Minutes of Meeting of Leitrim County Council held in Aras An Chontae, Carrick-on-Shannon on Monday 5th September 2011 at 5.30 p.m.

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 Frank Dolan
Councillor Thomas Mulligan
Councillor Gerry Reynolds
Councillor Enda Stenson
Councillor John Ward
Councillor Enda McGloin
Councillor John McCartin
Councillor Mary Bohan
Councillor Siobhan McGloin
Councillor Francis Gilmartin
Councillor Gordon Hughes
Councillor Caillian Ellis
Councillor Gerry Dolan
Councillor Sean McSharry

And Councillor John McTernan, 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 Katrina Murphy, Head of Finance
Mr John McGuinness, Director of Services, Infrastructure
Ms. Mary Quinn, Director of Services, Corporate Services & Housing
Mr. Shay O’Connor, Senior Engineer
Mr William Lowe, Senior Engineer
Mr Ciaran Tracey, Senior Planner
Ms Vivienne Egan, Senior Executive Planner
Mr Vincent Dwyer, Senior Executive Officer
Ms. Aideen McGovern, Meetings Administrator

At the outset of the meeting the Cathaoirleach, Councillor John McTernan, welcomed the members of the public to the meeting and outlined the provisions in relation to attendance of members of the public at meetings of the Council in accordance with the Council’s Standing Orders.

The Cathaoirleach outlined that a formal request had been made by a member of the public to record the presentation by Tamboran Resources to the Council. He outlined that this request had not been before the members at the July Council meeting for consideration and in the circumstances, where the members had not had an opportunity to formally consider the request, he was not in a position to grant approval to the request.

Votes of Sympathy

The Members extended a vote of sympathy to the following:

- Delia Gralton, Effernagh, Kilclare, Carrick-on-Shannon on the death of Gerry Gralton.
- Liam McCrann & Family, Corlea, Eslin, Co Leitrim on the death of Nan McCrann.
- Mrs Wendy Stevenson, Glenboy, Manorhamilton, Co Leitrim on the death of Edwin Stevenson.
- Mr Joe Fox, Fallcarra, Mullies, Manorhamilton, Co Leitrim on the death of Mrs Annie Fox.
- Margaret Harkin & Family, East Bbars, Glenfarne, Co Leitrim on the death of Dessie Harkin.
- Mrs B Roger White & Family, Tullahgan, Co Leitrim on the death of Annie McGowan.
- Niamh McGowan, Largydonnell, Kinlough, Co Leitrim on the death of Roger White.
- Nicholas Gallagher, Mullinleck, Kinlough, Co Leitrim on the death of Michael Gallagher.
- Mr Agnes Chandler, Corracloona, Kiltyclogher, Co Leitrim on the death of Mr Ian Chandler.
- Pat McMorrow, Tullyskeherny, Rossinver, Co Leitrim on the death of Mrs Kathleen McMorrow.
- The Dixon Family, Tawley, Tullahgan, Co Leitrim on the death of Watter Dixon.
- Mrs Frances Feely & Family, Larganhugh, Rossinver on the death of Oliver Feely.

11/337 5/9/2011

Deimhniu Miontuairisci

Proposed by Councillor Enda Stenson, seconded by Councillor Mary Bohan AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED;

“That the Minutes of Meeting of Leitrim County Council held in Aras An Chontae, Carrick-on-Shannon, Co Leitrim on Monday, 4th July 2011, be adopted.”

11/338 5/9/2011

Presidential Elections Act 1993 – Notice of Intention to Propose Resolution

Notice of Intention to propose resolution to nominate Seán Gallagher to be a candidate at the forthcoming Presidential Election dated 30th August 2011 from Councillor Enda Stenson 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 Gerry Dolan AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED;

“That Leitrim County Council, in accordance with the provisions of Section 16 (1) of the Presidential Elections Act, 1993, resolves to nominate Seán Gallagher to be a candidate at the forthcoming Presidential Election”.

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The formal Nomination Paper was completed, signed by Councillor Stenson and Sealed by the Meetings Administrator.

11/339  
5/9/2011  **Section 183 of Local Government Act 2001**

Notice of Intention dated 14th July 2011 from Shay O’Connor, Senior Engineer, Infrastructure to dispose of land in the townland of Tawnymoyle, Manorhamilton, Co Leitrim as circulated to each Member appears as **Appendix 2** to the Minutes of this meeting in the Minute Book.

**Proposed by Councillor Tony Ferguson, Seconded by Councillor Sean McDermott AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED;**

“That disposal of land comprising 0.852 acres in the townland of Tawnymoyle, Manorhamilton, Co Leitrim to Seamus Kerrigan, Tawnymoyle, Manorhamilton, Co Leitrim in accordance with Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001 and Notice of Intention to dispose of land dated 14th July 2011 as circulated to each Member be approved.”

11/340  
5/9/2011  **Local Authority Development**

Report Ref. No. 11/C/08 from County Manager dated 30th August 2011 in relation to the erection of a Salt Barn Building within the boundary of the existing Leitrim County Council compound facilities at Cornastauk, Manorhamilton, Co Leitrim 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 3** to the Minutes of this meeting in the Minute Book.

