

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF SLIGO COUNTY COUNCIL HELD
ON MONDAY, 12TH JUNE, 2017 AT 11.00AM IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER,
COUNTY HALL, RIVERSIDE, SLIGO**

COUNCILLORS PRESENT:

- Councillor Baker,
- Councillor Bree,
- Councillor Casserly,
- Councillor Clarke,
- Councillor Gormley,
- Councillor Healy,
- Councillor Henry,
- Councillor Keaney,
- Councillor Kilgannon,
- Councillor Lundy,
- Councillor Maguire,
- Councillor MacManus,
- Councillor MacSharry,
- Councillor Mulvey,
- Councillor O'Grady,
- Councillor Queenan,
- Councillor Taylor.

OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE:

- Mr. Ciarán Hayes, Chief Executive
- Mr. Tom Kilfeather, Director of Services
- Ms. Marie Whelan, Head of Finance
- Mr. John Reilly, Head of Enterprise
- Mr. Bartley Gavin, A/Director of Services
- Mr. Donal Tinney, A/Director of Services
- Mr. Frank Moylan, Senior Planner
- Mr. Gerry O'Malley, Chief Fire Officer
- Mr. Seán Martin, A/Senior Architect
- Ms. Siobhán Ryan, Heritage Officer
- Mr. Joe Murphy, Senior Executive Officer
- Mr. John Moran, Senior Executive Officer
- Mr. Joe Gethin, Administrative Officer
- Mr. Kevin Colreavy, Meetings Administrator
- Ms. Karen Gallagher, I.S. Technical Support Officer
- Ms. Nuala Fowley, Clerical Officer
- Ms. Jo-Anne McGonigle, Assistant Staff Officer

CATHAOIRLEACH:

- Cathaoirleach, Councillor H. Keaney, presided.

APOLOGIES:

- Apologies were received from Councillor G. O'Boyle

VOTE OF SYMPATHY:

At the commencement of the Meeting, it was

**Proposed by Councillor R. O'Grady
Seconded by Councillor K. Henry**

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF SLIGO COUNTY COUNCIL HELD
ON MONDAY, 12TH JUNE, 2017 AT 11.00AM IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER,
COUNTY HALL, RIVERSIDE, SLIGO**

AND AGREED

“That a vote of sympathy be extended to Jo-Anne McGonigle and family of Rosses Point on the death of her mother, Jo.

1. MINUTES OF MEETING OF S.P.C. 2 (ENVIRONMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE) HELD ON 15TH DECEMBER, 2016:

**Proposed by Councillor J. Lundy
Seconded by Councillor T. Healy**

AND AGREED

“To confirm Minutes of Meeting of S.P.C. 2 (Environment and Infrastructure) held on 15th December, 2016”.

2. MINUTES OF MEETING OF S.P.C. 3 (PLANNING, COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, ARTS AND CULTURE) HELD ON 15TH MARCH, 2017:

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

AND AGREED

“To confirm Minutes of S.P.C. 3 (Planning, Community and Economic Development, Arts and Culture) held on 15th March, 2017.”

3. MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING HELD ON 8TH MAY, 2017:

A. Councillor D. Bree asked that the Minutes would be amended to note that the following resolution had been agreed by the Members:

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

AND AGREED

A. *“Noting with deep regret the deaths of two citizens in a serious fire which occurred in rented accommodation in Market Street, Sligo, on Saturday 22nd April 2017; this meeting resolves that a comprehensive report be provided by the Chief Executive indicating:*

- (a) if and when inspections were carried out on the said premises by Council staff under Section 18 of the Housing (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1992, as amended by the Housing (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 2009, Housing (Standards for Rented Houses) Regulations 2008, Statutory Instrument No. 534 of 2008 and Housing (Standards for Rented Houses) (Amendment) Regulations 2009, Statutory Instrument No. 462 of 2009;*
- (b) the outcome of the inspections and whether notices were served on the landlord;*
- (c) if any legal action was initiated;*
- (d) if inspections were carried out on the said premises under the Fire Services Acts, 1981 and the outcome of same; and to ask the Chief Executive if he is satisfied that the local authority carried out its obligations as required by legislation.”*

It was agreed that this correction would be made to the Minutes of 8th May Ordinary Meeting.

B. Councillor S. Maguire noted that the motion re. roundabout at Strandhill on the 8th May Agenda had not been retained on the Agenda as had been agreed.

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF SLIGO COUNTY COUNCIL HELD
ON MONDAY, 12TH JUNE, 2017 AT 11.00AM IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER,
COUNTY HALL, RIVERSIDE, SLIGO**

Mr. T. Kilfeather advised the Meeting that, to date, no further report was available and agreed that this item would be listed on the Agenda of the 3rd July Meeting.

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

AND AGREED

“To confirm Minutes of Ordinary Meeting of Sligo County Council held on 8th May, 2017.”

**4. MINUTES OF MEETING OF BALLYMOTE-TOBERCURRY MUNICIPAL DISTRICT HELD ON
20TH MARCH, 2017:**

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

AND AGREED

“To confirm Minutes of Meeting of Ballymote-Tobercurry Municipal District held on 20th March, 2017.”

5. DECLARATION OF ROADS AS PUBLIC ROADS – LAR EASA COVE, STRANDHILL:

**Proposed by Councillor D. Bree
Seconded by Councillor C. MacManus**

AND AGREED

“That Sligo County Council, being satisfied of their general public utility, declares the Roads named below to be Public Roads in accordance with Section 11(1) of the Roads Act, 1993.”

Road Number	Location and terminal points
L35058-0	The roads serving development known as Lar Easa Cove, Strandhill, Co. Sligo
L35058-1	
L35058-2	

Councillor Bree also extended his thanks to all those involved in bringing about the resolution of the matter, having regard to the difficulties in this Estate.

