Minutes of Meeting of Leitrim County Council held in Aras an Chontae, Carrick on Shannon, Co. Leitrim on Monday 4th April 2011 at 5.30 pm

Members Present: Councillor Tony Ferguson,
Councillor Sean McDermott
Councillor Sinead Guckian,
Councillor Martin Kenny,
Councillor Gerry Kilrane
Councillor Paddy O'Rourke
Councillor Sean McGowan,
Councillor John McTernan,
Councillor Thomas Mulligan,
Councillor Gerry Reynolds,
Councillor Enda Stenson,
Councillor John Ward,
Councillor John McCartin,
Councillor Mary Bohan
Councillor Siobhan McGloin,
Councillor Enda McGloin,
Councillor Francis Gilmartin,
Councillor Gordan Hughes,
Councillor Caillian Ellis

Apologies: Councillor Gerry Dolan

And Councillor Frank Dolan, Cathaoirleach presiding

Officials Present: Ms. Jackie Maguire, County Manager
Mr. Martin Dolan, Director of Services, Environment,
Emergency and Cultural Services
Mr. Joseph Gilhooly, Director of Services, Planning,
Community and Economic Development
Ms. Mary Quinn, Director of Services, Corporate Services & Housing
Mr John McGuinness, Director of Services,
Infrastructure
Mr. Shay O'Connor, Senior Engineer
Ms. Carmelita Caslin, Senior Executive Officer
Ms. Sinead Flynn, Meetings Administrator
Mr. Vincent Dwyer, Senior Executive Officer
Mr. Darragh O’Boyle, Senior Executive Engineer
Deimhniu Miontuairisci

Proposed by Councillor Enda Stenson, seconded by Councillor John Ward AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED;

“That the Minutes of the Meeting of Leitrim County Council held in the Council Chamber, Áras an Chontae, Carrick on Shannon, Co. Leitrim on Monday, 7th March 2011, be adopted.”

Proposed by Councillor Enda Stenson, seconded by Councillor John McTernan AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED;

“That the Minutes of the Special Meeting of Leitrim County Council held in the Council Chamber, Áras an Chontae, Carrick on Shannon, Co. Leitrim on Monday, 14th March 2011, be adopted.”

The Cathaoirleach, Councillor Frank Dolan on behalf of the Members welcomed Councillor Sean McSharry to his first meeting of Leitrim County Council and wished Councillor McSharry every success in his new role.

Section 183 of Local Government Act 2001

Notice of Intention dated the 14th March, 2011 from Director of Services Infrastructure to dispose of a plot of land in the townland of Mullaghboy, Kilclare, Carrick-on-Shannon, Co. Leitrim (Folio no. 8586F) as circulated to each Member appears as Appendix 1 to the Minutes of this meeting in the Minute Book.

Proposed by Councillor Enda Stenson, seconded by Councillor Tony Ferguson AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED;

“That the disposal of a plot of land in the townland of Mullaghboy, Kilclare, Carrick-on-Shannon, Co. Leitrim (Folio no. 8586F) in accordance with Section 183 of the Local Government Act 2001 and Notice of Intention to Dispose of Land dated the 14th March, 2011 be approved.”

Community & Voluntary Sector Grants 2011

Reports dated 1st April, 2011 from the Senior Executive Officer, Planning, Community and Economic Development in relation to the Community & Voluntary Sector Grants Scheme 2011 - Category A – Community Infrastructure/Development Initiatives and Category B – Community Based Events/Activities - as circulated to the Members appears as Appendix 2 and Appendix 3 respectively to the Minutes of this meeting in the Minute Book.

Proposed by Councillor Mary Bohan, seconded by Councillor Tony Ferguson AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED;

“That the proposals in relation to the allocation of grants under the Community & Voluntary Sector Grants Scheme 2011 be approved.”


Report dated 4th April, 2011 from the Director of Service, Environment, Emergency and Cultural Services in relation to the 2011 Arts Act Grant Scheme under the terms of the Arts Act 2003 as circulated to the Members and appears as Appendix 4 to the Minutes of this meeting in the Minute Book.

Proposed by Councillor Enda Stenson, seconded by Councillor John Ward AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED;

“Those proposals for the allocation of grants under the 2011 Arts Act Grant Scheme be approved.”

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04/4/2011  Annual Financial Statement
The unaudited Annual Financial Statement of Leitrim County Council for year ended 31st December 2010 presented in accordance with Section 108 of the Local Government Act 2001 and as circulated to the Members appears as Appendix 5 to the Minutes of this meeting in the Minute Book.

Ms. Jackie Maguire, County Manager advised the Members that at the end of the year the Council had a deficit of €34,857. Ms. Katrina Murphy, Head of Finance explained that the accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Accounting Code of Practice (ACoP) on local authority accounting, as revised by the Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government (DEHLG) at 31st December, 2010.

