Councillor Gordon Hughes highlighted the case of Meave McGivern a fourteen year old schoolgirl from Ballinamore, Co. Leitrim who has been on a waiting list for a liver transplant for 11 months. He outlined that her family were contacted on Saturday evening and informed that a liver had become available in London. He outlined that the emergency medical support services told the family that they would co-ordinate transport plans for them and, after a number of options were ruled out, advised them to travel to Strandhill airport to meet up with a Coastguard helicopter. He outlined that they rushed to the airport and arrived before 11pm that night, but it then emerged that the journey time could take up
to four hours and this meant that Meave would not make it to London in time for the liver transplant.

The Members welcomed the announcement from Dr. James O’Reilly, Minister for Health that he had personally contacted the family and that a full review of the circumstances relating to the delay in providing the emergency transport will be completed.

*Proposed by Councillor Gordon Hughes, seconded by Councillor Martin Kenny AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED;*

“That Leitrim County Council write to the Minister for Health and Children to ensure that all the necessary services are in place for any patients who are waiting on a transplant and need to be airlifted out of the country”.

**11/288**

**4/07/2011** *Votes of Sympathy*

The Members extended a vote of sympathy to the following:

- Joe & Mary Teresa Murphy, Drumderg, Corraleehan, Ballinamore on the death of Peter Murphy.
- Mr & Mrs John O’Donnell & Family, Corry, Drumkeerin, Co Leitrim on the death of Mrs Fitzpatrick.
- Margaret May Keegan, Killameen, Carrigallen P.O., Co. Leitrim on the death of James P. (Sonny) Gray.
- Tommy Cunnion, Drumeela, Carrigallen, Co Leitrim on the death of Cathleen Cunnion.
- Eddie McCartin, Drumgowna, Mohill, Co Leitrim on the death of Philomena McCartin.
- Margaret Reynolds, Barrack Street, Drumshanbo, Co Leitrim on the death of Cyril Reynolds.
- Mrs Annette Ivers and Family, Lower Wardhouse, Tullaghan on the death of Jim Ivers.
- Mrs M Ward & Family, Rathmore, Ballyshannon, Co Donegal, Mr & Mrs Michael Ward & Family Tullaghan and P.J. Ward and Family, Glenview, Kinlough on the death of Michael Ward.
- Mrs P Cullen and Family, Coolbeg, Drumcliff, Co Sligo on the death of Patrick Cullen.
- Paddy & Marie McGowan, Corner Shop, Kinlough and Mr & Mrs John McGowan, Cloonawillan, Kinlough on the death of Seamus McGowan.
- Mr & Mrs Martin Curneen and Family, 8 Monien, Kinlough, Co Leitrim on the death of Daniel Curneen.
- The Family of the Late James Scallon, New Houses, Kinlough on the death of James Scallon.

Ms. Jackie Maguire, County Manager extended a special vote of sympathy to the family of the late Cyril Reynolds, Barrack Street, Drumshanbo. Ms. Maguire stated that Cyril was an employee of the Council’s Housing Maintenance Staff. She went on to state that Cyril was a highly regarded member of staff and that his untimely and sudden death had saddened all of those who had worked with him over the years.
Deimhniu Miontuairisci

Proposed by Councillor Caillian Ellis, seconded by Councillor Mary Bohan AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED;

“That the Minutes of Meeting of Leitrim County Council held in Newtown Manor Community Centre on Monday, 13th June 2011, be adopted.”

Proposed by Councillor Siobhan McGloin, seconded by Councillor Gordon Hughes AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED;

“That the Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Leitrim County Council held in Aras An Chontae on Monday, 27th June 2011, be adopted.

Local Authority Development

(i) Report Ref. No. 11/C/06 from County Manager dated 1st July, 2011 in relation to Implementation of Safety Improvement Measures on the National Primary Route (N4) at Faulties Td., including road widening and verge improvements. in accordance with the requirements of Section 179 (2) (B) of the Planning & Development Act, 2000 and Part 8 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 as circulated to the Members appears as Appendix 1 to the Minutes of this meeting in the Minute Book.

Proposed by Councillor Sean McGowan, seconded by Councillor Sinead Guckian AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED;

“That the Implementation of Safety Improvement Measures on the National Primary Route (N4) at Faulties Td., including road widening and verge improvements be approved”.

Councillor Enda Stenson stated that certain works had not been completed from the previous improvement measures on the National Primary route and sought clarification on whether these works could be included in current project.

Ms. Jackie Maguire, County Manager confirmed that these works are provided for in the development.

(ii) Report Ref. No. 11/C/07 from Jackie Maguire, County Manager dated 4th July, 2011 in relation to the construction of a roundabout at the junction of the Castlecara Road and the National Primary Route (N4) at Attifinlay TD., Carrick-on-Shannon, Co. Leitrim. The works will include construction of Footpaths and Cycle Lanes, associated with this development in accordance with the requirements of Section 179 (2) (B) of the Planning & Development Act, 2000 and Part 8 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 as circulated to the Members appears as Appendix 2 to the Minutes of this meeting in the Minute Book.
Proposed by Councillor Gerard Reynolds, seconded by Councillor John Ward AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED;

“That the construction of a roundabout at the junction of the Castlecara Road and the National Primary Route (N4) at Attifinlay TD., Carrick-on-Shannon, Co. Leitrim and the works will include construction of Footpaths and Cycle Lanes, associated with this development be approved”.