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

“That the erection of a Salt Barn Building within the boundary of the existing Leitrim County Council compound facilities at Cornastauk, Manorhamilton, Co Leitrim be approved”.

Councillor Tony Ferguson asked if details in this regard were available to the public. Ms. Jackie Maguire, County Manager advised that the proposal had been on public display. She advised that the details could be made available to anyone on request.

Councillor Martin Kenny stated that the Council should have their own reserve of salt and suggested that a request should issue to the minister in this regard.

11/341  
5/9/2011  **Section 138(1) of the Local Government Act 2001**

The County Manager outlined that there were no commitments to report in this regard.
Ms. Aideen McGovern, Meetings Administrator gave an overview of the items considered by the Corporate Policy Group.

- **Strategic Policy Committees**

Ms. McGovern outlined that the Corporate Policy Group had considered an update from the Housing & Corporate Services SPC which had taken place prior to the meeting of the CPG on the 5th September 2011.

**Update from the Housing & Corporate Services SPC**

Ms. McGovern advised that the Housing & Corporate Services SPC had considered an update in relation to the Treanmore, Mohill Remedial Works Scheme and the Leitrim County Council Traveller Accommodation Programme. She advised that the SPC had also received a report in relation to the Housing Adaptation Grants Scheme and a recommendation that the Schemes be reopened to applications, in accordance with provisions outlined, with effect from 20th September 2011. A copy of the report as considered by the SPC was circulated to the members. The report appears as Appendix 4 to the Minutes of this meeting in the Minute Book.

Ms. McGovern advised that the SPC recommended that the Corporate Policy group and the Council approve the reopening of the Housing Grants, on the basis of the provisions as outlined in the report, as and from 20th September next. She advised that this had been approved by the Corporate Policy Group.

The SPC had also considered the issue of traffic calming measures in Housing Estates.

- **Items for Council Meeting**

The Corporate Policy Group had also considered an overview of the items for the Council Meeting.

This update was noted by the members

*Proposed by Councillor Mary Bohan, seconded by Councillor Enda Stenson AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED;*

“That the Housing Adaptation Grant Schemes be re-opened with effect from 20th September 2011, in accordance with the provisions outlined in report to the Housing & Corporate Services SPC dated 5th September 2011 (Appendix 4)”.

The members unanimously welcomed the reopening of the Housing Grant Schemes. Councillor Enda Stenson as Chairperson of the Housing & Corporate Services SPC stated that this was a very welcome development. He outlined that the level of financial resources available was limited and the schemes are scheduled for review at the end of January 2012, or earlier if necessary depending on activity. He also outlined that a 6 month timeframe would apply in relation to the completion of approved works.
Councillor Mary Bohan welcomed the reopening of the Schemes and thanked Housing Office staff for the considerate and sympathetic manner in which they had dealt with applications over the past 12 months. She queried when application forms would be available. Ms. Mary Quinn, Director of Services advised that application forms would not be available until 20th September.

Councillor Tony Ferguson welcomed the reopening of the schemes and the priorities to apply in relation to the Housing Aid for Older People grant. He asked that the media would publicise the reopening of the Grant Schemes.

Councillor Sinead Guckian and Councillor John Ward expressed concern in relation to the 6 month timeframe for completion of works, particularly given that we are approaching the winter months. Ms. Mary Quinn, Director of Services outlined that the Scheme includes provision for a 3 month time-extension in exceptional circumstances, which would include adverse weather conditions.

Councillor Enda Stenson outlined that Mr. Shay O’Connor had given a very good presentation to the SPC in relation to traffic calming in Housing Estates and he asked if this presentation could be circulated to all the Members. This was agreed.

11/343  
5/9/2011 Conferences

Proposed by Councillor Gerry Reynolds, seconded by Councillor Francis Gilmartin 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 McDermott at the Association of Municipal Authorities of Ireland Seminar in Knightsbrook Hotel, Trim, Co Meath on the 8th September 2011 to 10th September 2011.”


“Attendance of Councillor Sean McGowan at the 2011 La Touche Legacy Seminar in the Charlesland Golf and Country Club Hotel, Greystones, Co Wicklow on the 30th September 2011 to the 2nd October 2011”.

“Attendance of Councillor Mary Bohan at the Victims of Crime - The Cost to the Community Conference in the Manor West Hotel, Killarney Road, Tralee, Co Kerry on the 14th October to 16th October 2011”.

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

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

“Attendance of Councillor Sean McDermott at the ICBAN Board Meeting in Carrick-on-Shannon, Co Leitrim on the 23rd March 2011 be retrospectively approved”.

“Attendance of Councillor Sean McDermott at the ICBAN Board Meeting in Cavan County Council offices on the 16th February 2011 be retrospectively approved”.

“Attendance of Councillor Sean McDermott at the ICBAN Board Meeting in Armagh City District Council Offices on the 26th January 2011 be retrospectively approved”.

“Attendance of Councillor Sean McDermott and Councillor Frank Dolan at the Sean McDiarmada Summer School in Kiltyclogher on the 17th June 2011 be retrospectively approved”.

Attendance of Councillor Sean McDermott at the ICBAN Board Meeting in Sligo City Hall on the 18th May 2011 be retrospectively approved”.