Councillor Gerard Reynolds queried the increase in the costs associated with the Fire Service and legal fees. Ms. Jackie Maguire, County Manager outlined that the increase in Fire Service Costs was as a result of an increase in bog and gorse fires. The increase in legal fees was due to legal fees outstanding that presented for payment in 2010.

“The Annual Financial Statement for the year ended 31st December, 2010 was considered and noted by the Members, in accordance with Section 108 of the Local Government Act 2001.”

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04/4/11  Over expenditure in the Financial Year ended 31st December 2010
Report in accordance with the provisions of Section 108 (4) of the Local Government Act 2001, in relation to financial expenditure incurred by Leitrim County Council during 2010, as circulated to the members appears as Appendix 6 to the Minutes of the Meeting in the Minute Book.

Proposed by Councillor Tony Ferguson seconded by Councillor Enda Stenson AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED;
“That the over expenditure in the Financial year ended 31st December 2010, be approved, in accordance with Section 104 of the Local Government, Act 2001.”

11/137  
04/04/2011  Report from Corporate Policy Group
Ms. Sinead Flynn, Meetings Administrator gave an overview of the items considered by the Corporate Policy Group. Ms. Flynn advised that the Infrastructure SPC meeting had taken place and the SPC drafted a revised policy on the Local Improvement Schemes. The report as circulated was noted by the Members and appears as Appendix 7 of the Minutes of the meeting in the Minute Book.

Ms. Jackie Maguire, County Manager outlined that the revised policy on the Local Improvement Scheme was required in order to comply with the new regulations introduced by the Department. Ms. Maguire explained that the major changes were as follows:

- Schemes over three years old are no longer eligible for an LIS.
- Applications will continue to be processed in chronological order.
- The Council will be contacting the relevant personnel in charge of the schemes and updating the waiting list.

Ms. Flynn also advised that the CPG also considered the following matters:
- Items for consideration at the main Council meeting.
- A report from the Audit Committee.
- The approval of the replacement of a nominee to An Coiste Gaeilge arising from the election of Deputy Michael Colreavy to Dail Eireann.

Proposed by Councillor Sean McSharry, seconded by Councillor Gerry Reynolds AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED;

“That Councillor Martin Kenny replaces former Councillor Michael Colreavy on the An Coiste Gaeilge Committee.”

11/138  
04/04/2011  Votes of Sympathy
The members extended a vote of sympathy to the following:

- Mr & Mrs Joseph McGoldrick, Aughamelta, Dromahair, Co. Leitrim on the death of Maureen McGoldrick.
- Mr Terance (Dom) McGowan, Ballymoare, Kinlough, Co. Leitrim on the death of Bridget McGowan.
- Mr Frank Mrs Celia Ferguson and Family, Ballymoare, Kinlough, Co. Leitrim on the death of Bridget McGowan.
- Ms Dorothy McGloin & Family, Main St, Bundoran, Co. Leitrim on the death of Cormac McGloin.
- The Boles Family, Carrickanarrow, Fivemilebourne, Co. Leitrim on the death of Pauline Boles.
• PJ Gilligan & Family, Cornagilla, Mullies, Manorhamilton on the death of Elizabeth Gilligan.
• Mr Ben McHugh, Ardmoneen, Glenfarne, Co. Leitrim on the death of Bridget McHugh.
• Ms Peggy & Mr Thomas Kelly, Edenville, Kinlough, Co. Leitrim on the death of Teresa Gilligan.
• Mr Felim Gurn & Family, Main Street, Manorhamilton, Co. Leitrim on the death of Michael J. Gurn.
• Mr Pakie Tom McNamara, Cloone, Co. Leitrim on the death of Mary McNamara.
• Mr Jimmy Reynolds, Drumderig, Drumshanbo, Co. Leitrim on the death of Peggy Reynolds.
• The Cusack Family, Hillcrest, Carrigallen, Co. Leitrim on the death of Maura Cusack.
• Mr Michael McGowan, Moher, Dromod, Co. Leitrim on the death of Kathleen McGowan.
• Mr Seamus Flynn, Lisbrackan, Drumshanbo, Co. Leitrim on the death of Myra Flynn.
• Ms Maura Goldrick & Family, Mong, Leitrim PO, Carrick-on-Shannon on the death of Bernard (Sonny) Goldrick.
• Councillor Mary Bohan on behalf of the Members extended her condolences to the family of the late Ronan McKerra PSNI Constable from Omagh, Co. Tyrone. Ms. Bohan expressed her regret that paramilitary groups were again becoming active in Northern Ireland. Ms. Bohan stated that the individuals involved did not represent their communities and did not act in their name in committing such a horrendous crime.

11/139
04/04/2011  Votes of Congratulation
The Members passed a Vote of Congratulations to the following:

• To Dr Raymond Kerr and Family, Church Road, Bundoran, Co. Donegal congratulations on the occasion of his recent retirement.

