have works completed.

On seconding the motion, Cllr. Brogan supported the motion and asked that the Council find a solution to resolve this matter.

Fergal Doherty stated that unless the Adopted Policy was changed the Council could not take over this section of road.

MDL549/19 MAGHERALASK ROAD

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

“That the Council finds the means urgently to fix the Magheralask Road L59942 in Glenswilly which has not been extensively improved since 1999 and is in a serious state of disrepair leading to huge frustrations for the people living on that road.”

The Members were advised that:

“The 2019 Restoration Improvement programme was recently agreed by members at workshop and subsequently in MDL meeting. Roads continue to implement minor repairs, and will maintain on the list for potential inclusion in the 2020 programme.”

On proposing the motion, Cllr. Glackin said this road was deemed to be a public road and therefore would not qualify under the LIS. Residents were frustrated with the condition of the road and asked that the Council carryout improvements.

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

MDL550/19 FOOTPATH LIGHTING AT GLEBE ROAD

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

That this Council investigates the possibility of installing some lights along the footpath in an area of the Glebe on the R245 towards Kilty junction. The area in question is about 150 metres long and is in complete darkness from early evening. Health and safety concerns have been raised by walkers and joggers in the area.

The Members were advised that:

“Similar to 2018, pending clarification of funding, a workshop will be held with members to agree on the various locations where public lighting to be installed in accordance with the guidelines, under the next phase of the 3 year Footpath and Public Lighting Programme. This location is already on the list for consideration.”

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

On seconding the motion, Cllr. McMonagle fully supported the motion and welcomed the response.

MDL551/19 ILLEGAL DUMPING GLENSWILLY

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

“That this Council undertakes work to remove illegal dumping in the Whitehill Road area of Glenswilly.”

The Members were advised that:

“The Litter Team have contacted Cllr. Glackin with respect to this issue and this matter has been closed.”

On proposing the motion, Cllr. Glackin thanked Martin Roarty for his quick response to this motion.

On seconding the motion, Cllr. McMonagle praised the Litter Warden team for their actions in dealing with illegal dumping.

Cllr. Blaney asked that CCTV be used in cases on ongoing illegal dumping sites.

MDL552/19 DERELICT HOUSES IN MEADOWBANK

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

“That this Municipal District initiates a process whereby we identify the current owners of the Derelict houses in Meadowbank, Letterkenny with a view to buying those houses and refurbishing them for use as Social Houses. To fund this scheme I propose that we make an application to the Urban Regeneration Fund when it opens up for applications this month.”

The Members were advised that:

“A process has been initiated to identify the current owners of the unoccupied and run down privately owned houses in the Meadowbank Estate, Letterkenny.

Once this exercise is completed, it is planned to make direct contact with the owners to ascertain their proposals for the property with the overall objective to bring the properties back into productive use through the mechanisms available to the Council, which may include provisions under the derelict sites legislation.

If there is an option for the Council to acquire the properties for social housing all available funding options will be considered including funding under the Social Housing Investment Programme from the Department of Housing Planning and Local Government. As advised at the last plenary meeting, the Council is establishing a regeneration and development project team which will have a county-wide focus on the following: vacant sites, derelict sites, business incentives and community development with the objective of attracting investment from the range of funding programmes to regenerate urban and rural settlements.”

On proposing the motion, Cllr. McMonagle welcomed the response to his motion and asked that this would be addressed under an Urban Regeneration Fund and investigate funding mechanisms available. Cllr. McMonagle asked that a Pilot Scheme was established for Solomon’s and Long Lanes areas.

On seconding the motion, Cllr. Glackin fully supported the motion and welcomed the reponse.

Liam Ward advised that work was ongoing identifying sites and owners and would be completed in the next couple of months. Purpose of the Urban Regeneration Fund was to work alongside other funds.

Cllr. Brogan asked if the powers of Compulsory Purchase Order would be considered. Liam Ward advised that this has not be done to acquire houses into housing stock by this Council but that this is an option that the Council is prepared to look at.