Attendance of Councillor Paddy O’Rourke at the Trevor/Bowen Literary Conference in Cork on the 15th to 17th July 2011 be retrospectively approved”.

Attendance of Councillor Thomas Mulligan at the Rebuilding Confidence in Urban and Rural Communities Conference in Tullamore on the 24th to 25th March 2011 be retrospectively approved”.

Attendance of Councillor Enda Stenson at the Cumann Merriman Summer School in Lisdoonvarna, Co Clare on the 17th to 21st August 2011 be retrospectively approved”.

Attendance of Councillor John McTernan at the 2011 Parnell Summer School in Avondale House, Rathdrum, Co Wicklow be retrospectively approved”.

Attendance of Councillor Siobhan McGloin and Councillor John McTernan at the Enhancing Promotional Media and M.S. Office Trouble Shooting Conference in the Celtic Ross Hotel, Rosscarbery, Co Cork on the 2nd to 4th September 2011 be retrospectively approved”.

11/344
5/9/2011 Correspondence

The following items of correspondence were circulated to the Members

1. Letter from the Office of the Minister for Environment, Community and Local Government dated 13th July 2011 in relation to resolution passed by Leitrim County Council concerning the rate of motor tax paid by those who tax their vehicles on a quarterly or half-yearly basis.

2. Letter from the Office of the Minister for Communications, Energy and Natural Resources dated 18th July 2011 in relation to resolution passed by Leitrim County Council regarding the proposed upgrade of the slipway in Jamestown.


5. Letter dated 29th July 2011 from the Border Regional Authority confirming the appointment of Cathaoirleach and Leas Cathaoirleach for the Border Regional Authority.

6. Letter dated 29th July 2011 from An Garda Síochána in relation to resolution passed by Leitrim County Council to make provision for people to call on their nearest Garda station for assistance in a case of an emergency and not have to wait on the present system.

7. Letter dated 10th June 2011 from Joseph Duffy seeking a nomination to run in the Presidential Election.


Councillor Gordon Hughes in noting this correspondence queried if any response had been received from Rory Leahy, Bus Éireann North West Regional Manager, in relation to the invitation to meet with Councillors in relation to the public bus services in the Ballinamore Area.

Ms. Jackie Maguire, County Manager advised that Mr. Leahy had confirmed that he would meet with Members, as had a representative from Iarnród Éireann on foot of a request from the Members. She stated that it would be the November meeting before this could be facilitated. Councillor Hughes requested that this presentation be facilitated at the October council meeting and this was supported by Councillor Kilrane. It was agreed that Mr. Leahy would be requested to attend the October Council meeting. It was also agreed that Iarnród Éireann would be requested to attend the October Council meeting.

9(a) Letter dated 28th July 2011 from the Office of the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform in relation to resolution passed by Leitrim County Council in regard to the Carers Allowance.

9(b) Letter dated 25th August 2011 from the Department of Social and Family Affairs regarding resolution passed by Leitrim County Council in relation to no further cuts for Carer’s and those being cared for.

10. Letter dated 15th August 2011 from the Office of the Area Manager, Health Service Executive regarding resolution passed by Leitrim County Council to reverse the cuts that have taken place regarding cuts in home help for the "Senior Citizens" and "Special Needs".

11(a) Letter dated 26th July 2011 from the Office of the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform regarding resolution passed by Leitrim County Council in relation to the cost of school transport.
11(b) Letter dated 27th July 2011 from the Office of the Minister for Training and Skills in relation to changes in the school transport scheme.

11 (c) Letter dated 7th July from the Office of the Minister for Training and Skills in relation to school transport.

12. Letter dated 4th August 2011 from the Office of the Minister for Health acknowledging resolution concerning patients awaiting transplant in need of airlift to another country.

13 Letter dated 5th August 2011 from the Office of the Minister for Health acknowledging resolution in relation to the policy for hospital car parking and management.

14 Letter dated 21st July 2011 from the Office of the Minister for Education and Skills acknowledging letter in relation to the provision of the new Post Primary School for Ballinamore.

Councillor Caillian Ellis queried if any further letter was received from the Minister Ruairi Quinn in relation to this issue. Ms. Aideen McGovern, Meetings Administrator advised that no further correspondence was received to date on this issue.

15. Letter of thanks for expression of sympathy from Ann Lenihan on the death of her husband Brian Lenihan R.I.P.

16(a) Email dated 2nd August 2011 from Eircom in relation to the roll out of broadband for Leitrim Village.

16(b) Letter dated 31st August 2011 from Tony McLoughlin TD in relation to broadband in Leitrim Village.

17 Letter dated 31st August 2011 from the Office of the Minister for Health in relation to the HIQA report recently released in relation to patients awaiting transplant in need of airlift to another Country.

Councillor Gordon Hughes welcomed HIQA’s recommendation and looked forward to the establishment of the National Aeromedical Co-ordination Group. He outlined that he was confident that it will produce an effective and pragmatic implementation of the report’s recommendations, so that where Irish patients need life-saving transplants that are not available here, they can be confident that they can take up appropriate offers elsewhere.

