

**MINUTES OF MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF LETTERKENNY MEETING HELD  
IN THE MILFORD PUBLIC SERVICES CENTRE ON TUESDAY, 23 APRIL 2019**

***MDL642/19* 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. Eugene Gallagher

***MDL643/19* 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  
Christina O'Donnell, Development Officer  
Linda McCann, Senior Staff Officer

***MDL644/19* APOLOGIES**

Cllr. James Pat McDaid  
Patricia McIntyre, Area Manager

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

***MDL645/19* MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

There were no matters arising from the Minutes of 12 March 2019.

***MDL646/19* ADOPTION OF MINUTES OF MDL MEETING HELD ON 12 MARCH, 2019**

On the proposal of Cllr. Gerry McMonagle and seconded by Cllr. Ciaran Brogan, the Minutes of MDL Meeting held on 12 March 2019, were adopted.

***MDL647/19* DIGITAL HUB MILFORD PSC**

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

*“Calling on this Council to make Milford Public Service Centre a digital hub to support businesses in the area and our youth.”*

The Members were advised that:

*“Donegal Council County as lead partner in the Donegal Digital Initiative is currently supporting the development of a range of Digital Hubs across the county, including a project in the village of Carrigart.*

*Council Public Service buildings have not been earmarked as locations for digital hubs as part of this initiative.*

*The approach has been to engage with Local Partnership companies through the LEADER programme to identify suitable community centres capable of supporting remote working opportunities, digital engagement with local business, and the utilising of digital technologies to counter social inclusion at a local level.”*

On proposing the motion Cllr. O’Donnell expressed disappointment that the Digital Hub would be facilitated in a building in Carrigart where it would be more beneficially used for public toilets. Cllr. O’Donnell asked that Milford PSC could be considered to support small to medium businesses and the youth in the area.

On seconding the motion Cllr. Blaney asked that the Council look at using Milford PSC as a digital hub should space be available.

Liam Ward advised that a number of digital hubs were put in place as part of the Town & Village Renewal Scheme with the Council working with Community groups and agreed to bring the matter to the IS Department for their consideration.

#### **MDL648/19 RATHMULLAN PIER**

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

*“Calling on this Council to carry out a study on the condition of the pier in Rathmullan as a matter of urgency.”*

The Members were advised that:

*“This is a large project to refurbish or rebuild Rathmullan Pier. The Pier currently has a weight restriction on same due to its structural condition. There are a number of significant users including the Irish Navy, the Commissioner of Irish Lights and fishing companies who utilize the pier for fish landings of the order of €80-100k per week in season. The estimated cost of refurbishing the pier ranges from €2m to €4m subject to the outcome of an assessment, DPER appraisals, Options Report, Detailed Design,*

*Stat Procedures and Tender. It is likely that the only valid source of funding for such project will be an RRDF application. While there already a number of schemes applied for, preliminary work and assessment would assist with the preparation of an application. A capital investment of €50,000 for 2019 would permit surveys and assessment to be undertaken to establish the condition of the pier and options development as to a suitable cost effective solution.”*

On proposing the motion Cllr. O’Donnell asked that a survey was carried out of the Pier, funding sourced and works carried out as a matter of urgency due to the potential tourism opportunities it offers.

On seconding the motion Cllr. Blaney fully supported the motion and asked that funding was requested from the Minister.

Cllr. O’Donnell asked that the Council write to the local Minister and the Minister for the Marine to meet Members and seek funding.

#### **MDL649/19 WHEELCHAIR ACCESS BOARDWALK RATHMULLAN**

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

*“Calling on this Council to construct a wheelchair access boardwalk at the beach in Rathmullan from the promenade to the rock bed on the left of the beach.”*

The Members were advised that:

*“Beach wheelchairs are proving very popular at Rathmullan, Marble Hill, Downings and Carrickfinn beaches. It is planned that other beaches will soon be provided with this important service in 2019 and in 2020.*

*The Water and Environment Directorate is actively investigating options to improve beach access for visitors of all abilities in association with the local sailing school at Rathmullan.”*

On proposing the motion Cllr. O’Donnell asked that the Council provide a boardwalk due to the number of visitors at Rathmullan and the demand on the existing beach wheelchair. Cllr. O’Donnell thanked the Roads Department for work on a walkway to the public toilets.

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

**MDL650/19 WATER PUMPING STATION AT GLEANTAIN/GORT NA GREINE**

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

*“That this MD take the necessary steps needed to upgrade the Water Pumping Station at Glean Tain/ Gort Na Greine to ensure that residents have proper and adequate access to water on a daily basis and that we Take In Charge this estate to ensure adequate provision of services for the residents of this area.”*

Members were advised that:

*“Should this motion be passed all relevant Directorates within Donegal County Council shall co-ordinate their works to endeavour to address this issue.”*

On proposing the motion Cllr. McMonagle acknowledged the work of the Council in upgrading the works at the pumping station and asked that an action plan be put in place to resolve the ongoing issue and have the estate taken over as a matter of urgency.

On seconding the motion Cllr. Glackin fully supported the motion and highlighted the ongoing issues for residents in this area.