MDL553/19 LOWER ARD O'DONNELL, LETTERKENNY

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

"That we include Lower Ard O Donnell on our Road Maintenance works as the road surface is cutting up."

The Members were advised that:

"The 2019 Restoration Improvement programme was recently agreed by members at workshop and subsequently in MDL meeting. Roads continue to implement minor repairs, and will maintain on the list for potential inclusion in the 2020 programme."

On proposing the motion, Cllr. McMonagle reported that the road surface was poor following recent cold weather and asked that the Council continue to maintain it due to the volume of traffic.

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

MDL554/19 ROAD SAFETY MEASURES – RAHAN ROAD

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

"That we consider putting in Road Safety Measures on the Rahan Road due to the increased development in the area."

The Members were advised that

"Footpaths and streetlighting have been installed on the Rahan Road, in conjunction with the increased development. Roads will further assess whether additional measures are appropriate, and review during occupation of developments."

On proposing the motion, Cllr. McMonagle asked that traffic islands were put in place as residents were concerned for safety of walkers in this area and children using buses.

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

Cllr. McDaid added that there was an urgent need for traffic calming in this area for some time and reported high speed, poor vision lines and dangerous in poor weather and thanked Cllr. McMonagle for raising this issue.

MDL555/19 ROAD MAINTENANCE PROGRAMME 2019 – MANOR AREA

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

“That this Council liaise with the current roads engineer in the Manor area which the Letterkenny area will be inheriting this year after the local elections to make sure that these roads are being maintained and on roads programs where necessary in the interim and When exactly can we expect the Letterkenny roads engineers to take over the new manor area.”

The Members were advised that:

“Inishowen Area Roads have included Manor ED roads on their maintenance programme and have undertaken significant road maintenance and flood repair works in the area during 2018. Letterkenny roads engineers will officially take over the new Manor Area as of the date of the local elections in May, however it is likely that a transition period corresponding with budgetary redistribution will occur. Members will be informed of arrangements at Plenary Council.”

On proposing the motion, Cllr. McDaid expressed concern of residents in this area during the transition period which could be six months and asked that Fergal Doherty speak with the Engineer in the Inishowen area to ensure the roads were maintained in the interim.

On seconding the motion, Cllr. Brogan advised that Cllr. Paul Canning raised this same issue at Plenary. Cllr Brogan said that there was not sufficient funding for roads and fully supported the motion.

MDL556/19 RASHDEOGE BRIDGE, GLENSWILLY

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

“That this Council take immediate action to improve the vision lines at the Old Rashdeoge bridge in Glenswilly at the junction heading in the back road towards New Mills bridge and can we make sure that this bridge is included in the list of protected structures so it may be possible to get heritage money in the future to maintain and restore.”

Members were advised that:

“Roads will be cutting the trees at this location to improve vision, within the next 3 weeks when the cutter becomes free. The matter of inclusion in the list of protected

structures to be referred to the Conservation Office in Planning for implementation.”

On proposing the motion, Cllr. McDaid welcomed the response and asked that the Council monitor vision lines/hedgecutting through the summer months.

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

MDL557/19 JUNCTION AT LARKIN'S LANE

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

“That the Council provide me with a detailed update on the junction in front of Larkin’s lane and what proposals they have to address the current accident prone area and difficult access to businesses.”

The Members were advised that:

“The junction at Larkins Lane/Pearse Road has been assessed on a number of occasions in the past where various options were investigated. Previous investigations concluded that given the restricted area of land available, the current junction layout provides the most efficient traffic flows and minimum traffic delays, taking into account available lands, traffic demands and budgets. The existing one way systems of traffic flow in this area of the Town also provided the most efficient means of maintaining traffic flow at all times. Previous option designs for improvement at this junction favoured a roundabout, for which significant land take would be required. There is currently no funding for the implementation of this option.”

On proposing the motion, Cllr. McDaid reported that this was a temporary structure with dangerous manoeuvres of vehicles and the need for the Council to support businesses in this area. Cllr. McDaid asked that Road Design office design a proper junction availing of lands in this area to alleviate any dangers.

