

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF LETTERKENNY-  
MILFORD MEETING, HELD IN MILFORD PUBLIC SERVICES CENTRE, ON  
10<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER, 2019 AT 2:00 P.M.**

***MDL 755/19* MEMBERS PRESENT**

Cllr. Liam Blaney  
Cllr. Kevin Bradley  
Cllr. Ciaran Brogan  
Cllr. Donal Coyle  
Cllr. Jimmy Kavanagh  
Cllr. Michael Mc Bride  
Cllr. Ian McGarvey  
Cllr. Gerry McMonagle  
Cllr. John O'Donnell

***MDL 756/19* OFFICIALS PRESENT**

Liam Ward, Director of Service  
Patricia McIntyre, Area Manager, Housing & Corporate Services  
Linda McCann, Senior Staff Officer, Housing & Corporate Services  
Graham Diamond, Executive Planner  
Fergal Doherty, S.E.E./Area Manager, Roads & Transportation  
Joe Ferry, A/Senior Executive Chemist  
Francis Conaghan, Development Officer

The meeting was chaired by Cllr. John O'Donnell.

***MDL757/19* MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

There were no matters arising from the Minutes of 9 July, 2019.

***MDL758/19* ADOPTION OF MINUTES OF MDL MEETING HELD ON 15 MAY, 2019**

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

***MDL759/19* ADOPTION OF MINUTES OF MDL MEETING HELD ON 14 JUNE, 2019**

On the proposal of Cllr. Michael McBride and seconded by Cllr. Jimmy Kavanagh, the Minutes of MDL Meeting held on 14 June 2019, were adopted.

***MDL760/19* ADOPTION OF MINUTES OF MDL MEETING HELD ON 9 JULY, 2019**

On the proposal of Cllr. Michael McBride and seconded by Cllr. Jimmy Kavanagh, the Minutes of MDL Meeting held on 9 July 2019, were adopted.

**MDL761/19 CLARITY ON ELECTORAL AREA BOUNDARIES**

Cllr. Michael McBride and Cllr. Ian McGarvey asked for clarity on the role of the Members, meetings and budget structures in respect of the 3 Members elected in the Milford electoral area and the 7 Members elected in the Letterkenny electoral area. Cllr. John O'Donnell asked that clarity would be given before the next Municipal District meeting.

**MDL762/19 EMEGENCY MOTIONS**

Cllr. Ian McGarvey submitted two emergency motions that he wished to raise. Cllr. John O'Donnell advised that one motion could only be discussed as the other motion put forward related to a planning application that was submitted to the Planning Authority on Friday, 6<sup>th</sup> September, 2019.

Cllr. McGarvey asked that the motion be discussed as it concerned residents in the area. Liam Ward advised that members of the public and public representatives could make submissions as part of the planning application process and it was not appropriate to discuss planning applications in a public meeting as this may be prejudicial to the consideration of an application currently being considered by the Planning Authority.

A lengthy discussion took place on the matter and it was agreed that the motion would not be discussed further. It was agreed that the second emergency motion would be discussed in turn with Cllr. McGarvey's motions.

**MDL763/19 NEWMILLS CORN & FLAX MILLS**

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

*"That the Council liaise with the OPW regarding upgrading and improving the facilities and potential of New Mills."*

The Members were advised that:

*"Newmills Corn and Flax Mills are run by the Office of Public Works and some of the buildings are said to be over 400 years old. The complex offers exhibitions on industrial milling of corn and flax and hosts one of the largest fully functioning water wheels in Ireland."*

*"The complex has car parking, toilets and an exhibition centre and is staffed in Summer months by OPW."*

*"On foot of this motion Donegal County Council is happy to engage with OPW to explore areas of co-operation."*

On proposing the motion Cllr. Kavanagh spoke at the length of the facilities available, history of the centre, visitor number and funding sought

to upgrade the shop and provide tearoom facilities. Cllr. Kavanagh asked that the Council coordinate a meeting with the OPW to discuss promoting and funding the centre.

Cllr. Michael McBride supported the motion and asked that the Council would consider extending the footpath from Conwall to the Flax mills and improve signage.

