

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF SLIGO  
HELD ON MONDAY 22<sup>nd</sup> JANUARY 2018 AT 10.00 A.M.  
IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, CITY HALL, QUAY STREET, SLIGO**

**COUNCILLORS PRESENT:**

- Councillor Declan Bree
- Councillor Marie Casserly
- Councillor Hubert Keaney (Mayor)
- Councillor Seamus Kilgannon
- Councillor Chris MacManus
- Councillor Sinéad Maguire
- Councillor Gino O'Boyle
- Councillor Tom MacSharry

**APOLOGIES:**

- Councillor Thomas Healy
- Councillor Rosaleen O'Grady
- Mr. Ciarán Hayes, Chief Executive

**OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE:**

- Mr. Tom Kilfeather, Director of Services
- Ms. Dorothy Clarke, Director of Services
- Mr. Bartley Gavin, A/Director of Services
- Mr. Brían Flynn, Senior Executive Engineer
- Mr. Michael Carty, Senior Executive Engineer
- Ms. Clodagh Quinn, Staff Officer

**MAYOR:**

The Mayor, Councillor Hubert Keaney presided and welcomed all to the first meeting of 2018. He requested the Members to observe a minute's silence as a mark of respect to the late Alex McGourty, a native of Calry who passed away in a kayaking accident in Ecuador over the weekend. A vote of sympathy to Mr. McGourty's family was then proposed by Councillor Keaney and seconded by Councillor S. Kilgannon.

**1. MINUTES OF MEETING OF  
MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF SLIGO  
HELD ON 13<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2017  
TO CONSIDER DRAFT  
BUDGETARY PLAN:**

**Proposed by Councillor C. MacManus  
Seconded by Councillor S. Kilgannon**

AND AGREED

"To confirm the minutes of the Meeting of the Municipal District of Sligo held on 13<sup>th</sup> November 2017 to consider the Draft Budgetary Plan."

**2. MINUTES OF MEETING OF  
MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF SLIGO  
HELD ON 20<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2017:**

**Proposed by Councillor M. Casserly  
Seconded by Councillor S. Kilgannon**

AND AGREED

"To confirm the minutes of the Meeting of the Municipal District of Sligo held on 20<sup>th</sup> November 2017".

**3. MINUTES OF MEETING OF**

**Proposed by Councillor S. Maguire**

**MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF SLIGO  
HELD ON 11<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2017  
TO APPROVE FUNDING UNDER  
'RECAST' RAPID CAPITAL GRANT  
SCHEME 2017:**

**Seconded by Councillor D. Bree  
AND AGREED**

"To confirm the minutes of the Meeting of the Municipal District of Sligo held on 11<sup>th</sup> December 2017 to approve allocation of funding under the 'Recast' RAPID Capital Grant Scheme 2017".

**4. MATTERS ARISING:**

Councillor Chris MacManus queried when the Boundary Stone would be re-instated on the Hazelwood Road and Mr. Brían Flynn, Senior Executive Engineer advised that there was no definite timescale for re-instatement but it was envisaged that same would occur in the first quarter of 2018.

Councillor Mac Manus also requested an update on the progress of the Memorandum of Understanding relating to the transfer of "The Four Winds/Barry" site in Strandhill to the ownership of Sligo County Council and in reply Ms. Dorothy Clarke stated that she would revert with an update on the matter.

**5. FUNDING RECEIVED UNDER  
MEASURE 2 OF OUTDOOR  
RECREATION INFRASTRUCTURE  
SCHEME 2017 & UPDATE ON  
INVESTMENT RECEIVED UNDER  
TOWN & VILLAGE RENEWAL,  
REDZ & ORIS SCHEMES  
2016/2017:**

Ms. Dorothy Clarke, Director of Services, introduced the Item stating that Michael Ring T.D., Minister for Rural and Community Development had announced funding in January 2018 for 32 projects nationwide, of which Sligo County Council had received an allocation of €102,400 which would relate to the following projects – Sligo-Carraroe Greenway and the Lough Gill Blueway. The funding allocation will provide 80% of the project costs and will be matched by 20% funding contribution from Sligo County Council of €25,600 resulting in a total project value of €128,000.

