

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF
BALLYMOTE-TOBERCURRY HELD ON MONDAY 17th JULY 2017
AT 9.30AM IN TEACH LAIGHNE, TUBBERCURRY, CO. SLIGO.**

COUNCILLORS PRESENT:

- Councillor Martin Baker
- Councillor Michael Clarke
- Councillor Margaret Gormley
- Councillor Keith Henry
- Councillor Jerry Lundy (Chair)
- Councillor Dara Mulvey
- Councillor Joe Queenan
- Councillor Paul Taylor

OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE:

- Ms. Dorothy Clarke, Deputy Chief Executive
- Ms. Marie Whelan, Head of Finance
- Mr. Tom Brennan, A/ Director of Services
- Mr. Donal Tinney, County Librarian
- Mr. John O’Flaherty, A/Senior Engineer
- Mr. Joe Murphy, Senior Executive Officer
- Mr. Paddy Hughes, Senior Executive Engineer
- Mr. Declan Noone, Area Engineer
- Mr. David Golden, Area Engineer
- Mr. Joe Devaney, Area Engineer
- Mr. Ray O’Grady, Executive Planner
- Ms. Sinéad Branley, Meetings Administrator
- Ms. Clodagh Quinn, Staff Officer

CATHAOIRLEACH:

The Cathaoirleach Councillor Lundy presided and welcomed those present to the meeting.

**1. MINUTES OF MEETING OF
MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF
BALLYMOTE-TOBERCURRY HELD
ON 15th MAY, 2017:**

**Proposed by Councillor D. Mulvey
Seconded by Councillor M. Clarke**

AND AGREED

“To confirm the Minutes of the Meeting of the Municipal District held on 15th May, 2017”

**2. MINUTES OF ANNUAL
GENERAL MEETING OF
MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF
BALLYMOTE-TOBERCURRY HELD
ON 19TH JUNE, 2017:**

**Proposed by Councillor M. Clarke
Seconded by Councillor D. Mulvey**

AND AGREED

“To confirm the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Municipal District held on 19th June, 2017”

3. MATTERS ARISING:

Councillor Gormley queried if there was any update regarding the Lough Talt Water Supply Scheme. Councillors Lundy and Mulvey spoke on the matter and made reference to an email which had recently been circulated to members on the issue. Mr. T. Brennan advised the members that he had no further update

since the email but would revert in due course if the situation changed in the interim.

4. DRAFT SPEED LIMIT BYE LAWS 2017:

Mr. Tom Brennan briefed the Members on two reports which had been circulated in advance of the meeting. The reports outlined the current status of the review of speed limits for National Roads, Non-National Roads and Housing Estates in County Sligo. Mr. Brennan stated that reports on the speed limit review had previously been presented to the Municipal District at its meeting in December 2016. He stated the TII had appointed consultants RPS to review speed limits on National Roads in the context of the new Guidelines. A draft of the National Road speed limit amendments and bye laws have been finalised by RPS and are documented in the RPS report entitled "National Road Speed Limit Review 2015-2017 County Sligo" dated 19th December, 2016 Rev F01.

Mr. Brennan added that Sligo County Council's Road Design Section is reviewing the speed limit Bye-Laws for Non National Roads and housing estates. The first schedule of 'slow zone' speed limit bye laws for housing estates is proceeding through the statutory public consultation process and will be presented to members for approval as part of the statutory process in due course. The proposed speed limit amendments of National Roads, Non National Roads and the remaining housing estates of Sligo County Council will proceed as part of a separate statutory process.

Mr. Brennan stated the proposed changes are quite detailed and offered to make staff available to members to discuss the changes in more detail if required. The Cathaoirleach Councillor Lundy thanked Mr. Brennan for the comprehensive report and then invited queries and comments from Members.

In response to specific queries, Mr. Brennan advised:

- The Council has no authority with regards to the introduction of speed limits in private estates that have not been taken in charge. However planning guidelines state that estates should be designed with traffic calming in mind.
- Castlebaldwin Village: Consultants felt that a 60 kph limit was more appropriate for this particular location.
- The Council will put up "slow zone" signs in estates where appropriate and can work with residents associations in this regard. However there is a huge cost and volume of work involved. Mr. Brennan clarified that there are 57 estates in the Ballymote-Tobercurry Municipal District area.