**MDL764/19 SPEED CALMING AT LISNENNAN ROAD**

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

*“That the Council introduce speed reduction measures at Lisnennan Road, Letterkenny.”*

The Members advised that:

*“Given the potential hazard that they can constitute, speed ramps are generally only installed on select roads as a last measure and are not appropriate on steep gradients. The Area Engineer will review and liaise with An Gardai Siochana in relation to what measures if any are appropriate at Lisnennan Road.”*

On proposing the motion Cllr. Kavanagh asked that speed reduction measures be put in place in particular beside the green area where children play at Lios na Greine estate.

On seconding the motion Cllr. Brogan said he raised this matter at the April/May meeting and asked for a special meeting on traffic calming measures in different areas of Letterkenny.

It was agreed that a workshop would be held in Letterkenny PSC on Wednesday, 25 September, 2019 at 9.30 a.m.

**MDL765/19 PAY & DISPLAY AT LARKINS LANE, LETTERKENNY**

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

*“That the Council introduce play and display at Larkins Lane as previously discussed.”*

The Members were advised that:

*“The pay and display machines for Larkins Lane, have been tendered and are in the process of being procured. It is anticipated that they will be erected and in operation by December.”*

On proposing the motion Cllr. Kavanagh welcomed the response.

On seconding the motion Cllr. Brogan welcomed the response.

**MDL766/19 TRAFFIC CALMING MAIN ST., MANORCUNNINGHAM**

It was agreed that the following motions proposed by Cllr. Gerry McMonagle and Cllr. Kevin Bradley, both seconded by Cllr. Michael McBride, would be taken together and were adopted:

*“That the Council install ramps/traffic calming measures on Manorcunningham Main street outside McElhinney shop in the interest of pedestrian safety.”*

*“Calling on this Council to install two sets of pedestrian crossings in Manor Village, one at the football field and one at the doctor’s surgery.”*

The Members were advised:

*“Engineering staff of the Inishowen MD have advised that Road design have undertaken a speed survey and pedestrian survey at this location in Manor and identified that the speeds in the town are not excessive and that a pedestrian crossing is not warranted at this time.”*

On proposing the Motion Cllr. McMonagle said that the Roads Engineer saw first hand the speeding problem and that the traffic counters were not put in the correct area and asked that this is investigated further.

On proposing his motion Cllr. Bradley said that people using the football pitch needed to cross the road to the changing rooms and asked that a pedestrian crossing was put in place at both locations.

On seconding the motions, Cllr. McBride asked that the Council install the plastic ramps similar to that used in Newtowncunningham Main Street in an effort to resolve the problem and if effective replace it with a permanent ramp.

Fergal Doherty agreed to have the motions reassessed.

**MDL767/19 WATER PUMPING STATION AT GLEANN TAIN**

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

*“That this Municipal District "Takes in Charge" the Water Pumping Station at Gleann Tain and quickly install the equipment necessary to provide a constant water supply for the residents in Gleann Tain and Gort na Greine.”*

The Members were advised that:

*“Officials from the Municipal District have been working with the Management Company concerned and exploring all available options in order to bring this matter to a successful conclusion.”*

On proposing the motion Cllr. McMonagle asked that the Council take in charge the pumping station as the Council has agreed to install new electric panels. Cllr. McMonagle stated that the Council has incurred the biggest element of the cost of the remedial works and should the estate be taken over the Council would pay the electricity charges and asked that this was done now and not to subject the residents to further disruptions.

On seconding the motion Cllr. McBride fully supported the measure and asked that the matter is resolved.

**MDL768/19 LETTERKENNY MARKET SQUARE**

It was agreed that the following motions proposed by Cllr. Gerry McMonagle, Cllr. Michael McBride and Cllr. Kevin Bradley would be considered together and adopted:

*Cllr. Gerry McMonagle*

*“That this Municipal District initiate a Public Consultation Process to give businesses and the people of the Town an opportunity to have their say in relation to the future shape and design of Letterkenny Town Square.”*

*Cllr. Michael McBride*

*“That Donegal County Council carry out a new design for the Market Square in Letterkenny, have it costed and apply for appropriate funding so it can be returned to a workable space that will once again become the focal point of Letterkenny.”*

*Cllr. Kevin Bradley*

*“Calling on this Council to install public toilets on the Main Street in Letterkenny as a matter of urgency.”*

The Members were advised:

*Cllr. Gerry McMonagle*

*“Through the work associated with the preparation of a new Plan for the town, the issue of the future of the Town Square/Market Square has been raised by many in the early consultations. Members are advised that public consultation will be initiated as soon as possible to assist in the preparation of the Letterkenny Chamber sponsored design competition for the Square area. This approach will also include the public display of designs and comments from the public to help further shape design proposals for this important public square. Members will be kept apprised of progress on this project over the coming months.*

*Cllr. Michael McBride*

*“The early public consultations in relation to the review of the Letterkenny Plan highlighted the Market Square as having potential to rethink its role as a civic space in the centre of the town. Initial steps are being taken including assisting with a design competition initiated by Letterkenny Chamber. Public opinion will be sought in relation to any emerging design options for the Square with the intention that a chosen design would form the basis of an application for approval by Members under Part 8 of the*

*Planning & Development Regulations. Members will be kept apprised of progress over the coming months.”*

*Cllr. Kevin Bradley motion:*

*“A Public Convenience (PC) programme was developed and agreed by the Environment and Emergency Services Strategic Policy Committee in 2017. The programme identified priority locations for the provision of public conveniences in each Municipal District. The programme includes for the provision of PCs at a number of locations in Letterkenny, including a public convenience at Justice Walsh Road adjacent to the Main Street. There are other toilets available to the public in the Courtyard Shopping Centre, Main Street, Letterkenny.*

*No further locations have been included for was not included in the programme. The Capital Budget 2019-2021 adopted by Donegal County Council, which includes a programme for the upgrade of existing PCs to appropriate standards, does not provide for the development of a further PC project in Letterkenny.*

*A pilot Community Toilet initiative was successfully launched by Donegal County Council in 2019. This project, in the Twin Towns area, will have completed its twelve month initial trial period in early 2020. The operation of the pilot initiative will then be evaluated after which it is planned to extend the initiative to other Municipal Districts. Expressions of interest will be invited countywide. Successful applicants will be assessed and appointed on a prioritised basis which will consider demand and available budget.”*

On proposing his motion Cllr. McMonagle asked that public views were considered in relation to the future of the Market Square in particular its future use and layout.

On proposing his motion Cllr. McBride agreed with Cllr. McMonagle’s request and asked that public toilets be included in future plans and Lower Main Street developed further.

On proposing his motion Cllr. Bradley asked that public toilets be included and that the Square was restored backed to markets, etc.

Liam Ward advised that in conjunction with Letterkenny Chamber, a public consultation process was being initiated in relation to the Market Square area. This consultation process was being funded through the Chamber from the prize monies awarded to Letterkenny on being selected as Ireland’s most Enterprising Town. It was agreed that a further update would be provided to Members at a workshop to be held on the preparations for the Letterkenny LAP and the next stage of the development under the Urban Regeneration Development Plan. Date and time of Workshop to be agreed later in the meeting.

**MDL769/19 BALLYRAINE TO FOUR LANE CARRIAGEWAY**

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

*“That this Council construct a slip road from Ballyraine Road onto the four lane carriageway.”*

The Members were advised that:

*“The principle of constructing a slip road to required specification would require widening of the existing Port Bridge. Also the lands over which a slip road would be constructed are currently the subject of legal dispute.”*

On proposing the motion Cllr. Coyle asked that the slipway would be provided prior to works on the Four Lane in order to alleviate traffic congestion on the Ramelton and Business Park Roads.

On seconding the motion Cllr. Blaney asked for an update on the legal dispute in relation to the lands and that the Council actively look at all measures to alleviate traffic in this area.

Fergal Doherty confirmed that there was a legal dispute on going in relation to the specific lands mention and the Council’s focus was on the Ten-T project.

Cllr. Coyle and Cllr. Blaney asked that the works would be done as an immediate low cost solution to the current traffic problems in Letterkenny taking into consideration the period of time expected in relation to the Bonagee Link being constructed.

**MDL770/19 PUBLIC SEWER TO DROMORE & WOODLANDS**

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

*“That this Council seek relevant funding to extend the public sewer to the Dromore and Woodlands area.”*

The Members were advised that:

*“Should this motion be passed an official from the Rural Water Team and the Environment Team can engage with Elected Members of Letterkenny Milford Municipal District to determine the scope for any such application in order to identify any available funding for this work.”*

On proposing the motion Cllr. Coyle asked that funding is sought for the extension in both areas, Dromore had been discussed for a long number of years and Woodlands should be included in any plans due to the similarity of the areas in number of houses, nursing homes, hotels, etc.