18. Memorandum from Martin Dolan, Director of Services, Environment, Emergency and Cultural Services to the Cathaoirleach and Each Member in relation to Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment.

Councillor Gerry Reynolds queried whether Leitrim County Council is required to make a formal submission in relation to the Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment or whether this is just a consultation opportunity for the public. Ms. Jackie Maguire, County Manager advised that the Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment documentation has been prepared by the Office of Public Works as a first stage in the preparation of Flood Risk Management Plans for the entire County. She
confirmed that they are being done on the basis of the River Basin Districts as were identified for the River Basin Management Plans which were adopted previously. She advised that the PFRA is on display until the 7th October 2011 and each Local Authority is required to make a formal submission. She suggested, in that context, that it might be advisable to consider moving the date of the October Council Meeting to Monday 10th October 2011 and a report could be brought to that meeting.

**Proposed by Councillor Gerry Reynolds, seconded by Councillor Gerry Kilrane AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED;**

“That the October Council Meeting be rescheduled to Monday 10th October 2011 to facilitate consideration of submission in relation to the Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment.”

Councillor Gerry Kilrane sought clarification on whether the PFRA Consultation was advertised to the public. Mr. Martin Dolan, Director of Services, Environment, Emergency and Cultural Services confirmed that the OPW had published notices nationally and that the documentation is available on their website. He advised that the documentation is on public display in the Council’s offices at the reception desk in Áras an Chontae. He advised that a press release would be issued encouraging the public to review the documentation.

Other items raised under Meetings Correspondence were as follows:

**Joint Policing Committee**

Councillor Enda McGloin queried with the next Joint Policing Committee meeting would be held. He asked that a date be available for the next Council meeting.

**Anthony Trollope International Summer School**

Councillor Sinead Guckian advised that the 2nd Anthony Trollope International Summer School will be held on the 9th September 2011 in Drumsna and welcomed all members to attend.

**LAMA Conference**

Councillor Enda McGloin asked that all members consider supporting the forthcoming LAMA Conference.

**11/345 5/9/2011 Vote of Congratulations**

Councillor Sean McSharry extended a vote of congratulations to the Aisling Gaels Team on winning the Chicago Ladies Championship. Three ladies from Manorhamiton are on the team – Mary Alice Maguire, Ross Lane, Manorhamilton, Rhona McSharry, Lurganboy, Manorhamilton and Annette Ferguson, Toothfield, Manorhamilton.

Councillor John McCartin extended a vote of congratulations to Sarah Ward, Aughnasheelin on winning the All Ireland U.12 Mouth Organ Championship at the 2011 All
Ireland Fleadh Cheoil and her sister Niamh on winning 3rd place in the 15-18 yrs Whistling Competition at the 2011 All Ireland Fleadh Cheoil held in Cavan recently.

Councillor Siobhan McGloin extended a vote of congratulations to Lydia Warnock, 6 Monien, Kinlough, Co Leitrim on winning 1st Place in the Slow Air Violin at Senior Level at the All Ireland Fleadh Cheoil.

Councillor Sinead Guckian extended a vote of congratulations to Leitrim’s Community Games Under 10 Boys and Girls football Team who won the All Ireland Final.

11/346

5/9/2011 Presentation from Tamboran Resources

The Cathaoirleach, Councillor John McTernan welcomed Mr. Richard Moorman CEO, and Dr. Tony Bazley, Director of Environmental and Community Affairs from Tamboran Resources to the meeting and invited them to make their presentation.

Mr. Richard Moorman thanked the Cathaoirleach, the Elected Members, Staff and the members of the public for taking the time to hear the presentation in relation to their proposals for the Shale Gas Project in the North West Carboniferous Basin. Mr. Moorman and Dr. Bazley proceeded to give a detailed presentation on the project. A copy of the presentation together with a copy of the Tamboran Resources ‘Our Commitment to the People of Ireland’ document, as circulated to the Members, appears as Appendix 5 to the Minutes of this meeting in the Minute Book. Mr. Moorman also circulated copies of the ‘Gasland’ Documentary feature DVD to the Members and encouraged them to take the time to view the film.

The Cathaoirleach and Members thanked Mr. Moorman and Dr. Bazley for their presentation. Mr. Moorman and Dr. Bazley then responded to comments and queries from the Members in relation to the following:

- Confirmation that hydraulic Fracturing is banned in France?
- Whether zero-chemical hydraulic fracturing has been tried and tested?
- Why Tamboran are the only company proposing non-chemical fracturing?
- What happens if it doesn’t work?
- Issue of release of significant natural gases and chemicals arising from the fracturing process irrespective of the use of chemicals or otherwise?
- Concerns in relation to this project, and County Leitrim, as the ‘guinea pig’?
- Suggestions that hydraulic fracturing may have a potential seismic impact?
- How uncollected/leaked gas is monitored?
- Explanation of proposals in relation to water requirements and proposals to take ½ from rainfall and ½ from ground water and how this would be recovered?
- Tamboran Resources currently a limited company – implications in terms of future liability? At what stage anticipate change from limited company status?
- How much of the work will be contracted out in the context of Tamboran Resources not currently being in the business of gas extraction?
- Clarification in relation to Mr. Moorman’s previous employment history and whether a former employer had law cases filed against it?
- Scale of project such that it will not have any impact on price of natural gas in Europe?
• What benefit is there for the people of Ireland who own this resource?
• What does Government gain?
• Will there be any benefit / gain for the landowners involved?
• Licensing process in Northern Ireland much further advanced?
• Impact on tourism and farming which are critical to Leitrim’s future?
• Concerns in relation to the number of pads proposed
• Concerns in relation to Tamboran effectively setting their own regulations?
• Transportation issues and level of movements etc?
• Clarification in relation to what current licence permits?
• Funding to carry out necessary rehabilitation