On seconding the motion, Cllr McBride fully supported the motion and asked that this would be considered as part of the Letterkenny Local Area Plan in connecting Lower Main Street and Main Street, Letterkenny.

Fergal Doherty advised that options were presented to Members previously which required significant land take. This junction was on the list to secure funding and it may be possible to secure funding under the Letterkenny Local Area Plan.

MDL558/19 EMERGENCY MOTION -

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

“That we the Members of Letterkenny Municipal area ask the Mayor to write to the Garda Commissioner, Mr. Drew Harris, to give us an assurance that the future of the Garda Stations in Kilmacrennan, Rathmullen and Kerrykeel are not in jeopardy and will not be closed in any circumstances. We would like to have a new uniformed personnel allocated to the Milford District.”

On proposing the motion, Cllr. McBride asked that a letter would be issued to ensure that the Garda Stations in Kilmacrennan, Rathmullen and Kerrykeel were not closed.

On seconding the motion, Cllr. Blaney asked that additional uniformed personnel would be given to the Milford District.

MDL559/19 SALT/GRIT BUNKERS IN ALL HOUSING ESTATES

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

“That Donegal County Council would consider the provision of salt/grit bunkers in all housing estates and have an online map indicating where all grit supplies are located for local communities.”

The Members were advised that:

“As the Winter Maintenance programme is administered and funded on a county basis, as a cross Municipal District programme, this motion should be raised at Plenary Council. The Council have an online map outlining locations where grit heaps are maintained, which can be accessed at <http://donegal.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=6c6e14762485409cbf66df0c69cbd8f2>”

On proposing the motion, Cllr. McBride asked that the Council consider providing grit bunkers to housing estates over a five year period with contact details for refilling displayed on the bunkers.

On seconding the motion, Cllr. McMonagle fully supported the motion and asked that footpaths were also treated more often.

MDL560/19 ROAD SURFACE IMPROVEMENT KILMACRENNAN VILLAGE

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

“That Donegal County Council replace the tar road through the village of Kilmacrennan as the pavement is totally disintegrating particularly on Lower Main Street.”

The Members were advised that:

“The Kilmacrennan Main Street and up to the Lough Salt Junction is already on the TII's list for a Pavement Project, following the completion by IW of water mains to be laid on a section of same. IW have advised that the water mains is programmed to be laid later this year, with 6 month settlement to take place prior to permanent reinstatement, it is likely to be end of this year/start of next year before permanent resurfacing is undertaken. In the meantime, ongoing localised maintenance will continue.”

On proposing the motion, Cllr. McBride stated that this road was in poor condition and had a large volume of traffic and expressed concern on the state of the road when works were completed by Irish Water.

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

MDL561/19 ROAD SURFACE IMPROVEMENT CHURCHILL VILLAGE

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

“That the tarred road in Churchill be repaired in the immediate vicinity of the new playground which is due to be officially opened on St Patrick's day this year.”

The Members were advised that:

“The Footpath and road edge along the playground has been tarred recently. There are currently no plans to do any more restoration along this road, but Roads plan to carry out minor repairs in advance of the official opening.”

On proposing the motion, Cllr. McBride complimented the work done on the footpath by the Council and asked that the road past the entrance to the playground towards Gartan would be repaired.

On seconding the motion, Cllr. McMonagle commended the work of the Council with the Committee in providing the playground.

Liam Ward advised that the official opening of the Play Park was Friday, 29th March, 2019 at 2.30 p.m.

MDL562/19 SEWER EXTENSION ON FANAD ROAD, KERRYKEEL

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

“That this Council make contact with Irish Water requesting them to extend the main sewer on the Fanad Road out of Kerrykeel.”

The Members were advised that:

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

There are a number of avenues available to the Elected Members to raise queries/questions with Irish Water which include:

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

On proposing the motion, Cllr. Blaney stated that there were 30 premises on a 250/300 metre stretch of road that would qualify for Group Scheme and asked that Irish Water be requested to extend the sewer line to these properties.

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

Joe Ferry supported this request considering the amenity at Rockhill Caravan Park.