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

**MDL771/19 EMERGENCY MOTION – WALL AT SHORE ROAD, RAMELTON**

Cllr. Ian McGarvey proposed the following emergency motion agreed with the Members, and seconded by Cllr. Liam Blaney was adopted:

*“That the Council deal with the necessary wall repairs at Shore Road, Ramelton.”*

On proposing the motion Cllr. McGarvey welcomed that the response to his question in that the wall was assessed. Cllr. McGarvey asked that the area from Gambles Square to the Quay was assessed and necessary repairs carried out. Cllr. McGarvey expressed concern on the height of the wall and asked that this be raised to alleviate health and safety concerns.

On seconding the motion Cllr. Blaney expressed concern on the height of the wall and asked that this would be addressed also.

Cllr. O’Donnell commended the Council on the prompt response including fencing off and welcomed that the OPW would be carried out works in the coming week.

**MDL772/19 LETTERKENNY TO MILFORD ROAD**

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

*“That this Council make an application for specific funding to upgrade the road standard from Letterkenny to Milford.”*

The Members were advised that:

*“There is currently no funded programme for the upgrade of roads to this extent. In the meantime the Council continue to maintain the road as required. The road will be kept available for consideration when future suitable programmes become available.”*

On proposing the motion Cllr. McGarvey said he raised this in a previous motion and asked that the road was upgraded to deal with the volume of traffic, including an assessment of the Ramelton Bridge and a possible by-pass from the Chapel to the filling station.

On seconding the motion Cllr. Blaney fully supported the motion and asked that funding was sought to carry out improvements.

**MDL773/19 SI HOUSING FUNDING**

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



*“That this Council seek funding for two or more SI applications within this M.D.”*

The Members were advised that:

*“The Policy for accepting applications for Specific Instance (S.I) Dwellings was adopted in mid 2016 following consideration by the Housing and Corporate Strategic Policy Committee. The policy sets out the process of assessing applications for S.I. houses in a number of stages. The initial stage involves determining the eligibility of the applicant for social housing support, including classification of the need and consideration as to whether there is the availability of alternative accommodation in an area to meet the need. If the applicant meets the criteria, and no other accommodation is available to meet the need, we then assess the suitability of the site being provided in terms of title, access, ground conditions, part 8, etc. If all is in order, an application is then made to the Department to seek funding for the construction of the S.I. dwelling. There is no funding limit per MD, and if for example more than 2 applications are deemed to be in order to progress, funding can be sought for them.”*

On proposing the motion Cllr. McGarvey asked that the Council would acquire specific funding for two SI applications.

On seconding the motion Cllr. Blaney asked for clarity of the social housing available in the area criteria, specify the area acceptable. Cllr. Blaney referred to an application submitted more than a year and no decision to date.

Patricia McIntyre advised the SI Policy was adopted by the Housing SPC in 2016 and agreed to circulate the Policy to Members and speak to Members on any specific cases following the meeting.

Cllr. Blaney asked that the Housing SPC review the current policy to ensure SI's were more available.

**MDL774/19 RIVERS SWILLY & LENNON**

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

*“That this MD invite the Fisheries Authority to attend our meeting and explain why they have continually opposed fishing on the Swilly & Lennon Rivers without any information to justify the same.”*

The Members were advised that:

*“The motion is noted and if adopted, the Council will make contact with Inland Fisheries Ireland. For information, Inland Fisheries Ireland made a presentation to Members at a workshop held on the 12th February 2019.”*

On proposing the motion Cllr. McGarvey expressed regret that there was no fishing on the Rivers Lennon & Swilly as there was great potential to promote tourism. River Lennon is current open for catch and release only.

On seconding the motion Cllr. Blaney fully supported the motion. It was agreed to invite Inland Fisheries Ireland to annual meetings with the MD – the next meeting to be scheduled in early 2020.

#### **MDL775/19 CIAREMANS JUNCTION**

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

*“That Donegal County Council improve signage and road markings at the Claremans Junction in the interest of health and safety.”*

Members were advised that:

*“Roads will assess the junction with a view to carrying out any lining works / signage that may be required.”*

On proposing the motion Cllr. McBride welcomed the response.