Councillor Gerard Reynolds requested clarification on the proposed size of the roundabout. Mr. Shay O’Connor, Senior Executive Engineer confirmed that the roundabout would be on the same scale as the existing roundabout at Tesco, Carrick-on-Shannon on the approach to the Dublin Road on the N4.

11/291

Report from County Manager on the submissions received on the Draft Variation No 1 of the County Development Plan 2009-2015 as circulated to the Members appears as Appendix 3 to the Minutes of this meeting in the Minute Book.

Ms. Jackie Maguire, County Manager informed the Members that under the Planning and Development (Amendment) Act 2010 each local authority is required to make a Variation of the County Development Plan, to incorporate a ‘Core Strategy’. This ‘Core Strategy’ must be consistent with the national and regional objectives. She further advised that previously local authorities only had to ‘have regard to’ national and regional strategies and guidelines. The Members were informed that in accordance with the legislative requirements the Core Strategy must be incorporated into the County Development Plan on or before the 28th of September, 2011.

Ms. Maguire advised that Mr Joseph Gilhooly, Director of Services, Planning, Community and Economic Development would outline the main provisions and recommendations contained within the report. A total of 22 submissions were received, the report lists and summarises the submissions and presents the Managers response/recommendations to the submissions.

Mr. Gilhooly informed the Members that the report was prepared following the receipt of submissions in respect to the proposed Variation No. 1 to the Leitrim County Development Plan 2009-2015 and in accordance with legislative requirements. The report makes recommendations arising from the foregoing considerations that involve amendments to the proposed Variation in certain instances and the report is intended to assist the Members in their consideration and adoption of the Plan. Members considered the individual submissions and recommendations and raised the following queries:

Submissions No. 6
From: Harry Nugent (on behalf of DSB Care)
Address: York House, 140 High Town Road, Luton, Bedfordshire, LU2, ODJ, United Kingdom.

Main Issue: Rezoning of Land in Drumshanbo from Enterprise and Employment to Social and Community
Submissions No. 7
From: TJ J McLoughlin,
Address: 141 London Road, Luton, Bedfordshire, LU1 3RL.

Main Issue: Rezoning of Land in Drumshanbo from Enterprise and Employment to Social and Community

Councillor Gerard Reynolds requested clarification from the Manager on submission No. 6 and No. 7 contained within the report. The submissions request that lands located along the Dowra Road, Drumshanbo be rezoned from Enterprise and Employment to Social and Community. The submission indicates that this would facilitate a planning application for a 65 Bed Nursing Home with four (two-storey) sheltered housing units.

Ms. Maguire responded by stating that there is no proposal contained within the Variation that would affect these lands. She further outlined that the reduction in the lands zoned Enterprise and Employment at this location is considered inappropriate as the lands concerned form part of a wider area zoned Enterprise and Employment and it is a key requirement of the Development Plan to ensure that there are sufficient lands zoned to accommodate opportunities for enterprise and employment. The Managers recommendation therefore in relation to this submission is that the existing zoning of the site as Enterprise and Employment remains unchanged.

The Manager stated that the Members could later seek a Material Contravention of the County Development Plan to allow for the development of a Nursing Home at this location. This recommendation was noted by the Members who indicated their willingness to consider such a measure in the future.

Submission No 8
From: Gerard McPartlan
Address: Tuckmillpark, Manorhamilton, Co. Leitrim.
Main Issue: Rezoning of lands at Manorhamilton – Plot 21 on Zoning Map 3a

Recommendation:
A) That the lands outlined in red and marker B on the map remain zoned Primarily Residential
B) That the lands marked C on the map be rezoned from Primarily Residential to Residential Reserve Support
C) The balance of the applicant’s land to be dezoned as proposed under the Variation.

Councillor Frank Dolan requested clarification in relation to the lands marked C on the map. He stated that it was unlikely given the current position that a hotel proposed for this site would be developed. He queried if the site in question could be considered at a future stage for residential development. Ms. Jackie Maguire, County Manager advised that the recommendation is that this part of the site outlined in blue on the map should be zoned residential reserve support. This zoning would provide for certain tourism, enterprise, amenity and community uses and would be compatible with adjoining zoning.

Ms. Maguire also stated that a portion of the northern part of the site where foundations have been laid would remain zoned primarily residential. The area concerned amounts to 0.18Ha and the planning authority could if there was a significant reduction in the level of
vacant residential units in Manorhamilton be disposed towards a grant of permission for residential development on the site.

Councillor Francis Gilmartin sought clarification on behalf of Councillor Enda McGloin who was absent from the meeting on whether 2.2 acres of lands on the Drumboylan Road outside of Leitrim Village were going to be dezoned.

Councillor Gerard Reynolds confirmed that the Developer has spent a considerable amount of money on this site and that all services are in place.

Ms. Jackie Maguire, County Manager confirmed that the site in question is being dezoned because of extensive flooding issues. She stated that if measures are put in place to rectify the flood risk and if there was evidence of a significant reduction in the number of vacant residential units in Leitrim Village the position in relation to the zoning of this particular site could be reviewed. The Members noted the Managers response.

 Proposed by Councillor Enda Stenson, seconded by Councillor Gerry Dolan AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED;

“That the Report from County Manager on the submissions received on the Draft Variation No 1 of the County Development Plan 2009-2015 be adopted”.

Councillor Francis Gilmartin abstained from voting and this was agreed by the Members present.

