

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF
BALLYMOTE-TOBERCURRY HELD ON MONDAY 25th JUNE 2018
AT 3.00 P.M. IN TEACH LAIGHNE, TUBBERCURRY, CO. SLIGO**

COUNCILLORS PRESENT:

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

OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE:

- Mr. Ciarán Hayes, Chief Executive
- Mr. Tom Brennan, A/Director of Services
- Mr. Frank Moylan, Senior Planner
- Mr. Paddy Hughes, Senior Executive Engineer
- Mr. Declan Noone, Area Engineer
- Mr. David Golden, Area Engineer
- Ms. Ray O’Grady, Executive Planner
- Ms. Clodagh Quinn, Staff Officer

CATHAOIRLEACH:

The Cathaoirleach, Councillor Joe Queenan presided and at the outset, asked Mr. Tom Brennan, A/Director of Services to provide an update on Community Involvement Schemes (C.I.S.) at the end of the meeting.

**1. MINUTES OF MEETING OF
MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF
BALLYMOTE-TOBERCURRY
HELD ON 16th APRIL 2018:**

**Proposed by Councillor J. Lundy
Seconded by Councillor D. Mulvey**

AND AGREED

“To confirm the Minutes of the Meeting of the Municipal District of Ballymote-Tobercurry held on 16th April 2018”.

2. MATTERS ARISING:

Councillor Margaret Gormley queried whether any reply had been received from the National Transport Authority regarding the provision of bus shelters on the N17 Circular Road, Tubbercurry to which A/Director of Services, Mr. Tom Brennan replied that he was not aware of the receipt of any response in the matter.

**3. UPDATE ON STRATEGIC
TOURISM PROJECTS FOR
SOUTH SLIGO:**

As Mr. Ray O’Grady, Executive Planner, was delayed, it was agreed that the Item be deferred until a later point in the meeting.

**4. INCLUSION OF L56042,
CORHOBER, IN FUTURE
SCHEDULE OF MUNICIPAL
WORKS:**

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

AND AGREED

“To ask that the L56042, Corhober be included in future schedule of Municipal Works for surface dressing and pothole repair be carried out as soon as possible”.

Mr. Paddy Hughes, Senior Executive Engineer, advised Members that the L-56042 will be included for consideration in the drafting of the 2019-2021 Multi-Annual Restoration Improvement Programme and the road will also be included in the pothole repair programme.

**5. REPORT ON WORKS
REQUIRED TO BRIDGE ON
L5405-0 IN
KILMORGAN/CAMS:**

As works have been completed in this location, the item was withdrawn.

**6. TAKING IN CHARGE OF
“COIS NA FARRAIGE”
ENNISCRONE:**

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

AND AGREED

“To ask Sligo County Council to proceed with taking in charge 8 house development ‘Cois na Farrage’, Enniscrone”.

On behalf of Ms. Dorothy Clarke, Director of Services, Mr. Frank Moylan, Senior Planner, reported that Sligo County Council can only commence the process of taking an estate in charge when a formal request is received in accordance with Section 180 of the Planning and Development Act 2000. Such a request must be made by the developer or the majority of the owners of the houses located within the estate and no such request has been received to date in respect of ‘Cois na Farrage’.

Mr. Moylan went on to state that it is the policy of the Council not to take in charge holiday home developments or residential developments used entirely for short-term letting or apartment type developments as these should be maintained by management companies.

Following a brief discussion, Mr. Moylan offered to meet with the residents of the ‘Cois na Farrage’ development to see how many of the 8 no. houses are occupied. This offer was welcomed by Cllrs. Queenan and Clarke.

**7. UPDATE ON CLOSURE OF
N59 FROM CAMPHILL TO
CULLEENS FOR UPGRADE
WORKS:**

As works have been completed in this location, the item was withdrawn.

**8. CONSTRUCTION OF SLATTED
SHED ON SCENIC ROUTE:**

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

AND AGREED

“To ask the senior planner if it is prohibited for a farmer to construct a slatted

shed on a scenic route if his lands are on the sea side of the road”.

