

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF LETTERKENNY-  
MILFORD MEETING, HELD IN MILFORD PUBLIC SERVICES CENTRE, ON  
21<sup>ST</sup> FEBRUARY, 2020 AT 2:00 P.M.**

**MDL55/20 MEMBERS PRESENT**

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

**MDL56/20 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  
Darragh McDonagh, IS

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

**MDL57/20 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

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

**MDL58/20 ADOPTION OF MINUTES OF MDL MEETING HELD ON 14  
JANUARY, 2019**

On the proposal of Cllr. Jimmy Kavanagh and seconded by Cllr. Ciaran Brogan, the Minutes of MDL Meeting held on 14 January 2020, were adopted.

**MDL59/20 ENTRANCE TO GLENSWILLY GAA PITCH**

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

*“That the Roads section to examine safety measures at Glenswilly GAA Pitch entrance and the house across the road from the pitch. Dangerous spot, needing proper speed deterrents put in place.”*

The Members were advised that:

*“Roads will be renewing the Road markings at this location over the next 2 months when the lining contractor is in the area which will give better advance warning. The trees above the house across from the pitch were cut last year which improves the vision at the corner. There are no other works planned for this location.”*

On proposing the motion Cllr. Kelly spoke of the dangerous bend, no road markings and issue with speed in this area. Cllr. Kelly asked that signage be erected to warn about the dangerous entrance.

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

Fergal Doherty advised that the road markings would be reviewed however there were difficulties in implementing speed restrictions outside speed limit areas. Further discussions could be held as part of a roads workshop on Footpath & Public Lighting to be held over the coming months.

**MDL60/20**      **SAFETY MEASURES IN MAIN STREET, MANORCUNNINGHAM**

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

*“That this Council provide speed ramps and signage in Manorcunningham Main Street which are a concern for many local residents, in particular, no signage entering the village, with residential areas immediately on entering the village from Lifford side, creche and Health Centre on the busy road, no speed ramps or signs and no pedestrian crossing or children crossing signs.”*

The Members were advised that:

*“Roads will review the existing village signage. At the two workshops held with members on 25th September and 12th November, in relation to ramps/pedestrian crossings, members were advised that installations to the current value of €827k have been requested by Members, and similar to other Counties, a Countywide policy in respect of installation and prioritisation is required to be progressed at Roads SPC to enable prioritised crossings to be targeted. Currently there are requests for pedestrian crossings at three different locations in Manorcunningham Main Street.”*

On proposing the motion Cllr. Kelly spoke of the busy road, and concerns of residents in relation to speed, lack of pedestrian crossings/ramps.

On seconding the motion Cllr. Brogan asked that a commitment would be given that works would be implemented.

Fergal Doherty advised that as discussed at the recent workshops whereby €827k worth of infrastructure had been requested by members motions, the policy with respect to prioritisation was still necessary. Fergal advised that as per previous meetings, there was currently no budget for the estimated €15-€20k for a zebra crossing, but should one of the three proposed

locations be prioritised, that every effort would be made to progress subject to funding. Members advised that if the location was agreed, then they would find the funding. It was agreed that Members would meet with Roads staff in Manorcunningham on Wednesday, 26<sup>th</sup> February at 9.30 a.m. at the shop, for the purposes of discussing the three proposals, that the Engineers can assess from an engineering aspect

**MDL61/20**      **GLENKEO ROAD**

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

*“That this Council prioritise the Glenkeo Road leading from Stackernagh to Kirkstown in this years Roads Programme with a view to putting in additional lay-byes for traffic to meet. This road has got very busy as many road users in Glenswilly/Churchill and Trentagh areas use this road to commute to and from work on a daily basis and now the road is in urgent need of repair.”*

The Members were advised that:

*“The 2020 Restoration Improvement (RI) and Restoration Maintenance (RM) programmes are as per agreed at workshop on 12th February. A large section of the Glenkeo Road is included therein.”*

On proposing the motion Cllr. Kelly asked that necessary repairs be carried out as a matter of urgency.

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

**MDL62/20**      **BALLYBOE LINEAR PARK, LETTERKENNY**

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

*“That the Council put in place a plan for the development of Ballyboe Linear Park, in conjunction with the residents in the area, residents associations, the Council members, tidy towns etc., so that it can reach it's full potential and better serve the population of the area.”*

The Members were advised that:

*“The motion is noted and if adopted the Council will facilitate a meeting with the Members and the Resident's Association in the area should they wish to submit their proposals for the park. The Council will then explore options available in terms of funding, etc to progress any proposals.”*

On proposing the motion Cllr. Kavanagh referred to low level anti-social behaviour and that the park was not used as a community facility. Cllr. Kavanagh asked that the Council meet with residents to develop the park in a way that would serve the community and explore if an area could be

developed for the Glencar football club. Cllr. Kavanagh welcomed the response.