11/292
4/7/2011 Higher Education Grants Scheme 2011

Report dated 4th July, 2011 from Aideen McGovern, Senior Executive Officer, Housing and Corporate Services in relation to the Higher Education Grants Scheme 2011, as circulated to the Members, appears as Appendix 4 to the Minutes of this meeting in the Minute Book.

 Proposed by Councillor Gerry Kilrane, seconded by Councillor Mary Bohan AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED;

“That the Higher Education Grants Scheme 2011 be approved.”

While the Members approved the adoption of the scheme, concerns were raised by the Members on changes to the scheme which will impact on existing grant recipients that may no longer qualify for a full maintenance grant due to changes in the qualifying criteria for a full maintenance grant based on the distance from their family home to the third level institution. Concerns were also raised on the proposed transfer of the administration of the grants from the local authority to one centralised location.

11/293
4/7/2011 Section 138(1) of the Local Government Act 2001

The County Manager outlined that there were no commitments to report in this regard.
Ms. Sinead Flynn, Meetings Administrator gave an overview of the items considered by the Corporate Policy Group. Ms. Flynn provided an update on the recent SPC Meetings held as follows:

Infrastructure Strategic Policy Committee Meeting held on the 28th of June, 2011:

Water Conservation Policy: The Infrastructure SPC considered a new Water Conservation Policy a copy of which was circulated to the Members with the Meetings Correspondence.

Presentation from Jennings and O'Donovan Consultants: The SPC agreed to facilitate a presentation by Consultants Jennings and O'Donovan at the September Council Meeting to address the Members in relation to the Water Abstraction Order from Lough Gill to supply the North Leitrim Regional Water Scheme. This request was also approved by the CPG.

Ms. Flynn also advised that the CPG had considered the items for the General Purposes Meeting and the Council meeting. The attendance of Members at upcoming conferences/events in line with the Training and Development Programme was also agreed.

Conferences

Proposed by Councillor Enda Stenson, seconded by Councillor Gerry Dolan AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED;

That Leitrim County Council approves the following Conferences/Events/Courses in line with the Training and Development Programme:


“Attendance of Councillor Sean McGowan and Councillor Mary Bohan at the Councillor and the Local Government Environmental Service Conference in Hayland’s Hotel, Ballyvaughan, Co Clare from the 22nd July, to 23rd July, 2011.”


7
“Attendance of Councillor Tony Ferguson at the Cumann Merriman Summer School – Changing Irish Childhoods from the 17th to the 21st August, 2011”.

“Attendance of Councillor Sean McGowan at the Benedict Kiely Literary Weekend 2011 in Strule Arts Centre, Townhall Square, Omagh, Co Tyrone from the 8th September, 2011 to 11th September, 2011.”

“Attendance of Councillor Mary Bohan at the Local Government and Planning Seminar for Councillors in the Patrick Punch Hotel, Limerick from the 7th October, 2011 to 8th October, 2011”.

“Attendance of Councillor Tony Ferguson at the Centre for Cross Border Studies “Peace Building Across Borders” in Derry City Hotel on Thursday, 23rd June 2011”.

11/296
4/7/2011 Correspondence
The following items of Correspondence were circulated to the Members;


   Councillor Sean Mc Sharry requested an update in relation to the companies that were granted licences to commence exploratory works at Lough Allen. Ms. Jackie Maguire, County Manager advised that initial discussions with one of the Companies - Tamboran had commenced and they were willing to facilitate a meeting with the Members at the September Council meeting.

2. Letter from ASH Ireland dated 22nd June, 2011 in relation to an initiative proposing the introduction of a ban on smoking to be introduced for children’s playgrounds.


   Councillor Siobhan McGloin advised that this reply related to a previous Notice of Motion she had submitted on the use of national schools for polling stations. Ms. McGloin went on to state the level of inconvenience experienced by the parents, teachers and the pupils of the school. Ms. McGloin again re-iterated the need to source more suitable locations for use as polling stations.


5. Letter from the Minister of the Environment, Community and Local Government dated 29th June, 2011 acknowledging communication in connection with the resolution passed by Leitrim County Council regarding voting by Irish citizens abroad in Irish Elections.
6. Letter dated 28th June, 2011 from the Office of the HSE Area Manager of Sligo/Leitrim/West Cavan Area in response to correspondence issued on the reduction to Patient Services by the HSE.

7. Letter dated 30th June, 2011 from the Health Service Executive in relation to a resolution passed by Leitrim County Council on the centralisation of the processing of applications for medical cards.

Others items raised under Meetings Correspondence

- **Health Centre in Ballinamore**
  Councillor Caillian Ellis noted that no reply had been received from the Minister for Health and Children in relation to the Health Centre in Ballinamore. Councillor Gordon Hughes confirmed that he hoped to meet the Minister for Health and Children in the next week and he intended to seek an update on the status of the project.

- **Roscommon County Hospital**
  Councillor Martin Kenny called on the support of all the Members to write to the Minister of Health to retain the services at Roscommon Hospital. This proposal received the unanimous support of the Members.

- **Broadband**
  Councillor Francis Gilmartin noted that no reply to date has been received from Eircom since the June meeting in relation to Broadband. Councillor Gilmartin proposed that an email issue to Eircom immediately from each of the Members and upon receipt of a reply this is to be forwarded to Councillor Gilmartin. Councillor Mary Bohan emphasised that any individual experiencing difficulty in getting broadband should apply individually to the Department before the closing date of 29th July, 2011.