On behalf of Ms. Dorothy Clarke, Director of Services, Mr. Frank Moylan, Senior Planner, reported that the Sligo County Development Plan (SCDP) 2017-2023 does not contain any specific policies or objectives prohibiting the construction of a slatted shed on the seaward side of a scenic route. The Plan contains policies which highlight the importance of facilitating farm diversification and rural development (Section 4.3) but which must be balanced with other SCDP policies (Section 7.4) which seek to protect the scenic and visual character of the County. Accordingly, Mr. Moylan advised, each proposal must be determined on its individual merits and pre-planning with the relevant area planner is advisable to assist in identifying appropriate siting of such buildings in visually sensitive areas.

The Cathaoirleach, Councillor Queenan, welcomed the news that pre-planning consultations would benefit the applicant in identifying a suitable site with Mr. Moylan adding that in a lot of instances, slatted sheds can be accommodated as the landowner often has various sites to choose from.

**9. REPORT ON POLLADIVVA
PIER:**

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

AND AGREED

“To call on Sligo County Council to prepare a report on Polladivva Pier”.

Mr. Paddy Hughes, Senior Executive Engineer, reported as follows:

The Council’s Marine & Structures Section monitor all piers and carry out maintenance work accordingly within budgetary constraints (maintenance allocation fully committed for 2018). Minor urgent maintenance work was carried out to the deck of Pollnadivva Pier earlier this year, however additional damage occurred to the deck and retaining wall in April 2018 and substantial funding is required to carry out the repairs.

Mr. Hughes added that the Council will apply for funding when requested from the Dept. of Agriculture, Fisheries & the Marine but warned that funding appears very limited as only 50% of the Council’s submission this year has been awarded.

**10. PROGRESS REPORT ON
PEDESTRIAN CROSSING IN
DROMORE WEST:**

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

AND AGREED

“To call on Sligo County Council to give an update on progress on a pedestrian crossing in Dromore West”.

On behalf of Mr. Paddy Hughes, Senior Executive Engineer, Mr. Tom Brennan, A/Director of Services, reported that the N59 at Dromore West has been identified as a high collision location by Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) and as part of a solution to the issue, the Road Design Office of Sligo County Council is investigating the possibility of incorporating a pedestrian crossing

into traffic calming measures in the village. Mr. Brennan advised that the development of the design is at an early stage and consultation with the community is required to identify the problems and devise a solution.

Councillor Michael Clarke informed the meeting that he had met with local residents and Mr. John O'Flaherty, Executive Engineer, regarding the above and it is hoped to have more information in relation to funding etc at the September meeting.

**11. INCLUSION OF ROADS IN SURFACE DRESSING WORKS: Proposed by Councillor K. Henry
Seconded by Councillor M. Gormley**

AND AGREED

"That Sligo County Council include the following roads for surface dressing works:

- (a) Local road at Ballybrennan, Ballymote
- (b) Rathdooney Beg to Carrigans Upper Road, Ballymote
- (c) L5507 Carrigans, Ballymote".

Mr. Paddy Hughes, Senior Executive Engineer, stated that Local Roads L-16033, L-15017 & L-5507 will be included for consideration when drafting the 2019-2021 Multi-Annual Restoration Improvement Programme.

**12. ASSISTANCE TO COUNTY MAYO FOR PAPAL VISIT: Proposed by Councillor D. Mulvey
Seconded by Councillor M. Clarke**

AND AGREED

"I call on Sligo County Council to offer assistance to our neighbouring county Mayo in whatever way possible on the upcoming Papal visit on Sunday, August 26th.

Sligo County Council should prepare to discuss what assistance can be offered on the visit by Pope Francis to Knock as his predecessor Pope John Paul II did in 1979.

I think it's only right that if a visit of his Holiness Pope Francis should go ahead to Knock Shrine that Sligo County Council should assist our neighbouring county with personnel or equipment or in whatever way possible".

The Chief Executive, Mr. Ciarán Hayes stated that he would have no issue with Sligo County Council offering assistance with the visit.