On seconding the motion Cllr. McMonagle advised that the Donegal Local Development Committee had developed a report on this area a number of years ago and fully supported the motion.

**MDL63/20**     **DRINKING FOUNTAINS/REFILL WATER STATIONS**

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

*“That the Council install drinking fountains/refill water stations in our public parks, and at key areas in our towns and villages in the Municipal area, to help reduce the use of single use plastic and reduce littering in our parks and on our streets.”*

The Members were advised that:

*“There is currently a working group nationally looking into all areas of the provision of public drinking water stations / fountains through the Local Authority Prevention Network and other methods of reducing single use plastic bottles through a variety of refill options. A document is being produced to provide information on the various types of initiatives with a number of case studies. This document is currently in draft but will be finalised shortly. When available the document will give good guidance for Local Authorities on all aspects of water filling stations.*

*For outdoors units budget considerations would need to be factored, civil works required, cleaning and regular maintenance etc. The cost of outdoor units is considerably higher than indoor units.*

*In 2019 Donegal County Council secured EPA funding for a number of water bottle filling stations for 7 Secondary Schools and 3 Leisure Centres, additional funding was secured through LAWPRO for a further 2 Secondary Schools bringing the total to 9 Secondary schools and 3 Leisure Centres. The water bottle filling units are fitted with counters that will record the number of refills used.*

*There is also a national campaign called refill.ie which is aiming to encourage businesses to welcome the public into their business / premises to get a tap water refill. Businesses that sign up are given a window sticker, mapped and promoted on social media. This is a great campaign for schools and local Tidy Towns groups to get involved in.”*

On proposing the motion Cllr. Kavanagh highlighted the issue of littering with plastic bottles and the impact on the environment and asked that the Council install water fountains in Letterkenny in an effort to reduce the use of plastic bottles. Similar initiatives had been implemented by a number of Councils nationally.

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

**MDL64/20**     **MICA REDRESS SCHEME**

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

*“That this MD is updated at its monthly meetings, beginning with this month, the progress that is being made regarding the MICA Redress Scheme.”*

Members were advised that:

*“The motion is noted and Members will be kept updated on progress made under the Scheme. The signing of Regulations on Friday 31st January 2020 is a significant development, and is welcomed by Donegal County Council. The Council has been engaging with the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government in relation to the Scheme. This will continue in the coming weeks, as the Council continues to make preparations to administer the Scheme. Further information will be available in due course, with regard to the detail of the Scheme, the application process, and when the Council will be in a position to accept applications.”*

On proposing the motion Cllr. Blaney asked for monthly updates as the Mica Redress Committee would not be meeting monthly and it was important Members are kept informed of progress being made. Cllr. Blaney advised that the Council awaiting guidelines from the Department along with clarity on funding.

On seconding the motion Cllr. Coyle supported the motion and expressed the importance of work commencing as a matter of urgency as houses were deteriorating fast.

**MDL65/20**     **OVERHEAD CABLES/POWER LINES PORT ROAD, LETTERKENNY**

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

*“That this Council would seek funding under the Environmental Improvement Scheme to remove all overhead cables and power lines and have them installed underground along the Port Road.”*

Members were advised that:

*“Environmental Improvement Schemes have been dis-continued, however, this proposal is on the list for consideration in relation to future URDF or DUGS funding and Roads intend to push funding application at every opportunity.”*

On proposing the motion Cllr. Coyle asked that the cables/overhead wires were removed as unsightly and asked that priority be given to obtain funding.

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

**MDL66/20**      **COLLEGE FARM ROAD, LETTERKENNY**

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

*“That this Council would include College Farm Road on the tarring programme for this year.”*

The Members were advised that:

*“The RI and RM programmes for 2020 are as per agreed at workshop on 12th February 2020.”*

On proposing the motion Cllr. Coyle asked if the road was included in the 2020 Programme.

On seconding the motion Cllr. Blaney supported the motion.

Fergal Doherty confirmed that this road was not included in the 2020 Programme.

**MDL67/20**      **DRY ARCH & MANOR ROUNDABOUTS**

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

*“That this Council would call on the TII to make immediate repairs to the roads on the Dry Arch and Manor Roundabouts.”*

The Members were advised that:

*“TII have an ongoing program of pavement repair and improvement works across the national Road network. Projects are identified through a pavement assessment and review process. This is the consistent national procedure and policy. The 4 Lane Road from Dry Arch to Polestar is programmed for upgrade including pavement works in 2020/21. There are currently no programmed or scheduled pavement improvement works at the N14 /13 Manorcunningham roundabout. In the short term, MDL-M Roads have carried out remedial surface repairs at both roundabouts.”*

On proposing the motion Cllr. Coyle welcomed that the works had been carried out week previous and asked that in future repairs should not take 5-6 weeks on busy roundabouts.