**6. APPROVAL, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 6 OF HOUSING (MISCELLANEOUS
PROVISIONS) ACT, 1992 – ASSISTANCE TO RESPOND HOUSING ASSOCIATION LTD. –
TULLYCUSHEEN, TUBBERCURRY:**

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

AND AGREED

“To approve in accordance with Section 6 of the Housing (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1992, and Regulations thereunder, provision of assistance to Respond Housing Association Ltd., in the form of Capital Assistance Scheme for the acquisition of a dwelling at Tullycusheen, Tubbercurry, Co. Sligo.”

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF SLIGO COUNTY COUNCIL HELD
ON MONDAY, 12TH JUNE, 2017 AT 11.00AM IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER,
COUNTY HALL, RIVERSIDE, SLIGO**

7. DISPOSAL OF DWELLING HOUSE AT 4 BOTHAR AN CORRAN, BALLYMOTE PURSUANT TO SECTION 183 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT, 2001 TO MR. JOHN HOGGE:

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

AND AGREED

“To approve in accordance with Section 183 of Local Government Act 2001, the disposal of Dwelling House at No. 4 Bothar an Corran, Ballymote, Co. Sligo to Mr. John Hogge.”

8. APPROVAL OF LEASE OF LAND AT CLEVERAGH DRIVE, CLEVERAGH TO SLIGO ROWING CLUB:

**Proposed by Councillor T. MacSharry
Seconded by Councillor D. Bree**

AND AGREED

“To approve in accordance with Section 183 of Local Government Act 2001, the proposed lease of land at Cleveragh Drive, Cleveragh, Sligo to Sligo Rowing Club.

Further to a query from Councillor C. MacManus regarding provision of portable toilets in this area, Mr. T. Kilfeather advised the Meeting that an update would be circulated to the Members.

9. PRESENTATION BY MR. DAVID MCGOWAN OF “QUIRKY GLAMPING”, ENNISCRONE:

The Cathaoirleach welcomed Mr. McGowan to the Chamber and thanked him for attending the Meeting. Mr. McGowan outlined the background to his achievements in the different elements of his business interests and where his journey has taken him so far.

In a slide presentation outlining the concept behind the “Quirky Nights Glamping Village” being that of an Airport Terminal, the Meeting was reminded of the successful endeavour of bringing a Boeing 767, formerly owned by Russian airline Transaero, from Shannon Airport through the Shannon estuary and then by barge to Enniscrone. In a large part, due to the profile the village of Enniscrone had received; 43 businesses, employing in the region of 360 people, were able to keep their businesses open through the normally quiet winter season. Mr. McGowan outlined the numerous ways he has already and continues to promote the north west area and, in particular, County Sligo. Details were given of aspects of crowd funding, sponsorship, difficulties with the Banking sector, opportunities to promote Sligo and all those following his work on social media and the recent “Live on Air” Music Festival. Further, media outlets such as

Channel 4, R.T.E. and the George Clarke programme “Amazing Spaces” are currently working with Mr. McGowan.

Members thanked Mr. McGowan for the most interesting and entertaining presentation and emphasised how pleased they were at his deserved success.

At the conclusion, the Chief Executive said that Mr. McGowan was an example where someone had taken a calculated risk on the basis of research, business experience and acumen. Best wishes were then extended to Mr. McGowan and he was assured of the support of the Council in his efforts.

10. MONTHLY MANAGEMENT REPORT – APRIL 2017:

In reply to an enquiry from Councillor D. Bree as to the availability of the report on the recent tragedy in Market Street, Mr. T. Kilfeather confirmed that the the investigation is still underway. It was not possible to

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF SLIGO COUNTY COUNCIL HELD
ON MONDAY, 12TH JUNE, 2017 AT 11.00AM IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER,
COUNTY HALL, RIVERSIDE, SLIGO**

give an indication as to when this would be completed. Members were assured that the report would be furnished to them promptly as soon as it was available.

Councillor C. MacManus referred to the delays being experienced by groups funded through the Peace IV Programme. The Chief Executive concurred with the frustration being felt by those affected.

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

AND AGREED

“To note the Monthly Management Report for April 2017”.

11. REPORT ON PERFORMANCE INDICATORS 2015:

Mr. B. Gavin outlined the background to the reports which had been previously furnished to the Members and replied to queries raised.

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

AND AGREED

“To note the Report on Performance Indicators 2015.”

12. REPORT ON FORESTRY AND GORSE FIRES

AND

37. FUNDING FOR SUPPLY OF WATER BASKET TO COAST GUARD HELICOPTER:

The Cathaoirleach agreed to Councillor Healy’s request that Item 37 on the Agenda would also be dealt with at this time.

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

AND AGREED

“That Sligo County Council writes to the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport asking him to make funding available for the supply of a water basket to the Sligo based Coastguard C.H.C. helicopter. This basket can be fitted to their helicopter and can then service the North West area in case of further gorse and forest fires”.

The Chief Fire Officer, in referring to the above resolution, advised the Members that discussions had taken place with the Coastguard following the incidents and that they are amenable to create that function. It was further clarified that the Helicopted based in Strandhill is a regional unit and therefore would support a wider area than just Sligo.

Report on forestry and gorse fires – May 2017:

The Chief Fire Officer provided the Meeting with slides and video footage outlining the situation encountered during the recent fires.

Details were provided in relation to fires at

Killery/Sliswood on 3rd and 4th May, 2017

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF SLIGO COUNTY COUNCIL HELD
ON MONDAY, 12TH JUNE, 2017 AT 11.00AM IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER,
COUNTY HALL, RIVERSIDE, SLIGO**

Geevagh on 5th May, 2017 and

Lough Easkey/Ox Mountains on 6th May, 2017.