Liam Ward acknowledged that this matter had been raised at the CPG meeting by Cllr. McMonagle and an undertaken had been given by the Director of Service, Michael McGarvey to liaise directly with Irish Water on this matter. Every effort would be made to have this estate taken in charge.

**MDL651/19 BURN AT ASHFIELD, CARNAMUGGAGH**

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

*“That we carry out the necessary remedial works to the Burn running along the back of the Houses at Ashfield, Carnamuggagh to prevent any further incidence of flooding in this area.”*

Members were advised that:

*“Should this motion be passed Donegal County Council can investigate the options that are available to carry out these works.”*

On proposing the motion Cllr. McMonagle outlined the ongoing issues at periods of heavy rain and asked that the Council proceed to have the estate taken in charge and any necessary works considered to alleviate the problem.

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

Liam Ward agreed to update the Members at the next meeting.

***MDL652/19 PLANNING / HOUSING WORKSHOP***

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

*“That this MD as a matter of urgency organises a Workshop for the Members with our Housing and Planning officials to discuss the many issues arising from Housing in our Municipal District.”*

Members were advised that:

*“The motion is noted and if adopted a workshop can be arranged as requested.”*

On proposing the motion Cllr. McMonagle acknowledged the presentation given to Members at Plenary Council on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April and asked that a workshop be arranged specific to Letterkenny MD to discuss the following:

Capital Building Programme,  
Taking in Charge of Estates  
Housing Maintenance Programme  
Mica Redress Scheme  
HAP – lack of availability of private rented dwellings

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

Liam Ward acknowledged the concerns raised and it was agreed to hold a workshop on Wednesday, 15 May, 2019 at 9.30 a.m. in Letterkenny PSC. The Letterkenny MD meeting would follow the workshop at 12 noon.

***MDL653/19 HANDRAIL ON STEPS AT BEECHWOOD ROAD/PARK***

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

*“That the Council provide a handrail on the steps between Beechwood Road and Beechwood Park.”*

Members were advised that:

*“Roads are currently assessing with a view to implementation of the requested works.”*

On proposing the motion Cllr. Kavanagh outlined the benefit of providing a handrail in this area and welcomed the response.

On seconding the motion Cllr. McBride supported the motion.

**MDL654/19 PARKING AT LARKIN’S LANE**

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

*“That the Council address the parking problems along Larkins Lane as previously raised at Council.”*

Members were advised that:

*“Following increased enforcement in the area of Larkins lane, the matter of unauthorised parking has been significantly reduced, with no current reported problems. In relation to the introduction of Pay and Display on Larkins Lane, members were previously advised that the executive could introduce Pay and Display should members decide. To date no motion has been tabled requesting the introduction of Pay and Display on Larkins Lane.”*

On proposing the motion Cllr. Kavanagh asked that the Council revisit the parking issues in this area as raised by the businesses.

On seconding the motion Cllr. McBride fully supported the motion and noted that people were parking longterm which was impacting on businesses and asked that the matter would be looked at as part of the Letterkenny Area Plan.

Fergal Doherty advised that the Council had intensified enforcement in this area and problem with parking on double yellow lines had eased. In order to implement Pay and Display in this area a motion must be submitted by the Members requesting that Pay and Display be implemented.

Cllr. Kavanagh amended the motion to

That the Council implement Pay and Display at Larkins Lane, Letterkenny and install the machines accordingly.

This amendment was seconded by Cllr. Brogan.

Fergal Doherty agreed to proceed to install Pay and Display machines at Larkin’s Lane.

**MDL655/19 RIVER WALK ON LOUGH SWILLY**

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

*“That the Council discuss the possibilities for a river walk along the Swilly in Letterkenny.”*

Members were advised that:

*“Some preparatory work has already been initiated regarding this proposed walk and Donegal County Council met with the Office of Public works to discuss some relevant issues including access for maintenance of the river embankment and the back channels.*

*Initial feed-back from OPW stated that a walk could only be developed along the more tidal sections of the river Swilly in conjunction with anticipated major permanent flood prevention measures that would be required.*

*In light of the publication of the CFRAMS Report by the Office of Public Works, Donegal County Council will now arrange another meeting with OPW representatives to discuss the time frame for any proposed long-term flood defence works and any required regular maintenance of the main river channel and the back channels*

*A project along the non-tidal section in the town and out towards Newmills would be more likely to be advanced however landowner consent will be required. An application was made last year for funding towards this project under the Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme, ORIS, however no funding was secured.*

*Consideration can be given to the submission of a funding application under ORIS in 2019 however, route options will need be examined in the coming weeks to identify landownership, land availability and agree an optimum section of the proposed walk to put forward taking into consideration any implications for the route from the other more large-scale proposed projects for the Letterkenny area including proposals under the Urban regeneration fund, TEN - T National Road project and the proposed Letterkenny to Burtonport Greenway projects.”*

On proposing the motion Cllr. Kavanagh asked for an update on the Plans to develop a walkway on the River Swilly and noted that there were three proposals discussed to date. Cllr. Kavanagh asked for an update from the OPW and that this would be looked at as part of the Letterkenny Area Plan.

On seconding the motion Cllr. Brogan fully supported the motion and asked that a Working Group be set up to source funding and liaise with the OPW.