On seconding the motion Cllr. Brogan supported the motion.

**MDL68/20**      **EMERGENCY MOTION – JOE BONNER ROAD**

On the proposal of Cllr. Donal Coyle and seconded by Cllr. John O’Donnell, the following emergency motion was adopted:

*“That this Council give a detailed explanation as to the reason why work has stopped on the Joe Bonner Road. When is the work expected to resume and when will all the works be completed.”*

On proposing the motion Cllr. Coyle read the following e-mail received from Irish Water:

*“Dear Councillor Coyle,  
Thank you for your recent communications regarding works of the Joe Bonner road.*

*I have received an update advising that at the end of November 2019 Irish Water were notified by our contractor Cleantech of issues with the newly-installed sewers on Joe Bonnar Rd which were identified following post-works CCTV surveys. Since then, further surveys and trial excavations were carried out on site as well as off-site pipe testing to determine the extents of the issues and to identify the cause and to propose a remedial works solution.*

*The contractor has now submitted his report which is currently being reviewed and discussions are on-going between the design team and the contractor to agree this solution as well as a timeframe for completion. A section of pipeline on Joe Bonnar Road will need to be replaced by the contractor. Subject to design agreement it is envisaged that the pipeline replacement works will be completed by early June.*

*Please note there is no stand off between Irish Water and our Contractor. We are working together as quickly as possible to resolve this issue and apologise for the inconvenience this has caused.*

*I trust you find the above information helpful. Thank you for contacting Irish Water.*

*Yours sincerely,*

***John O’Driscoll***  
*Local Representative Support Desk”*

Cllr. Coyle advised that work to the value of €1.5m funding had stopped because pipes laid for a sewer had failed and needed to be replaced. Cllr. Coyle asked who was responsible, the Contractor or Design Team, when would auxiliary works be completed and asked that an explanation was necessary on why this happened. Cllr. Coyle advised that businesses had endured major disruptions in this area during the works.

On seconding the motion Cllr. O’Donnell supported the motion and had also been contacted by businesses in the area.

After a discussion on the matter by the Members it was agreed that the Council contact Irish Water requesting a meeting on Wednesday, 26<sup>th</sup> February, 2020 at 11 a.m. and should this date not be suitable the Members

agreed to meet at a time convenient to Irish Water representatives. Fergal Doherty agreed to submit this request to Irish Water.

**MDL69/20**      **SPEED RESTRICTIONS AT ENTRANCE TO LECK GRAVEYARD**

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

*“That this Council implement a speed restriction at the entrance to Leck Graveyard as a matter of urgency.”*

Members were advised that:

*“The Leck Graveyard is within the 50kph speed limit, with no previous reported speeding issues. Roads will bring the matter of speeding to the attention of the Gardaí at the next CPI meeting. Matters of speeding/dangerous driving should be reported to the Gardai.”*

On proposing the motion Cllr. Bradley highlighted the concerns raised by families visiting the graveyard and residents in the area.

On seconding the motion Cllr. Coyle asked that the Council take whatever steps necessary to ensure safety.

**MDL70/20**      **PEDESTRIAN CROSSING ON PEARSE ROAD**

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

*“That this Council install a Pedestrian Crossing at Letterkenny Community Centre, Pearse Road.”*

The Members were advised that:

*“There are plans for the introduction of a new controlled pedestrian crossing at the Justice Walsh / Pearse Junction under the Designated Urban Grant Scheme (DUGS) Programme. It is anticipated that these will be in place by mid 2020.”*

On proposing the motion Cllr. Bradley welcomed the response.

On seconding the motion Cllr. Kavanagh supported the motion.

**MDL71/20**      **BUS SHELTER AT CASTLESHANNAGHAN**

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

*“That this Council provides a Bus Shelter at Upper Castleshannaghan / Ballymaleel as children have no where safe to wait for school buses, in particular in bad weather.”*



The Members were advised that:

*“There is currently no policy or funded programme in place for the provision of bus shelters outside of speed limits.”*

On proposing the motion Cllr. Bradley asked that the Council ensure that the bus shelter was put in place.

On seconding the motion Cllr. McGarvey supported the motion asking that there was a safe place for children to wait on a busy road.

**MDL72/20      TREES AT THORN ROAD, LETTERKENNY**

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

*“That this Council contacts the relevant parties and have the trees adjacent to the old Water Treatment Plant at the Thorn cut back as they are interfering with TV receptions at Thorndale and posing a risk to nearby houses.”*

Members were advised that:

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

*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. McMonagle asked that the Council take responsibility for cutting the trees back to ensure safety in bad weather and that they do not impact on residents in the area. Cllr. McMonagle also referred to trees in Glenwood where leaves blocked drains and left footpaths slippery.