Further details in relation to the damage and costs incurred, risks to Fire Services Personnel and lessons learned were provided to the Meeting.

The Chief Fire Officer highlighted the benefit of social media in relaying details to the general public. Difficulties had arisen for the Fire Services accessing the sites due to additional traffic. This traffic was due to members of the public wishing to gain a better view of the incident.

Members agreed that the possibility of a public campaign outlining the risks in relation to the burning of gorse should be considered.

The Cathaoirleach and Members commended all those involved in the work and said a huge debt of gratitude was owed to the personnel involved.

13. DATE FOR MEETING OF SLIGO MUNICIPAL DISTRICT:

It was agreed that the next meeting of Sligo Municipal District will be held at 10.00 a.m. on Monday, 26th June, 2017.

14. BUILDING CONSERVATION GRANT ALLOCATIONS

AND

47. REFURBISHMENT OF GATE LODGE AT DOORLY PARK:

The Cathaoirleach also dealt with Item 47 on the Agenda as it was relevant to the topic.

Proposed by Councillor D. Bree

Seconded by Councillor C. MacManus

AND AGREED

“That a report be provided outlining the Council’s proposals for the refurbishment and restoration of the Gate Lodge at Doorly Park; the report to include possible sources of funding for the works.”

Councillor Bree expressed his appreciation at the success of the application for funding and the maximum available grant received in the sum of €30,000 to carry out works on the building which is now in a dilapidated condition.

A further query was raised by Councillor Bree as to whether a notice could be placed in the local paper seeking submissions from those interested within the community. Mr. Gavin indicated that it would be preferable to wait until works were carried out as groups would then be in a position to see what was available to them.

The Chief Executive added that some groups have already expressed their interest.

The Heritage Officer noted the significant points from the report which had been issued to the Members.

The Members noted the Building Conservation Grant allocations under the Structures at Risk Fund 2017 and the Built Heritage Investment Scheme 2017.

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF SLIGO COUNTY COUNCIL HELD
ON MONDAY, 12TH JUNE, 2017 AT 11.00AM IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER,
COUNTY HALL, RIVERSIDE, SLIGO**

15. REPORT ON CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE ARTS GRANTS SCHEME:

**Proposed by Councillor D. Bree
Seconded by Councillor C. MacManus**

AND AGREED

“To note the report on Contributions to the Arts Grants Scheme”.

16. USE OF SLIGO COUNTY COUNCIL’S CREST BY THE INDIAN ASSOCIATION OF SLIGO:

**Proposed by Councillor R. O’Grady
Seconded by Councillor M. Casserly**

AND AGREED

“To approve the use of Sligo County Council’s crest by the Indian Association of Sligo.”

ADJOURNMENT FOR LUNCH:

The Meeting adjourned at 1.20 p.m. and resumed at 2.30 p.m.

Prior to the adjournment, the Cathaoirleach agreed to a request from Councillor O’Grady. To allow Councillor O’Grady to attend another Meeting in the afternoon, Items 34 and 35 would be dealt with immediately on the resumption of the Meeting.

34. HONOUR FOR THOMAS HIGGINS, R.I.P. FORMER COUNCILLOR, MAYOR AND FREEMAN:

**Proposed by Councillor R. O’Grady
Seconded by Councillor D. Bree**

AND AGREED

“That this Council honour the late Councillor, Mayor and Freeman Thomas Higgins by naming a street, place or amenity in his memory”.

Mr. Tinney advised the Meeting that the motion will be considered at the next meeting of the Placenames Committee in September 2017. Following which, the Committee’s recommendation can be considered by Sligo County Council at its monthly meeting.

35. CARNEY BRIDGE RESTORATION PLAN:

**Proposed by Councillor R. O’Grady
Seconded by Councillor S. Kilgannon**

“An update on the 2014 Carney bridge restoration Plan”.

Mr. Kilfeather outlined the current situation to the Members and confirmed that, as stated at the May Council Meeting, the Roads Department would shortly commence the process of preparing an overall plan for the village of Carney. The contents of the 2014 bridge restoration plan 2014 could be considered in that brief.

Councillor Kilgannon wished to acknowledge the work carried out by Mr. Brian Gallagher and the Carney bridge restoration group, working in conjunction with Carney Tidy Towns, together with Council staff.

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF SLIGO COUNTY COUNCIL HELD
ON MONDAY, 12TH JUNE, 2017 AT 11.00AM IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER,
COUNTY HALL, RIVERSIDE, SLIGO**

In reply to a further query from Councillor O'Grady, the Director of Services confirmed that consideration would be given in the preparation of the report to the footprint being extended to include the development of a footpath from Lissadell Park to Oxfield.

17. REPAIR AND LEASE SCHEME FOR VACANT HOUSES:

Proposed by Councillor J. Lundy
Seconded by Councillor M. Clarke

AND AGREED

“To ask for a report on how the new ‘Repair and leasing Scheme for vacant houses’ will be carried out and if this Scheme will include vacant houses in rural areas of South Sligo”.

Mr. J. Murphy provided Members with a detailed report in relation to this Scheme. The Meeting was advised that details and an enquiry form are available on the Council's website. Owners can also contact the Housing Section directly for further details.

In order to increase awareness, at each Municipal District Meeting, an item can be put on the Agenda to go through the details of the Scheme itself. The Chief Executive advised the Meeting that this might assist in raising the awareness.

18. ROAD SAFETY SIGNAGE ON ROAD NO. 414 AT CURRY:

Councillor Lundy referred to the motion he had submitted on this matter

“To ask the Council to erect 2 no. “Slow down – Children crossing” signs on Road no. 414 at Curraghahunnaun, Curry on the main Banada to Bellaghy road, in the interest of safety, for children crossing this very busy road to get on the School bus, both morning and evening”.