MDL563/19 STREET LIGHT AT ROSEMOUNT COTTAGES, KILMACRENNAN

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

“Calling on this Council to install a street light on the back lane at Rosemount cottages, Kilmacrennan.”

The Members were advised that:

“Installation of street lighting will be decided on in accordance with the ongoing 3 Year Public Lighting Programme. Following confirmation of funding in 2019, it is intended that a workshop to discuss 2019 Street lighting installations will take place.”

On proposing the motion, Cllr. O’Donnell asked if funding could be provided under the Development Fund Initiative.

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

Liam Ward advised that this could be funded under DFI with the agreement of Members.

MDL564/19 COTTAIN ROAD, KILMACRENNAN

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

"Calling on this Council to remove the dangerous bends from the Cottain Road in Kilmacrennan as a matter of urgency and implement much needed safety measures on this road."

The Members were advised that:

"There is no funding at present to carry out the works proposed. This road has been identified as a potential Specific Improvement Grant candidate, in the event that availability of these grants become more widespread."

On proposing the motion, Cllr. O'Donnell asked that warning signs be erected as there were concealed entrances, blind corners and the road was in a poor condition. Cllr. O'Donnell welcomed the response.

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

MDL565/19 SPEED RAMPS AT LOWER MOUNT MARIAN

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

"Calling on this Council to install speed ramps at Lower Mount Marian, Milford following request by concerned residents."

The Members were advised that:

"Roads will assess for the appropriateness of measures, and what if any measures are suitable, at the entrance to this estate."

On proposing the motion, Cllr. O'Donnell stated that residents asked that speed ramps be installed as they were concerned about cars speeding in the estate.

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

MDL566/19 GROUP WATER SCHEME GRANTS

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

“That Group Water Schemes are accepted as before with grants to encourage an uptake.”

The Members were advised that:

“The Department for Housing Planning and Local Government administers the Rural Water Programme. Capital investment under the programme is delivered under a multi-annual basis. The latest multi-annual programme covered the period 2016 to 2018. A new programme will cover the period 2019 to 2021. The Department has indicated that a workshop will be held in the coming weeks regarding the new programme and officials from Donegal County Council will attend same. Representative from potential group schemes should contact the Rural Water Section for further details on ruralwater@donegalcoco.ie.”

On proposing the motion, Cllr. McGarvey asked that Irish Water would reduce the connection fee for residents in this area as a water main has to be laid separately by Irish Water.

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

MDL567/19 GRITTING SERVICES

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

“That the Gritting Services cover areas at Schools, Nursing Homes, the town of Ramelton that has Steep streets, in and out of Town at times of severe Frost.”

The Members were advised that:

“As the winter Maintenance programme is administered and funded on a county basis, as a cross Municipal District programme, this motion should be raised at Plenary Council. The current Winter Maintenance programme has been agreed at Plenary Council.”

On proposing the motion, Cllr. McGarvey asked that consideration be given to providing a gritting service as outlined in his motion.

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

Fergal Doherty agreed to follow up on this with Roads Central.

MDL568/19 RAMELTON HARBOUR

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

“That this Municipal District check the subsidence that has taken place at the Harbour in Ramelton.”

The Members were advised that:

“The Marine Engineer has given an undertaken that he will check the subsidence that has occurred and carry out any necessary works accordingly.”

On proposing the motion, Cllr. McGarvey expressed concern regarding the Pier at Rathmullan also and asked that both would be looked at.

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

MDL569/19 NATIONAL PLANNING FRAMEWORK

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

“I propose the this Council invite our Water & Environment section of this Council to our next meeting to discuss our future infrastructure proposals under the National Planning Framework for this area in the 2040 Plan

The Members were advised that:

“Should this motion be passed representatives from Donegal County Council's Water and Environment Directorate will attend a workshop with Elected Members to discuss Donegal County Council led infrastructure plans and programmes.”