On seconding the motion Cllr. Kavanagh supported the motion and also referred to Glenwood and Meadowbank.

**MDL73/20      YELLOW BOX AT THORN JUNCTION**

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

*“Can this Council extend the Yellow Box at the Thorn Junction on the Ramelton Road and put in place a proper right hand turning lane in the interest of Road Safety.”*

Members were advised that:

*“There is insufficient room for the installation of a right turning lane to specification at the Thorn Junction. Extension of the yellow box will be implemented.”*

On proposing the motion Cllr. McMonagle welcomed the response.

On seconding the motion Cllr. Kavanagh supported the motion.

**MDL74/20**      **YELLOW BOX AT CALHAME ROAD MOUNTAIN TOP**

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

*“That a box be installed at the roundabout at the Mountain Top to protect cars entering the roundabout from the Calhame Road and have foliage cut back to maximise visibility back towards Kilmacrennan.”*

The Members were advised that

*“The matter to be referred to the TII for assessment. Any overgrown foliage will be cut back where visibility is compromised.”*

On proposing the motion Cllr. McBride advised that he had been contacted by residents in the area regarding the roundabout being blocked in the morning with difficulty getting onto the roundabout and poor vision lines from the right hand side.

On seconding the motion Cllr. Kavanagh supported the motion.

**MDL75/20**      **YELLOW BOX AT TOURIST OFFICE**

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

*“Can we install a box at the entry to the Tourist Office on the Neil T Blaney Road in Letterkenny.”*

*Members were advised that:*

*“The entrance into the existing Tourist Office is currently being reviewed by Road Design in relation to the proposed signalization of the Polestar Roundabout. Possible outcome may include the realignment of the Tourist Office entrance altogether and accordingly the current motion is premature.”*

On proposing the motion Cllr. McBride asked that a yellow box be installed in the interim of proposed works on the Polestar Roundabout.

On seconding the motion Cllr. McMonagle supported the motion.

**MDL76/20**     **GLENDOWAN & MEENAROY ROAD**

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

*“I am asking Donegal County Council to leave the local road (16342) between Glendowan and Meenaroy in a state fit for travel and to have it fully restored under the roads programme during the term of this Council.”*

Members were advised that:

*“Roads repaired a 1500 m. section of this road from the Glendowan Road up past the Stramore school in 2019 which takes in the most populated section of the road. Quite a lot of this road is a green road and Roads are not proposing to carry out any further works on same in the foreseeable future. The 2020 RI and RM programme are as agreed at workshop on 12th February.”*

On proposing the motion Cllr. McBride asked that the Council stone and roll this road as a short term measure.

On seconding the motion Cllr. Kelly supported the motion.

**MDL77/20**     **FOOTPATH AT ROS SUILIGHE TO CRIEVESMITH**

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

*“I propose that this Council provides a footpath from Ros Suilighe, Oldtown to Crievesmith in our next programme of works.”*

Members were advised that:

*“Roads are progressing with respect to land take requirements. It is intended to hold another workshop in the coming months with members in relation to 'Footpath and Public Lighting, at which this proposal will be considered.”*

On proposing the motion Cllr. Brogan asked for a report on the lands owned by the Council which a proposal for development by an approved housing body sometime ago. Cllr. Brogan asked if these lands could now be used to develop the footpath.

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

**MDL78/20**     **UPPER ARD O'DONNELL**

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

*“I propose that this Council take immediate steps to have traffic lining done at the entrance to Upper Ard O Donnell.”*

Members were advised that:

*“The refreshing of road markings at Upper Ard O Donnell is on the road maintenance programme for 2020, and will be carried out as early as possible.”*

On proposing the Motion Cllr. Brogan asked that the road markings be put in place.

On seconding the motion Cllr. Kelly supported the motion.

**MDL79/20**     **RIVER LENNON & RIVER SWILLY**

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

*“That this Municipal District request that the full fishing potential of the rivers, namely River Lennon & River Swilly be realised.”*

The Members were advised that:

*“The motion is noted and if adopted the Council will make contact with Inland Fisheries. It should be noted that a meeting is scheduled to take place on the 11th February 2020 with Inland Fisheries.”*

On proposing the motion Cllr. McGarvey welcomed the discussion with Inland Fisheries prior to the meeting and requested that a number of rivers be reopened to promote tourism with fishing clubs, in particular, the River Lennon and River Swilly.

On seconding the motion Cllr. Bradley supported the motion.

**MDL80/20**     **SEWAGE TREATMENT IN LETTERKENNY / MILFORD**

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

*“That clarification on the intention to deal with the many issues in sewage treatment in the Letterkenny / Milford Area is outlined.”*

The Members were advised that:

*“Letterkenny Water Service is working closely with the Taking in Charge Section and Irish Water, to highlight the various issues being raised.”*

*A submission is currently being prepared to be brought to Irish Water by the Taking in Charge Section. Further information on this is to be discussed at an upcoming workshop with the Elected Members.”*

On proposing the motion Cllr. McGarvey referred to the proposal to treat Ramelton, Rathmullan and Milford and the potential damage to the river. Cllr. McGarvey asked that the Council contact Irish Water on the proposed treatment at Rye.