13. RE-EXAMINATION OF WORKS CARRIED OUT AT TEMPLEHOUSE ROAD L1603-N17 JUNCTION:

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

AND AGREED

“I call on Sligo County Council and the TII to re-examine the recently constructed build out works at the Templehouse Road L1603-N17 junction. Numerous motorists have expressed concern about this new junction layout which prior to this work was already dangerous but locals feel these new works have made it more dangerous exiting onto the very busy N17”.

Mr. Paddy Hughes, Senior Executive Engineer, informed the meeting that as part of the Road Safety Audit process, an independent consultant will examine the final construction and operation of the scheme.

Members expressed their concerns regarding the lack of sightlines at the junction, particularly in the direction of Ballinacarrow. A request for the findings of the independent consultant was made in respect of the aforementioned junction and in relation to a similar survey to be carried out at various locations on the N59. Mr. Tom Brennan, A/Director of Services undertook to liaise with Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) in this regard.

14. SURVEY TO IDENTIFY SUITABLE LOCATIONS FOR DISABLED CAR PARKING SPACES IN TUBBERCURRY:

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

AND AGREED

“As there is a lack of disabled car parking spaces in Tubbercurry, I am calling on the Council to carry out a survey in the hope of identifying suitable locations”.

Mr. Paddy Hughes, Senior Executive Engineer, outlined the number and locations of disabled parking spaces in both public and private car parks in the town centre. He went on to explain that the installation of a disabled parking space along Teeling Street (the main shopping street in the town) is problematic due to the current parking restrictions which exist, namely double-yellow lines along one side of the street and the existence of 2 no. pedestrian crossings at either end. Mr. Hughes advised that consideration could be given to the installation of a disabled parking space within the Square area or outside the AIB once the new casual trading bye-laws are adopted. Currently, all of this area is zoned as a casual trading area thus no parking is possible during trading times.

15. INCLUSION OF REMAINING SECTION OF L-5601 IN 2019 ROAD WORKS SCHEME:

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

AND AGREED

“Welcoming the improvement works carried out on the road from the Five Crossroads to Templehouse, I am requesting that the remaining section be included in the 2019 Road Work Scheme as this is an extremely busy link road”.

Mr. Paddy Hughes, Senior Executive Engineer, advised that the resurfacing of the remaining section of the L-5601 “Five Crossroads to Templehouse” will be included for consideration when drafting the 2019-2021 Multi-Annual

Restoration Improvement Programme.

**16. ERECTION OF SOLAR
OPERATED SPEED SIGNS:**

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

AND AGREED

“In the interest of road safety, that the Council would erect solar operated speed signs as it is felt they are more effective than the standard speed signs and that we call on the Minister for Transport to provide funding for same”.

Mr. Paddy Hughes, Senior Executive Engineer, informed Members that the Roads Dept. will contact the Dept. of Transport to determine their views on the use of solar operated signs and funding of same.

**17. COMPENSATION SOUGHT
FROM DEPT. OF DEFENCE
FOR DAMAGE CAUSED TO
ROAD NETWORK IN MOUNT
TAAFFE (OX MOUNTAIN)
AREA:**

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

AND AGREED

“To ask the Council if compensation can be claimed from the Dept. of Defence for damage caused to the public road network in the Mount Taaffe (Ox Mountain) area, Road 452, as a result of army training/activity in this area recently”.

Mr. Paddy Hughes, Senior Executive Engineer, stated that the road in question has been inspected by the Area Engineer and no damage identified can be directly attributed to the army activity in the area. The current pavement rating for the route is between 2 and 4 with a significant number of potholes present during inspection. Mr. Hughes advised that the upgrade of the road is not possible at the moment but the road has been included for pothole repair which will occur on the completion of the current schedule of Municipal District works for 2018.

Mr. Hughes further advised that residents of the area should consider lodging a Community Involvement Scheme application in 2019 which may permit upgrade of the road subject to Dept. funding for the scheme.

As some Members thought it was unfair to ask residents to contribute to a CIS to undertake the works, it was then:

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

AND AGREED

“To write to the Dept. of Defence to draw down funding for roads damaged by army activity in the Ox Mountain region”.