On proposing the motion, Cllr. Brogan asked that Irish Water meet with Members as a matter of urgency to discuss infrastructure need in the area, main sewer to Bonagee area, treatment plants in housing estates that were not working, Tesco roundabout to Port Bridge was outdated and asked if the Bonagee Link would have a sewer line.

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

Joe Ferry advised that businesses had been asked to make application to Irish Water for a sewer connection on the Port Road area and as there had been poor update Irish

Water had not responded as a need was not demonstrated. Mr. Ferry urged businesses to make an application.

MDL570/19 WINTER GRITTING PROGRAMME

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

“I propose that this council as a matter of urgency engage with the farming organisations with a few to have them working with us a Council during the winter gritting programme.”

The Members were advised that:

“As the winter Maintenance programme is administered and funded on a county basis, as a cross Municipal District programme, this motion should be raised at Plenary Council.”

On proposing the motion, Cllr. Brogan asked for the support of the Municipal District to take this motion to the Roads SPC. Cllr. Brogan thanked the farmers for their support each year and acknowledged the goodwill in rural areas on challenging routes. Cllr. Brogan asked that a Pilot Scheme would be coordinated. Cllr. Brogan also paid tribute the Roads staff in providing this service each year.

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

MDL571/19 NATIONAL PLANNING FRAMEWORK

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

“I propose that this Council be presented with a copy of our National Planning Framework submission and have a special meeting with our Oireachtas Members to discuss this document and how best we can source funding for this area.”

The Members were advised that:

“A copy of the application made by Donegal County Council under the URDF with respect to Letterkenny is attached. Following consideration of the motion, arrangements can be made for further engagement with Elected Representatives as considered necessary.”

On proposing the motion, Cllr. Brogan asked that Members meet Oireachtas Members to highlight the priorities for Letterkenny MD in Dublin in the next month and moving forward more frequent meetings should be agreed.

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

MDL572/19 MAYORS BUSINESS

There was no Mayor's business reported.

MDL573/19 CORRESPONDENCE

On the proposal of Cllr. Liam Blaney and seconded by Cllr. Ian McGarvey the Members agreed to receive a Deputation from the Residents Association at Doaghbeg on 12th March, 2019.

The Members agreed to grant permission to the Parent's Association of Schol Mhuire gan Smal for the use of Bernard McGlinchey Town Park on 26th May, 2019 between 2 pm and 4 pm.

Letter of thanks from Letterkenny Parkrun Committee for the work of the Council in supporting Parkrun in the County.

MDL574/19 PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

The Members noted the report as circulated with the agenda.

MDL575/19 ENVIRONMENT

The Members noted the report as circulated with the agenda and the following issues were raised:

575.1 – Illegal Dumping

Cllr. McBride asked if the check points would be held by EPA, Garda Siochana and the Council on refuse lorries in an effort to prevent fly tipping. Joe Ferry confirmed that there were a number of interagency checkpoints and a designated team put in place within the Environment office.

MDL576/19 COMMUNITY ENTERPRISE & CULTURAL SERVICES

The Members noted the report as circulated with the agenda.

576.1 Community Action on Alcohol Plan

The Members were advised that the Launch of the Community Action on Alcohol Plan was on 21st March, 2019 at 10 a.m. in Letterkenny Public Services Centre.

MDL577/19 ROADS & TRANSPORTATION

The Members noted the report as circulated with the agenda.

577.1 – Adoption of 2019 Bridge Strengthening Programme

On the proposal of Cllr. James Pat McDaid and seconded by Cllr. John O'Donnell the Bridge Strengthening Programme 2019 was adopted.

577.2 – 2019 Local Improvement Schemes (LIS)

Fergal Doherty advised that €680,000 was allocated to Donegal County Council which would be divided into the five Municipal District and Letterkenny could expect €120,000 to €130,000.

Cllr. Blaney said that a quarter of the applications submitted would have been from Letterkenny MD and hoped that the funding would be allocated proportionately.

A discussion in relation to the choosing of LIS schemes to be undertaken in 2019 took place. Members agreed that a workshop was not necessary, and that the small number of schemes to be undertaken were to be chosen by the Roads executive, in accordance with the issued guidelines.