On seconding the motion Cllr. Blaney fully supported the motion and although the reply referred to housing estates the Members requested an update on the sewage treatment plant at Rye for Ramelton, Rathmullan and Milford.

**MDL81/20**      **ROAD FUNDING FOR LETTERKENNY-MILFORD MD**

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

*“That this Municipal District seeks specific funding to improve our Main Roads in the Municipal District area.”*

The Members were advised that:

*“All sources of available funding known to the MDL-M area are being targeted for funding on an annual basis.”*

On proposing the motion Cllr. McGarvey requested increased funding for the Letterkenny / Milford Road along with improvement works for bridges within the MD.

On seconding the motion Cllr. Blaney fully supported the motion and the need for additional funding due to the deterioration of roads with the current bad weather.

**MDL82/19**      **MAYORS BUSINESS**

The Mayor updated the meeting on the following events which he attended:

Civic Reception for the Tug of War World Championships in Letterkenny PSC on Thursday evening.

Cllr. O’Donnell sought Members approval to hold a Civic Reception for the Colmcille Gospel Choir who are hosting an event from 16<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> April, 2020. On the proposal of Cllr. Ian McGarvey and seconded by Cllr. Kevin Bradley this was agreed.

Cllr. O’Donnell updated the Members on the Gartan Winter School being held on Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> February 2020 commencing at 9.30 a.m.

**MDL83/19**     **CORRESPONDENCE**

Patricia McIntyre advised of the following correspondence:

A delegation from West Dunbartonshire would be visiting Letterkenny on the 26<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup> March 2020 and a schedule of the visit would be circulated to Members.

**Invitations to Rudolstadt**

On the proposal of Cllr. Ian McGarvey and seconded by Cllr. Gerry McMonagle the Members accepted an invitation to the then Mayor and companion, or nominee, to attend the St. Patrick's Day celebrations in Rudolstadt from 13<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> March 2020.

On the proposal of Cllr. Ian McGarvey and seconded by Cllr. Michael McBride the Members accepted an invitation to the Mayor and Deputy Mayor to attend the Music Festival from 2<sup>nd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> July 2020 in Rudolstadt.

**Use of Bernard McGlinchey Town Park**

On the proposal of Cllr. Gerry McMonagle and seconded by Cllr. Ian McGarvey the Members agreed to a request from Scoil Mhuire Gan Smal to use the Park to host a Fun Day on Sunday, 7<sup>th</sup> June 2020.

On the proposal of Cllr. Gerry McMonagle and seconded by Cllr. Jimmy Kavanagh the Members agreed to a request from Donegal Youth Service to host a Party in the Park on 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2020 from 12 noon to 6 p.m.

**MDL84/19**     **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, I.S. & EMERGENCY SERVICES**

The Members considered the report circulated with the Agenda and welcomed the Public Wifi access points within the MD.

The Members also welcomed the delivery of high speed broadband, under the National Broadband Plan, in particular, the Community Broadband Connection Points at Ray Community Centre and Cranford Community Centre.

**MDL85/19**     **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

The Members noted the content of the Community Development Report.

**Development Fund Initiative**

It was agreed that a Workshop on the DFI would be held on Tuesday, 10<sup>th</sup> March, 2020 at 9.30 a.m.

## **Social Enterprise Centre**

Cllr. Blaney raised concern that two of the proposed tenants for the Centre has had to withdraw their interest and asked if the Centre could be reduced in size.

## **MDL86/19    ROADS & TRANSPORTATION**

The Members noted the content of the Roads report circulated in particular the following:

### **86.1    2020 Regional & Local Road Grant Allocations**

A breakdown of the Grant Allocations was circulated to Members, total allocation was €10,246,583 for Letterkenny-Milford MD. A breakdown of the distribution of this allocation was also circulated.

### **86.2    Community Involvement Scheme**

Fergal Doherty advised that area Engineers have been liaising with candidates and a draft proposal would be circulated to Members by e-mail in the coming week. The Members will be requested to adopt the proposals at the March meeting.

### **86.3    Restoration Improvement and Restoration Maintenance Programmes 2020**

On the proposal of Cllr. Jimmy Kavanagh and seconded by Cllr. Ian McGarvey the RI & RM Programmes 2020 were agreed as circulated to Members on 17<sup>th</sup> February 2020 by e-mail.

### **86.4    LIS Funding**

Cllr. Donal Coyle asked if funding would be made available in 2020 for LIS.

Cllr. Liam Blaney expressed concern at the reduce funding available year on year since 2017.