5. REPAIR AND LEASE SCHEME FOR VACANT HOUSES:

Mr. Joe Murphy outlined details of the Repair and Leasing Scheme for vacant houses. The Scheme is open to owners of houses or apartments that have been vacant for at least one year and which require an amount of repairs to bring the property to the required standard for rented properties. Repair and improvement works necessary to suitable vacant properties are to be funded by Local Authorities or Approved Housing Bodies (A.H.B.) in return for the property being made available for social housing through a lease for a period of between 10 and 20 years. The cost of the works is deducted from lease (rent) payments over an agreed lease period.

Property inspections would be carried out by Council or Approved Housing

Body staff that would identify the works required to bring the property to the required standard. The maximum cost of repairs allowed under the Scheme will be €40,000. The target set for the Council by the Department has been set at 10 units for 2017. Details of the Scheme are on the Council Website. There has been limited interest in the Scheme to date.

The Cathaoirleach Councillor Lundy thanked Mr. Murphy for the report. A discussion followed among the members and it was then

Proposed by Councillor M. Clarke
Seconded by Councillor M. Gormley

AND AGREED

“To write to the Minister for Housing to request more Housing staff and more funds to build more social housing”

6. N59 NATIONAL SECONDARY ROAD:

Mr. John O’Flaherty gave a presentation to the members on planned improvements for the N59 National Secondary Road. The works include:

- N59 Ballysadare Pavement Overlay
- N59 Corrownagh to Lugnadeffa
- N59 Owenbeg Phase I
- N59 Owenbeg Phase II
- N59 Rathglass
- PARR Schemes
- HD 15 Schemes
- HD 17 Schemes

The Cathaoirleach and members thanked Mr. O’Flaherty for the update and welcomed the proposed works. They stressed the importance of the N59 as a crucial piece of road infrastructure along the Wild Atlantic Way.

7. TOWN AND VILLAGE RENEWAL SCHEME 2017:

Ms. Dorothy Clarke, DOS introduced this item and Mr. Ray O’Grady proceeded to take the members through a report, a copy of which was circulated at the meeting. The main points were:

- In April 2017, the Minister for Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs, Heather Humphreys T.D., launched a new Town and Village Renewal Scheme, with funding of €20 million, to start the process of rejuvenating Ireland’s rural towns and villages to make them more attractive places in which to live and work, and to increase their tourism potential.
- Successful proposals will include activities which have clear positive economic impacts on the town, rather than just public realm-type actions.
- Successful proposals will demonstrate close collaboration between communities and business interests in the design and delivery of proposed projects and must have the support of the Local Authority.
- All project proposals should outline the consultation processes followed with local community and business interests
- **Grant level** - Up to 80% of the total cost of a project under the Town and Village Renewal Scheme will be provided for any individual project. The minimum grant which is available is €20,000 and the maximum is €100,000. A higher maximum of €200,000 will be considered for a

limited number of projects where a robust case can be made demonstrating exceptionally strong economic benefit to a town.

- **Ballymote –Tobercurry Municipal District Area Projects**

- Achonry/ Lavagh
- Ballymote
- Banada
- Bunnanadden
- Coolaney
- Easkey
- Gurteen
- Tubbercurry

- **Optional funding for public art works** - In addition, Local Authorities may seek further optional funding of up to €20,000 (in total) for art works to enhance public spaces, as part of one or more project proposals submitted in respect of their area. The proposed project identified includes a series of stone sculptures depicting local native animals, the hare/deer, situated along the Sligo Way route from Slish Wood to Coolaney, across both Municipal Districts.

- **Duration of the Grants awarded** - Any award of a grant is subject to entering into a contract with DAHRRGA. Successful applicants will be required to enter into a contract by July/August 2017 at the earliest. Maximum time-frame for a contract will be 6-12 months. Applications for the towns listed above and the public art submission which covers both MD's were forwarded to the Dept. AHRR&GA for their consideration and approval on the 30th June 2017.

The Cathaoirleach and members thanked Mr. O'Grady for the report. In response to a query regarding the composition of funding for the remaining 20%, Ms. D. Clarke advised members that the 20% can comprise of a combination of labour, materials and cash contribution from the relevant community group. The Council can also make a contribution.

**8. SURFACE WATER ALONG R294
AT COLEMAN HERITAGE CENTRE:**

**Proposed by Councillor K. Henry
Seconded by Councillor P. Taylor**

AND AGREED

"That Sligo County Council address the issue of surface water gathering at the entrance to the Coleman Heritage Cottage at Mountirwin along the R294"

Mr. Paddy Hughes informed the meeting that Councillor Henry has allocated funds to do the work and the work has commenced.