MDL578/19 HOUSING AND CORPORATE SERVICES

The Members noted the report as circulated with the agenda and the following issues were raised:

578.1 – Friendship Charter with West Dunbartonshire Council

On the proposal of Cllr. Ciaran Brogan and seconded by Cllr. John O'Donnell it was agreed that the Mayor, Cllr. Ian McGarvey and Deputy Mayor, Cllr. John O'Donnell and one Official of the Council would attend the signing of the Friendship Charter with West Dunbartonshire Council in Scotland.

578.2 – Social Housing at Long Lane, Letterkenny

Cllr. McMonagle asked for a start date for the social housing at Long Lane. Patricia McIntyre advised that it was anticipated that the contractor would be appointed in the next two weeks.

578.3 – Income Limits for Social Housing Support

Cllr. Kavanagh asked for details on the qualifying income limit for social housing support. Patricia McIntyre explained that this dependent on the household and agreed to circulate the qualifying limits to Cllr. Kavanagh.

Questions

MDL579/19 TAKING IN CHARGE OF GLENTAIN MANOR, LETTERKENNY

In answer to his question requesting an update on the status of the taking in charge of Glentain Manor, Cllr. Jimmy Kavanagh was advised:

“The planning authority is exploring all options in relation to achieving a resolution to all outstanding issues effecting Glentain including discussions with the developer. The planning authority has committed to conducting a camera survey to determine the condition of the underground services and compile a costing for the completion of the estate access road as an initial stage of a site resolution plan which in turn will inform the extent and cost of required resolution works. The planning authority is seeking financial assistance from different sources to complement existing bond monies to carry out the works.”

MDL580/19 JUNCTION AT MAGHERALASK

In answer to his question requesting when will the signage for the junction at Magheralask L59942 be put in place, Cllr. Adrian Glackin was advised:

“The 2 signs will be erected within the next week.”

MDL581/19 TAKING IN CHARGE OF WILLOW PARK HOUSING ESTATE, LETTERKENNY

In answer to his question requesting when works will be underway to improve roads in Willow Park housing estate which is being taken over, Cllr. Adrian Glackin was advised:

“In the event that Willow Park is taken in charge by the Council, then the road becomes a public road, the maintenance of which, falls under one of the various roadworks programmes agreed by members at the start of each year.”

MDL582/19 NEW LINE ROAD, LETTERKENNY

In answer to his question requesting when will the New Line Road surface be reinstated as the surface is breaking up, Cllr. Gerry McMonagle was advised:

“Temporary reinstatement is currently in place following extensive works by IW. The road is scheduled to be permanently resurfaced around August, such that any localised settlement is addressed. Pending this minor repairs are on going.”

MDL583/19 PEDESTRIAN CROSSING AT AURA LEISURE CENTRE, LETTERKENNY

In answer to his question requesting an update on my motion calling for a Pedestrian Crossing at the Aura Leisure Centre, Cllr. Gerry McMonagle was advised:

“A budget of € 20,000 has been allocated under the Low Cost Accidents budget for pedestrian crossing at the Aura. Area Roads are developing design with the Roads Design section, with a view to installing in the coming months.”

MDL584/19 GLENMAQUINN SCHOOL SAFETY WORKS, LETTERKENNY

In answer to his question requesting when safety works will begin at Glenmaquin School, Cllr. Gerry McMonagle was advised:

“Safety works are currently being designed, and it is anticipated that the works should commence in the coming months. Following application, €30k was granted to the implementation of the works under the 'Safety Improvement Works' grants. The full extends of the works will be known following completion of design.”

MDL585/19 BERNARD MCGLINCHY TOWN PARK, LETTERKENNY

In answer to his question requesting an update on his previous motion on getting the Playground equipment repaired or replaced in the Bernard McGlinchey Town Park, Cllr. James Pat McDaid was advised:

“Donegal County Council have allocated funding for the replacement of the equipment in the Sweet Factory playground located within the Bernard Mc Glinchey Town Park.