Ms. Clarke then invited Mr. Michael Carty, Senior Executive Engineer to explain what the Greenway and Blueway would involve and take the Members through the Funding Synopsis which had previously been circulated in advance of the meeting. Mr. Carty stated that the total investment in Sligo Municipal District in 2016-2017 was €1.6m with circa €200,000 being invested in the delivery of the Carraroe to Collooney Greenway which will provide potential connectivity to future Greenway projects as well as to the National Mountain Biking Centre in Coolaney.

The Mayor, Councillor Hubert Keaney thanked Ms. Clarke and Mr. Carty for their reports.

The other Members present complimented Ms. Clarke and Mr. Carty for all the work carried out under the Schemes and welcomed the allocation of funding.

In reply to a query from Councillor Keaney regarding the availability of the schemes in 2018, Ms. Dorothy Clarke advised the meeting that, to date, only verbal notification had been received regarding the availability of the Town & Village Renewal Scheme & the Outdoor Rural Infrastructure Scheme (ORIS) for 2018. Written confirmation is still awaited.

In conclusion, Mr. Michael Carty paid tribute to the Roads staff & Area Engineers in helping deliver the projects and brought an omission in

“Measure 1” of the ORIS 2017 figures to the attention of the Members - €9,000 for Tormore should have been included.

**6. TRAFFIC CALMING MEASURES  
AT THE OAKS, WOODTOWN  
LODGE ESTATE:**

**Proposed by Councillor T. MacSharry  
Seconded by Councillor S. Kilgannon**

AND AGREED

“That Sligo County Council engineering staff would assess the need for traffic calming measures at The Oaks, Woodtown Lodge Estate in the interests of health and safety”.

Mr. Brían Flynn informed the meeting that subject to resource availability, an assessment of the area in question will be carried out in early 2018 but it is hoped that the introduction of the 30kph slow zones initiative will negate the need for traffic calming measures at this and other similar locations.

**7. PROGRESS REPORT ON  
EXTENSIONS TO PONTOONS AT  
SLIGO HARBOUR AND  
MULLAGHMORE HARBOUR:**

**Proposed by Councillor S. Kilgannon  
Seconded by Councillor D. Bree**

AND AGREED

“To request a progress report on Motion No. 42 agreed at Sligo County Council Meeting in September 2015 re: Extensions at the Pontoons at Sligo Harbour and Mullaghmore Harbour”.

**AND**

**15. DREDGING WORKS AT  
MULLAGHMORE HARBOUR:**

**Proposed by Councillor S. Kilgannon  
Seconded by Councillor H. Keaney**

AND AGREED

“Mullaghmore is a signature point on the Wild Atlantic Way and Sligo County Council have a duty to maintain and develop the Harbour, what plans have this Council to carry out urgent dredging works early in 2018?”

Mr. Tom Kilfeather, Director of Services reported on behalf of Mr. Gary Salter, Senior Executive Engineer as follows:

**Sligo Port Pontoon extension at timber jetty downstream of Hughes Bridge:**

Submissions for funding have been made to the Dept. of Agriculture, Food & The Marine since 2015 for the cost of design and planning for the expansion of the pontoon facility. The allocation request was for €27,000 and to date no funding has been received.

**Mullaghmore Harbour Pontoon:**

There are considerable ongoing maintenance issues to servicing the existing pontoon, some of which relate to siltation. Applications for funding were previously made to the Dept. of Agriculture, Food & The Marine to undertake a study in an attempt to establish if there is a long term solution to the issue of the tidal harbour and the siltation therein

and in the bay area across to Mermaids Cove. To date, no funding has been received for such a study but applications will continue to be made.

In reply to Members highlighting the storm damage that had occurred in Mullaghmore at the weekend, Mr. Kilfeather advised that an assessment of damage caused to all coastal areas will be carried out and subsequent applications made to the Dept. of Agriculture, Food & The Marine.

Councillor Marie Casserly commended Mr. Brían Flynn and his team for the re-surfacing work particularly at the entrance to the car-park in Mullaghmore and for resolving the issue of camper vans parking in the village.

Regarding dredging works, Mr. Kilfeather advised that a feasibility study would be required to be carried out, the cost of which will be explored.