11/140
04/04/2011  Conferences
Proposed by Councillor Enda Stenson, seconded by Councillor Francis Gilartin AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED;
That Leitrim County Council approves the following Conferences/Events/Courses in line with the Training and Development Programme;

• Attendance of Councillor Enda McGloin, Councillor Siobhan McGloin and Councillor John McTernan at the ‘20th Annual Kerry Environmental Conference’ in Tralee on the 7th to the 10th April 2011.
• Attendance of Councillor Enda Stenson and Councillor Enda McGloin at the ‘The Future of Local Politics’ in Rosscarbery on the 15th to the 17th April 2011.


Proposed by Councillor John McCartin, seconded by Councillor Siobhan McGloin AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED;

“That the attendance of Councillor Gerard Reynolds at the ‘Rebuilding Confidence in Urban and Rural Communities’ Conference in the Tullamore Court Hotel on the 24th & 25th March 2011 be approved.”

Proposed by Councillor John McCartin, seconded by Councillor Enda Stenson AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED;

“That the attendance of Councillor Enda McGloin at the ‘Rebuilding Confidence in Urban and Rural Communities’ Conference in the Tullamore Court Hotel on the 24th & 25th March 2011 be approved.”

Proposed by Councillor Siobhan McGloin, seconded by Councillor Enda Stenson AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED;

“That the attendance of Councillor Paddy O’Rourke at the ‘How to be an effective Chairperson’ Conference in the Rosscarbery on the 1st to the 3rd April 2011 be approved.”

Proposed by Councillor Caillian Ellis, seconded by Councillor Paddy O’Rourke AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED;

“That the attendance of Councillor Caillian Ellis at the ‘How to be an effective Chairperson’ Conference in the Rosscarbery on the 1st to the 3rd April 2011 be approved.”

Proposed by Councillor Siobhan McGloin, seconded by Councillor Enda Stenson AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED;

11/141  04/04/2011  Meeting Correspondence


Councillor Sinead Guckian informed the Members of two important events related to the Arts due to take place in the County - Leitrim County Council’s Arts Awards which are due to take place on Friday the 29th of April, 2011 and an exhibition in The Dock displaying the visual art work of final year Art Students from Sligo Institute of Technology.

Councillor Caillian Ellis raised an issue under correspondence in relation to the service provided to the public by the NowDoc Service for access to GP services outside of surgery hours. Councillor Ellis expressed his concern that the service had refused to facilitate a house call to a patient over the weekend. Councillor Ellis called upon his fellow Councillors to support his request to contact the Health Services Executive and the Department of Health requesting an explanation as to why a house call was not facilitated for a person that was considered too ill to travel to access medical care.

Proposed by Councillor Caillian Ellis, seconded by Councillor Francis Gilmartin AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED;

“That Leitrim County Council contacts the Health Services Executive and Department of Health requesting an explanation as to why a house call would not be facilitated for a person that was considered too ill to travel to access medical care.”

Councillor Tony Ferguson queried if there was any recent amendment to the methodology for the calculation of rates on commercial properties. Councillor
Ferguson went on to state that the current mechanism didn’t take into account the profitability or turnover of the business and that many businesses were struggling in the current economic climate to meet their overheads. Councillor Ferguson called on his fellow Councillors to support a proposal to contact the Minister for Finance requesting that the existing methodology to calculate commercial rates for the business community be amended to take into account the profitability and turnover of the business.

Proposed by Councillor Tony Ferguson, seconded by Councillor Gerry Kilrane AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED;

“That Leitrim County Council contacts the Minister of Finance requesting that the existing methodology to calculate commercial rates for the business community is amended to take into account the profitability and turnover of the business”.

Part 1 Notices of Motion

11/142
04/04/2011 Survey of Road Signs

To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Caillian Ellis;

"I propose that Leitrim County Council carry out a survey on all roads as soon as possible as there are quite a number of road signs in poor condition and some roads with no road signs whatsoever."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"As a result of the significantly reduced level of funding available in 2011 it is not possible to replace all road signs that are in poor condition nor is it possible to provide road signs on all roads. Leitrim County Council does not have the resources to survey all roads in the County to ascertain the condition of all the road signs. It should be noted that Council staff routinely check for damaged/missing signage and safety signage is replaced as soon as possible. However if any of the Councillors are aware of particular missing/damaged signs, especially signs required for road safety they should advise their local area office which will endeavour to arrange for signs to be replaced."

Councillor Ellis stated that he was dissatisfied with the reply to his Notice of Motion and requested that the Council review their position and endeavour to replace yield signs where necessary.

11/143
04/04/2011 Bridge in Drumsna

To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Sinead Guckian;

"I ask the Director of Services, Roads and Infrastructure to investigate the current structure and state of the Bridge in Drumsna and provide a detailed
Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"A detailed structural inspection of the Drumsna Bridge is to be carried out this year as part of a survey of all Regional Road bridges, in eleven counties. Funding for this Bridge Inspection Scheme has been provided by the Department of Transport. As soon as this report becomes available, it will be made available to the Councillors."