Mr. Moorman and Dr. Bazley thanked the Members for their questions and outlined that they are anxious and available to consult widely in relation to the project. They outlined that a Community Information Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday 7th September at 7pm in the Bush Hotel, Carrick on Shannon and encouraged as many members of the public as possible to attend.

The Cathaoirleach again thanked the representatives from Tamboran Resources for their presentation and for their responses to the queries raised.

Part I - Notices of Motion.

11/347 5/9/2011 Housing Development in Rooskey

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

"At the September meeting of Leitrim County Council, I again ask the County Manager what steps have been taken by the Council to address the obvious concerns locally arising from the current status of the large housing development off the old N4 at Rooskey. There is considerable concern within the local community that there are no efforts being made to finish the houses and complete the estate. What is the current status of the Developer and have the Council had any success in making contact with him, to try and resolve the problem?"

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

"Leitrim County Council met with the developer on Tuesday 23rd August on site in Rooskey. The developer, together with all stakeholders involved are now considering how to move forward. In this regard the Council is prepared to co operate and work with all parties to resolve outstanding issues. We await proposals from the developer and relevant stakeholders with regard to site resolution."

Councillor Sean McGowan noted the response and stated that unless something is done in the very near future the buildings will have to be demolished.

Mr. Joseph Gilhooly, Director of Service, Planning, Community and Economic Development advised that there is liaison between the developers and the stakeholders and there appears to be an impetus to address the issues. He advised that the Council is awaiting proposals in this regard. Councillor McGowan asked that members be kept
informed of progress in this regard.

11/348  
5/9/2011 Charges for Inspection of Septic Tanks

The Cathaoirleach, Councillor John McTer nan outlined that there were a number of Motions in relation to the issue of septic tanks – Motion Number’s 11, 13, 16, and 24 on the agenda for this Council meeting – and suggested that these Motions be considered together. This was agreed by the members

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

"I propose that Leitrim County Council write to the Minister for the Environment, Mr. Phil Hogan, TD and the Department of the Environment requesting that they refrain from applying charges for the inspection of septic tanks and also to put in place a grant for householders who have to upgrade their septic tank in order to comply with the new regulations."

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

"Having regard to the fact that the Government and the EU have invested billions of Euros to provide free of charge sewerage services at no cost to urban dwellers Leitrim County Council opposes any cost imposed by the Government on the owners of single houses sewerage systems through the proposed compulsory inspection of septic tanks and other single house sewerage systems. We the members of Leitrim County Council also urge the Government and the EU to fund any remedial works that arise from compulsory inspections."

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

"I call on Minister Hogan not to put any charge on households who use septic tanks and ask this Council to bring in the Bye-Law that Cavan has which left Europe happy and did not cost the households. I have a copy of Minister Hogan’s views which he gave to the Joint Committee on the Environment, Heritage & Local Government debate dated 15th July 2008 where he stated the problems of some septic tanks and requested that assistance would be provided for people to upgrade their septic tanks to an appropriate standard where necessary. Now that Minister Hogan is in a position that he can bring his views forward hopefully he will."

Report by Director of Service, Environment, Emergency and Cultural Services

"The introduction of bye-laws such as those introduced in Co. Cavan required the householder to have an approved and properly functioning wastewater treatment system. It involved an assessment of all systems by approved assessors, with an assessment fee payable and the obligation to carry out whatever works were considered necessary to rectify any defects. It also included a seven yearly round of inspections. Any bye-laws introduced by this Council would have to contain similar provisions and their introduction would not exonerate septic tank owners from the terms of any National inspection scheme."

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

"I ask Leitrim County Council to seek clarification from the Minister for the Environment on the exact position regarding the proposed inspection of private septic tanks:
(a) What agency is charged with carrying out the inspections
(b) the cost of any such inspections
(c) The likely availability of financial support/grant aid to carry out any improvements or upgrades deemed necessary following the inspection which would be only fair given that householders who are fortunate enough to have connections to public sewers are not asked to contribute to any improvements required to those systems or treatment plants."

Report by Director of Service, Environment, Emergency and Cultural Services

"The clarification requested will be sought from the Department as the Council is not aware of any decision having been made in relation to the carrying out of a programme of inspection of private septic tanks. No agency has been charged with responsibility to carry out any such inspections and therefore the question of cost of such inspections does not currently arise. As there have been no proposals announced in relation to inspections, there has therefore been no announcement regarding funding for consequent remedial works. It must be pointed out that local authorities are already obliged as per the Water Pollution Acts to take action in relation to any incidents of pollution irrespective of the source or cause -including pollution from septic tanks - and the polluter can be fined and will be required to carry out remedial works to abate the pollution."