- **Vocational Educational Committee**
  Councillor Mary Bohan expressed her concern that the proposed amalgamation of the VEC’s for Leitrim is to form part of a three County contingent of Sligo/Leitrim and Mayo. Councillor Bohan was concerned that the existing VEC office located in Carrick-on-Shannon would be moved and that most likely the new headquarters would be in Castlebar, Co. Mayo. Councillor Bohan called on the support of all Members to lobby their party colleagues and the Minister for Education to retain the VEC office in Carrick-on-Shannon. The Members unanimously supported this proposal.

- **Radon Gas**
  Councillor Frank Dolan welcomed the report on the Radon Gas Monitoring Programme circulated to the Members. He queried if the contents of the report would be made available and circulated to the local media.

  Mary Quinn, Director of Services, Housing and Corporate confirmed that a press release on the matter will be circulated to the local media.

11/297
4/7/2011 Presentation from Candidates seeking a nomination to content the Presidential Election

The Cathaoirleach, Councillor John McTernan on behalf of the Members welcomed
Senator David Norris, Sean Gallagher and Dermot Mulqueen to the meeting to address the Members and seek their support for the forthcoming Presidential Election. Councillor McTernan wished them every success in their future campaigns.

The delegates individually addressed the Members and thanked the Members for facilitating their request to meet with them.

**Part I - Notices of Motion.**

**11/298**

**4/7/2011 Presidential Election Nomination**

To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Enda Stenson;

"That Leitrim County Council, do hereby nominate Sean Gallagher Entrepreneur to contest the upcoming Presidential Election subject to the formal ratification process being completed, following the making of the Presidential Election Order."

**Proposed by Councillor Enda Stenson, seconded by Councillor Gerry Dolan AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED**

"That Leitrim County Council, do hereby nominate Sean Gallagher Entrepreneur to contest the upcoming Presidential Election subject to the formal ratification process being completed, following the making of the Presidential Election Order."

Councillor Enda Stenson complimented the three candidates on their presentations thanked the Members for their support. Councillor Stenson requested clarification on the formal nomination process.

Ms. Jackie Magurie, County Manager outlined that once the Presidential Order has been signed the Members will be given the opportunity to formally ratify their decision.

**11/299**

**4/7/2011 School Bus Fares**

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

"I propose that Leitrim County Council immediately write to the Minister for Education and the Minister for Finance to review the proposed increase in charges for Transport for pupils attending National and Second level schools and seek to have the present charges and conditions maintained."

Councillor Ellis proposed that a letter issue to the Minister for Education and Skills and the Minister for Finance to review the proposed increase in charges. He stated that the proposed increases will pose a further financial strain on families many of whom are already experiencing financial hardship.

Councillor Ellis went on to state that the imposition of these charges could also impact on the service whereby it would not be cost effective for families to access the service and this could potentially result in job losses for those employed on the bus routes.
Proposed by Councillor Caillian Ellis, seconded by Councillor John McCartin AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED

“That Leitrim County Council immediately write to the Minister for Education and the Minister for Finance to review the proposed increase in charges for Transport for pupils attending National and Second level schools and seek to have the present charges and conditions maintained.”

11/300
4/7/2011 Traffic calming measures

To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Tony Ferguson;

“I ask the Director of Services, Infrastructure what are the conditions required for the installation of traffic calming measures on the approach roads to towns and villages?. There is a need for these controls on the R280 as you enter Kinlough on the Manorhamilton Road.”

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

“Traffic Calming Schemes are primarily focused on our National Routes which are in the control of the NRA. The conditions for selection of a scheme are based on the selection criteria such as number of accidents, traffic volumes, traffic speed history, the quality of the pavement and planning considerations. Each scheme has to be assessed and evaluated in accordance with the NRA Guidance Document “Guidelines on Traffic Calming for towns and villages on National Routes”. It is proposed to carry out this evaluation for Kinlough Town in 2012. Following this assessment funding will be sought for the appropriate measures suggested by that assessment.”

11/301
4/7/2011 Ulster Bus

To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Gordon Hughes;

“I ask that this Council write to the Area Manager for Ulster Bus requesting that their decision to remove the Omagh to Longford service from 1st July 2011 be overturned. This route serves a large hinterland around Ballinamore whom rely on it as their only bus route service out of the town as it connects with both Enniskillen and the train/bus services in Longford. Furthermore can I request that this authority write to the Regional Manager for Bus Eireann, Mr. Rory Leahy requesting an urgent meeting with local representatives in the Ballinamore area in order to discuss a proposed new bus route for the South Leitrim area.”

The Notice of Motion was unanimously supported by the Members. Councillor Gerry Kilrane suggested that Councillor Hughes amend his Motion to extend the matter to the entire County. Councillor Hughes agreed to the amendment.

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

“That Leitrim County Council write to the Area Manager for Ulster Bus requesting that their decision to remove the Omagh to Longford service from 1st July 2011 be overturned. This
route serves a large hinterland around Ballinamore whom rely on it as their only bus route service out of the town as it connects with both Enniskillen and the train/bus services in Longford. Furthermore can I request that this authority write to the Regional Manager for Bus Eireann, Mr. Rory Leahy requesting an urgent meeting with local representatives in the Ballinamore area in order to discuss a proposed new bus route for the whole County.