Councillor Guckian welcomed the inspection of the bridge and asked when it is proposed to carryout the work identified in the Bridge Inspection Scheme referred to.

Mr John McGuinness, Director of Service, Infrastructure stated that the inspection will take place within the next 2-3 months. He informed the Members that it is reasonable to assume bridges prioritised in this inspection will have funding made available and that no funding was currently available.

11/144
04/04/2011 Footpaths in Carrick-on-Shannon
To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Enda Stenson;

"There are still a number of footpaths in Carrick-on-Shannon that are not accessible by Wheelchair Users. This issue has being raised before and was to be rectified, while I acknowledge a lot of work has being done, I am requesting the Carrick and all towns be made Wheelchair Friendly before the summer season."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"As acknowledged in this Notice of Motion significant progress has been made over the last number of years on making our towns more Wheelchair friendly and work is ongoing at present in Carrick on Shannon. A programme of works under the Council's Disability Implementation Plan has been agreed following consultation with the Disability Groups. Last year, works were carried out in Mohill, Ballinamore, Manorhamilton and Drumshanbo and works are currently ongoing in Carrick-on-Shannon. It is anticipated that disability access work will continue over the summer months."

Councillor Stenson acknowledged the work completed to date by the Council in Carrick-on-Shannon however he noted that there was one particular area in the town that requires an urgent response. John McGuinness confirmed that the Council were aware of this issue and that works would be progressed to address the matter.

11/145
04/04/2011 National Schools as Polling Stations
To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Siobhan McGloin;
"I propose that Leitrim County Council write to the Minister for Environment Heritage and Local Government asking him to consider changing the practice of using National Schools as polling Stations for elections and referendums in areas where there are other suitable public buildings available."

Proposed by Councillor Siobhan McGloin, seconded by Councillor Tony Ferguson AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED;

“That Leitrim County Council writes to the Minister for Environment Heritage and Local Government asking him to consider changing the practice of using National Schools as polling Stations for elections and referendums in areas where there are other suitable public buildings available."

11/146
04/04/2011 Litter and Illegal Dumping
To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Tony Ferguson;
"I ask the County Manager to make a submission to the Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government regarding the problems with litter and illegal dumping in the county and to design a scheme for this which would have many benefits regarding job creation and improving the environment."

Report by Director of Service, Environment, Emergency and Cultural Services
"All Local Authorities are obliged to prepare and adopt Litter Management Plans in accordance with Waste Management Legislation. The Council currently utilises its own limited financial resources for this purpose and this includes the carrying out of periodic litter picks on national routes. The provision of a special fund from national sources for this purpose would be beneficial."

Councillor Ferguson stated that he was aware that in Northern Ireland Community Employment Schemes are tasked with addressing litter issues and those of illegal dumping.

Ms. Jackie Maguire, County Manager outlined that the Council have no direct role in the operation and management of Community Employment Schemes and that they fall under the remit of FAS and the Department of Social Protection. Mr Martin Dolan, Director of Service, Environment, Emergency and Cultural Services agreed to draft a proposal for submission to the Department of Environment Heritage and Local Government requesting that the Department consider the merits of such a proposal and consult with the other relevant Departments concerned.

Proposed by Councillor Tony Ferguson, seconded by Councillor Enda Stenson AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED;

“That Leitrim County Council submits a proposal to the Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government regarding the problems with
litter and illegal dumping in the County and design a scheme to address the problem. The scheme would have the desired effects of improving the environment and stimulating job creation."

11/147
04/04/2011 Quinn Insurance Group
To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Gordon Hughes;
"I seek the support of my fellow Councillors in asking that Leitrim County Council write to the Minister for Finance, Mr. Michael Noonan requesting that he meet with representatives of the Quinn Group at the earliest opportunity in order that they may present their proposal concerning Quinn Insurance for the safe guarding of almost 6,000 jobs for this region and the potential creation of an additional 1,800 jobs over the next 7 years."

Proposed by Councillor Gordon Hughes, seconded by Councillor Caillian Ellis AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED;

"That Leitrim County Council write to the Minister for Finance, Mr. Michael Noonan requesting that he meet with representatives of the Quinn Group at the earliest opportunity in order that they may present their proposal concerning Quinn Insurance for the safe guarding of almost 6,000 jobs for this region and the potential creation of an additional 1,800 jobs over the next 7 years."

Councillor Hughes highlighted the importance of the Quinn Group as the largest employer in the region. Councillor Hughes went on to state that the consequences of job losses from the company would have devastating and far reaching consequences for the surrounding regions and local economy.

The Members unanimously supported the Motion and it was also proposed to circulate a copy of the Notice of Motion to all other local authorities

11/148
04/04/2011 IDA and Enterprise Ireland
To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Sean McGowan;
"I ask the County Manager to make contact with the Regional Offices of both the IDA and Enterprise Ireland to invite them to address a meeting of this council to outline what plans they have in relation to providing much needed employment in Leitrim."