**9. SIGNS AT THE FIVE
CROSSROADS, CLOONKEAVY,
BALLYMOTE ON THE R296:**

**Proposed by Councillor K. Henry
Seconded by Councillor M. Gormley**

AND AGREED

"That Sligo County Council re-erect a sign for Bunnanadden & Tubbercurry at the Five Crossroads, Cloonkeavy, Ballymote on the R296"

Mr. Paddy Hughes informed the meeting that the Area Engineer will investigate this matter to determine whether these signs are appropriate and safe to erect at this junction.

10. ROAD SAFETY ISSUES ON L1502 AT ARDREA AND CLOONAGASHEL:

**Proposed by Councillor K. Henry
Seconded by Councillor D. Mulvey**

AND AGREED

“That Sligo County Council urgently address the issue of the road edges falling on the L1502 at Ardrea and Cloonagashel as a matter of road safety”

In response Mr. Paddy Hughes advised that Sligo County Council will carry out temporary repairs along this section of road and will also include this section for consideration in the 2018 Schedule of Municipal Works.

11. DISABLED CAR PARKING AREA AT HIGH PARK NS:

**Proposed by Councillor M. Clarke
Seconded by Councillor D. Mulvey**

AND AGREED

“To call on Sligo County Council to provide a disabled car parking area at High Park NS and to contact the Head Master of the school Martin Mulligan in this regard”

Mr. Paddy Hughes stated the Enniscrone Area Engineer will contact the school principal and will arrange to do this if the car parking space is along the public road.

12. FOOTPATHS AT EASKEY OLD FACTORY AND MAIN STREET, ENNISCROME:

**Proposed by Councillor M. Clarke
Seconded by Councillor J. Queenan**

AND AGREED

“To call on Sligo County Council to make safe footpaths at Easkey old factory and at Main Street Enniscrone outside McNulty's Bar, and to secure funds from the Insurance Rebate Fund”

Mr. Paddy Hughes informed the meeting that The Enniscrone Area Engineer will inspect the footpaths in Easkey and prepare a cost estimate for the repairs. Funding for footpath replacement is very scarce. In relation to the footpaths in front of McNulty's bar in Enniscrone – Mr. McNulty excavated the area in front of his premises recently and paved the forecourt and laid new kerbing. Mr. McNulty is claiming that this area is his private property and that he is entitled to put in the kerbs and paving to his own design. The Enniscrone Area Engineer will re-inspect the location and contact Mr. McNulty again in relation to the as constructed layout. Ms. Marie Whelan clarified that the Council were still awaiting final details regarding the Insurance Rebate Fund.

13. STAFFING LEVELS AT ENNISCROME LIBRARY:

**Proposed by Councillor J. Queenan
Seconded by Councillor M. Clarke**

AND AGREED

“Ask the Director of Services to outline staffing levels at Enniscrone Library over the next 6 months”

Mr. Donal Tinney informed the meeting that at present Enniscrone Library has one part time Branch Librarian. Sligo County Council has received approval for two Branch Librarians for a period of six months and these positions are currently being filled from the existing Branch Librarian panel. The reason a six months contract was approved is due to the fact that Sligo County Council's library service is subject to the proposed Collaborative Services plan which is still being negotiated at National level. The Members complimented Mr. Tinney for his work.

14. PLEBISCITE REGARDING THE SPELLING OF ENNISCROME:

Proposed by Councillor J. Queenan

Seconded by Councillor M. Clarke

AND AGREED

"Ask the Director of Services to outline the process for the community of Enniscrone to carry out a plebiscite regarding the spelling of Enniscrone"

In response Ms. Dorothy Clarke advised the Council continues to liaise with the local community in relation to a proposal to seek a change to the official placename of Inishcroe to the more commonly used Enniscrone. A public meeting was held by Enniscrone Community Development Company on the 29th July 2017 to provide information on the placename and to establish the level of public support to change the placename from Inishcroe to Enniscrone. It is proposed that a presentation on the placename of Inishcroe will be made to the County Sligo Placenames Committee at its next meeting on the 14th September 2017. In the interim, Sligo County Council is awaiting the advice of its legal advisor on the legislative requirements and process to be undertaken in changing a placename.