Councillor Caillian Ellis stated that there should be no charge for the inspection of septic tanks and a grant must be made available for householders who need to do remedial works on their septic tanks, as people cannot afford to pay for this.

Councillor Enda Stenson stated that this is a huge issue for rural dwellers. He stated that people had to provide and service their septic tanks and called on the support of Leitrim County Council to urge the Government and the EU to fund any remedial works that arise from compulsory inspections.

Councillor Enda McGloin outlined that it is not correct to state that sewerage services are provided free of charge to urban dwellers and stated that Development Charges etc. are passed on to purchasers in the house price. Ms. Jackie Maguire, County Manager confirmed that there is a once off charge applicable to connections to the public water or sewerage supply.

Councillor Francis Gilmartin called on the Government not to put any charge on households who use septic tanks and proposed that Leitrim County Council bring in Bye-Laws similar to those introduced by Cavan County Council. He outlined that the Director of Services response in relation to fees applying in Cavan is contrary to a statement by Marian Harkin, MEP at a recent public meeting and he sought clarification in this regard. Ms. Jackie Maguire, County Manager advised that under the Cavan County Council Bye Laws the responsibility is on the owner to have their septic tank inspected, at their own expense, and submit the results to the Council. Councillor Gilmartin thanked the Manager for this clarification and stated that the information conveyed at the public meeting was different.

Councillor Paddy O’Rourke said that householders who are fortunate enough to have connections to public sewers are not asked to contribute to any improvements required to
those systems or treatment plants.

Councillor Enda McGloin stated that there has to be some system of licencing of septic tanks and the issue is that the proposed charge of €300 is exorbitant.

Councillor John Ward stated that until there is a level playing field on this issue nobody should have to pay.

Councillor Gerry Reynolds stated that there will be a charge for the inspection and that this should not exceed €100. He stated that the most important issue is the necessary works and that a grant scheme must be introduced in this regard.

Councillor Francis Gilmartin stated that he could not support any fee and suggested that some of the monies provided for sewerage should be redirected nationally towards the upgrading of septic tanks.

It was agreed by the members that the wording of the above motions would be amended and incorporated into one motion for submission to the Minister for the Environment, Community and Local Government.

Proposed by Councillor Caillian Ellis, seconded by Councillor Enda Stenson AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED;

“That Leitrim County Council propose that grant assistance be provided for the upgrade of one off septic tanks where deemed necessary following an inspection by an appropriate registered agency”

11/349
5/9/2011 Bank of America

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

“That Leitrim County Council calls on the IDA to prioritise it's discussions with Bank of America to find a purchaser for their facility in Carrick on Shannon, so that over 700 jobs can be retained.”

Councillor Gerard Reynolds outlined that Minister Richard Bruton, the IDA and Enterprise Ireland had met with Members last week and he acknowledged that the matter is being treated as a priority issue by all concerned.

11/350
5/9/2011 Cycle Greenway - Old Railway Line in North Leitrim

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

“I would ask Leitrim County Council to explore the possibility of looking to develop the old railway line in North Leitrim into a cycle greenway until such time that the old railway line can be restored to its former glory. This type of redevelopment would be of huge benefit to local tourism and Leitrim in general.”

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

"The project suggested in this question could have potential for development. However, Leitrim County Council are currently leading a number of projects with a view to the further development of the County's Tourism Product. These projects include Glencar Waterfall, a number of angling facilities in the Glencar area, working closely with the Sean MacDiarmada Summer School project, the Lough Allen Catchment projects, development of the Walks Product and Lough Rynn. As a consequence of the number of projects currently at design and delivery stage this suggested project will be taken into account when next examining potential new projects for pre-development work."

Councillor Sean McSharry outlined that the Mayo cycle laneway had provided a huge boost to Tourism etc in the region. He outlined that this proposal would also involve health benefits and a huge boost to the local economy. Ms. Jackie Maguire, County Manager confirmed that she would love to be able to explore the possibility of looking at developing the old railway line in North Leitrim into a cycle greenway but that Leitrim County Council have commitments made on a number of projects with a view to the further development of the County's Tourism Product. She confirmed that this project will be taken into account when next examining potential new projects for pre-development work.

Councillor McSharry suggested that the Council obtain a copy of the Sustrans Report for Northern Ireland and the County Manager confirmed that this would be sourced.

The Cathaoirleach, Councillor Sean McDermott and Councillor Siobhan McGloin all supported the motion.

Councillor Gordon Hughes welcomed funding under the Smarter Travel Project for a similar project in Ballinamore and sought an update in this regard. Mr. Shay O'Connor, Senior Engineer advised that a submission has gone back to the Department in relation to this project and that discussions are ongoing with Waterways Ireland.

**11/351**

5/9/2011 **Fire Station in Ballinamore**

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

"I ask the Director of Services what is the up-to-date position regarding the application for funding for a new fire station in Ballinamore which is urgently in need of refurbishment."