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

#### **MDL776/19 GORTLEE ROAD JUNCTION**

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

*“That the Council replace the high friction surface at Gortlee beside the graveyard.”*

The Members were advised that:

*“This section of the Gortlee Road beside of the graveyard is Clause 942 SMA, which is a high skid resistance wearing surface, there was never any anti skid material at this location. The only locus for high skid resistance wearing surface, was at the junction with the Ballyraine Road, which was required because of the steep gradient in advance of the stop lines.”*

On proposing the motion Cllr. McBride advised he was referring to the same location as noted in the response and asked that this surface was repaired.

On seconding the motion Cllr. Bradley supported the motion.

#### **MDL777/19 MAGHERAWARDEN BEACH**

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

*“That this Council straightens the burn on the beach at Magherawarden as a matter of urgency.”*

The Members were advised that:

*“The stream entering Magherawarden Beach was previously redirected from its natural course by the Marine Section of Donegal County Council, in consultation with NPWS and the local landowner. The stream has reverted to its natural course in recent years. There are no plans to intervene in this natural process at this point.”*

On proposing the motion Cllr. Blaney asked that the stream be redirected as done in the past to avoid flooding in the area and the erosion of sand dunes. Cllr. Blaney referred to previous requests to have the Marine Section at the meetings and again asked that the Marine Engineer attend the meeting twice a year.

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

#### **MDL778/19 PUBLIC LIGHTING AT MASSMOUNT CHAPEL**

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

*“That this Council erect a Public light on the Northern side of Massmount Chapel, Fanad.”*

The Members were advised that:

*“It is proposed to hold a workshop with members before the October or November MDL-M meeting to decide on the prioritisation of the third year of the 'Three year Public Footpath and Public Lighting' programme. The location listed above will be added to the list in existence for discussion at this workshop such that a programme can be developed. Members are hereby requested to submit potential locations for consideration over the coming weeks such that they may be given due consideration and costed in accordance with guidelines, prior to the proposed workshop.”*

On proposing the motion Cllr. Blaney welcomed the response.

On seconding the motion Cllr. O’Donnell supported the motion.

Cllr. Donal Coyle asked for a copy of the funding guidelines.

#### **MDL779/19 KINNEGAR TO RATHMULLAN ROAD**

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

*“Calling on this Council to seek funding to widen the dangerous corner at Kinnegar in Rathmullan.”*

Members were advised that:

*“The removal of the corners at Kinnegar would take major funding, requiring alterations to the adjacent historical graveyard, and/or realignment of Killygarvan Bridge. There is currently no funded programme for the upgrade of roads to this extent. The road will be kept available for consideration when future suitable programmes become available.”*

On proposing the motion Cllr. O’Donnell asked that the Council seek funding and explore all options.

On seconding the motion Cllr. McGarvey advised that this was raised previously and an adjoining landowner offered land to carry out the necessary works.

Fergal Doherty advised that there was no funding programme available and agreed to liaise with the landowner referred to by Cllr. McGarvey.

#### **MDL780/19 TRAFFIC CALMING MILFORD ROAD, KILMACRENNAN**

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

*“Calling on this Council to install speed ramps on the Milford Road on the approach to Kilmacrennan Village before the town hall.”*

The Members were advised that:

*“Speed ramps are generally only installed on select roads as a last measure, given the potential hazard that they can constitute, and as Council policy are not installed on a Regional Road. The matter of apparent speeding on this road will be reported to the Gardaí for monitoring, and Roads will undertake to review the signs and markings through the location.”*

On proposing the motion Cllr. O’Donnell asked that the Council reconsider and assess further the need for speed ramps and install the temporary ramps to monitor the complaints.

On seconding the motion Cllr. McGarvey supported the motion.

Cllr. O’Donnell asked that the same criteria used in other Municipal Districts be applied in this area in relation to plastic speed ramps installed.

It was agreed that this would be discussed further at the agreed traffic calming workshop to be held on 25 September 2019 at 9.30 am in Letterkenny PSC.

**MDL781/19 SIGNAGE ON LYME DISEASE IN NATIONAL PARKS & WOODLANDS**

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

*“Calling on this Council to erect signs on all local national parks and woodlands in this Municipal District and roll it out county wide to highlight the dangers of getting lymes disease which is spread by ticks.”*

The Members were advised that:

*“The motion is noted and if adopted, the Council will arrange to make contact with the National Parks and Wildlife Service under the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.*

On proposing the motion Cllr. O'Donnell acknowledged the article in Donegal Daily highlighting Lymes disease, misdiagnosis and asked that the motion was rolled out in other municipal district areas.