Liam Ward confirmed that meetings were held with the OPW and further meetings were planned. The Council were unsuccessful in its application for funding under the ORIS. However, the Council had employed RPS to carry out a Flood Risk Study and the river walk would be considered as part of this and assist in defining a project for the river walk.

**MDL656/19 WASTE COLLECTOR REGULATION**

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

*“That the Council does more to identify and eliminate unregulated waste disposal services, who advertise online using only telephone numbers, as it is believed these rogue services are adding to incidents of illegal dumping and fly tipping in our countryside.”*

Members were advised that:

*“Donegal County Council proactively works on various initiatives to eliminate activities of this nature. Donegal County Council would welcome any information to support their initiatives and will thoroughly investigate all issues reported to us.”*

On proposing the motion Cllr. Glackin raised concerns in relation of ongoing illegal dumping at White Hill, Glenswilly, advertisements on websites for waste disposal and the need for regulation in this area. Cllr. Glackin agreed to provide any information available to the Council for further investigation and praised the work of the Litter Wardens on their work.

On seconding the motion Cllr. McMonagle supported the motion and the need for regulation on unregistered waste disposal providers.

Joe Ferry encouraged the public to use the facilities available at the Civic Amenity Sites and bonafide waste collectors and agreed to further investigate the issues raised by the members. It was agreed that a list of the registered waste collectors in the county would be listed on the Councils website.

**MDL657/19 EMBANKMENT AT DERRORA ROAD, CHURCHILL**

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

*“That the Council undertakes some work on an embankment on the Derrora Road Churchill to re-enforce it, as recently two large vehicles have went off the road and into the ditch when pulling over to avoid oncoming traffic.”*

Members were advised that:

*“Roads have programmed to carry out the required embankment reinstatement works in coming weeks.”*

On proposing the motion Cllr. Glackin welcomed the response.

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

***MDL658/19 ILLEGAL DUMPING AT MCCLURE’S TCE/LR ARD O’DONNELL***

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

*“That this Council makes efforts to clear the area and remove the trees between McClure’s terrace and Lower Ard O’Donnell in Letterkenny as it has become a dumping ground for trash and litter and has also been used for dumping large bags of rubbish.”*

Members were advised that:

*“There are no plans to clear trees as a result of dumping. The matter has been referred to the litter warden department for investigation.”*

On proposing the motion Cllr. Glackin advised that if the trees were cleared that this would stop the ongoing illegal dumping and welcomed that the matter would be investigated by the Litter Warden.

On seconding the motion Cllr. McMonagle supported the motion and asked that every effort was made to ensure that this did not become a regular dumping ground.

***MDL659/19 TRAFFIC LIGHTS IN GLENCAR AREA***

In the absence of Cllr. James Pat McDaid, Cllr. Ciaran Brogan proposed the following motion on his behalf and it was duly adopted:

*“That I have an update from Irish Water on when we can expect the traffic lights to be removed in Glencar area works completed.”*

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 McDaid 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 McDaid.*

*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.*

**MDL660/19 PUBLIC LIGHTING AT GLENSWILLY CHURCH CAR PARK**

In the absence of Cllr. James Pat McDaid, Cllr. Ciaran Brogan proposed the following motion on his behalf and it was duly adopted:

*“That this Council consider putting a number of additional public lights at the Glenswilly Church Carpark and Kilpheak graveyard.”*

Members were advised that:

*“Installation of street lighting will be decided on in accordance with the ongoing 3 Year Public Lighting Programme. It is intended that a workshop to discuss 2019 Street lighting installations will take place in coming months.”*

**MDL661/19 CRIEVESMITH TO NEW MILLS BRIDGE**

In the absence of Cllr. James Pat McDaid, Cllr. Ciaran Brogan proposed the following motion on his behalf and it was duly adopted:

*“That this Council start a process where they can start widening the Road from Crievesmith to the New Mills bridge where we can put in additional drainage pipes to allow for road widening and resulting in safer conditions for road users and people walking and running.”*

Members were advised that:

*“There is currently no funded roadworks programme for the widening of the road from Crievesmith to New Mills.”*

**MDL662/19 UPGRADE OF N56 DOON WELL ROAD TOWARDS TERMON**

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

*“That this Council supports the call for the immediate upgrading of the road (N56) from the end of the Doon Well road towards Termon as this road is rapidly deteriorating.”*

Members were advised that:

*“This section of the N56 has been highlighted to the TII over the last few years and they have it on their radar, but to date has not been funded.”*

On proposing the motion Cllr. Blaney highlighted the deterioration of the road, concerns in relation to safety for motorist, and asked that this section would now be completed as part of the overall works from Mountain Top to Kilmacrennan. Cllr. Blaney asked that the Council write to the TII requesting that funding be provided as the road currently needs upgrading.

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

**MDL663/19 TRAFFIC CALMING MEASURES COAST GUARD STATION ROAD, RATHMULLAN**

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 at Coast Guard Station Road, Rathmullan.”*

Members were advised that:

*“A previous assessment by Road Design determined that speeding on this road, which is a cul de sac, was not a regular occurrence. There are currently no plans for the installation of traffic calming measures on this road.”*

On proposing the motion Cllr. Blaney asked that in the interest of safety that the Council install a ramp due to the volume of traffic using the football pitch, resource centre, beach and playground in this area. There were genuine concerns raised by residents regarding safety of children using the facilities and the volume of traffic in the evening attending events.