With the agreement of the meeting items 15, 16 and 18 were taken together:

15. A) UPDATE ON GORT NA SÍ ESTATE, COOLANEY AND, B) UPDATE ON THE MEADOWS ESTATE IN ENNISCROME

Proposed by Councillor M. Clarke

Seconded by Councillor D. Mulvey

AND AGREED

- a. "To call on Sligo County Council to prepare a report on the estate of 54 houses known as Gort Na Sí, Coolaney and to provide speed ramps and safety signage in the estate.
- b. To call on Sligo County Council to prepare a report on the estate known as "The Meadows", Enniscrone and to have the light turned on."

16. THE MEADOWS, HOUSING ESTATE, ENNISCROME

Proposed by Councillor J. Queenan

Seconded by Councillor M. Clarke

AND AGREED

"Ask the Director of Services to give an update regarding the taking in charge of the Meadows housing estate Enniscrone Co. Sligo"

18. FOOTBRIDGE BETWEEN GORT NA SÍ ESTATE AND FORT HAVEN HOUSING ESTATES IN

Proposed by Councillor D. Mulvey

Seconded by Councillor M. Clarke

COOLANEY:

AND AGREED

“To ask Sligo County Council for an update on the footbridge that was part of the original planning permission granted connecting the new housing development at Gort na Si & Fort Haven on Rockfield Road with the new Mill Centre Development at the top of Coolaney”

Ms. Dorothy Clarke advised the meeting that Sligo County Council has drawn down the bond on the Gort na Sí development in order to complete this unfinished estate. The majority of the outstanding works within the estate have now been completed and the estate is considered to be in a good condition. The Council proposes to allocate the remaining bond monies towards the provision of a pedestrian footbridge at this location. The Road Design Section has been asked whether they would be able to design and build this bridge. A response is awaited. If there are any funds remaining following the installation of the bridge, they will be allocated to providing traffic management measures within the estate.

The Meadows is considered to be completed to a good standard. Some minor works to road surface and gullies to eliminate ponding following heavy rainfall is to be carried out by the receiver in the coming weeks. The Taking in Charge process can be commenced in respect of The Meadows Estate when these works have been completed. The receiver has been informed of the issue of the public lighting within the estate and has committed to addressing this matter.

17. SAFETY ISSUES AT JUNCTION OF L1602 AND R283 (ROAD COMING FROM TEMPLEHOUSE)

**Proposed by Councillor D. Mulvey
Seconded by Councillor M. Clarke**

AND AGREED

“To ask Sligo County Council to look at ways to improve safety at the Junction of L1602 and R283 (road coming from Templehouse) Traffic turning onto R293 heading for Sligo or N4 must go to the opposite sides of the road to get out and traffic going into Ballymote town have poor visibility”

Mr. Paddy Hughes stated that it will be difficult to solve this issue due to the geometric layout at this junction. Sligo County Council will consider improving signage on the Sligo approach of the R293 to slow vehicles down approaching the junction.

19. CEMETERY SPACES AT MONASTERADEN CEMETERY:

**Proposed by Councillor M. Gormley
Seconded by Councillor P. Taylor**

AND AGREED

“As there are no spaces left in Monasteraden cemetery I call on Sligo County Council to carry out a survey to establish if there is a suitable site available in the area”

Mr. Paddy Hughes stated that there is no viable site within the vicinity of the existing graveyard .However if the local community identify a suitable site Sligo County Council will try and progress this matter. Councillor Taylor added that he thought the matter had progressed in recent weeks and that a suitable site had been identified and the landowner contacted. Mr. Hughes welcomed this

and stated that he would meet with the graveyard committee.

**20. ROAD REPAIRS FROM
DRUMROLLA CROSSROADS (488)
AT FERGAL GALLAGHER'S TO
JUNCTION 479/488 AND THE
TOWNAGHMORE ROAD 487**

**Proposed by Councillor M. Gormley
Seconded by Councillor P. Taylor**

AND AGREED

“ That the section road (488) from Drumrolla Crossroads at Fergal Gallagher's back to junction 479/488, a distance of 500 meters, be repaired and this section be included for restoration improvement together with the Townaghmore road (487) in the Road s Scheme 2018”

Mr. Paddy Hughes informed the meeting that this road will be repaired under normal road maintenance. These roads will be considered for inclusion under the 2018 Restoration Improvement Scheme.