### **86.5    Flooding / Funding**

Cllr. Donal Coyle asked that more funding was allocated due to the volume of flooding in the past weeks and the extension of the area to Manorcunningham and Magherbeg.

### **86.6    Report on Disabled Parking Bays in Letterkenny**

Cllr. Jimmy Kavanagh welcomed the report circulated to Members and asked that the priority measures be implemented. Cllr. Kavanagh asked that the works be prioritised, in particular, dropped kerbs on Main Street ahead of car parks which would be considered less urgent.

Fergal Doherty advised that if funding becomes available the Council would prioritise the works, i.e. drop kerbs and signage on Main Street.

### **86.7    Bridge Strengthening Programme 2020**

On the proposal of Cllr. Liam Blaney and seconded by Cllr. Jimmy Kavanagh the Bridge Stengthening Programme for 2020 was agreed.

**MDL87/20**    **HOUSING**

The Members noted the content of the Housing Report.

Patricia McIntyre advised the Members of the following:

- New Grant application form now available on Council website
- Mica Redress Scheme would be a standing item on the Housing Agenda
- Kathy Hunter presentation was deferred to the March meeting
- Requests for Deputations should be e-mailed to Patricia McIntyre for consideration by the Members at the next meeting – in particular Donegal Alcohol Forum and Mulroy Drive Group
- Cathal Sweeney, Marine Engineer, would attend the March meeting and Members should forward any issues by e-mail to Ms. McIntyre prior to the meeting

Cllr. Liam Blaney asked that David Friel, Beach Management also attended the meetings.

**MDL88/19**    **PLANNING SERVICES**

The Members noted the content of the Planning Report.

**88.1 Letterkenny Local Area Plan**

Members agreed to a further workshop on 2<sup>nd</sup> April, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. in Letterkenny PSC to discuss housing and the town centre within the Local Area Plan.

The draft Flood Report was received and this would form part of the workshop.

**88.2 County Development Plan**

The two year review of the County Development Plan was due and a workshop would be held at Plenary level in April.

Graham Diamond also advised that the Members would consider two variations to the County Development Plan in 2020 on the Wind Energy Policy and the Ten-T preferred route corridors.

**MDL89/20**    **ENVIRONMENT**

The Members noted the content of the Environment Report.

**89.1 Erosion at Rinboy, Fanad**

Cllr. Blaney raised the issue and serious concerns in relation to erosion at Ballyheerin new Rinboy. Cllr. Blaney said that these issues needed to be addressed and that David Friel attend the next meeting to discuss the matter.



Cllr. Coyle raised concerns for residents in the area as a large amount of banking had eroded over the past number of weeks and asked that urgent attention is given to this matter.

### **89.2 Air Pollution**

Cllr. Gerry McMonagle asked if monitor had been carried out on the effects of traffic on air quality in Letterkenny.

Joe Ferry advised that the current monitoring equipment cannot monitor traffic emissions.

## **Questions**

### **MDL90/20      CRASH BARRIER ON 4245 RAMELTON ROAD**

In answer to his question requesting an update on the timescale for replacing the crash barrier on the R245 Ramelton Road past the Silver Tassie Hotel, as previously raised, Cllr. Donal Kelly was advised:

*“The barrier on the R245 Ramelton Road is to be replaced before the end of May 2020.”*

### **MDL91/20      BREENAGH TO SEACOR ROAD, GLENSWILLY**

In answer to his question requesting an update as to when the repair works would be done on the Breenagh to Seacor Road, Glenswilly, Cllr. Donal Kelly was advised:

*“These works are currently planned for June 2020.”*

### **MDL92/20      FRIENDSHIP AGREEMENT WITH WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE**

In answer to his question requesting an update on developing the partnership between Letterkenny and Clydebank, Cllr. Jimmy Kavanagh was advised:

*“A delegation from West Dunbartonshire Council is scheduled to visit the County on the 26th/27th March 2020. A programme of events for the visit is being drawn up in consultation with the delegation and this will be shared with the Members in advance of the visit.”*

### **MDL93/20      DISABLED PARKING SURVEY LETTERKENNY**

In answer to his question requesting when the Council would provide the Members with the results of the survey of disabled parking in Letterkenny which I requested in a motion to the February 2019 meeting, I was told at the October 2019 meeting that the survey was complete and was being costed, Cllr. Jimmy Kavanagh was advised:

*“The survey of disabled parking bays in Letterkenny Town is complete and has been circulated to Members.”*

**MDL94/20**      **PUBLIC SEATING AT MR. CHIPPIE CAR PARK**

In answer to his question requesting that public seating be provided in the area of Michael Murphy Sports/Mr. Chippie, requested by elderly people, Cllr. Jimmy Kavanagh was advised:

*“There are currently no plans for installation of seating at Mr Chippy. This can be considered pending the identification of a suitable location and funding.”*

**MDL95/20**      **OLD MILFORD HOTEL SITE**

In answer to his question requesting what progress had been made on my motion last month regarding the old Hotel site in Milford, Cllr. Liam Blaney was advised:

*“As noted at the previous meeting, there is currently a planning application pending on this site and it would be considered premature to discuss any future plans for the former hotel site until a decision has been made on the application.*

*As further noted in a reply to a similar motion last year, consideration should be given to developing a programme of coordinated, planned investments financed through a range of funding programmes, which contribute to Regeneration, Compact Growth, providing viable housing options in towns and village core areas and develop opportunities for Economic regeneration on brownfield sites etc. It is accepted that to make this happen in a meaningful way, any programme of work should address the following areas of work utilising the legislation available at present;*

- (i) ‘Brownfield’ site redevelopment opportunities*
- (ii) Derelict Sites*
- (iii) Casual Trading*
- (iv) Traffic management and parking*
- (iv) Rates Incentives*

*While there is no scope to progress this work in the short term, the Council will examine options to progress this work for inclusion in a future work programme and details will be presented to Elected Members in due course.*

*It should also be noted that the building in question is on the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage.”*

**MDL96/20**      **PEDESTRIAN SAFETY AT WINDYHALL**

In answer to his question requesting that safety measures be put in place at Windyhall for pedestrians on this road as previously raised by me, Cllr. Kevin Bradley was advised:

*“There is currently no land available for the construction of footpaths at Windyhall. The requirement will be conditioned into any future application for development along this section of road.*

**MDL97/20**      **SECURITY FENCE AT WINDMILL VIEW**

In answer to his question requesting when the Security Fence as per my motion would be erected at the back of Windmill View that, Cllr. Gerry McMonagle was advised:

*“The Council are investigating the feasibility of raising the height of the fence in Council land only in the hammerhead of the cul de sac. We will keep Cllr. McMonagle updated on progress.”*

**MDL98/20**      **TRAFFIC CALMING AT OLDTOWN / RAHAN ROAD**

In answer to his question requesting had any progress been made as regards my motion on Traffic Calming measures at Oldtown Road and Rahan Road, Cllr. Gerry McMonagle was advised:

*“In relation to Oldtown Road, this has been assessed on site, and may require elimination of existing parking to install an uncontrolled pedestrian crossing to specification. Town Engineer to meet with Cllr on site for further clarification re detail of motion.*

*In relation to Rann Rd, this is within the 50KPH zone, with no reported incidents of speeding. There are currently no plans for the introduction of ramps on this road.”*

**MDL99/20**      **PUBLIC LIGHTING IN ESTATES**

In answer to his question requesting that the Council speak with Airtricity in relation to the delay in repairing lights in some of our estates in Letterkenny despite repeated request for them to be fixed, Cllr. Gerry McMonagle was advised:

*“All requests/complaints in relation to lights out of order received by the Roads office are referred to Airtricity and are generally dealt with. Specifics in relation to lights not repaired following referral are required to allow follow up with Airtricity. In addition, Airtricity operate a reporting system on line, whereby members of the public are in a position to report faults and track updates directly, without going through the Local Authority by using "Report a Fault -Airtricity" or phoning 1850372772.”*

**MDL100/20**      **PEDESTRIAN CROSSING AT AN CRAOIBHIN**

In answer to his question requesting when the crossing between the Craoibhin and Termon national school would be completed, Cllr. Michael McBride was advised:

*“It materialised that there was more input required on this request over and above a simple crossing as initially requested, due to the current*

*parking practices of busses /cars etc. Road Design have prepared a design for safety works between an Craoibhinn and the Termon NS. Road Design has had discussions with the school regarding the layout. It is envisaged that an application Clar School Safety Funding will be submitted in conjunction with the National School, such that proper configuration can be implemented.”*

**MDL101/20 PUBLIC LIGHTING AT OLD COURTHOUSE CAR PARK**

In answer to his question requesting an update on the timeframe to replace lighting at the Council’s pay and display car park behind the old Courthouse in Letterkenny, Cllr. Ciaran Brogan was advised:

*“The Town Engineer has met with Airtricity and can confirm that these lights are non standard which is raising difficulty in the take over process. Roads are progressing with a view to taking in charge at the earliest, but there are civil, disconnection, reconnection and light head replacement costs that are to be overcome in the process. At this moment in time, it is not possible to provide a specific timeframe.”*

**MDL102/20 FOOTBALL FIELD IN GLENCAR**

In answer to his question requesting what steps had been taken by this Council with a view to providing a new football field in Glencar as agreed by the previous Council, Cllr. Michael McBride was advised:

*“In response to the Motion previously submitted by Cllr. Ciaran Brogan and seconded by Cllr. Gerry McMonagle at the January 2019 MD Meeting, the Executive advised that: “The identification of appropriate lands for the provision of Sporting and Recreational facilities will form part of the considerations for the Local Area Plan for Letterkenny which is currently being progressed.... 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.”*

*During preparatory work on the Letterkenny Plan, a privately-owned site in the area has been identified as being potentially suitable for the sporting use. It must be stressed that investigations are ongoing in relation to this matter and that subsequent issues around the delivery, funding and management of such a facility will require further consideration should the principle of the use be established. Members will be updated during the ongoing programme of workshops for the Letterkenny Plan.*

*In addition to the above, Donegal Co. Council in conjunction with the Letterkenny Institute of Technology has made application to the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport under the Large Scale Sports Infrastructure Fund (LSSIF) programme for the development of a Sports campus on LYIT Lands at Knocknamona / Carnamuggagh. This LSSIF application has been successful and has been awarded funding of €326,825*

*towards the development of the Campus proposal at this location. If delivered, this would represent a significant development in the context of Sports Infrastructure in the Letterkenny area.”*

**MDL103/20 TRAFFIC CALMING MEASURES**

In answer to his question requesting an updated report on the steps to implement traffic calming measures in our area, e.g. Manorcunningham, Lisneannan, and Beechwood, Cllr. Ciaran Brogan was advised:

*“As per our recent workshops in relation to traffic calming measures, pending the development of a funded policy in relation to the installation of traffic calming, which generally relates to 'ramps', the Roads section are not in a position to install at the numerous locations raised by Members and the public, unless specifically funded under Safety Improvement Works scheme. Currently the Safety Improvement Scheme is utilised to its maximum, with 5 schemes to be implemented in Letterkenny MDL-M this year.”*

**MDL104/20 DELAYS ON JOE BONNER ROAD**

In answer to his question requesting an updated report on the delays on the opening of the Joe Bonner Road, Cllr. Ciaran Brogan was advised:

*“Irish Water have experienced a number of setbacks in relation to the installed sewers on the Joe Boner Road that will cause delays. Irish Water have issued the attached statement regarding: "On Monday 25th November 2019 Irish Water (IW) / Donegal Co. Co. (DCC) Water Services Capital Office (CAPO) received written notice of issues with the new sewer installed at Joe Bonnar Road.*

*The Design Build (DB) Contractor was immediately instructed to search for defects and their cause(s). To date, site surveys, design reviews and on-site and off-site testing have been completed to determine the extents of the issues and to identify cause(s) of same. In conjunction multiple review meetings have taken place with the DB Contractor Team and Irish Water's Engineering Service Provider.*

*The DB Contractor submitted the Review Report “Field Investigations and Peer Review” Friday 7th February 2020. The report is currently under review by IW's Engineering Service Provider. It is anticipated it may take up to 2 weeks of review and comment (back and forth) for the final report to be signed off by all parties. Approximately 240m of sewer will have to be replaced.*

*In parallel during the review period, the DB Contractor has being developing proposals to rectify the issues. The remedial design proposals and associated implementation programme was submitted last week i.e. week beginning 10th February 2020.*

*Until design proposal and implementation programme are fully reviewed it is difficult to confirm timeframe for commencement and completion of*

*sewer replacement works, however at this stage, factoring in suitable periods for design approval and procurement of materials, it is not envisaged the Contractor being in position to commence pipe replacement works any earlier than April 2020."*

**MDL105/20 PUBLIC TOILET SIGNAGE AT RAMELTON**

In answer to his question requesting the Council to erect signage at Cup & Saucer to indicate Town Centre & Public Toilets for Ramelton, Cllr. Ian McGarvey was advised:

*"The Environment Section will investigate how to address signage for the public convenience in Rathmelton in collaboration with other services."*

**MDL106/20 PUBLIC LIGHTING IN RAMELTON**

In answer to his question requesting what if anything had happened to the light survey in Ramelton to improve poor lighting in some areas, Cllr. Ian McGarvey was advised:

*"Ramelton is included in Year 1 of the 3 year SOX replacement programme, whereby SOX lights to be refitted with LED lights thus improving the lighting in the town. It is envisaged that this will be completed by mid 2020."*

**MDL107/20 SHORE ROAD WALL IN RAMELTON**

In answer to his question requesting what was the delay in completing the Shore Road Wall, Ramelton in view of the good work done so far, Cllr. Ian McGarvey was advised:

*"The completion of the works at Ramelton requires the procurement of a stone mason or stone cladding contractor as Donegal Co. Council do not have the expertise to carry out this work. Procurement of a suitable contractor will take place in the coming weeks."*

**MDL108/20 DATE AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING**

It was agreed that the next MDL Meeting would be held on 10 March 2020 at Letterkenny Public Services Centre.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

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Mayor

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Meetings Administrator