The area has recently been surveyed and tender documents are being developed to procure the supply and installation of similar equipment. It is anticipated that these works will be completed in Q2, 2019.”

MDL586/19 PUBLIC LIGHTING AT WOOD ROAD, LETTERKENNY

In answer to his question requesting that this Council erect a number of public lights on the Wood Road, Cllr. James Pat McDaid was advised:

“Similar to 2018, pending clarification of funding, a workshop will be held with members to agree on the various locations where public lighting to be installed in accordance with the guidelines, under the next phase of the 3 year Footpath and Public Lighting Programme. This location can be considered along with the existing list at that time.”

MDL587/19 LIS FUNDING

In answer to his question requesting how much LIS money are we expecting this year, Cllr. James Pat McDaid was advised:

“At time of writing there was no official announcement in relation to LIS Funding for 2019. Members will be notified when funding is confirmed.”

MDL588/19 MAGHERAWARDEN BRIDGE

In answer to his question requesting when is it anticipated works will be completed to Magherawarden Bridge having received €27,000 allocated under Bridge Rehabilitation Works, Cllr. Liam Blaney was advised:

“The repair works to this bridge will be carried out as part of the Bridge Maintenance programme and it is planned to be completed before the end of September 2019.”

MDL589/19 GREAT ARCH, FANAD

In answer to his question requesting when the access to the Great Arch would be completed and open to use by the Public, Cllr. Liam Blaney was advised:

“Donegal County Council has been in negotiations with local land-owners about developing an access trail to view the Great Arch at Pollet, Fanad.

Agreement in principle has been secured for one possible access route and other routes are also being examined to possibly complete a looped walk to and from the Arch to a suitable car parking location.

An application for funding was made to the Department of Community & Rural Affairs, under Measure Two of the Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme 2018 and an announcement of funding was made on 8th January 2019 in the amount of €136,200. Donegal County Council has committed to provide 20% match funding of €34,050, giving an overall budget for the works of €170,250.

Donegal County Council is currently awaiting a Letter of Offer from the Department for this announcement.

In the coming weeks further consultation will take place with landowners and thereafter, the Part 8 Planning process will be initiated. All being well, it is anticipated that works will commence in the second half of 2019 and scheduled to be completed by the end of 2019.”

MDL590/19 KEADUE BRIDGE, ROSSNAKILL

In answer to his question requesting When it was planned to have the wall repaired on the Keadue Bridge, Rossnakill, Cllr. Liam Blaney was advised:

“It is planned to carry out the repairs to this wall before the end of April.”

MDL591/19 CARRABLAGH ROAD, PORTSALON

In answer to his question requesting if a survey had been done on The Carablagh Road, Portsalon, Cllr. Ian McGarvey was advised:

“As part of the PMS process PSCI condition rating survey have been carried out on the roads in the Carrablagh and Potsalon Area. No detailed alignment surveys have been carried out.”

MDL592/19 PROTECTION OF CULTURAL & HERITAGE SITES IN COASTAL AREAS

In answer to his question asking if this M.D would contact the Cultural & Heritage Committee to ensure protection of Sites around our Coastal Area, Cllr. Ian McGarvey was advised:

“The Department of Culture, Heritage & the Gaeltacht is the statutory authority charged with the protection of aspects of coastal heritage as follows:

National Monuments Service of the Department of Culture, Heritage & the Gaeltacht is the statutory authority charged with the protection of our archaeological heritage. Archaeological monuments are protected under the National Monuments Acts (1930-2004). The Record of Monuments & Places (RMP) is a statutory audit of archaeological monuments established under Section 12 of the National Monuments (Amendment) Act 1994. In County Donegal, there are over 3,400 archaeological monuments on the Record of Monuments & Places and most of them are in private ownership. The Record of Monuments & Places for County Donegal is available on-line at: www.archaeology.ie. Reports of damage should be made, or consent for work to, or in the vicinity of, an archaeological monument is required from, the National Monuments Service of the Department of Culture, Heritage & the Gaeltacht. Written notification must be given two months in advance to the National Monuments Service, Department of Culture, Heritage & the Gaeltacht.