**8. IMPROVEMENTS TO INNER RELIEF ROAD/CHURCHILL JUNCTION:**

**Proposed by Councillor C. MacManus  
Seconded by Councillor T. MacSharry**

AND AGREED

“To ask the Roads Department what improvements can be made at the Inner Relief Road/Churchill Junction to improve safety and reduce the number of traffic accidents”.

Mr. Brían Flynn reported that notwithstanding a recent collision at the location, the junction in question does not present as a high collision location on the Roads Pavement Management System. Records indicate that the main type of collisions occurring at the location are rear-end collisions. The speed limit at the location is 50kph. Mr. Flynn advised that the Roads Dept. will keep the junction under review and should the frequency and/or severity of collisions increase, a thorough junction review will be undertaken.

**9. PROVISION OF RIGHT TURNING LANE ON THE N15 AT THE JUNCTION WITH L7123:**

**Proposed by Councillor S. Kilgannon  
Seconded by Councillor T. MacSharry**

AND AGREED

“That Sligo County Council Roads Section, in the interest of road safety, construct a right turning lane on the N15 at the junction with Road No. L7123”.

Mr. Brían Flynn informed the meeting that the Road Design Dept. will liaise with Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) regarding the possibility of providing right turning facilities at the junction.

**10. FUNDING FOR BUILDING IRELAND PROGRAMME:**

**Proposed by Councillor S. Kilgannon  
Seconded by Councillor T. MacSharry**

AND AGREED

“The Building Ireland Programme is over 6000 homes behind schedule

for social housing targets. Funding for this building programme should not be a problem for Government as The Irish League of Credit Unions are willing to engage with Central Government and with the Local Authorities if requested to do so, and I call on the Minister to work with the ILCU to progress this issue as a matter of urgency”.

**11. ASSESSMENT OF SAFETY OF  
CAR-PARKING SPACES AT THE  
MALL:**

**Proposed by Councillor T. MacSharry  
Seconded by Councillor S. Kilgannon**

AND AGREED

"That Sligo town engineering staff would assess the safety of the car parking spaces the Carbury National School side of the Mall, Sligo”.

Mr. Brian Flynn stated that the Roads Department were not aware of any issues regarding the car parking spaces at the Mall but when it was clarified that the issue surrounds the width of the parking spaces, Mr. Flynn undertook to organise an assessment of same.

**12. ACTION IN RESPECT OF  
PREMISES AT 39 HIGH STREET:**

**Proposed by Councillor D. Bree  
Seconded by Councillor G. O’Boyle**

AND AGREED

"That the Chief Executive provides a report indicating the action the Council has taken to date and the action the Council proposes to take in respect of the premises at 39 High Street, Sligo”.

Mr. Brian Flynn informed the meeting that on 11<sup>th</sup> December 2017, Sligo County Council served a notice on those with responsibility for the property informing them that the building was considered to be a dangerous structure as per Section 1 of the Local Government (Sanitary Services) Act 1964. The notice required the submission of proposals which would prevent the structure from being a dangerous structure and timescales for undertaking these works. (In the interest of public safety, the Council cordoned off the footpath and roadway immediately adjacent to the premises).

On 13<sup>th</sup> December 2017, the Council received an engineer’s report in respect of the property which concurred with the Council in that the building was found to be “unsafe” and “structurally unsound”. The report suggested that repair is not an option and recommends early stage demolition of the structure, also recommending that the building be made fully secure in order to prevent any unauthorised access.

Mr. Flynn advised that as the building is included in the Council’s Record of Protected Structures, the property’s agent/administrator has been requested to have the building assessed by a Conservation Specialist and a Conservation Report prepared and submitted to Sligo County Council for consideration. Mr. Flynn added that the Council was advised that a Conservation Specialist was scheduled to visually inspect the property during the second week of January and the report on same is awaited.

**13. UPDATE ON PROPOSED  
PEDESTRIAN FOOTBRIDGE  
ADJACENT TO MARKIEVICZ  
BRIDGE:**

**Proposed by Councillor D. Bree  
Seconded by Councillor S. Kilgannon**

AND AGREED

“That the meeting be provided with an up to date report on the proposed pedestrian footbridge to be erected adjacent to Markievicz Bridge; the report to include details of any recent submissions made for funding for the project”.