This item had been deferred to the current Agenda and Councillor Lundy noted that the signage is now in place and thanked all those involved in this work.

19. CLOSURE OF ULSTER BANK'S BALLYMOTE BRANCH:

Councillor Healy referred to the motion on the Agenda as follows:

“Due to the imminent closure of the Ulster Bank branch in Ballymote it is essential to maintain a full time bank service in the town of Ballymote, Sligo County Council calls on the Minister for Finance requesting him to contact the Bank of Ireland. The Bank has a moral obligation to the Irish people and we call on the minister to ensure that the Bank of Ireland provide a five day service in the town of Ballymote and that Sligo County Council would prepare a detailed submission in support of the retention of existing banking Services in Ballymote”.

Councillor Healy advised the Meeting that a revised wording was now being proposed with the deletion of the final portion of the above.

Proposed by Councillor T. Healy
Seconded by Councillor C. MacManus

AND AGREED

“Due to the imminent closure of the Ulster Bank branch in Ballymote it is essential to maintain a full time bank service in the town of Ballymote. Sligo County Council calls on the Minister for Finance requesting him to

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF SLIGO COUNTY COUNCIL HELD
ON MONDAY, 12TH JUNE, 2017 AT 11.00AM IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER,
COUNTY HALL, RIVERSIDE, SLIGO**

contact the Bank of Ireland. The Bank has a moral obligation to the Irish people and we call on the Minister to ensure that the Bank of Ireland provide a five day service in the Ballymote Branch”.

Members expressed their disappointment at the closure of the Ulster Bank branch and outlined how businesses and the public would be affected by this closure. Councillor Kilgannon asked that people would bear in mind that, in most areas, Credit Unions are available six days each week to assist customers with a variety of transactions.

In reply to a point raised by Councillor Mulvey in relation to accessibility to the Ulster Bank branch in Stephen Street, Sligo the Chief Executive clarified that there is sufficient car parking available in Sligo town.

20. INCLUSION OF CLASS 2 AND 3 COUNTY ROADS IN CLAR FUNDING:

With the agreement of the Members, the following motion as submitted by Councillor K. Henry was deferred to the July Ordinary Meeting Agenda:

“That this Council write to Minister Michael Ring asking him to include Class 2 and 3 County roads in the next phase of CLAR funding.”

21. ADDITIONAL EDUCATIONAL SUPPORTS FOR CHILDREN IN NEED:

With the agreement of the Members, the following motion as submitted by Councillor K. Henry was deferred to the July Ordinary Meeting Agenda:

“That Sligo County Council write to the Minister for Education requesting him to reinstate the appeals process previously operated by The National Council for Special Education with regard to additional educational supports for children in need.”

22. REQUEST FOR THE PROVISION OF A NEW GARDA STATION IN TUBBERCURRY:

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

AND AGREED

“I will ask Sligo County Council to write to the Minister for Justice and the Office of Public Works (O.P.W.) requesting the provision of a new Garda Station for Tubbercurry as a matter of urgency”.

23. QUERIES TO SLIGO CHIEF SUPERINTENDENT AND SLIGO J.P.C.:

At the request of Councillor Clarke, the following motion was deferred to the Agenda of the July Ordinary Meeting:

“I call on Sligo County Council to write to Sligo’s Chief Superintendent to comment on the National issue where it was stated in the Oireachtas committee that dishonest Garda was to blame for the exaggerated recorded figures and how does this relate to the Sligo division.

To ask Chief Superintendent, in relation to 140,000 people that wrongly convictions, how many was in the Sligo Division? and what was been done to put the record straight? and would there be compensation?

The County Sligo Joint Policing Committee was held on Friday 31st March, 2017 at 10.30am in The Diamond Coast Hotel, Enniscrone, Co. Sligo, attending the County Sligo Joint Policing Committee were; The chief superintendent, two Garda Inspectors and two Garda Sergeants, our Chief executive, one director of service

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF SLIGO COUNTY COUNCIL HELD
ON MONDAY, 12TH JUNE, 2017 AT 11.00AM IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER,
COUNTY HALL, RIVERSIDE, SLIGO**

and one Senior executive officer, I have concerns that the County Sligo Joint Policing Committee is a waste of resources I call on a debate on this issue.”

24. OCCUPANCY CLAUSE IN PLANNING CONDITIONS GRANTED:

Proposed by Councillor M. Clarke

Seconded by Councillor J. Queenan

AND AGREED

“To call on Sligo County Council to prepare a report on the issue of the occupancy clause imposed on planning conditions granted. Are those clauses now null and void?”

Mr. Moylan advised the Meeting that Section 39 (2) of the Planning and Development Act enables planning authorities to attach such a condition to a grant of planning permission for a dwelling house, and the Department’s Sustainable Rural Housing Guidelines outline the circumstances in which these conditions should be applied. There has been no change in national legislation or policy that would render existing occupancy clauses null and void.

In reply to further queries raised, the Senior Planner indicated that the Planning Section is always available to discuss individual cases where circumstances may have changed and have done so in the past. The Chief Executive added that, when writing policy, provision should always be made for consistency and flexibility as it is never known what circumstances may come up. It is not feasible to provide for all the possible circumstances in a policy.

25. SLIGO CITY EAST, CRANMORE AND ENVIRONS REGENERATION PLAN:

Proposed by Councillor C. MacManus

Seconded by Councillor T. Healy

AND AGREED

“That the Council be provided with a report on the proposed pilot scheme in Cranmore Drive, Cranmore Place and Cranmore Villas as part of the Sligo City East, Cranmore and Environs Regeneration Plan.”