On seconding the motion Cllr. McGarvey said the area was widely used in the summertime and asked that the Council reconsider installing ramps.

Fergal Doherty advised that a survey was carried out during the day and the traffic count would not warrant installing traffic calming measures.

**MDL664/19 REFLECTORS AT GLENVEAGH / TERMON JUNCTION**

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

*“That reflectors be applied to the new kerbs at the Glenveagh junction in Termon as many vehicles are mounting the kerb when turning left off the N56.”*

Members were advised that:

*“Roads will review the junction, with a view to establishing appropriate measures.”*

On proposing the motion Cllr. McBride acknowledged the improvements at this junction and asked that reflectors would be installed to stop articulated lorries mounting the kerb at night time.

On seconding the motion Cllr. Blaney supported the motion.

**MDL665/19 DEFIBRILLATOR AUDIT**

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

*“That an audit of all defibrillators in the Letterkenny Municipal area be carried out and made available on an app so the public may trace the closest available point with details of accessibility in case of emergency.”*

Members were advised that;

*“The motion is noted and if adopted the Council will engage with the National Ambulance Service and the Health Service Executive in terms of the existing structures that are in place for the mapping and deployment of defibrillators where required.”*

On proposing the motion Cllr. McBride highlighted the benefits an “App” would provide to tourists and communities in cases of an emergency giving details of the nearest defibrillator and contact details.

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

Cllr. Brogan highlighted the necessity to have an Eircode included in the details.

**MDL666/19 SURFACE DRESSING BONAGEE LANE**

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

*“That parts of the Bonagee lane would be considered for surface dressing from discretionary funding due to its poor condition and its high volume of traffic.”*

Members were advised that:

*“Planning conditions have been imposed on businesses for temporary permissions, for full depth basecourse and SMA wearing course, along the worst sections of the Bonagee road. To date this work has not been completed. Surface dressing is not an appropriate solution for this road in consideration of the high level of HGV traffic.”*

On proposing the motion Cllr. McBride asked that the Council carry out surface dressing on the road considering the number of rate paying businesses on this road.

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

***MDL667/19*** **UNITED IRELAND**

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

*“That this M.D. request that our Government support a proposal for a united people of Ireland in a way forward that will guarantee a full participation in all activities that will benefit the people of Ireland in an E.U & Global Trade and otherwise.”*

Members were advised that:

*“The motion is noted and if adopted contact will be made with the relevant Government Department.”*

On proposing the motion Cllr. McGarvey spoke of the importance of dialogue between communities, political parties and the governments on the island of Ireland.

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

The Members expressed their sympathies to the family and partner of Lyra McKee who was fatally shot during rioting in the Creggan area of Derry on 18<sup>th</sup> April, 2019.

The Members highlighted the unique relationship between Donegal County Council, Derry City Council and Strabane District Council and expressed a strong condemnation of the recent events in Derry.

**MDL668/19 DISTRIBUTION MAIN AT CREEVARY, RATHMULLAN**

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

*“That Irish Water will include a distribution Main at Creevary, Rathmullen to facilitate households on this Road a connection to this distribution main of 4” Dia., it is very important that this takes place.”*

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

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

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

On proposing the motion Cllr. McGarvey asked that a distribution main be connected to facilitate 25 households in the area who currently have poor water supply and quality drinking water.

On seconding the motion Cllr. Blaney asked that this work was carried out as part of the current trunk watermain installation in the area and highlighted the frustrations of the people in this area. Cllr. Blaney asked that Irish Water’s response be circulated to all members.

**MDL669/19 MEDICAL CARD QUERIES**

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

*“Can this M.D request that a fairer system be introduced to deal with all Medical Card Queries at regional or local level.”*

Members were advised that:

*“The motion is noted and if adopted contact will be made with the relevant Government Department.”*

On proposing the motion Cllr. McGarvey highlighted the difficulties faced by the public in making contact with the Medical Card Services, the delay in processing applications and asked that the service be provided locally in the county.

On seconding the motion Cllr. Brogan fully supported the motion and asked that a letter was sent to the local Minister and Minister for Health requesting that a fairer system was put in place.