On behalf of Mr. Gary Salter, Senior Executive Engineer, Mr. Tom Kilfeather reported that the preliminary design for the footbridge was completed a number of years ago and obtained Part 8 planning approval from Sligo County Council. The design was funded through a Specific Improvement Scheme Grant from the Dept. of Transport, Tourism and Sport however this funding has since been discontinued. Mr. Kilfeather advised that an application for funding was also made under the Designated Urban Centre Grant Scheme but this proved unsuccessful. If new sources of funding become available in future, Mr. Kilfeather assured the meeting that the Roads Dept. will seek to progress the scheme to construction as soon as possible.

Mr. Kilfeather concluded by informing Members that planning legislation has changed in recent years and the planning approval process for the scheme will have to be revisited - it is expected that same will be undertaken in the current year.

**14. PROPOSALS FOR COASTAL  
PROTECTION IN ROSSES POINT &  
DUNE PROTECTION IN  
STRANHILL:**

**Proposed by Councillor D. Bree  
Seconded by Councillor H. Keaney**

AND AGREED

“That the Chief Executive provides the meeting with a report outlining the proposals the Council has to (1) provide additional coastal protection on the second beach in Rosses Point (2) provide further dune protection in Strandhill”.

AND

**24. PROPOSALS FOR COASTAL  
PROTECTION AT ROSSES POINT:**

**Proposed by Councillor H. Keaney  
Seconded by Councillor S. Kilgannon**

AND AGREED

“I call for an update on proposals for coastal protection at the second beach at Rosses Point”.

Mr. Tom Kilfeather reported to Members as follows:

1(a) The golf course and dune system fronting the second beach at Rosses Point is privately owned by Co. Sligo Golf Club. Sligo County Council is not responsible for the coastal protection of this or any other private property fronting shorelines.

1(b) Sligo County Council is however responsible for maintaining a safe beach amenity at the second beach at Rosses Point and any works

that have a negative effect on the size, conditions and safety of the beach would be of serious concern to the Council. Therefore it is in the interests of both Sligo County Council and Co. Sligo Golf Club to identify and deliver solutions that will protect the beach and sand dunes in Rosses Point.

2 no. studies were carried out – “Rosses Point/Drumcliff Bay Coastal Study – Coastal Process Report” & “Coastal Flood and Erosion Risk Management Study – Rosses Point/Drumcliffe Bay” which include medium to long term predictions that the sea level will rise by circa 0.5m.

In the event of a sea level rise, there is a threat to the Co. Sligo golf course in the future. The solution for beyond 2040 is a “managed retreat” i.e. to move the course further inland. The solution to protect the southern third of the course in the intervening period is a 475m engineered rock armoured revetment starting at the access ramp at Bomore Point heading north with a public boardwalk just landward of the crest.

The conclusions of the study state that a more extensive economic study could be carried out.

Mr. Kilfeather also reported that Co. Sligo Golf Club will, in the short-term, seek to protect the most threatened part of the course (16<sup>th</sup> green) by carrying out repairs to the works that were carried out some years ago but which were not successful and Sligo County Council will look at options recommended in the study in terms of installing sand traps fencing, increased vegetation etc.

(2) Sligo County Council do not have any immediate proposals to provide further dune protection at Strandhill. Considerable additional fencing has been erected and marram grass transplanted to prevent wind blowing sand out of the dune system. Signage and additional fencing have also been erected.

In response to a query from Councillor Keaney regarding the protection of sand dunes in Rosses Point, Mr. Kilfeather advised that the existence of the Golf Club means that their property has to be protected but the possibility of fencing can be looked at.

**16. TRAFFIC LIGHTS AT  
PEDESTRIAN CROSSINGS IN  
CLIFFONEY & GRANGE:**

**Proposed by Councillor M. Casserly  
Seconded by Councillor S. Maguire**

AND AGREED

“Can the traffic lights at the pedestrian crossings in the villages of Cliffoney and Grange be upgraded or at least serviced more frequently as they are often faulty particularly after stormy weather?”