Report by Director of Service, Planning, Community and Economic Development
"A presentation was made by the IDA and Enterprise Ireland at the last meeting of the County Development Board on 28 February 2011. Enterprise Ireland continue to actively support indigenous employment opportunities of greater than ten employees while IDA at regional level continue to work actively with all opportunities that arise for this region. In this regard, IDA supported one of the small number of investments in the region which
occurred in Manorhamilton in 2010."

Councillor McGowan stressed that job creation opportunities and the support of small local businesses was now more important than ever given the current economic position.

Councillor Gordon Hughes expressed his dissatisfaction at a recent presentation made by IDA to the County Development Board. Councillor Hughes stated that the focus of the IDA appears to be primarily targeting Sligo as a location of choice for attracting new industry and creating employment opportunities. Councillor Hughes stressed the importance of retaining the Leitrim County Enterprise Board to support enterprise and promote job creation in Leitrim.

11/149
04/04/2011 Repair Drumgeaglom Road and Bridge
To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Francis Gilmartin;
"Would Leitrim County Council please repair the Drumgeaglom Road and repair the bridge that has vanished where Drumgeaglom meets Drumleague there will be someone lost if this bridge is not replaced."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure
"Repairs have been carried out last month on local road LS 7382 at Drumgeaglom. The bridge referred to is on local road LS7379 between the townlands of Drumgeaglom and Drumleague. It is a minor road and on a straight section of road so it is not considered a high risk hazard for road users. In light of the significant reduction in funding for road works in 2011, it is currently not a priority but the parapets walls will be replaced on this bridge if funding becomes available. In the mean time measures will be taken to address any safety considerations at this location."

Councillor Gilmartin stated that he was satisfied with the reply to his Notice of Motion and that he considered this area unsafe. Mr. John McGuinness, Director of Service, Infrastructure confirmed that any immediate safety risks will be investigated.

11/150
04/04/2011 Primary School Transport Scheme
To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Sean McDermott;
"I ask Leitrim County Council to write to the Minister for Education and Skills, Mr Ruairi Quinn not to introduce the proposed changes to the Primary School Transport Scheme arising from the last Budget 2011. These changes will impose considerable financial hardships and inconvenience on parents and pupils living in rural areas."

Proposed by Councillor Siobhan McGloin, seconded by Councillor Tony Ferguson AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED;
"That Leitrim County Council writes to the Minister for Education and Skills, Mr Ruairi Quinn not to introduce the proposed changes to the Primary School Transport Scheme arising from the last Budget 2011. These changes will impose considerable financial hardships and inconvenience on parents and pupils living in rural areas."

This motion to be circulated to all Local Authorities and Minister of State Deputy Ciaran Cannon.

11/151 04/04/2011 Slipway in Jamestown
To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor John Ward;
"I ask Leitrim County Council to call on Inland Fisheries Ireland to upgrade the slipway opposite "The Cottage" restaurant in Jamestown, Co. Leitrim. Please forward a copy of this motion to Minister Pat Rabbitte, Minister for Communications, Energy & Natural Resources."

Proposed by Councillor John Ward, seconded by Councillor Sinead Guckian AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED;

"That Leitrim County Council calls on Inland Fisheries Ireland to upgrade the slipway opposite "The Cottage" restaurant in Jamestown, Co. Leitrim. Please forward a copy of this motion to Minister Pat Rabbitte, Minister for Communications, Energy & Natural Resources."

11/152 04/04/2011 Rewiring of Older Houses
To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Gerry Dolan;
"I call on Leitrim County Council to put in place a scheme in a way of grant aid to have houses built prior to 1960 rewired regardless to age of tenants."

Report by Director of Service, Corporate Services & Housing
"This type of work is provided for under the Housing Aid for Older Persons Grant Scheme; however the scheme specifies a minimum age limit of 60 years. Due to financial constraints this scheme is currently closed to new applications and the re-opening of the scheme will be reviewed in September 2011."

11/153 04/04/2011 St. Hugh’s National School, Dowra
To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Enda McGloin;
"I call on Leitrim County Council to put in place further road safety measures at St. Hugh’s National School, Dowra. Parents are concerned at the speed of traffic on this road and motorists may not be aware of a school at this location."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure
"St Hugh National School is located on the outskirts of Dowra Village in a 50 km/hr speed zone. There are advance school warning lights located on the approaches along the R200. There is also an additional 'school ahead' sign located on the Southern approach to inform road users entering the 50km/hr zone from the 80km/hr speed zone. The road markings on the approaches are currently in poor condition and need upgrading. It is proposed to have these markings upgraded and some more added on the approaches to the school which should make motorists more aware of the school at this location. This matter should be referred to the Local Garda Authorities if excessive speed by motorists at this location persists."

Councillor McGloin requested that additional signage and rumble strips be provided at this location. Mr John McGuinness, Director of Service, Infrastructure agreed that the road markings would be upgraded.