Mr. Martin furnished details of the Scheme to the Meeting where funding of €2,244,435 had been approved under the Regeneration Programme for a Pilot Project covering energy efficiency, housing quality and environmental improvement works to 96 houses in Cranmore Estate.

In acknowledging the detail involved in the report, Councillor MacManus enquired if a system could be put in place where hard copies of reports would be available to the Members at the outset of the Meeting.

The Cathaoirleach agreed with points made by Councillor MacManus in acknowledging the Department’s commitment and congratulated all those involved in the project.

26. REPORT ON THE POST OFFICE NETWORK:

Proposed by Councillor T. Healy

Seconded by Councillor C. MacManus

AND AGREED

“That Sligo County Council call on the Government to consider the findings of the Bobby Kerr report on the Post Office network. There is concern that a number of Post Offices in Sligo are under threat of closure and this report has the potential to save our Post Office network”.

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF SLIGO COUNTY COUNCIL HELD
ON MONDAY, 12TH JUNE, 2017 AT 11.00AM IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER,
COUNTY HALL, RIVERSIDE, SLIGO**

27. COSTS OF ‘PHONE CALLS TO “1890” NUMBERS FOR GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS:

**Proposed by Councillor D. Bree
Seconded by Councillor M. Gormley**

AND AGREED

“Noting that government departments describe their contact phone numbers commencing with the digits “1890” as “LoCall” and noting that the rates charged for the use of 1890 (LoCall) numbers by phone companies can vary widely – from a low of 5c per minutes to a high of 31c per minute; this Council calls on government departments to cease describing phone numbers commencing with the digits “1890” as “LoCall” and further the Council calls on government departments to warn service users of the possible high costs of phone calls to “1890” numbers.”

28. INTRODUCTION OF REMOTE METHODS FOR INTERVIEWS BY SLIGO COUNTY COUNCIL:

**Proposed by Councillor M. Casserly
Seconded by Councillor M. Clarke**

AND AGREED

“That Sligo County Council facilitate emigrants abroad who wish to interview for upcoming posts with said local authority by introducing remote methods including Skype”.

Further to a discussion by Members on this matter, Mr. Moran advised the Meeting that the Council’s policy to date has been that applicants are required to present in person for interview. There has been extremely limited demand for Teleconference Interviewing. However, options will be considered with a view to putting such a facility in place to facilitate exceptional cases where applicants are unable to attend in person for bona fide reasons. No budgetary provision has been made for this in 2017; however, a costed proposal will be prepared for the consideration of the Council in the context of the 2018 budget.

LEAS-CATHAOIRLEACH:

At 3.35 p.m., Councillor T. MacSharry took the Chair.

29. “THE MEADOWS” HOUSING ESTATE, GRANGE:

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

AND AGREED

“To request Sligo County Council to take in charge “The Meadows” Housing Estate in Grange, County Sligo.” The Senior Planner outlined details of minor outstanding works to be carried out on a foul water pumping station. The Taking in Charge process can be commenced in respect of “The Meadows” estate when the works have been completed.

30. LIVE WEBCASTING OF MONTHLY MEETINGS:

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

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF SLIGO COUNTY COUNCIL HELD
ON MONDAY, 12TH JUNE, 2017 AT 11.00AM IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER,
COUNTY HALL, RIVERSIDE, SLIGO**

AND AGREED

"That in the interest of enhancing local democracy, Sligo County Council brings forward proposals for allowing the live webcasting, or other alternative live modes, of Monthly Council meetings."

The Meeting was advised that options will be examined and the costs involved in implementing webcasting of monthly Council Meetings brought back to the Members.

31. FOOTPATHS AND PUBLIC LIGHTING AT CARRICKHENRY, CARRAROE:

Proposed by Councillor T. MacSharry

Seconded by Councillor S. Kilgannon

AND AGREED

"That Sligo County Council roads department address the lack of footpaths and public lighting in the area of Carrickhenry, Carraroe, specifically on the old N4 road from Clancy Motors to the junction leading to Drumiskabole West in the interests of Health & Safety for residents in the area".

The Director of Services advised the Meeting that the provision of footpaths in this area can be considered in the context of the 2018 Schedule of Municipal Works and subject to provision of satisfactory funding. However, due to cost of providing a footpath and public lighting in this area it is unlikely it will be a top priority in 2018 considering the grant funding available.

Councillor MacSharry asked that the Engineering Department would assess the safety of the footpath there at present and provide a costing. Mr. Kilfeather agreed to this costing being carried out.

32. REQUEST FOR TRAFFIC CALMING SIGNAGE AT ROSSES POINT SCHOOL:

Proposed by Councillor T. MacSharry

Seconded by Councillor H. Keaney

AND AGREED

"That Sligo County Council would provide traffic calming signage at the School in Rosses Point in the interests of Health and Safety".

CATHAOIRLEACH:

At 3.45 p.m., the Cathaoirleach resumed the Chair.

33. SPECIAL MEETING RE. SECOND MANAGER'S REPORT:

Proposed by Councillor T. MacSharry

Seconded by Councillor M. Clarke

"To call on Sligo County Council to convene a special meeting to consider the second Managers report at the earliest convenience".

The Senior Planner outlined the current stage in the Development Plan process. In particular, it was noted that the Second Chief Executive's Report was submitted to the Members on 3rd March, 2017. At the Special Meeting of 27th March, 2017 and Ordinary Meeting of 8th May 2017, the Members of Sligo County Council

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF SLIGO COUNTY COUNCIL HELD
ON MONDAY, 12TH JUNE, 2017 AT 11.00AM IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER,
COUNTY HALL, RIVERSIDE, SLIGO**

having completed their consideration of the Draft County Development Plan and the Second Chief Executive's Report, resolved to make a number of amendments to the Draft Plan.