**Report by Director of Service, Environment, Emergency and Cultural Services**

"The Council is regularly in touch with the Fire Services Policy Section of the Department of Environment, Community and Local Government with regard to our submissions in relation to the provision of a new Fire Station in Ballinamore and a reply is awaited."

Councillor Hughes queried when the most recent correspondence in relation to this matter had been. Mr. Martin Dolan, Director of Services, Environment, Emergency & Cultural Services advised that the most recent correspondence would have been a few months back but this has been followed up with circa monthly phone calls. Ms. Jackie Maguire, County Manager advised that it is a matter of funding and no money is being released. She outlined that until such time as the Department have an allocation the council will not know the position.
To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Enda McGloin:

"I ask Leitrim County Council to consider the current difficulties for residents at the Waterfront Apartments at Leitrim Village and if a report from Planning/Building Control could be considered for this meeting? I call on the Council to report to members what the status currently is regarding sewage facilities there and whether the Environment Department are happy with the current arrangements."

Report by Director of Service, Planning, Community and Economic Development
"This matter was raised by notice of motion by Cllr Gilmartin at the May Council meeting and the position remains unchanged. The Council have been in regular contact with all parties to facilitate a solution. The site is being inspected regularly to ensure that there is no environmental risk arising. The Council will continue to pursue the matter with the developer and all other stakeholders."

Councillor Enda McGloin noted that this issue had previously been raised by Councillor Gilmartin. He stated that he had received a number of e-mails and calls from concerned residents in relation to the lack of progress. He stated that the situation of concern is that the development is at a stage where very little is happening. He stated that the sewerage situation is very unsatisfactory and sought some assurance in relation to when the necessary connection will be made. He also sought assurances that the Council will engage with the developer to move towards addressing the issues. Councillor McGloin also sought clarification as to whether there is a bond in place.

Mr. Joseph Gilhooly, Director of Services, Planning, Community and Economic Development confirmed that this is one of a number of developments that the Planning Authority is actively working on. He outlined that they are in constant communication with the developer and that enforcement proceedings will be initiated before the end of the year. He confirmed that there is a Surety in place and advised that the sewerage connection will be part of the enforcement process.

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

"I propose that Leitrim County Council put in place traffic restrictions/safety measures in its housing scheme at Radharc an tSpeipeal, Drumkeerin. Residents are seriously concerned for their safety, and in particular the safety of young children."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure
"The Council is aware of the concerns of the residents in this estate and proposals will be drawn up to address these concerns."

Councillor Mary Bohan outlined the background to her motion and resident’s belief that there should be no through road through the estate. She outlined that the residents are concerned mainly for the safety of children living in the development. She outlined that
there is a lot of through-traffic through the development and queried what proposals are to be drawn up.

Mr. John McGuinness, Director of Services, Infrastructure confirmed that proposals would be the subject of discussion. Councillor Bohan asked that she be kept informed and involved in relation to this matter.

The Cathaoirleach, Councillor John McTernan supported the motion.

11/354 5/9/2011 Recognition of Voluntary and Community work

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

"At the September meeting of Leitrim County Council, I will ask for the support of members in calling on the Minister for Finance and the Joint Oireachtas Committee on Finance, to formulate a policy to incentivise and reward voluntary and community work. This policy should ensure that members of our community who voluntarily contribute long hours to the benefit of society should receive either tax credits or tax exemptions to ensure that we encourage more people to get involved and acknowledge those who continue to give voluntarily to their communities."

Councillor Sinead Guckian complimented the tremendous effort made by local voluntary and community groups. She acknowledged that this is a broad and complex issue but stated that there should be a debate at government level in relation to how to sustain this voluntary effort. She stated that people should be incentivised in some way and that the Joint Oireachtas Finance Committee is the appropriate forum at which debate and discussion in this regard should happen. She stated that we must acknowledge this contribution and show that it is appreciated and she called on the support of the members in relation to her motion.

Councillor Enda McGloin commended and supported the motion. He outlined that volunteer work can be used as a part-contribution for some Leitrim Development Company funded schemes and this can be used to support the argument.

Councillor Gerry Reynolds supported the motion and stated that it is well thought out and very necessary. He suggested that a more specific proposal might have a better chance of succeeding and in this regard Councillor Guckian suggested that the letter should advise that the Council would be prepared to develop a proposal in this regard if the Joint Oireachtas Committee on Finance were prepared to give such a proposal consideration. This was agreed by the members.

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

"That Leitrim County Council, call on the Minister for Finance and the Joint Oireachtas Committee on Finance, to formulate a policy to incentivise and reward voluntary and community work. This policy should ensure that members of our community who voluntarily contribute long hours to the benefit of society should receive either tax credits or tax exemptions to ensure that we encourage more people to get involved and acknowledge those who continue to give voluntarily to their communities."

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Presentation from FRAC Educational Group

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

"I call on Leitrim County Council to allow a presentation to be given at the October Council meeting by FRAC Educational Group in relation to gas fracking."

Councillor Gerry Dolan clarified that the group is called the Lough Allen Conservation Group and undertook to provide the relevant contact details to the Meetings Administrator.

Ms. Jackie Maguire, County Manager outlined that the members have to consider a Water Abstraction Proposal at the October Council meeting and that consultants will be addressing the members in this regard. She outlined that the Members had also agreed that Bus Éireann and Iarnród Éireann would attend the October Council meeting.