### **MDL670/19 PROPOSED INFRASTRUCTURE WORKS**

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

*“I propose that the senior management of this Council have an urgent meeting to discuss the proposed infrastructure works due to take place over the next few years.”*

Members were advised that:

*“The Council considers the 3 year Capital Programme each year at the November Council meeting. The Capital Programme sets out details of the capital projects that are either planned or projected to be progressed during the three year period. It is often the case that capital projects come on stream that are not included in the planned programme arising from opportunities to bid for funding to various agencies, particularly Government Departments, that arise during the course of the Plan. The preparation of a Corporate Plan for the term of the new Council will be a key priority and proposals will be brought by the Council Executive to the new Council on the strategy for the continued development of the County which will include the most up to date information in relation to the various capital projects that are planned or are envisaged at the time of the meeting with the Council.*

*It is acknowledged that there are many significant Capital Infrastructure projects in the pipeline over the next number of years in the Letterkenny MD. These include major Roads projects, such as the Ten T proposals, Housing Capital projects in a number of locations, the construction of the Social Enterprise Centre, and the implementation of plans under the Urban Regeneration and Development Fund proposals, not to mention the various Water and Wastewater projects and upgrade works being carried out by Irish Water.*

*There is regular and ongoing engagement between Senior Management of the Council and the Elected Members in relation to these projects.”*

On proposing the motion Cllr. Brogan referred to the number of works ongoing and planned for Letterkenny by Irish Water; Four Lane Dual Carriageway, Circular Road, Church Lane, Lower Main Street/Pearse Road area, concerns raised by businesses and the lack of engagement with members, businesses and residents prior to works

commencing. Works should be ongoing over weekends and asked that senior management in each service look at the works planned, timeframe of each project in order to alleviate impact on businesses in the town. Cllr. Brogan said the watermain to Letterkenny should be part of the Bonagee Link in order save money and disruption on the existing Four Lane dual carriageway.

On seconding the motion Cllr. McMonagle fully supported the motion and asked for more communication with the businesses and residents in the areas affected prior to work commencing. Cllr. McMonagle asked that members be updated and informed for start dates, etc.

Liam Ward agreed to raise members concerns with Michael McGarvey, Director of Services and Seamus Neely, Chief Executive.

**MDL671/19 TRAFFIC CALMING MEASURES IN RESIDENTIAL AREAS**

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

*“I propose that this Council review and introduce traffic calming measures in residential areas around Letterkenny.”*

Members were advised that:

*“Further specifics required in relation to the motion. In the recent past, the Council introduced '30kph Slow Zone' speed limits in 80 housing estates in Letterkenny.”*

On proposing the motion Cllr. Brogan expressed frustration on the lack of progress on motions submitted by members in respect of traffic calming, in particular, Back Lane, Rann Mor/Leitir Ard, Convent Road, Thorn Road and Lisnennan areas. Cllr. Brogan said concerns were raised by residents in these areas and measures needed to be put in place and requested that a special workshop be arranged to deal with this matter.

On seconding the motion Cllr. McMonagle fully supported the motion and noted that there was a change in policy since the abolition of the Town Council. Cllr. McMonagle highlighted the need for adequate funding to address these matters.

Fergal Doherty agreed to review specific areas raised by the members and noted the reduction of speed limits in estates.

Cllr. Brogan acknowledged the works noted and asked that ramps be introduced on the motions submitted. Cllr. Brogan raised concern on the large ramp installed on Glencar Road. Fergal Doherty agreed to look at this and speak with Cllr. Brogan.

**MDL672/19 TOURISM FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES**

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

*“I propose that this Municipal District meet with Failte Ireland to explore all funding opportunities available to promote and enhance our area as a tourism destination in the heart of the wild Atlantic way.”*

Members were advised that:

*“In the event that this motion is adopted by Letterkenny Municipal District Committee, Donegal County Council will forward a letter to Failte Ireland asking for a meeting to explore all funding opportunities available to promote and enhance our area as a tourism destination in the heart of the wild Atlantic way.*

*It should be noted that there is ongoing and regular engagement with Failte Ireland in relation to developing Tourism projects within the Letterkenny MD. The Council has been working with Failte Ireland and the Commission of Irish Lights in relation to Fanad Lighthouse and is also progressing signage and interpretive material in relation to the Mulroy Loop off the Wild Atlantic Way. The Council is also engaging with the OPW in relation to a River Walk along the Swilly.”*

On proposing the motion Cllr. Brogan asked that the Council link into the funding sources available through Failte Ireland and commended the work carried out to date by the Council in developing tourist attractions throughout the county in particular Slieve League, Fanad Lighthouse, Malin Head and now developing the old Letterkenny Courthouse as a tourist / cultural centre.

On seconding the motion Cllr. McMonagle fully supported the motion and need for the Council to continue secure funding to invest further in the county under tourism.

Liam Ward advised that there were regular and ongoing development of facilities in the county and updated the members on funding opportunities under destination towns and plans to announce a large scale funding programme later in 2019 which the Council intend to submit an application.

**MDL673/19 MAYORS BUSINESS**

Mayor Ian McGarvey updated the meeting on the successful St. Patrick’s Day visit to Rudolstat with Cllr. Jimmy Kavanagh and Patricia McIntyre. Cllr. McGarvey spoke of the warm welcome received and the relationships formed.

Liam Ward updated the meeting at the request of Cllr. McGarvey on their visit to West Dunbartonshire Council and commended Cllr. McGarvey on the manner upon which

he had acted as an Ambassador for the MD during the visit. Following the local elections it was intended to host a delegation from West Dunbartonshire Council in a visit to Letterkenny to develop relationships in cultural, business, heritage and education.

***MDL674/19*** **CORRESPONDENCE**

Liam Ward informed the meeting of a request from Woodland NS for the Council to host a Civic Reception for European visitors. The Members agreed to work with the school and facilitate their request.