11/302 4/7/2011 Hospital Car Parking

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

"At the July meeting of Leitrim County Council, I will ask for the support of Members in calling on the Minister for Health and the Joint Oireachtas Committee on Health, to formulate a policy for hospital car parking and management for the country. The policy should include a requirement to provide concessions for visitors and patients in certain circumstances."

Proposed by Councillor Sinead Guckian, seconded by Councillor Mary Bohan AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED

"That Leitrim County Council, call on the Minister for Health and the Joint Oireachtas Committee on Health, to formulate a policy for hospital car parking and management for the country. The policy should include a requirement to provide concessions for visitors and patients in certain circumstances."


To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Sean McGowan;

"At the July meeting of Leitrim County Council I will seek the support of the Members in again calling on Bus Eireann to restore the school bus service, to the students from the Gortletteragh / Bornacoola area who are attending the new Community College in Mohill, to its original route through Tooman, Clooncumber and on to Johnston Bridge which had been in operation for a long number of years. Bus Eireann changed the route 3 years ago, where the Bus now goes from Tooman to Clooneagh Cross and it means that 12 students who used to be picked up at Johnstones Bridge (where there is plenty of room for them to safely wait for the bus) have to make their way to Clooneagh Cross which is very narrow and dangerous. The parents and students are concerned for their safety and are seeking to have the original route restored. There is a lot of anger and frustration with the school bus section of Bus Eireann."

Proposed by Councillor Sean McGowan, seconded by Councillor Gerry Kilrane AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED

"That Leitrim County Council again call on Bus Eireann to restore the school bus service, to the students from the Gortletteragh / Bornacoola area who are attending the new Community College in Mohill, to its original route through Tooman, Clooncumber and on to Johnston Bridge which had been in operation for a long number of years. Bus Eireann
changed the route 3 years ago, where the Bus now goes from Tooman to Clooneagh Cross and it means that 12 students who used to be picked up at Johnstones Bridge (where there is plenty of room for them to safely wait for the bus) have to make their way to Clooneagh Cross which is very narrow and dangerous. The parents and students are concerned for their safety and are seeking to have the original route restored. There is a lot of anger and frustration with the school bus section of Bus Eireann."

11/304  
4/7/2011  
**Hedgecutting**

*To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor John Ward;*

"I ask Leitrim County Council to cut back hedges on the Crowhill Road into Drumsna, as the visibility is very poor, as this would mean a lot to the safety of drivers on this road."

**Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure**

"The Hedge Cutting season is from the 1st September 2011 to the 28th February 2012. The Roads Act 1993 Section 70 states that all landowners and occupiers of lands are responsible for the maintenance of road side hedges. The Council will inspect the hedges in question and will serve hedge-cutting notices, as necessary, on the landowners, as soon as the Hedge Cutting season reopens."

11/305  
4/7/2011  
**Former Vocational School in Mohill**

*To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Gerry Kilrane;*

"I ask this Council to ascertain from the Vocational Education Committee what their plans are for the former Vocational School in Mohill."

**Proposed by Councillor Gerry Kilraine, seconded by Councillor Enda Stenson AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED**

"That this Council ascertain from the Vocational Education Committee what their plans are for the former Vocational School in Mohill."

11/306  
4/7/2011  
**Hedge Cutting**

*To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Siobhan McGloin;*

"At the next meeting of Leitrim County Council I will ask that when the nesting season is over, that this Council adopt a more proactive approach to ensure all hedges along public roads are cut back in the interests of safety."

**Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure**

"The Hedge Cutting season is from the 1st September 2011 to the 28th February 2012. The Roads Act 1993, Section 70 states that all landowners and occupiers of lands are
responsible for the maintenance of all roadside hedges.

Leitrim County Council will continue to take a pro-active approach to hedge cutting in the County by having Notices published in the Local Newspapers each year reminding landowners of their responsibilities in relation to the maintenance of their hedges. The Council will also continue to issue hedge cutting notices each year to landowners. While it has to be acknowledged that in the majority of cases most landowners fulfil their responsibilities in relation to hedge cutting there some noticeable exceptions and the Council intend to target these areas this year. If an elected member has issues with hedges on a particular road they should submit details to the area office (including names and addresses of the landowners along that section of road). Hedge Cutting notices can then be issued for that particular road. This should be done in August/September to give adequate time to cut the various hedges."

11/307
4/7/2011                    Reverse the cuts to Special Needs Assistance

To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Sean McSharry;

"That Leitrim County Council calls on the Government to reverse the cuts to Special Needs Assistance to both Primary and Secondary Schools"

Proposed by Councillor Sean McSharry, seconded by Councillor Francis Gilmartin
AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED

"That Leitrim County Council calls on the Government to reverse the cuts to Special Needs Assistance to both Primary and Secondary Schools".

11/308
4/7/2011                    Foul Smell in Cloone

To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Paddy O'Rourke;

"I ask that Leitrim County Council take whatever action is necessary to alleviate the foul smell which is being experienced in the village of Cloone following the commissioning of the sewage scheme."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"The problems with foul odours in Cloone have been examined and a programme of works is being put in place to rectify the issues raised. These works involve provision of High stack odour release columns plus measures to reduce the volume of effluent stagnating in the rising mains. The problem arises from the fact that the pumping stations were designed to cater for significantly greater volumes of sewerage than presently connected due to a number of developments, for which planning permission had been granted, not proceeding to date."