In accordance with provisions of Section 12 (7) of the Planning and Development Act 2000, public notices have been published indicating that the proposed amendments are on public display for a period of 6 weeks extending from 11th May to the 21st June 2017.

All submissions received during this final public consultation stage will be summarised in the Third Chief Executive's Report, which will include the Chief Executive's opinion and recommendations on whether to accept the suggestions made in any particular submission relating to any of the proposed amendments. The Third Chief Executive's Report will include recommendations to adopt, omit or alter the proposed amendments.

Mr. Moylan advised the Meeting it is envisaged that a special meeting will be convened in late July to consider the proposed amendments and the Third Chief Executive's Report incorporating recommendations on the issues raised in submissions. At this meeting, the Members will then finally adopt the Development Plan subject to all, some or none of the proposed amendments, with or without minor modifications to the amendments, as they consider appropriate. The new CDP 2017-2023 will become operational four weeks after its adoption.

Following a discussion where the Senior Planner clarified details of his report, the Chief Executive said he would urge caution on this matter. The Council is involved in a process stipulated in law. With regard to lobbying of Elected Members, the onus is on the individual to register that fact with the Standards in Public Office Commission (S.I.P.O.). Correspondence relating to this matter received in recent days had been forwarded to the Members. The Chief Executive said it was not possible to reverse the process and Members were advised that the Council might potentially be open for a challenge at a later stage if they decided to go this route.

In reply to queries from some Members, the Chief Executive indicated that no one had approached the Executive regarding the issues. It would, however, be preferable to use the "Variation process" if necessary following the adoption of the Plan.

The Cathaoirleach confirmed that he was aware of one or two of issues that had given rise to the notice of motion. It was his opinion that it is important to adhere to Statutory procedures.

The Senior Planner confirmed that, should be it required, a material variation can be made immediately after the adoption of a County Development Plan.

In response to a query, the Chief Executive confirmed that the Department had circulated information on an E.C.J. Flemish decision in recent days and this would be made available to the Members.

The Department had advised Councils in the correspondence referred to they are drafting new guidelines in relation to sustainable rural housing. When published, Councils could consider making alterations to their Plan, the Senior Planner advised the Meeting. However, Sligo County Council had gone through this step already.

In reply to a query from Councillor MacSharry regarding the E.C.J. Judgement and whether it is binding on local authorities, the Chief Executive said that the Department's response has been to issue the circular referred to earlier.

In order to resolve this issue, Members sought an adjournment to discuss the matter further.

ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING AND SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS:

The Meeting adjourned at 4.15 p.m. and resumed at 4.55 p.m.

It was then

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

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF SLIGO COUNTY COUNCIL HELD
ON MONDAY, 12TH JUNE, 2017 AT 11.00AM IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER,
COUNTY HALL, RIVERSIDE, SLIGO**

AND AGREED

“To suspend Standing Orders to allow the completion of all items on the Agenda”.

SPECIAL MEETING RE. SECOND MANAGER’S REPORT - CONTINUED:

The Members attending that meeting wished it to be recorded that Community facilities and rural issues were the matters raised and discussed by them.

Councillor MacSharry then indicated that they wished to withdraw this item from the Agenda and this was agreed.

36. BASTA FACTORY IN TUBBERCURRY:

Proposed by Councillor D. Mulvey

Seconded by Councillor M. Clarke

“To call on Sligo County Council to work with the new owners of the Basta factory in Tubbercurry to discuss issues such as job creation, exploring the needs and wants of businesses in the area, to foster a climate of investment-friendly policies and assistance. Basta is a landmark establishment in Tubbercurry, giving Sligo the recognition of being an excellent tool making Centre”.

The Head of Enterprise advised the Meeting that Sligo County Council will continue to work to fulfil its full range of responsibilities relating to business, including business development, in Sligo.

It is understood that Enterprise Ireland has had recent engagement with the new owners of Basta. Furthermore, Mr. Reilly and Senior Enterprise Development Officer will also be meeting with the company shortly.

38. LOCAL YOUTH CLUB GRANT SCHEME:

Proposed by Councillor T. Healy

Seconded by Councillor C. MacManus

AND AGREED

“To call on Sligo County Council to write to the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs calling on her to reverse changes made to the Local Youth Club Grant Scheme as these changes are having a detrimental effect on youth clubs throughout the state”.

39. HOUSING GRANTS FOR THE ELDERLY, DISABILITY AND MOBILITY GRANTS:

Proposed by Councillor M. Clarke

Seconded by Councillor M. Gormley

AND AGREED

“To call on Sligo County Council to prepare a report on housing grant for the Elderly, Disability and Mobility Grants.

A. Why is it taking up to eight months from application received to first inspection?

B. How many staff has been reallocated to deal with the back log?

C. what is the total allocation?”.

Mr. Murphy referred to the report which had been circulated to the Members at the May Meeting. A further detailed report was provided to the Members with copies to be made available following the Meeting.

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF SLIGO COUNTY COUNCIL HELD
ON MONDAY, 12TH JUNE, 2017 AT 11.00AM IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER,
COUNTY HALL, RIVERSIDE, SLIGO**

Members extended their thanks to the Housing staff and, in particular, the work carried out by Marcella Healy in that Section.

**40. REQUEST FOR UPGRADING OF PEDESTRIAN CROSSING AT HUMBERT STREET,
TUBBERCURRY:**

Proposed by Councillor M. Gormley

Seconded by Councillor J. Lundy

AND AGREED

“That we call on Transport Infrastructure Ireland (T.I.I.) to upgrade the pedestrian crossing at the top of Humbert Street, Tubbercurry opposite Doohan’s Shop to a Signal Controlled Crossing in the interest of road safety”.