National Inventory of Architectural Heritage of the Department of Culture, Heritage & the Gaeltacht is the statutory authority charged with the protection of our architectural heritage. Our architectural heritage is protected under the Planning & Development Act (2000). The National Inventory of Architectural Heritage for County Donegal is largely complete and much of it is available on the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage website (www.buildingsofireland.ie). Based on the inventory,

the Minister for Culture, Heritage & the Gaeltacht has proposed over 3,000 structures for inclusion in the Record of Protected Structures for County Donegal. The purpose of the Record of Protected Structures is to protect structures, or parts of structures “which form part of the architectural heritage and which are of special architectural, historical, archaeological, artistic, cultural, scientific, social or technical interest.” Reports of damage should be made, or consent for work to, or in the vicinity of, a Protected Structure or a building on the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage is required from the Conservation Officer, Donegal County Council and the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage, Department of Culture, Heritage & the Gaeltacht.

***National Parks & Wildlife Service** of the Department of Culture, Heritage & the Gaeltacht is the statutory authority charged with the protection of our natural heritage. There are a significant number of natural heritage sites designated for protection under Irish and European legislation including 1 National Park, 47 Special Areas of Conservation, 26 Special Protection Areas, 14 Natural Heritage Sites, 6 Wildlife Sanctuaries and 10 Nature Reserves. Information on designated natural heritage sites is available on the National Parks & Wildlife Service website at www.npws.ie. Reports of damage should be made, or consent for work to, or in the vicinity of, a nature conservation areas is required from the National Parks & Wildlife Service, Department of Culture, Heritage & the Gaeltacht.*

The County Donegal Heritage Forum does not have the authority to ensure the protection of heritage sites in coastal areas but advice is available as regards the protection of coastal heritage sites from the Heritage Office, County Museum & Conservation Office of Donegal County Council.”

MDL593/19 PLANS POST BREXIT

In answer to his question asking what Plans were in place for post Brexit owing to our proximity to the Six Counties, Cllr. Ian McGarvey was advised:

“The Council continues to monitor the emerging outcomes of the ongoing discussions relating to Brexit and with a view to ensuring, in as far as practicable and given the extent of detailed information available, that normal Council services are not affected post 29th March 2019 in the event of a non -agreed exit by the UK from the EU.”

MDL594/19 BUS STOP FACILITY IN LETTERKENNY

In answer to his question requesting an updated report on all correspondence between this Council and the NTA with a view to improve and increase the bus stop facility as previously agreed by this Council, Cllr. Ciaran Brogan was advised:

“The Letterkenny Area Office has been in contact with The NTA on a number of occasions, with respect to the refurbishment of the existing bus shelter along the

Ramelton Road. To date NTA have not advised of plans to carry out any works. Roads will continue to seek improvements.”

MDL595/19 OLD COURTHOUSE, LETTERKENNY

In answer to his question requesting an updated report on the progress of us a Council on the proposal for the Old Courthouse in Letterkenny, Cllr. Ciaran Brogan was advised:

“As reported to the January MD meeting the Council plans to relocate staff that are currently in rented office accommodation in Letterkenny to the building and arrangements continue to be made in this regard. The Council has also had a number of engagements with Failte Ireland in relation to developing potential tourism uses in the building, including a workshop for local tourism operators in Letterkenny and its environs in July 2018. The Council hope to progress plans for a tourist attraction at this location in the early part of 2019 in conjunction with Failte Ireland and other interested parties.”

MDL596/19 PARKING FINE REPORT, LETTERKENNY

In answer to his question requesting a report on the number of parking fines issued in Letterkenny town in the last years, a breakdown of the areas of the town is the most challenging and the number of appeals that we have and how many are successful, Cllr. Ciaran Brogan was advised:

“A detailed report outlining the statistics requested for 2017 and 2018 is posted on the members extranet.”

MDL597/18 DATE AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING

It was agreed that the next MDL Meeting would be held on 12th March 2019 at the Letterkenny PSC commencing at 2:00 p.m.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Mayor

Meetings Administrator