Councillor Paddy O'Rourke requested that the works be prioritised. Mr Shay O'Connor, Senior Engineer, confirmed if conditions deteriorate it will be re-examined and works will be scheduled at an earlier date.
Councillor Gordan Hughes referred to a similar issue at Main Street, Ballinamore and he also requested that remedial works be scheduled to address the issue.

Mr. Shay O’Connor, Senior Engineer stated that when pumping stations are not used to their full capacity, problems with odours can occur.

Ms. Jackie Maguire, County Managed stated that she was aware of this issue and that the development in question was privately owned. She went on to state that the problem would be investigated further. Councillor Hughes welcomed this response.

11/309
4/7/2011 A Word of Thanks

To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Francis Gilmartin;

"As this is our last meeting before the summer break I would like to use my July Motion to say thanks to each one of the staff who took the time and effort to assist me in my job as a Public Representative and to the media for letting the public know the issues I bring to the attention of this local authority. I would like to wish Leonie from the Leitrim Observer all the best on her mission to raise funds for a very wordy cause in the name of North West Hospice."

11/310
4/7/2011 Water grid adjacent to No 1 Mc Dermott Terrace, Manorhamilton

To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Sean McDermott;

"I ask Leitrim County Council if the Senior Executive Engineer would investigate the problem with a water grid that keeps overflowing, which is adjacent to house No 1 Mc Dermott Terrace, Manorhamilton, (at the back lane through McDermott Terrace). This problem has been ongoing over the last few years, and has been cleaned out on many occasions but the problem keeps re-occurring. It is especially dangerous in Winter when there is frost."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure
"The drainage arrangements at this location will be investigated and any appropriate remedial action necessary will be taken within the confines of the funding available at this time."

Councillor Sean McDermott expressed his dissatisfaction with this response and requested that the matter be reviewed.

11/311
4/7/2011 Housing Aid For Older People Grant Scheme

To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Mary Bohan;

"I wish to ask the Director of Services, Housing and Corporate when it is expected that
Leitrim County Council will re-instate the housing repair grants that were previously suspended due to lack of funding.

**Report by Director of Service, Corporate Services & Housing**

"The matter of the re-opening of the Housing Aid for Older People Grant Scheme will be considered in detail in the context of preparing the budget for 2012. In considering the re-opening of the scheme regard will have to be had to the following:

- Existing financial commitments on hand based on the number of previously approved housing grants under the Housing Aid for Older People, the Housing Adaptation Grant Scheme and the Mobility Aids Grant Scheme.
- The Council's liability to co-fund grants previously approved and due to present for payment in the current year.
- The level of match-funding that will be available to the Council in 2012 to co-fund expenditure on housing grants.
- The level of funding that will be provided by the Exchequer in 2012 to co-fund expenditure on housing grants.
- The reduction in Internal Capital Receipts traditionally utilised to fund the Council's liability on housing grants."

Councillor Mary Bohan while acknowledging the contents of the reply requested clarification as to when the scheme will re-open to accepting new applications particularly elderly applicants.

Ms. Mary Quinn, Director of Services, Housing and Corporate Services stated that as outlined in the reply the scheme is currently closed to accepting new applications. The level of funding available in 2011 will be utilised on meeting expenditure on existing commitments on hand. Ms. Quinn further outlined that an update on the Housing Grants Scheme will be provided to the Housing & Corporate Services SPC at their next meeting in September.

**11/312 4/7/2011 Killargue Village**

*To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Gerry Dolan;*

"I call on the Senior Executive Engineer to have the rockery at the entrance into Killargue Village coming from Drumkeerin tidied up and some flowers and shrubs set in it as it looks very dilapidated in its present condition or if not to give it over to some locals who would be prepared to look after it."

**Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure**

"The local District Engineer will be in contact with the community groups in the village with a view to having the area in question improved."

**11/313 4/7/2011 Local Roads**

*To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Martin Kenny;*

"I am proposing that Leitrim County Council call on the Minister for the Environment and Local Government Phil Hogan TD, to allocate funds for the surfacing of local roads, as
almost all the funding is being spent on main roads while many local roads are in much more need. If this is not addressed there will be serious deterioration in these roads in the next year, as many are cracking at the edges and pot holes appearing already."

**Proposed by Councillor Martin Kenny, seconded by Councillor Enda Stenson AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED:**

"That Leitrim County Council call on the Minister for the Environment and Local Government Phil Hogan TD, to allocate funds for the surfacing of local roads, as almost all the funding is being spent on main roads while many local roads are in much more need. If this is not addressed there will be serious deterioration in these roads in the next year, as many are cracking at the edges and pot holes appearing already."

**Part II - Questions.**

11/314
4/7/2011  **Hedge cutting**

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Caillian Ellis;

"In view of the fact that the hedge cutting season is approaching I will ask Leitrim County Council to put in place a programme to have all roadside hedges cut as the visibility on a number of roads is very poor."

**Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure**

"The Hedge Cutting season is from the 1st September, 2011 to the 28th February, 2012. The Roads Act 1993, Section 70 states that all landowners and occupiers of lands are responsible for the maintenance of all roadside hedges.

Leitrim County Council have taken a pro-active approach in hedge cutting as notices are published in the local newspapers each year reminding landowners of their responsibilities to cut their hedges. The Council have also issued hedge cutting notices each year to landowners. If an Elected Member has issues with hedges on a particular road they should submit to the Area Office all names and addresses of the landowners along that section of road and then Hedge Cutting notices can be issued for that particular road. This should be done in August/September to give adequate time to cut the various hedges. The County Council will insure that visibility issues at the busier road junctions are addressed."