On seconding the motion Cllr. Blaney fully supported the motion and expressed the importance of raising awareness.

**MDL782/19 TRAFFIC CALMING AT WINDY HALL ROAD**

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

*“Calling on this Council to install speed ramps as a matter of urgency on the Windyhall Road in Letterkenny.”*

The Members were advised that:

*“Given the potential hazard that they constitute, speed ramps are generally only installed on select roads within an urban environment, as a last measure, and are only appropriate within street lit areas. Safety improvement monies have been spent on the Windyhall road in 2017 introducing improved road signage and lining.”*

On proposing the motion Cllr. Bradley commended the work carried out to date and requested that a footpath and public lighting be installed due to the number of children walking on this road.

On seconding the motion Cllr O'Donnell asked that this would be considered at the workshop on 25 September 2019.

**MDL783/19 MAYORS BUSINESS**

Cllr. O'Donnell advised that he attended the following as Mayor of the Municipal District:

Opened the Ramelton Town Festival and Letterkenny Folk Festival

Truck Fest Event  
Fundraising event for Ricky McGinley, RIP

Cllr. O'Donnell advised that the official opening of the N56 Blue Banks would take place on 7 October 2019 at 2 p.m. by Minister Joe McHugh and Nicholas Crossan, Cathairleach.

***MDL784/19*** **CORRESPONDENCE**

Patricia McIntyre advised of the following correspondence:

**Bernard McGlinchey Town Park**

On the proposal of Cllr. Gerry McMonagle and seconded by Cllr. Kevin Bradley the Members permitted St Eunan College to use the Park for Maths Trails in September/October 2019.

**West Dunbartonshire Friendship Agreement**

On the proposal of Cllr. Ian McGarvey and seconded by Cllr. Kevin Bradley it was agreed to invite a delegation from West Dunbartonshire to visit Letterkenny and link in with the Donegal Connect programme of events.

**Rudlstadt Delegation Visit**

A delegation of up to 50 people will visit Donegal from 27 September to 1 October and the itinerary would be circulated to Members in the coming week when finalised.

**German Embassy Day of Unity**

The German Ambassador has invited Donegal County Council to a Day of Unity in the German Embassy on 4 October, 2019 and it was agreed on the proposal of Cllr. John O'Donnell and seconded by Cllr. Michael McBride that the Council would attend through the Tourism section.

***MDL785/19*** **PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

The Members noted the content of the Planning Report and agreed to a workshop on 8 October 2019 at 10 a.m. to discuss the Letterkenny Area Plan, Regional Spatial & Economic Strategy and Urban Regeneration & Development Fund.

***MDL786/19*** **ENVIRONMENT**

The Members noted the content of the Environment Report and received a presentation from Michael McGarvey, Director of Services on the Draft Climate Change Adaptation Strategy and were advised a further workshop on would be held for Members on 23 September, 2019 in Stranorlar Regional Training Centre.

***MDL787/19*** **COMMUNITY & ENTERPRISE**

The Members noted the content of the Community Development Report in particular the following:

### **787.1 Social Enterprise Building**

A meeting would be held on 12 September between tenants and architects.

### **787.2 Walks & Trails**

Map boards were erected on the Mountain Top Walk.

The Members wished Francis Conaghan well in his new post. They thanked Christina O'Donnell for the work carried out to date and wished her well in her new post.

## ***MDL788/19 ROADS & TRANSPORTATION***

The Members noted the content of the Roads Report.

### **788.1 CLAR Funding**

Cllr. Liam Blaney and Cllr. John O'Donnell welcomed the funding under the CLAR programme for the National Schools at Cranford and Trentagh.

### **788.2 Martin's Filling Station – Dry Arch Roundabout**

Cllr. Michael McBride asked if the forecourt could be reopened to all a Park and Ride facility to be made available for people who current park in this area that car pool.

### **788.3 CIS**

Members were presented with prioritised CIS applications to be forwarded from the MDL-M for a funding application for 2020, following close of the advertised application date. Members were also advised that a further list of the remaining applications was forwarded in the event that additional funding become available.

## ***MDL789/19 HOUSING AND CORPORATE SERVICES***

The Members noted the content of the report circulated.