The Director of Services outlined the background to works carried out at this location and indicated that Sligo County Council will liaise with T.I.I. in relation to funding.

41. CONNAUGHTON ROAD CAR PARK:

Proposed by Councillor C. MacManus

Seconded by Councillor T. Healy

AND AGREED

“To ask for a report regarding the recent lack of accessibility to Connaughton Road Car Park due to the blocking of its entrance.”

Directors of Services, Mr. Kilfeather and Mr. Gavin reported as follows:

A number of weeks ago vehicular access to Sligo County Council’s car park at Connaughton Road was impacted for an extended period by the erection of a variety of impediments including rope, wooden pallets , gas tanks and mattresses. At an early point Councils staff requested of the occupants of the car park the removal of all such obstructions at the entrance but this was refused. Council subsequently removed obstructions on a number of occasions but within a very short space of time there were reinstated.

Separately, discussions were taking part between SCC Housing staff, legal representatives of the Council and occupants of the Car park and their legal representatives with regard to housing matters. In the course of these discussions it was verbally communicated and subsequently in writing to the legal representatives of the Car Park occupants that the Council required the obstructions placed on access to the car park to be removed and not reinstated. Since May 26th there has been no restriction to public access to the car park.

The Council’s Housing Section is committed to working with the family group towards the provision of suitable long-term accommodation which would accord with their needs. Presently, there are three undeveloped sites within Sligo City that are zoned for Residential Development under the Sligo and Environs Development Plan, to which a specific objective for Traveller Accommodation is attached. It is considered that the development of accommodation on one of these three sites is potentially the most deliverable solution. On Thursday last, the Council facilitated a viewing of all three sites for the family and their representatives. It is hoped that a meaningful process of dialogue and engagement can develop which would produce an outcome that provides improved living conditions for the family who have publicly declared their desire to move from their present location.

42. EUROPEAN MOBILITY WEEK 2017 – “SHARING GETS YOU FURTHER”:

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF SLIGO COUNTY COUNCIL HELD
ON MONDAY, 12TH JUNE, 2017 AT 11.00AM IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER,
COUNTY HALL, RIVERSIDE, SLIGO**

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

AND AGREED

“To ask Sligo County Council as to what plans are in place for European Mobility Week which is taking place this September, and the theme will be ‘Sharing Gets You Further’, with a focus on bike and car sharing - I have been contacted by companies that wish to get involved and in particular that would like to bring car sharing to County Sligo ahead of Mobility Week. To do this, a company will need on-street parking permits from Sligo County Council to run a pilot scheme.’ It involves using a booking system to reserve the vehicle and in-car technology to unlock the car and drive. It is ideal for people who only need occasional access to vehicle and don’t want to own one. Fuel, tax, insurance and maintenance are all included.”

The Head of Finance advised the Members that Sligo County Council has been contacted by a company called GoCar Ireland, who operate a car sharing business, seeking car parking spaces for this pilot in September.

The Council are looking into spaces away from the core area of town that will be accessible without having to be policed in order to keep the spaces free.

43. STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT ZONE – KNOCK AIRPORT:

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

AND AGREED

“Due to the recent announcement about the Strategic Development Zone around Knock Airport, I will ask does this Zone include areas/parts of County Sligo and I call on Sligo County Council to engage with all stakeholders to maximize this opportunity.”

Mr John Reilly, Head of Enterprise, advised the meeting that ‘Following approval of the proposed Strategic Development Zone (S.D.Z.) in lands adjacent to Ireland West International Airport by Government recently, the next step will involve the preparation of a planning scheme by Mayo County Council which will indicate the type and extent of development that will be permitted to establish within the S.D.Z. The key objectives of establishing the S.D.Z. are to strengthen the strategic role of the airport as a key economic and enterprise hub for the region, whilst providing another mechanism that, potentially, will enhance its future operations.

This is a welcome development. A viable airport will continue to play a key role in the development of this region, including from an enterprise and tourism perspective. In a context of any business development that may locate to the Strategic Development Zone in due course, obviously people living in Sligo would stand to benefit from the direct and indirect employment that would accrue.’

The Chief Executive added that this was an important motion with a regional significance. That must be considered in a wider context. Sligo County Council has made a submission in relation to the National Planning Framework with Sligo as the regional centre. Serious issues are facing the county e.g. Brexit, need to harness skills and competency especially in the tourism area and inward investment. All Agencies need to collaborate and address the infrastructural deficiencies referred to in the context of Brexit and need to be conscious of the move away from structural funds.

The Chief Executive had also recently attended a Seanad Select Committee Meeting with Cathaoirigh and Chief Executives from north and south discussing their collaboration. In all, it means that proposals and services that benefit the region should be supported whether in our county or just outside. Apart from the S.D.Z. it also supports and underpins development of I.W.A.K. (Ireland West Airport Knock) itself.

The Chief Executive emphasised that essential projects included the N16, N17, N4, Eastern Garavogue bridge, Western Distributor route, I.W.A.K. and broadband. Next month, the Council will be looking to partner a sister airport type relationship and a regional link with Orange County in the U.S. and the North West region here; a trade office in Providence, Rhode Island. He said he believed this is the way forward and is open to considering

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF SLIGO COUNTY COUNCIL HELD
ON MONDAY, 12TH JUNE, 2017 AT 11.00AM IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER,
COUNTY HALL, RIVERSIDE, SLIGO**

any alternatives and examining options. It will require thinking outside the box and ways that have not been looked at before for doing business.

Councillor Taylor thanked the Head of Enterprise and Chief Executive for their input and the Members for their support and noted that the Executive will do what they can do to maximise the benefits.