11/315
4/7/2011  **Construction of Post Primary School in Ballinamore**

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Caillian Ellis;

"I ask that Leitrim County Council write to the Minister for Education to ascertain what progress has been made for the construction of the Post Primary School in Ballinamore."

**Report by Director of Service, Corporate Services & Housing**

"A letter will be issued in this regard."
To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Tony Ferguson;

"What are the reasons for the delay to the taking in charge of the "Dartry Vale Estate" in Kinlough? This estate is very well finished and has a large number of Residents."

Report by Director of Service, Planning, Community and Economic Development
"The development known as Dartry Vale Estate in Kinlough relates to file P04/1465 in the planning register. Permission for the development was granted on 22nd March 2005 and expired on 21st March 2010. While the development appears substantially complete the Developer has not made an application to the Planning Authority to have the estate taken in charge. Therefore, the existing infrastructure including public lighting remains the responsibility of the Developer and/or any Residents Management Company if one exists."

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Tony Ferguson;

"I will ask the Director of Services, Infrastructure what progress has been made in the "Rights of Way" links with the Coast Road at Tullaghan to the sea?"

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure
"Following investigations by the Council, the matter has been referred to the Council’s Solicitor."

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Gordon Hughes;

"I ask the Senior Executive Engineer to repair the rail fencing on the Drumreilly side of Carrickmakeegan Bridge, Ballinamore. The fencing at this location has been damaged resulting in their being no barrier now in place with the canal and is an accident waiting to happen."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure
"The fence approaching Carrickmakeegan Bridge from the Drumreilly side on the LP1502 is the property and responsibility of Leitrim County Council. The fence and style on the opposite side of the bridge is the property and responsibility of Waterways Ireland. We will endeavour to repair the damaged sections of the timber post and rail fence on the Drumreilly approach."

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Sinead Guckian;

"At the July meeting I will ask the Director of Services, Infrastructure what is the up to date
position with the realignment of the layout of the junction of the N4 with R201, known locally as the Mohill cross on the N4 at Masonite. Last year the NRA Safety Officer made a number of recommendations, including the relocation of the stop line on the Mohill road but to date these works have not happened and crossing the N4 from the Mohill road is still extremely dangerous."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure
"The recommendations of the NRA Safety Officer have been implemented including setting back of the 'Stop Line' - these works were completed some months ago. Further improvements to signage were also recommended and funding was provided. These additional signs are being erected this week."

11/320
4/7/2011   Safety Barriers at the junction of the Tooman Road

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Sean McGowan;

"At the July meeting of Leitrim County Council I will ask Mr Michael Flynn, Senior Executive Engineer, Carrick-on-Shannon, has any progress been made with regard to putting in place a programme of works to provide Safety Barriers at the junction of the Tooman Road leading onto the Mohill – Drumlish Road. There have been a number of incidents and near misses there in the recent past and the local community are anxious that safety measures be put in place before a serious accident occurs."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure
"There is presently no funding available for the improvements requested. An application for funding under the Low Cost Safety Scheme can be considered for 2012."

11/321
4/7/2011   Sightlines at the Crossroads at the former Post Office at Bornacoola

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Sean McGowan;

"At the July meeting of Leitrim County Council I will ask Mr Michael Flynn, Senior Executive Engineer, Carrick-on-Shannon, has any funding been provided in this years roadworks programme to carry out improvements to the sightlines at the crossroads at the former Post Office at Bornacoola. It is extremely difficult and dangerous for motorists approaching the crossroads from the Community Centre, and from the Cloonmorris road."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure
"Funding for improvements requested has been provided in the current years programme."

11/322
4/7/2011   Road Repairs

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor John Ward;

"I ask Leitrim County Council when will they complete the old N4, from Jamestown Arch, to the new N4."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure
"It is proposed to carry out road improvement works on the section of road in question in
To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor John Ward;
"I ask Leitrim County Council to carry out works immediately to the public road at Cloonfannon, as it is in a very dangerous condition."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure
"It is proposed to carry out road improvement works on a section of road in question in the current year, routine repairs will be carried out in the mean time."

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Gerry Kilrane;
"Can the County Council ensure that those Local Authority properties that had no water supply during the cold snap last winter and the previous winter have the necessary works carried out to ensure that the same situation will not apply, if we have similar freezing conditions in future. Building regulations state that all service pipes should be at least 600mm below ground."

Report by Director of Service, Corporate Services & Housing
"The Council has reviewed the above matter and works have been carried out at a number of locations including the replacement of atlas boxes, lowering of services including stopcocks. The matter remains under review and has been considered by the Housing and Corporate Services SPC."

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Gerry Kilrane;
"Can the Council confirm whether a "granny flat" or similar type of attached accommodation is a second home within the meaning of the Non Principal Private Residence legislation?"

Report by Head of Finance, Finance
"A granny flat or similar dwelling is exempt from the charge if a relative of the owner (or a relative of a spouse or partner of the owner) lives in it free of rent and if it is located no more than two kilometres from the residence of the owner."
"That this Council carry out repairs to the road known as Bartin's Line, Tullaghan. This road is an important link road between the N15 and the Coast Road"

**Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure**
"The Road in question is County Road LS 6058-0 known locally as “Bartins Line” in Tullaghan. Routine road maintenance will be carried out on this road."