18. CORRESPONDENCE:

None.

As Mr. Ray O'Grady, Executive Planner, was now present at the meeting, Item No. 3 was taken at this point.

3. UPDATE ON STRATEGIC TOURISM PROJECTS FOR SOUTH SLIGO:

In respect of the 3 no. proposed tourism projects for South Sligo, Mr. Ray O'Grady updated Members as follows:

Discovery Centre at Ireland West Airport Knock

- Contractor has been appointed
- Construction period to last approximately 14 weeks
- Formal launch expected in Autumn 2018
- Images of Co. Sligo, promotional material etc to be displayed in Discovery Centre

Coolaney Mountain Bike Centre

- Phase 1 at tender evaluation stage
- Contractor to be on site in July 2018 with an anticipated finish date of December 2018
- Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme (ORIS) funding stream under consideration for second phase. Significant funding still required for remaining phases of the project.

Sligo Greenway Project

- Community engagement is ongoing
- Memorandum of Understanding between Sligo County Council and Sligo Greenway Co-Op
- Intended to progress Part 8 in late 2018/early 2019 subject to funding
- Appropriate Assessment Screening process underway with the potential to affect project timeline

Members thanked Mr. O'Grady for his report and complimented the work done to date. In reply to a query from Councillor Lundy regarding responses received from Iarnród Éireann and West on Track in relation to the proposed Greenway project, Mr. O'Grady advised that Iarnród Éireann are in favour of the project in principle but minutiae of the project has not yet been agreed. He stated that any proposed licence agreement with the company would include a caveat that the railway line would remain in situ should funding be made available in future to bring the line back into use. Mr. O'Grady further advised that West on Track were consulted regarding a feasibility study but an open line of communication does not exist at present.

In reply, Councillor Lundy gave his support for the Greenway in principle but stressed his view that he would like to see other options explored in terms of location for the Greenway in the event that the disused railway line would be brought back into use at any stage in the future and the track required.

19. ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

- The Cathaoirleach, Councillor Joe Queenan asked for an update regarding the situation with the lack of lifeguard cover on Enniscrone beach. In reply, Mr. Tom Brennan, A/Director of Services, informed the meeting of the difficulty in recruiting lifeguards this year. For this reason, there was no cover at Enniscrone beach on Saturday 23rd June 2018 but a lifeguard and the Council's Water Safety Development Officer were both on duty on Sunday 24th June 2018. Mr. Brennan assured Members that full cover will be provided from July 2018.

- Following a recent announcement of an allocation of €1.4m for County Sligo through the Community Involvement Scheme (CIS), Councillor Joe Queenan asked for an update on how the scheme will be rolled out etc. In response, Mr. Tom Brennan, A/Director of Services, began by informing Members of the legislative health and safety requirements that would have to be adhered to if individuals or community groups were to undertake the works themselves. Mr. Brennan suggested proceeding with the scheme (with Sligo County Council carrying out the works) and keeping a review on same.

A long debate followed with some Members raising the issue that it was unfair for individuals/community groups to be expected to pay a contribution to what would be making improvements/repairs to Class 3 roads.

In concluding the debate, it was agreed that as the Council is obliged to implement the Scheme as laid out by the Dept., it should be progressed for the current year and enquiries be made into reviewing same for next year.

- Councillor Keith Henry proposed a vote of congratulations to Sligo Senior Hurling Team on winning the Lory Meagher Cup which was seconded by Councillor Paul Taylor.
- With the boil water notice on the Lough Talt water supply in place until the end of July, Councillor Margaret Gormley queried why the HSE are unable to identify the location of the cryptosporidium. The Chief Executive, Mr. Ciarán Hayes, advised that the location is extremely difficult to pinpoint as there are numerous different types of the parasite and the situation has been impacted by the spreading of silage, lambing and calving season etc.

The business of the meeting concluded at 16.45 p.m.

_____ Date _____
Cathaoirleach

_____ Date _____
Meetings Administrator