44. REQUEST FOR BRIEFING BY THE ASSOCIATION OF IRISH LOCAL GOVERNMENT (A.I.L.G.) ON “THE ROLE, FUNDING AND ACTIVITIES OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT MANAGEMENT AGENCY (L.G.M.A.):

Proposed by Councillor D. Bree

Seconded by Councillor C. MacManus

AND AGREED

“Noting that the Local Government Management Agency (LGMA) is primarily funded by county and city councils, who contribute in excess of €10 million per year to the agency; and noting that the Board of the agency is composed of 11 members (8 Chief Executives of county and city councils, 3 officials from the Department of Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government and no elected representative); and further noting the significant role of the agency in terms of influencing government policy on local government; and noting that councils and elected councillors are not provided with any information as to the activities of the LGMA: this Council requests the Association of Irish Local Government (AILG) to provide a briefing for elected members module on “The role, funding and activities of the Local Government Management Agency” as part of its annual Training Programme; and further we request the AILG to ensure that an elected councillor will be included as a speaker at the said briefing.”

Councillor Taylor, as the Council’s A.I.L.G. representative, said he would also bring this matter to their attention.

The Chief Executive’s offer to provide information concerning the L.G.M.A. to Councillor Bree and the Members was declined. Councillor Bree further requested that this resolution would be circulated to other local authorities, and this was agreed by the Members.

45. FOOTPATH AT RAILWAY BRIDGE ON REGIONAL ROAD R296 AT BALLYMOTE:

Proposed by Councillor M. Gormley

Seconded by Councillor D. Mulvey

AND AGREED

“Having been contacted by a number of concerned people with regard to the dangerous state of the fence along footpath at the Railway Bridge on Regional Road R296 at Ballymote where there are a number of openings, and there is a drop of 12 to 14 ft., I am calling on this council to provide a safe secure fence at this location in the interest of road safety”.

The Members were advised by the Director of Services that *the fence along the road is owned by Iarnród Éireann. The Ballymote Area Engineer will contact Iarnród Éireann in order to have the openings in the fence repairs.*

Members were further advised that the situation would be monitored to ensure these works were carried out at an early date. In reply to a query from Councillor Gormley, Mr. Kilfeather confirmed that he would revert to the Members with the 2015 report referred to.

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF SLIGO COUNTY COUNCIL HELD
ON MONDAY, 12TH JUNE, 2017 AT 11.00AM IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER,
COUNTY HALL, RIVERSIDE, SLIGO**

46. NATIONWIDE BAN ON SMOKY COAL:

With the agreement of the Members, this item as submitted by Councillor Casserly was deferred to the July Ordinary Meeting Agenda:

“That Sligo County Council write to Minister Naughten to implement a nationwide ban on smoky coal”.

48. PROVISION OF DISABLED PARKING SPACES:

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

AND AGREED

“To ask if any funding has been provided by the Government for the upgrade or provision of disabled parking spaces in Co. Sligo and if any new disabled parking spaces are planned to be introduced over the next 12 months.”

The Director of Services said the Council are not aware of any specific funding from Government for the upgrade or provision of disabled parking spaces. It is considered that the matter of the provision of additional disabled parking spaces could be referred to the recently re-established Disability Consultative Committee.

49. VOTES OF SYMPATHY:

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

AND AGREED

“That a vote of sympathy be extended to James Lavin and family of Kilshalvey, Gurteen, Co. Sligo on the death of his mother, Annie.

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

AND AGREED

“That a vote of sympathy be extended to Noel White and family of Ballinabole, Ballymote on the death of his sister, Mary Martin.

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

AND AGREED

“That a vote of sympathy be extended to Nathy Wims of Carrowreagh Knox, Tubbercurry on the death of his brother, Peter.

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

AND AGREED

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF SLIGO COUNTY COUNCIL HELD
ON MONDAY, 12TH JUNE, 2017 AT 11.00AM IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER,
COUNTY HALL, RIVERSIDE, SLIGO**

“That a vote of sympathy be extended to Joe Finn and family of Ougham, Bunninadden on the death of his sister, Annie Lavin.

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

AND AGREED

“That a vote of sympathy be extended to Kieran Cawley of Ballycummin, Easkey on the death of his brother, Liam.

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

AND AGREED

“That a vote of sympathy be extended to Monica Kilgallon of Fallathurteen, Dromard on the death of her brother, Liam.

The Chief Executive, on his own behalf and on behalf of the Staff, wished to be associated with these expressions of sympathy.

50. VOTES OF CONGRATULATIONS:

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

AND AGREED

“That a vote of congratulations be extended to Drimina National School, Drimina, Tubbercurry on the achievement of winning the All-Ireland Girls 5-a-side Soccer National Schools Final”.

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

AND AGREED

“That a vote of congratulations be extended to Scoil Mhuire gan Smal of Ballymote on winning the All Ireland Boys 5-a-side Soccer National Schools Final”.

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

To congratulate ‘Border Communities against Brexit’ on winning the ‘European Parliament Citizens Award 2017.’

51. CONFERENCES AND TRAINING:

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

AND AGREED

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF SLIGO COUNTY COUNCIL HELD
ON MONDAY, 12TH JUNE, 2017 AT 11.00AM IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER,
COUNTY HALL, RIVERSIDE, SLIGO**

“That the list of Training/Conferences circulated be noted”.

52. PROCEEDINGS OF CONFERENCES AND TRAINING:

The Members noted the summary of proceedings of conferences attended in accordance with Section 142(5) (f) of the Local Government Act, 2001.

53. CORRESPONDENCE:

The Members agreed to note the correspondence circulated with the agenda.

54. MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES:

No matter was raised under this heading.

55. ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

No matter was raised under this heading.

END OF MEETING:

The meeting concluded at 5.55 p.m.