11/327
4/7/2011 **Brick footpath between Simpsons Garage and Kinlough Community Centre**

**To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Siobhan McGloin;**

"That this Council carry out repairs to the brick footpath between Simpsons Garage and Kinlough Community Centre."

**Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure**
"The footpath located between Simpsons garage and the football field has settled on the interior edge of the path. This footpath will be repaired and the brick paving in this isolated location will be re-laid as soon as resources permit."

11/328
4/7/2011 **Bridge at Castle Street, Manorhamilton**

**To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Sean McSharry;**

"I ask the Director of Services, Infrastructure to examine the bridge at Castle Street Manorhamilton, with a view to providing a pedestrian pathway which I believe was planned for this bridge."

**Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure**
"A pedestrian bridge is desirable on R280 Castle Street in Manorhamilton. There is currently no funding available to carry out these works. The project can be considered for inclusion in the 2012 Roads programme subject to the level of funding available and the priorities in 2012."

11/329
4/7/2011 **Footpath at Spa Brae, Kinlough**

**To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Sean McSharry;**

"I ask the Director of Services, Infrastructure to examine the lack of a footpath at Spa Brae Kinlough as Residents have contacted me and are concerned about pedestrian safety."

**Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure**
"There is a footpath on the R280 on Spa Brae Kinlough from the town Centre past the sewerage treatment plant. However there is no footpath on the opposite side of road to sewerage treatment plant and a footpath is desirable in this area. There is currently no funding available for such works. Land Acquisition will be required in this area and the project can be included for consideration in the 2012 Roads programme
subject to the level of funding available and the priorities in 2012."

11/330
4/7/2011 Corrawallen

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Paddy O'Rourke;

"I ask when will the necessary works to repair the road at Corrawallen where the road widening took place last year. The road has subsided very much on the left hand side going towards Drumlea- presenting a hazard to vehicles."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"The District Office will carry out restoration works on this section of works on the R204 once the works on the R202 at Gorvagh are complete. It is envisaged that this works will take place in July. We are hoping to commence the verge works followed by surfacing works, which will continue through the village of Corrawaleen, in the coming weeks."

11/331
4/7/2011 Raised Pedestrian Crossing adjacent to the Shannon Roundabout on the Shannon Lodge side of the Roundabout

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Gerry Reynolds;

"I ask the Director of Services for Infrastructure if it would be possible to provide a raised pedestrian crossing adjacent to the Shannon Roundabout, Carrick on Shannon, on the Shannon Lodge side of the Roundabout."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"The provision of a raised pedestrian crossing is not considered to be appropriate at this location for the following reasons:--

- There is already an uncontrolled crossing point at this location which forms part of the roundabout design. This existing crossing point is designed to cater for people with disabilities (i.e. tactile paving etc.), and it also has a central refuge island, which would be a benefit to all users.
- A raised controlled pedestrian crossing at this location could have the effect of backing up traffic at the roundabout, as was the case when the controlled crossing point was located in close proximity to the roundabout at the bridge also on the N4.
- On busy roads such as this one, a raised platform may not be a suitable option as there are a number of disadvantages and the Traffic Management guidelines state that Ramps should only be installed if no other suitable measures can be used."

11/332
4/7/2011 Statue of Sean Mac Diarmada

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Sean McDermott;
"At the July Council Meeting, I ask Leitrim County Council to make safe an area adjacent

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure
"This section of footpath located adjacent to the Statue of Sean Mac Diarmada in Kiltyclogher will be inspected and repaired."

11/333
4/7/2011  County Road LP 2108-2
To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Sean McDermott;
"I will ask Leitrim County Council to investigate the problem of water running down the road at the house of Francis Fox Aghnahaha, Glenaniff. Flooding occurs outside the Fox household, when there is heavy rainfall."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure
"The Road is question is County Road LP 2108-2 located in Aghnahaha, Glenaniff. Routine Road maintenance will be carried out on this road in respect of drainage in this area."

11/334
4/7/2011  Fahey and Tullynaha Road, Ballinaglerea
To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Gerry Dolan;
"I ask the Director of Services, Infrastructure as to when it is intended to have the Fahey and Tullynaha Road, Ballinaglerea and also the road to Thomas (Condy) Gilmartin, Slievenakilla, Ballinaglerea repaired."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure
"Routine maintenance works will be carried out on the roads in question within the confines of the reduced budgets available in 2011."

11/335
4/7/2011  Aughlin Bridge and Derrynawana in Aughnasheelin
To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Martin Kenny;
"I am asking the Director of Services to have works carried out on the road between Aughlin Bridge and Derrynawana in Aughnasheelin as it is has become very rough due to forestry extractions and other construction traffic recently and the new water scheme activity in the area."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure
"The Sliabh An Iariann Group water scheme improvement work is currently under way along this section of roadway. It is the responsibility of the Contractor to maintain the road
in a passable condition while work is in progress and then to reinstate the public road 
network when the water scheme is complete. The Councillors concerns in relation to the 
unsatisfactory condition of the road at present will be raised with the Contractor. Regarding 
the extraction of timber, both district Engineers from Ballinamore and Dromahair are in 
constant communication with the forestry companies to reduce the loading on the public 
road network in the environs of Sliabh An Iariann."

The meeting concluded at 8.25pm.

SIGNED: Cllr John McTernan SIGNED: Aideen McGovern
Cathaoirleach Meetings Administrator
DATE: 5th September 2011