***MDL675/19*** **COMMUNITY & ENTERPRISE**

The Members noted the report as circulated with the agenda.

**675.1 DFI Allocation 2019**

On the proposal of Cllr. Ciaran Brogan and seconded by Cllr. Gerry McMonagle the DFI Allocation 2019 was agreed by the Members as outlined in Appendix A.

**675.2 Pan Celtic Festival**

Christina O'Donnell advised of the launch of the Pan Celtic Festival that evening in the Mount Errigal Hotel at 7.30 p.m.

***MDL676/19*** **ROADS & TRANSPORTATION**

The Members noted the report as circulated with the agenda.

***MDL677/19*** **HOUSING AND CORPORATE SERVICES**

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

**677.1 – Social Housing – Long Lane & Carrigart**

Cllr. Blaney highlighted that 199 houses would be made available in Letterkenny town and requested that the Council actively pursue acquisition and turnkey developments in towns outside of Letterkenny in order to meet the housing need, in particular, Carrigart, Ramelton, Milford and Rathmullan.

**677.2 – Housing Acquisitions**

Cllr. O'Donnell requested an update on acquisition of an unfinished estate in Ramelton.

***MDL678/19*** **PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

The Members noted the report as circulated with the agenda.

**MDL679/19 ENVIRONMENT**

The Members noted the report as circulated with the agenda.

**Questions**

**MDL680/19 PUBLIC TOILETS CARRIGART**

In answer to his question requesting what progress was made from his previous motion regarding a set of public toilets to be developed in Carrigart at the old dispensary building, Cllr. John O'Donnell was advised:

*"It was agreed at SPC that Water and Environment would progress the Community Toilet Scheme which is now at pilot roll-out stage. We can consider Carrigart for inclusion in this scheme as it is developed."*

**MDL681/19 ONE WAY SYSTEM RATHMULLAN**

In answer to his question requesting what was the latest development on the one way system plan in Rathmullan, Cllr. John O'Donnell was advised:

*"The Part 8 for implementation of a one way system in Rathmullan was presented at the July 2018 Council meeting but was not adopted."*

*In January 2019 another public consultation event was held in Rathmullan to present the scheme that was before the full Council meeting in July 2018 for adoption. A further update was presented at the workshop today."*

**MDL682/19 N56 BLUE BANKS COMPLETION**

In answer to his question requesting when works would be completed on the new N56 Blue Banks to Kilmacrennan Road, Cllr. John O'Donnell was advised:

*"The Contractor intends to have final road surface plus road Markings and signage completed before Easter. This is weather dependent given the time of year. There will be some works on side roads and access roads after Easter."*

**MDL683/19 FAIRGREEN HILL GREEN AREA**

In answer to his question requesting when would works recommence at the Green Area in Fairgreen Hill, Cllr. Gerry McMonagle was advised:

*"The works to clear the site were completed in 2018 and the residents will be contacted to ascertain their preference for the area."*

**MDL684/19 MUCKISH AVENUE GREEN AREA**

In answer to his question requesting a start date for the agreed works as per his motion to deal with the run off of water at the Green Area in Muckish Ave, Cllr. Gerry McMonagle was advised:

*“The works required are on the Roads schedule of works programme and it is planned to have the works carried out in Q2 2019.”*

**MDL685/19 YELLOW BOX JUNCTION AT NEW COURTHOUSE LETTERKENNY**

In answer to his question requesting when would the Yellow Box be put in place at the junction leading to New Courthouse on the High Road, Cllr. Gerry McMonagle was advised:

*“The yellow box at the courthouse is booked for next visit of lining contractors. Exact date is outside our control but it is anticipated that the works will be undertaken within the coming fortnight.”*

**MDL686/19 YELLOW BOX JUNCTION AT NEW COURTHOUSE LETTERKENNY**

In answer to his question requesting an update on the audit of disabled parking spaces as previously requested, Cllr. Jimmy Kavanagh was advised:

*“The disabled parking space audit is in progress, with a view to completing in the coming weeks.”*

**MDL687/19 HIGH ROAD, LETTERKENNY**

In answer to his question requesting that the Council ask Cleantech to properly clean the road in the vicinity of their site on High Road each day, as the dust was causing a nuisance for the residents along the road, Cllr. Jimmy Kavanagh was advised:

*“Irish Water and their contractor have been advised of the matter.”*

**MDL688/19 SIGNAGE AT GLENCAR PARK ESTATE**

In answer to his question requesting that the Council replace the children at play signage at Glencar Park estate, Cllr. Jimmy Kavanagh was advised:

*“Roads will arrange for replacement of signage.”*

**MDL689/19 SAFETY BARRIER AT GLENMAQUINN N.S.**

In answer to his question requesting when work would commence and completion of safety barrier at Glenmaquinn school, Cllr. James Pat McDaid was advised:

*“There is no change to my update as per previous meeting.”*

**MDL690/19 FOOTPATH LETTERKENNY TO CONWALL**

In answer to his question requesting when can we expect completion of the ongoing works of the footpath from Letterkenny to Conwall Graveyard, Cllr. James Pat McDaid was advised:

*“Programmed completion date is end of April.”*

**MDL691/19 PLAY EQUIPMENT BERNARD MCGLINCHY TOWN PARK**

In answer to his question requesting an update on replacing the playground equipment in the Bernard McGlinchey Town Park, Cllr. James Pat McDaid was advised:

*“The Council intend to have these works undertaken in Q3 2019.”*

**MDL692/19 GREAT ARCH FANAD**

In answer to his question requesting when was it proposed to commence works on the access to the Great Arch in Fanad and when was it proposed to be completed, Cllr. Liam Blaney was advised:

*“Works on the development of a new access to the Great Arch in Fanad are progressing steadily with site surveys carried out and consultations ongoing with a number of key stakeholders, particularly landowners and National Parks & Wildlife Services. It is proposed to submit a Part 8 planning application within the next few months and bring same to the members in Q3 of 2019 with construction to commence thereafter following procurement of a contractor to carry out the works.”*

**MDL693/19 PORTSALON CAR PARK**

In answer to his question requesting when would works on the upgrading of the Car Park in Portsalon commence and when was it hoped to have said works completed, Cllr. Liam Blaney was advised:

*“Donegal County Council are currently progressing the design of the carpark and extension of the footpath to include for car & coach parking, picnic area, recycling banks. It is intended to have a meeting with the Portsalon Development Association later this week to discuss the design and any changes that may be required. Donegal*

*County Council will then to procure a contractor ( via etenders ) to carry out the enhancement works to the carpark with works due to commence on site in early September 2019 (after summer season)."*

**MDL694/19 FOOTPATH AT BROAD ROAD, KILMACRENNAN**

In answer to his question requesting when would the new footpath on the Broad Road in Kilmacrennan be completed, Cllr. Michael McBride was advised:

*"The footpath on the Loop Road in Kilmacrennan will be surfaced by the end of April 2019."*

**MDL695/19 CYCLEWAY BLUE BANKS TO MOUNTAIN TOP**

In answer to his question requesting what was the current status on the plan to extend the cycleway from the Blue Banks to the Mountain Top, Cllr. Michael McBride was advised:

*"The NRO is currently finalising the design details and looking at options for procurement. We expect to complete this process by mid April.*

*The Final proposal will then be submitted to the TII with a request for Funding."*

**MDL696/19 LICENSED QUARRIES**

In answer to his question requesting where do we stand in Donegal regarding licensed quarries and our ability to supply hard fill and surface dressing material should our proposed Ten-T roads application prove successful, Cllr. Michael McBride was advised:

*"There are a total of 97no. quarries registered under section 261A of the Planning & Development Act. Of these identified operations 14no quarries were required under the legislation to seek Substitute Consent by way of application to An Bord Pleanála and we await the outcome of these deliberations. In addition to this there are approximately 12no. operations in the county that have the benefit of planning permission under part 3 of the Planning Act since 2010."*

**MDL697/19 TOURIST PROMOTION**

In answer to his question requesting was there a Plan for Tourist promotion of our M.D, Cllr. Ian McGarvey was advised:

*"The Letterkenny MD is marketed as part of the overall county, Letterkenny Tourism promote Letterkenny through its own marketing initiatives , and works with Donegal Tourism CLG on some joint initiatives. i.e. Holiday world, Balmoral Show. Donegal Tourism hosts a number of event throughout the year and indeed attend many Holiday*

*Show events. Representatives from the Tourism and Hospitality trade across the MD are invited to all Donegal Tourism events.”*

**MDL698/19 S.I. HOUSING**

In answer to his question requesting would this MD investigate the possibility of constructing SI houses in this MD, Cllr. Ian McGarvey was advised:

*“Applicants for Specific Instance (S.I.) applications are considered in line with the Policy adopted by the Members in September 2016. The policy was adopted to ensure that all types of Social Housing Support are offered to households. The processing of the application follows three phases:*

*Phase 1 - Initial Application - Applicant consideration*

*Phase 2 - Site Consideration - Provisional*

*Phase 3 - Site Consideration - Final*

*In Phase 1, the application is assessed for Social Housing Support. If the application is approved, the long term sustainability of the SI proposal is considered in addition to the availability of existing social housing stock in the area. If Phase 1 criteria is met, the application progresses to Phase 2 of the process which determines if there is clear title to the lands followed by a provisional assessment of the site. If it is determined that there is clear title to the lands and the provisional site assessment is satisfactory, the application moves to Phase 3 which is the final stage in the process. As part of Phase 3, a detailed assessment of the site is carried out and if this is deemed to be satisfactory, the transfer of the site is initiated and plans are prepared to seek planning approval/funding.*

*Applications for Social Housing Support, which indicate a preference for social housing support to be provided by means of a S.I. dwelling will continue to be assessed on the basis of the Policy adopted in 2016.”*

**MDL699/19 ERDF FUNDED PROJECTS**

In answer to his question requesting an updated report ERDF funded projects the Joe Bonner road and the proposed social enterprise building, town centre linkages through the upgrade of footpaths and enhanced walking infrastructure, Cllr. Ciaran Brogan was advised:

*“Social Enterprise Building update - Hall Black Douglas are preparing the Part 8 planning drawings and documentation for submission in April 2019.*