**21. TAKING IN CHARGE OF
FLOWERHILL ESTATE,
BUNNINADDEN:**

**Proposed by Councillor M. Gormley
Seconded by Councillor K. Henry**

AND AGREED

“ To ask for the up-to-date report on the taking in charge of Flowerhill Estate, Bunninadden”

Ms. Dorothy Clarke advised the meeting of the following developments. In **February 2017**, Joe O'Connell, Water Services Section reported that the application can proceed to taking in charge of the foul sewer and water mains within the estate. The application was referred to Irish Water for comments in April 2017.

On **1st March 2017**, David Golden, Area Engineer, reported that there were a number of issues which needed to be addressed prior to the completion of the taking in charge process. He highlighted the fact that public lights within the Estate should not be taken over due to the fact that pots/columns were located within private properties thus preventing future maintenance.

At the end of **June 2017**, John Owens, SEE, sought quotations for:

- Cat and Genny survey of the ESB cables;
- The preparation of wayleave maps for the ESB poles;
- The preparation of wayleave maps for the underground cables in the gardens of houses No. 1 to No. 16.

The quotes received were assessed and recommended Gerard Love Contractors. A purchase order is currently being raised to carry out the above works.

22. CASHEL GATES JUNCTION:

**Proposed by Councillor J. Lundy
Seconded by Councillor M. Gormley**

AND AGREED

“To get report on Cashel Gates junction on the N17”

Mr. Tom Brennan advised the meeting that a Licence Agreement has been received from CIE/Irish Rail to enable Sligo County Council/TII to carry out works over the railway line at this location so as to realign the junction of the

local road with the N17. The conditions of the licence agreement are currently being reviewed by Sligo County Council and subject to final sign off of this agreement and conditions therein it is expected that Sligo County Council/TII will be in a position to commence works in the very near future.

**23. TRAFFIC CALMING MEASURE
ON THE N17 SLIGO ROAD IN
TUBBERCURRY:**

**Proposed by Councillor J. Lundy
Seconded by Councillor M. Gormley**

AND AGREED

“To ask for traffic calming measures/pedestrian crossing to be installed on the N17 Sligo road Tubbercurry between Parklands estate and McSorley filling station /Centra shop in the interest of road safety”

Mr. Paddy Hughes informed the meeting that this scheme on the N17 could possibly be submitted for funding to the T.I.I under the HD15 programme. There is no history of accidents on this section of road to justify a traffic calming scheme there at present. The Council will monitor recorded accidents at this location.

24. CORRESPONDENCE:

None

25. AOB:

- Councillor Baker raised the matter of grass verge cutting along the N4. Numerous complaints had been received in relation to the quality of the work carried out. Councillor Mulvey supported Councillor Baker on this matter. Mr. Brennan gave an undertaking that the matter would be reviewed.

- Councillor Gormley sought an update with regards to the following:
 - a) Community Facilities Scheme
 - b) Connolly Park Phase Three
 - c) Fairway’s Estate

In response Ms. Dorothy Clarke advised:

- a) The scheme closing date was the end of June. 125 applications were received. There is a fund of €64,000 with €32,000 to be allocated to each Municipal District. It is intended to hold a special meeting on 31st July at 9.15am in the Members Room, County Hall, Riverside. This was agreed by the meeting.
- b) Ms. Clarke advised that she would ask Mr. Joe Murphy, Housing to provide an update.
- c) Ms. Clarke advised that she would ask Mr. Bartley Gavin for an update.

- Councillor Queenan raised a query with regard to the Special Meeting being held on 31st July in relation to the County Development Plan. He stated that the Members were awaiting correspondence concerning one off housing.

- Councillor Clarke proposed a vote of congratulations to the following

which was seconded by Councillor Gormley:

- Keelan Kilrehill U16 runner from Dromore West on his recent success in the annual Schools International Athletics Board track and field event.
 - Michael Naughton on his co-option to Donegal County Council
-
- Councillor Taylor wished the Sligo Ladies GAA team all the best in the All Ireland Quarter Finals and extended his congratulations to the Roscommon GAA team on their recent success in the Connaught final.

 - Councillor Lundy extended an invitation to those present to attend the Creative Ireland event in Banada on Sunday 23rd July..

 - Councillor Lundy also requested that a staff list be circulated to members once all the staff moves had taken place.

The Cathaoirleach Councillor Lundy thanked all present for attending and asked that Members stay on for a separate meeting with Council staff regarding the Owenmore Drainage Scheme.

The meeting concluded at 11.50am

_____ **Date** _____
Cathaoirleach

_____ **Date** _____
Meetings Administrator