### **789.1 Properties at Ramelton**

Cllr. Liam Blaney asked for an update on the purchased properties in Ramelton. Patricia McIntyre agreed to circulate an update to Members on the current stage of purchase.

## **Questions**

## ***MDL790/19 FENCE & PLAY AREA AT MANOR VIEW ESTATE***

In answer to his question requesting an update on a previous motion re: fixing the fence and improving the play area at Manor View estate, Cllr. Jimmy Kavanagh was advised:

*“This estate is not taken in charge and as such it is outside the Council's control to carry out any works.*

**MDL791/19 SPEED LIMIT SIGNAGE AT ROSEMOUNT TERRACE**

In answer to his question requesting that the Council complete the signage for speed limit at Rosemount Terrace, pole was installed but no sign on it, Cllr. Jimmy Kavanagh was advised:

*“The sign for the special speed limit at Rosemount Terrace is ordered and will be erected presently.”*

**MDL792/19 TWINNED WITH RUDOLSTADT SIGNAGE**

In answer to his question requesting that the Council erect the "twinned with Rudolstadt" signage ahead of their visit in September, Cllr. Jimmy Kavanagh was advised:

*“These signs are in place.”*

**MDL793/19 PEDESTRIAN CROSSING AT AURA LEISURE CENTRE**

In answer to his question requesting when the Pedestrian Crossing would be installed at the Aura Leisure Centre, Cllr. Gerry McMonagle was advised:

*“Tenders for supply of the Belisha beacons have been issued recently. Civil works are scheduled to start by the end of September.”*

**MDL794/19 OLDTOWN BRIDGE**

In answer to his question requesting when was the last time checks were made on the strength and condition of the Oldtown Bridge and an update report, Cllr. Gerry McMonagle was advised:

*“A detailed assessment of the Oldtown bridge was carried out by Doran Consulting consultants in 2014, and further visual assessments have been carried out since, the latest being on 30/8/19. A copy of the Eirspan-inspection Report is available on the members extranet.”*

**MDL795/19 TRAFFIC LIGHT SYSTEM AT POLESTAR ROUNDABOUT**

In answer to his question requesting had the Council received a response from the Department of Transport in relation to a request for monies to introduce a New Traffic Light System at the Polestar Roundabout, Cllr. Gerry McMonagle was advised:

*“No funding has been granted to date by the Department of Transport, to introduce a new traffic light system at the Polestar roundabout.”*



**MDL796/19 DERELICT BUILDINGS AT LOWER MAIN STREET, LETTERKENNY**

In answer to his question requesting that this M.D. deal with the dereliction that exists on Lower Main St., Letterkenny as there were 13 vacant buildings in this area, Cllr. Ian McGarvey was advised:

*“A targeted review of potentially significant derelict sites that firstly meet the definition of a derelict site [as contained in the Derelict Sites Act, 1990 (As Amended)] in the central areas of Letterkenny has been undertaken in tandem with the preparation of the Letterkenny LAP with a view to informing both the Plan and also the work of the recently-established Regeneration Unit. On foot of this work, it is anticipated that procedures to add a number of sites to the Donegal County Council Derelict Sites Register will commence in the near future. As and when sites are successfully added, consideration will then turn to the most effective use of the enforcement provisions available to local authorities under the aforementioned legislation. Members will be updated at key junctures of this process and there will be opportunity to discuss in detail at the planned LAP workshops.”*

**MDL797/19 DERELICT BUILDINGS**

In answer to his question requesting that this M.D. deal with the outstanding dereliction as some are becoming dangerous, Cllr. Ian McGarvey was advised:

*“To date the capacity of the Council to prioritise the use of the provisions of the Derelict Sites legislation has been limited and this, coupled with the likely review of the legislation flagged in discussions under the Rebuilding Ireland initiative, has contributed to its limited application across the country.*

*The scope of the usefulness of the Derelict Sites Act, in conjunction with other measures such as the Vacant Sites Levy, to facilitate regeneration opportunities is being examined by the Central Planning Unit in relation to potential cross-directorate approaches to urban and rural regeneration.*

*In this context, a targeted review of derelict sites in the central areas of our larger towns is being progressed in tandem with both the Local Area Plan preparation programme and also the opportunities that may arise from the Regeneration funding streams announced during 2018.”*

**MDL798/19 WALL AT SHORE ROAD, RAMELTON**

In answer to his question requesting an update on the safety of the Shore Road wall and the fall away of the surface level at the waters edge that, Cllr. Ian McGarvey was advised:

*“Donegal County. Council Piers & Harbours Section will mobilise at Ramelton later this week when tides are more favourable to begin reinstating the collapsed wall at Shore Road. It is expected this work will*

*take a number of weeks to complete. The existing wall will continue to be monitored.”*

**MDL799/19 BOTTLE BANKS AT CHURCHILL**

In answer to his question asking if Donegal County Council had any plans to replace the bottle banks in Churchill, Cllr. Michael McBride was advised:

*“It is the intention of Donegal County Council to return a bring bank facility to Churchill. The Council has visited a number of locations to assess them for suitability. As yet no suitable site has been identified, however if a potential site is brought to our attention a site risk assessment will be carried out.”*

**MDL800/19 SCHEDULE OF ROAD WORKS IN LETTERKENNY**

In answer to his question requesting a schedule for all future roadworks in and around Letterkenny currently planned, Cllr. Michael McBride was advised:

*“Schedule of short/medium term roadworks and their status are included in the report to members.”*

**MDL801/19 RESURFACE MAIN STREET, KILMACRENNAN**

In answer to his question requesting when Donegal County Council had plan to resurface the Main Street in Kilmacrennan following the completion of works by Irish water, Cllr. Michael McBride was advised:

*“Permanent reinstatement of the trenches will be carried out by the Irish Water Contractor within the next 6 months. The Kilmacrennan Main Street has been forwarded to the TII for inclusion in an overlay programme but has not been funded yet. Pending this, Donegal County Council currently have no plans to resurface the Kilmacrennan Main Street.”*

**MDL802/19 PUBLIC TOILETS AT CARRIGART**

In answer to his question requesting what progress had been made regarding the inclusion of public toilet facilities in the new digital hub in Carrigart, Cllr. John O’Donnell was advised:

*“The proposed Carrigart Digital Hub is currently progressing through the Part Eight Planning process and will be considered at the full council meeting scheduled for September 30th 2019.*

*On the basis of this issue having been raised previously, contact has been made with the Environment section who have responsibility in this area. The response from the Environment section is as follows:*

*A Public Convenience (PC) programme was developed and agreed by the Environment and Emergency Services Strategic Policy Committee in 2017.*

*The programme identified priority locations for the provision of public conveniences in each Municipal District. Carrigart was not included in the programme. The Capital Budget 2019-2021 adopted by Donegal County Council, which includes a programme for the upgrade of existing PCs to appropriate standards, does not provide for the development of a PC project in Carrigart.*

*A pilot Community Toilet initiative was successfully launched by Donegal County Council in 2019. This project, in the Twin Towns area, will have completed its twelve month initial trial period in early 2020. The operation of the pilot initiative will then be evaluated after which it is planned to extend the initiative to other Municipal Districts. Expressions of interest will be invited countywide. Successful applicants will be assessed and appointed on a prioritised basis which will consider demand and available budget.”*

**MDL803/19 PORTSALON TO FANAD HEAD ROAD**

In answer to his question requesting what progress had been made on the upgrade of the road from Portsalon to Fanad Head via Doaghbeg, Cllr. John O’Donnell was advised:

*“There is currently no funded programme for the upgrade of roads to this extent, and consequently this road is not on a particular upgrade programme. In the meantime the Roads section continue to maintain the road as required. The road will be kept available for consideration when future suitable programmes become available.”*

**MDL804/19 STREET LIGHT AT BROWNKNOWE N.S.**

In answer to his question requesting what progress has been made to get the streetlight installed at Brownknowe National school, Cllr. John O’Donnell was advised:

*“The installation of a streetlight at Brownknowe was not agreed at previous workshops relating to the Three year footpath and public lighting programme. It is proposed to hold a workshop with members before the October or November MDL-M meeting to decide on the prioritisation of the third year of the 'Three year Public Footpath and Public Lighting' programme. The location listed above will be added to the list in existence for discussion at this workshop such that a programme can be developed. Members are hereby requested to submit potential locations for consideration over the coming weeks such that they may be given due consideration and costed in accordance with guidelines, prior to the proposed workshop.”*

**MDL805/18 DATE AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING**

It was agreed that the next MDL Meeting would be held on 8 October 2019 at Letterkenny Public Services Centre.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

---

Mayor

---

Meetings Administrator