Mr. Brían Flynn informed the meeting that subject to funding, it is proposed to have the pedestrian crossings at Cliffoney and Grange included on the Roads Dept. Remote Monitoring System for traffic signals which will enable immediate identification of faults and should result in improved response times in terms of scheduling necessary repairs.

**17. REPAIR OF POTHOLES ON N15:**

**Proposed by Councillor M. Casserly  
Seconded by Councillor H. Keaney**

AND AGREED

“To call on TII to repair potholes on the N15 from Bunduff Bridge to Sligo Town before they deteriorate any further”.

On behalf of Mr. John O’Flaherty, A/Senior Executive Engineer, Mr. Tom Kilfeather informed the meeting that pothole repair will be carried out along the N15 within the next fortnight and brought Members’ attention to the fact that significant potholing is occurring at a number of sections which are scheduled to be fully resurfaced later in the year as part of a €1.5m TII allocation for National Primary resurfacing schemes at Castlegal and Teesan/Rathcormac.

**18. UPDATE ON PROGRESS MADE BY THE LITTER WARDEN:**

**Proposed by Councillor M. Casserly  
Seconded by Councillor G. O’Boyle**

AND AGREED

“To receive a report on the work of the Litter Warden, including the amount of fines issued since the filling of the vacancy last year”.

On behalf of Ms. Siobhán Gillen, A/Administrative Officer, Mr. Tom Kilfeather reported that a total of 36 no. litter fines have been issued within the period of the Litter Warden’s appointment in June 2017 until year end. To date in 2018, 4 further litter fines have been issued. Mr. Kilfeather advised that in addition to his role, the Litter Warden liaises regularly with the Waste Enforcement Team and was heavily involved in clean-up projects completed under the National Anti-Dumping Initiative 2017.

**19. UPDATE ON SOCIAL HOUSING DEVELOPMENTS AT STRANDHILL & KNAPPAGH ROAD:**

**Proposed by Councillor C. MacManus  
Seconded by Councillor S. Kilgannon**

AND AGREED

“To ask for an update in regards to the proposed social housing developments at (a) Strandhill Village and (b) Knappagh Road adjacent to the Railway Bridge”

Mr. Bartley Gavin informed the meeting with regard to (a) Carrowbunnaun and (b) Knappagh Road as follows:

- (a) Preparatory consultations in relation to adjustments, widening and drainage of the L7507 access road (Golf Club Road) have been ongoing with the adjoining landowner and associated costs being prepared in advance of a submission to the Department and consideration as to how the costs can be financed.

Moving the project on entails infrastructural upgrades, the road in particular and entails agreement with third parties. Because the site was not as readily developable as other sites in the Council’s ownership, the focus has been on other sites including Knappagh



Road, Rosses Point Road & Collooney - each of these 3 no. schemes are at detailed design stage.

- (b) Procurement of supporting Design Team Consultants is complete and progress on completion of tender drawings and specifications is continuing and is in line with the project programme.

Design Drawings and reports in support of submissions for statutory approvals were made in December 2017 and have been approved.

Design Work is on target for a Stage 3 (pre-tender) submission to the Department in late March 2018.

Subject to Department approvals etc., the project should start on site in Q4 2018 with an anticipated completion date of early 2020.

Councillor Chris MacManus expressed his disappointment at the delay in progress with the proposed Carrowbunnaun development but welcomed the news of a potential start date of Q4 2018 for the Knappagh Road development.

**20. SIGNAGE RE: DOG FOULING  
IN MAUGHERABOY AREA.:**

**Proposed by Councillor C. MacManus  
Seconded by Councillor M. Casserly**

AND AGREED

“That signage relating to “dog-fouling” reminding the public that it is an offence would be placed along the pedestrian area between Maugheraboy Post Office and the entrance of Springhill Court”.

On behalf of Ms. Siobhán Gillen, A/Administrative Officer, Mr. Tom Kilfeather informed the meeting that the Area Office has been requested to install signage along the pedestrian route in question in an effort to curb the problem of dog-fouling in the area - said signage will outline the offence of €150 under the Litter Pollution Act.

In reply to statements from Members regarding fouling in surrounding areas including Mitchell Curley Park, Mr. Kilfeather undertook to engage with the Council’s Environment Awareness Officer to see if the situation can be improved.