11/154
04/04/2011 Speed limits in Newtowngore
To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Paddy O'Rourke;
"I call upon Leitrim County Council to consider relocation the speed limit signs on the approach to Newtowngore village Ballinamore direction (R199) as it is generally felt that at its present location it is counter productive and will only serve to provoke penalties being applied to motorists while doing little to improve safety. A change to an area closer to the village would be more useful for the purpose it was intended."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure
"A review of the speed limits was recently completed. This included a public consultation period. No submissions or suggestions to change the speed limit on this road were received. The Council is therefore not in a position to consider changing the speed limit on this road until the next review of speed limits is carried out."

Councillor O'Rourke asked that the sign in question be reviewed. Mr John McGuinness, Director of Service agreed to investigate why the speed limit was extended at this location.

11/155
04/04/2011 Votes for non-resident Irish Citizens
To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Sean McSharry;
"That Leitrim County Council supports the extension of voting rights for Local, General, Referendum, European and Presidential Elections for Citizens of the Irish Republic who are not resident in Ireland but are in possession of an Irish Passport. I would propose that Leitrim County Council call on the Government to implement this in time for the upcoming Presidential Election."

Proposed by Councillor Siobhan McGloin, seconded by Councillor Tony Ferguson AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED;
"That Leitrim County Council supports the extension of voting rights for Local, General, Referendum, European and Presidential Elections for Citizens of the Irish Republic who are not resident in Ireland but are in possession of an Irish Passport. That Leitrim County Council calls on the Government to implement this in time for the upcoming Presidential Election."

**Part II - Questions.**

11/156
04/04/2011 **Junction at the Bridge in Jamestown**

*To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Sinead Guckian;*

"I ask the Director of Services, Roads and Infrastructure to investigate the possibility of re-aligning the junction at the Bridge in Jamestown, connecting to the Rue Road. It has been brought to my attention that vehicles exiting and entering the Rue road are not stopping at the junction with the bridge and the current alignment of the same encourages the vehicles to travel straight off (or onto) the Rue road when travelling across the bridge. While speed is of course a factor in this situation, the limited width of the Rue road means that no matter what speed a large vehicle is exiting and entering the road, the alignment of the junction lends itself to encouraging vehicles to continue straight ahead across the road without stopping."

**Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure**

"The re-alignment of the junction at Jamestown Bridge would need significant funding which is not presently available. The junction could be considered for a possible future Low Cost Safety Scheme, to improve road markings and road signs, but it must be pointed out that this junction is located within a 50KM Speed Limit and if the speed limit is adhered to, there should be no problems at this junction."

11/157
04/04/2011 **Ramps in St Patrick's Park, Carrick on Shannon.**

*To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Sinead Guckian;*

"I ask the Director of Services, Roads and Infrastructure to request the Roads Design Department to revisit the design of the new ramps erected in St Patrick's Park Carrick on Shannon, with a view to ensuring that the ramps are rebuilt to an adequate height to address the speeding in the area. The current structures are not appropriate for their intended function."

**Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure**

"The ramps at St Patricks Park will be revisited with a view to addressing the concerns raised in the Councillors question."

11/158
04/04/2011 **Coast Road at Tullaghan**

*To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Tony Ferguson;*

"I ask the Director of Services, to check out the situation with a right of way to the sea coast at Tullaghan from the Coast Road and to report back to the
Council?"

**Report by Director of Service, Planning, Community and Economic Development**

"The road is question is County Road LP 2059-2 known locally as the Coast Road. The Council believe that there are at least 3 no right of ways from this road to the sea coast. These rights of way have been in existence for generations but the Council are not aware of any maintenance that would have been carried out on these in the last 30 years. The matter will be investigated further as access to the shore at Tullagan was also raised during the preparation of the Kinlough/Tullaghan Community Plan."

11/159
04/04/2011  R280 at Kinlough
To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Tony Ferguson;
"Where is it proposed to move the very dangerous Telecom and ESB poles from the roadside on the R280 at Kinlough?"

**Report by Director of Service, Planning, Community and Economic Development**

"A development of 40 no houses were granted Planning Permission in June 2005 which is currently under construction on the R280 approach to Kinlough from Manorhamilton. The Council are currently in discussions with the Developers solicitor and agent to consider and agree the completion of outstanding site works by the developer."

11/160
04/04/2011  Cycle lanes, Carrick-on-Shannon
To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Enda Stenson;
"I have received a number of complaints/queries concerning the new markings for the cycle lanes particularly in the residential areas. May I ask are those complaints justified and is it legal for a motorist to drive inside the lanes, in the event of an accident happening are drivers within their rights to drive in this area."

**Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure**

"The cycle lanes presently under construction are part of the Smarter Travel Demonstration Project for Carrick on Shannon. All new cycle lanes within the town of Carrick-on-Shannon have been introduced in accordance with current traffic management guidelines. Cycle lanes are either Dedicated or Advisory in nature. Motorists are not allowed to drive in a Dedicated Cycle Lanes and these lanes have a continuous white line running along the lane. Dedicated Cycle Lanes are only located where the road is wide enough to accommodate the dedicated cycle lane and a full width dedicated car lane alongside (i.e. Link Road). Advisory Cycle Lanes have a broken white line running along the lane. Motorists are allowed drive on Advisory Cycle Lanes. Priority is given by the motorist to the cyclist when there is oncoming traffic (i.e. Summerhill).
It is our intention to have an information briefing in the local media in the
coming weeks to advise people of the status of these cycle lanes in the town."

11/161
04/04/2011 Local Improvement Scheme
To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Enda Stenson;
"May I ask what is the expected waiting time to have a Local Improvement Scheme completed, having to wait 6-8 years will make this very worthwhile scheme in a rural county useless as a lot of changes can occur over that time scale."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure
"At current Local Improvement Scheme Grant allocation levels, Leitrim County Council completes approximately 10 to 11 Schemes annually. There are 212 applications at present on the waiting list. A full report is being presented at the April Council Meeting to address the changes in the Local Improvement Scheme Memorandum restricting funding to schemes less than 3 years old."

11/162
04/04/2011 Junction at Adoon
To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Gordon Hughes;
"To ask the Area Engineers Office can you kindly confirm what if any plans Leitrim County Council has for the dangerous junction leading from Gorvagh crossroads to Cloone Village at Adoon, (LP1512-2) as this is an accident waiting to happen."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure
"The road in question is LP1512-2 and there are no funds available in 2011 for any works at this junction. Funding can be sought under Low Cost Safety measures in the future subject to the level of funding available and the level of priority of the works proposed at that time."

11/163
04/04/2011 Road works at Gorvagh P.O
To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Gordon Hughes;
"I ask the Area Engineers Office, Ballinamore when is it proposed to complete the road works at Gorvagh P.O. crossroads leading to the LP1512 and what are the council’s plans for the new road design at this location?"

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure
"A Specific Improvement Grant has been provided in 2011 on the R202. The works involve the improvement of the pavement on the R202 and also the alignment of the junction of the LP 1512 with the R202 (Mohil to Ballinamore regional road). It is envisaged that land will be acquired to improve sight lines at this junction. A new road surface will be constructed on the newly widened regional road. The existing LP 1512 will be lowered to allow easier access onto the R202. It is expected to carry out these roads during the Roadwork's
season."

11/164
04/04/2011 Public light at St Anne’s, Annaduff
To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Sean McGowan;
"I ask Mr. John Mc Guinness, Director of Services Infrastructure to look at the possibility of providing 1 (one) public light outside the entrance gate at St Anne’s Church of Ireland Annaduff."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure
"Due to the significant reduction in funding available in 2011 it is not possible to provide any additional public lighting except in the context of other grant works."

11/165
04/04/2011 Junction on the Carrick-Mohill Road
To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Sean McGowan;
"I ask Mr. John Mc Guinness, Director of Services Infrastructure has any progress been made with regard to putting in place a programme of works to improve the view at the junction on the Carrick-Mohill road at Laheenamona of local road from Rosdoowaun-Tamlaghtavally LS-7483-0. Has the Council had any discussions with relevant landowner, has any design work been done in relation to re-locating the junction? It is extremely dangerous for the local community coming out onto the R201 with a limited view back towards Carrick and they are concerned and fearful for their safety."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure
"In order to improve the view at this junction the vertical and horizontal alignment of the road would have to be changed. This would also mean changing the gradient of the existing sewer in order to give sufficient road cover. The funding required to carry out this type of work would be substantial and have to be sought under a Specific Improvement Grant. An allocation under Low Cost Safety would not be sufficient. The likelihood of acquiring funding of this nature in the current environment is unlikely."

11/166
04/04/2011 Gaffney’s Cross
To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Siobhan McGloin;
"I ask the Area Engineer when he intends carrying out improvements to the junction of the R280 and LS6102 at Drumcashel known locally as Gaffney’s cross."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure
"The junction in question known locally as “Gaffney’s Cross” is where County Road LS 6102-0 meets with Regional Road R280 at Drumcashel. This scheme is now approved under the 2011 Low Cost Safety Scheme. Detailed design of the scheme is currently being done. The works are
programmed to be carried out in October, subject to successful land acquisition."

11/167
04/04/2011 Road Repairs to LS 6099
To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Siobhan McGloin;
"I ask the Area Engineer when he intends to carry out restoration work on LS6099 in the townlands of Carnoona and Aughamore."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure
"The Roads in question is LS 6099 in Carnoona and Aghamore. There is a Restoration Improvement Grant on this road as part of the 2011 Roads Programme. Drainage works are currently on-going on this section of road. Road surfacing will be carried out on this road and works should be completed before the end of August 2011."

11/168
04/04/2011 Road Repairs to Crummy Road
To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Francis Gilmartin;
"Will Leitrim County Council repair the Crummy Road?"