*Joe Bonnar Road Update is provided in the Road report.”*

**MDL700/19 ROAD WORKS IN LETTERKENNY MD**

In answer to his question requesting when works would start on the Kirkstown Road, Whitehill/Rathdonnell and Lagnahoorey as agreed in our roads works programme, Cllr. Ciaran Brogan was advised:

*“The restoration works will be commencing at the end of April and will carry on until the end of September. These roads will be done within this timescale.”*

**MDL701/19 LANDS IN GLENCAR FOR FOOTBALL PITCH**

In answer to his question requesting that progress be made on his proposal to identify lands in the Glencar area of Letterkenny for the purpose of a football pitch for that part of town, Cllr. Ciaran Brogan was advised:

*“The identification of appropriate lands for the provision of Sporting and Recreational facilities forms part of the considerations for the Local Area Plan for Letterkenny which is currently being progressed. It is proposed to publish the Draft LAP for Letterkenny in Q2 2019 and there will be further engagement with MD members in advance of this. As part of the LAP work, the Council is currently working with the LYIT in relation to a proposal to develop sporting and recreational facilities on their lands and this is likely to proceed as a funding application under the Large Scale Sports Infrastructure Fund later this month.*

*In addition, the Council has assisted many sporting clubs to develop and improve their facilities through the Development Fund Initiative and other funding programmes. The main source of funding for sporting clubs to develop facilities is the Sports Capital Programme and the Council has in the past assisted clubs in making applications under this programme.”*

**MDL702/18 DATE AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING**

It was agreed that the next MDL Meeting would be held on 15<sup>th</sup> May 2019 at the Letterkenny PSC commencing at 12:00 noon

This concluded the business of the meeting.

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Mayor

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Meetings Administrator

Letterkenny DFI Allocations 2019

Appendix A

Applicant Group		Total By Group
	<b>ALL MD</b>	
1	No Barriers Foundation	€ 500
2	Donegal Junior League	€ 1,000
3	First Light	€ 500
7	Donegal Bridge Region	€ 250
10	Colmcille 2021	€ 250
11	Blue Ribbon Arts	€ 1,500
12	Errigal Cycling Club	€ 2,500
16	Acquired Brain Injury Ireland	€ 250
	<b>DCC</b>	
18	Ulster Dance	€ 8,500
19	International Pan Celtic	€ 8,500
20	Pride of Place	€ 3,000
	<b>Letterkenny MD</b>	
22	Letterkenny Tourism	€ 2,750
23	Downing Tidy Towns	€ 2,500
25	Ballyraine Community CLG	€ 2,500
26	St. Eunan's GAA	€ 6,050
28	Cara House FRC	€ 6,750
30	Dango Sur Lennon Festival	€ 2,500
31	Portsalon Golf Club	€ 3,500
32	Irish Wheelchair Association	€ 2,500
33	Kerrykeel Tidy Towns	€ 4,000
34	Donegal Half Marathon	€ 2,500
36	Letterkenny CDP CLG	€ 8,500
37	CLG an Tearmainn	€ 3,500
38	Letterkenny Rovers FC	€ 3,500
39	Errigal College	€ 2,500
41	Geail Fhánada CLG (Fanad Gaels GAA)	€ 2,500
42	Swilly Rovers FC	€ 2,500
44	Milford Tidier for All (Milford Tidy Towns)	€ 2,500
45	Glen Rovers FC	€ 7,450
47	Letterkenny Boxing Club	€ 2,500
50	Kerrykeel Park Development Co. Ltd	€ 2,750
51	Kilmaccreannan Community Development	€ 2,500
52	Letterkenny One Act Festival	€ 2,500

54	Letterkenny community Centre	€ 3,500
55	Indian Community Centre Letterkenny	€ 4,000
56	Letterkenny Cathedra Quarter CLG	€ 2,750
57	One St Eunans	€ 2,500
60	Donegal Centre For Independent Living (DCIL)	€ 3,000
62	Church Hill Community Development Group CLG	€ 5,000
63	Kilmacrenan Tidy Towns	€ 2,500
65	Milford United FC	€ 3,500
66	Milford Park Development / IRD Milford	€ 2,500
67	Ayr Hill NS	€ 3,500
68	Churchill Fair	€ 3,750
69	Kilmacreannan Men's Shed	€ 2,500
72	Glenswilly GAA Club	€ 12,000
95	Letterkenny International Folk Festival	€ 3,000
77	Ray Community Group	€ 3,250
78	Naíonra Gleann Domhain	€ 2,500
79	St Josephs National School, Rathdonnell	€ 3,500
82	Kilmacrennan Community Hall	€ 2,500
83	Whitestrans United Football Club	€ 3,250
84	Ramelton Georgian Society	€ 2,500
85	Milford Jujitsu Club	€ 2,500
86	Conwal Parish Church	€ 3,250
88	Drumoghill FC	€ 2,500
91	24/7 Triathlon Club (Letterkenny)	€ 2,750
92	Cairde Le Cheile	€ 2,500
94	Kilmacrennan Celtic	€ 2,500
97	Kilmacreannan Parish	€ 2,500
98	Letterkenny Youth and Community Club	€ 4,500
		€ 200,000