**21. UPDATE ON THE CARTRON  
COMMUNITY PARK LAND ISSUE:**

**Proposed by Councillor G. O’Boyle  
Seconded by Councillor C. MacManus**

AND AGREED

“To receive an update on the Cartron Community Park land issue”

Mr. Bartley Gavin advised the Members that the property is not in the ownership of Sligo County Council and therefore the Council are not in a position to lease or licence any property that is not in their ownership.

He further advised that recently, research has been carried out towards mapping the interests held by Stapolin Investments Limited. It was considered that, with Stapolin no longer trading, a request would be made to the Minister for Finance to transfer the Stapolin interest to Sligo County Council.

This work is ongoing and more complex than envisaged. However, discussions will be entered into with the Council's legal advisor towards concentrating only on the area which the residents group are seeking to acquire.

In response to a query raised regarding a timeframe involved, Mr. Gavin stated that he will liaise with the Council's legal advisor to ascertain when an application can be made to the Dept. of Finance for the transfer of interest.

**22. PROVISIONS BY  
ROADWORKS CONTRACTORS  
FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES:**

**Proposed by Councillor G. O'Boyle  
Seconded by Councillor D. Bree**

AND AGREED

"Why are there no precautions for people with disabilities and mobility issues by companies doing the roadworks around Sligo?"

Mr. Brian Flynn informed the meeting that all contractors undertaking works on or adjacent to the road network in and around Sligo City are obliged to make adequate provision for all road users including those with mobility issues. In advance of works commencing, contractors are required to submit detailed traffic management plans setting out their proposals and site supervisory staff are reminded to ensure that contractors comply with same. Mr. Flynn assured Members that if the Roads Dept. are made aware of any breaches with regard to provisions for pedestrians and those with mobility issues, they will have such matters addressed without delay.

**23. REVIEW OF CHANGES TO  
ROAD LAYOUT & TRAFFIC  
MANAGEMENT AT  
RATHCORMAC N.S.:**

**Proposed by Councillor S. Maguire  
Seconded by Councillor S. Kilgannon**

AND AGREED

"This motion requests that the engineering department review the recent changes to the road layout and traffic management at Rathcormac National School".

On behalf of Mr. John O'Flaherty, A/Senior Executive Engineer, Mr. Tom Kilfeather informed the meeting that the Road Design Dept. will review the Rathcormac project on completion of the work.

In reply, some Members raised their concerns regarding the possibility of the speed limit being increased in the village but agreed to wait until a report on the project is issued from the Roads Dept in relation to this and other issues.

**25. COSTS INVOLVED IN  
PROVISION OF NEW PONTOON  
AT ROSSES POINT:**

**Proposed by Councillor H. Keaney  
Seconded by Councillor S. Kilgannon**

AND AGREED

“I call for a report on the total costs involved in providing the new pontoon at Rosses Point. Report to include cost of planning, foreshore licence etc.”

On behalf of Mr. Gary Salter, Senior Executive Engineer, Mr. Tom Kilfeather informed the meeting that the cost of the overall project to date is €193,000 spread over a number of years. Mr. Kilfeather went on to outline the types of fees involved as well as the construction elements of the project.

Councillor Keaney asked to receive a breakdown of the total cost at a later date if possible.

**26. CORRESPONDENCE:**

Noted and agreed by the Members.

**27. ANY OTHER BUSINESS:**

Councillor Chris MacManus requested an update on the Four Winds site (as Mr. Bartley Gavin was not present when it was raised under “Matters Arising”) and in reply, Mr. Gavin stated that legal contracts were to be drawn up but because Mr. Gavin was just back from sick leave, he was not in a position to confirm whether the matter had progressed. Mr. Gavin undertook to revert to Councillor MacManus on the issue.

Councillor Declan Bree thanked Council staff including the Fire Service for their response to the flooding in the Woodlands estate and requested a report on same for the March meeting. In reply, Mr. Brian Flynn stated that a meeting with the OPW on site was anticipated in the coming week to put CFAM proposals in place in the area.

The business of the meeting concluded at 12.10 p.m.

**Signed:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Mayor**

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Meetings Administrator**

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_