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure
"Road number LS 7309 at Crummy will be assessed shortly and routine maintenance works carried out if required within the confines of the reduced budgets available in 2011"

11/169
04/04/2011 Road Repairs in Leitrim Village
To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Francis Gilmartin;
"Would Leitrim County Council repair the road into the football pitch in Leitrim and up to Flynn's house?"

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure
"Road number LT 33902 at Killarcan will be repaired shortly, however the section of road from the football pitch towards Flynnns is a not a public road and works cannot be carried out on this section of road by Leitrim County Council"

11/170
04/04/2011 Road Studs along the N16 Roadway
To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Sean McDermott;
"I ask if Leitrim County Council would request the N.R.A to continue the good work of laying Road Studs along the N16 Roadway, this is along the yellow lines that run along the sides of the road. The new Road Studs (or reflectors) that have been put in place recently have made driving at night a lot safer."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure
"In 2010 there was 6.5Km of the N16 re-surfaced which included road markings and road stud reflectors. As part of the 2011 NRA Road Surfacing Programme, Leitrim County Council intends to Re-Surface another 5KM of carriageway on the N16 Sligo to Belcoo Road at various locations to the same standard as the 2010 Surfacing Works. The completed surface will include Road Markings with Road Stud Reflectors."

11/171
04/04/2011 Cloone street lining
To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Caillian Ellis;
"When will Leitrim County Council line the street in the village of Cloone."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure
"The lining required in the village of Cloone will be carried out in the next month subject to the weather conditions being favourable."

11/172
04/04/2011 Ramps Breffni Crescent
To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor John Ward;
"I ask Leitrim County Council to meet residents of Breffni Crescent in connection with ramps, as ramps already in place are no way suitable. I want a time frame as to when this work will be carried out."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure
"The ramps at this location will be revisited with a view to addressing the residents concerns as soon as the macadam contractor is back in the area (likely to be in the next two weeks)."

11/173
04/04/2011 Public Lighting in Jamestown
To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor John Ward;
"I ask Leitrim County Council to erect lights from village down to the "Cottage Restaurant" also to light up slipway."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure
"Leitrim County Council currently has no funding available for a project at this location. However, it is recommended that the local community pursue the option of developing a project for submission to the Leitrim Development Company."

11/174
04/04/2011 Road Repair
To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Gerry Dolan;
"To have the road from the Slieve na killa road to Thomas (Condy) Gilmartins home"

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure
"Road number LT 42974 at Sranagarvanagh will be assessed shortly and
routine maintenance works carried out if required within the confines of the reduced budgets available in 2011"

11/175
04/04/2011 Bridge Repairs
To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Paddy O'Rourke;
"I ask Leitrim County Council when will the very necessary repairs to the bridge parapet along road junction of LS 5489-0 and LS 55220 at townland of Augalaugh and Arderry near Drumlea church be carried out presently it is in a dangerous state posing a risk to passers by."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure
"The repairs requested in this question are indeed desirable but unfortunately there is currently no funding available for these works. This bridge will be inspected and the need for further safety measures will be reassessed and addressed if necessary. There is a growing list of bridges throughout the County in need of repair, some with weight restrictions, and a case for special funding will have to be made to the Department of Transport."

11/176
04/04/2011 Footpath repairs Glendara Estate, Manorhamilton
To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Sean McSharry;
"Can I bring to the attention of the Director of Services, Infrastructure the break in the footpath outside Glendara Estate on the Manorhamilton-Rossinver road-R282. The break in the provision of a footpath is dangerous and is causing pedestrians and schoolchildren to walk on a busy road when entering and exiting the estate."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure
"The road in question is the R282, Manorhamilton to Rossinver road. A footpath in this area would be desirable but would require land acquisition. There is currently no funding available to carry out such works. Funding for the proposed works can be included for consideration in the 2012 Works Programme."

11/177
04/04/2011 Traffic calming - Gaelscoil Cluainin, Manorhamilton
To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Sean McSharry;
"I ask the Director of Services, Infrastructure if there are any traffic calming measures proposed for the area around Gaelscoil Cluainin and the playground opposite the castle. This is a very busy junction which leads onto the main Bundoran road and I believe would benefit from increased signage."

Report by Director of Service, Planning, Community and Economic Development
"Leitrim County Council is currently in discussions with the Receiver who has been appointed to the overall site. The receiver is attempting to resolve the situation and retain the development as a going concern. As part of this
process, it will be necessary for the Receiver to submit a new planning application to deal with outstanding issues, including traffic calming measures necessary at this location."

The Cathaoirleach Frank Dolan informed the Members that the June Council Meeting will be held in Manorhamilton.

The meeting concluded at 7:30 pm.

SIGNED: Frank Dolan                                      SIGNED: Sinead Flynn
                   Cathaoirleach                          Meetings Administrator
DATE:  9th May 2011