Following discussion it was agreed that the presentation by Lough Allen Conservation Group would also be facilitated at the October Council Meeting on Monday 10th October. Given that there are to be a number of presentations at this meeting it was agreed that the meeting would be scheduled for 4.30pm and that the Lough Allen Conservation Group presentation could be taken at 4.30pm.

Road Development

It was agreed to consider Motions numbered 21 & 25 concurrently;

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

"I propose that we the Members of Leitrim County Council call on the Government Ministers of Finance, Transport and Environment to reverse the shocking decisions on Road Development in County Leitrim and affecting our County in particular N16, N15 and N4, the Carrick & Manorhamilton By-Pass projects and the improvements to the R280. All of these works are essential to the County's progression and are very good job creation works. We also call on the Government to ensure that all these schemes are given priority status in any new National Development Plan."

Councillor Tony Ferguson had had to leave the meeting and requested that this Motion be placed on the Agenda for the October meeting.

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

"I ask this Council to seek clarification from Minister Varadkar at the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport on when the N4 Carrick-on-Shannon to Dromod bypass will commence. This project will provide valuable employment to the area at construction stage but in the long term will also enhance transport links with the rest of the country which is a vital component in attracting business and employment to this area."

Councillor Gerry Kilrane outlined that in the short term this project will provide valuable
employment while in the long term it is critical in terms of accessibility etc. He stated that the Council must seek confirmation that this project will retain priority in the next National Development Plan.

This was supported by the Members.

Councillor Enda Stenson asked if confirmation had been received that the project is shelved. He stated that clarification is required in this regard as all this land cannot be sterilised.

Mr. John McGuinness, Director of Services, Infrastructure outlined that the commitment is to bring the project to CPO stage by the end of the year and that there is no further commitment beyond that. He outlined that he understood that there is no further funding available once the project gets to CPO stage.

Councillor Sinead Guckian and Councillor Sean McGowan supported the Motion. Councillor Guckian stated that the Government’s commitment to Leitrim and indeed the West of Ireland would have to be questioned. Councillor McGowan asked what would happen to the preferred Route Corridor if funding is delayed.

Mr. McGuinness advised that the corridor is the preferred route and will remain sterilised. Councillor Stenson queried if the land would be purchased and paid for at this stage and Mr. McGuinness advised that the funding was only in place to bring the project to CPO stage and not through the actual purchase phase.

Councillor Gerry Reynolds stated that the preferred route must be selected as this would mean that at least other lands in the area would be freed up.

Councillor Sean McDermott also supported the motion and complimented the Director of Services and Staff on the level of work achieved on the N16 despite it not being in Transport 21.

**Proposed by Councillor Gerry Kilrane, seconded by Councillor Sinead Guckian**

**AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED;**

“That Leitrim County Council seek clarification from Minister Varadkar at the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport on when the N4 Carrick-on-Shannon to Dromod bypass will commence. This project will provide valuable employment to the area at construction stage but in the long term will also enhance transport links with the rest of the country which is a vital component in attracting business and employment to this area."

5/9/2011 Fracking – Independent Presentation

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

“At the September Council Meeting I will ask Leitrim County Council to bring in independent person(s) or body to present the pros and cons of the extraction of gas from the ground by means of Fracking. This should happen at the earliest opportunity."
Councillor McDermott outlined that this issue will be ongoing for a long time to come and people want independent advice. Ms. Jackie Maguire, County Manager outlined that it would be very difficult to identify somebody with an 'independent' view. She outlined that at Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) stage all aspects and views will be considered in detail by the Department. She stated that this is where the regulatory role comes in.

Councillor McDermott suggested that officials within the Department of Energy would have expertise. The County Manager advised that, given that the Department would be involved in assessing the project it would not be appropriate to put them in that position.

Councillor Enda Mc Gloin outlined that the company had been afforded an opportunity to present at today’s meeting and the opposing view was being facilitated at the next meeting providing balance.

Councillor Enda Stenson raised the matter as to what input Leitrim County Council will have in relation to the decision on the licence. The County Manager outlined that she had circulated an information note to the members in this regard. She outlined that, without knowing the exact nature and extent of any such exploration proposal, it is difficult to be definitive about the planning status of any association works. She outlined however that any development application would be likely to be covered by the Planning and Development (Strategic Infrastructure) Act 2006 in which case it would be made directly to An Bord Pleanala with Leitrim County Council asked for input. On receipt of the decision from An Bord Pleanala, and in the event permission being granted, Leitrim County Council will enforce the terms and conditions of any such permission.

Councillor Gerry Reynolds outlined that Leitrim County Council can only make their views known and that we have to have confidence in An Bord Pleanala and the EPA in relation to the decision making process.

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

"I ask the Director of Services, Infrastructure when it is hoped to have the problem with the pumping stations on the water scheme in Killargue solved. This is an ongoing problem that is leaving homes without water on a regular basis, very often for the duration of a weekend."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"On the Killarga/Creevelea Water Scheme there are 6 no. pump stations of varying sizes. Two of these rarely give problems whilst 4 no. cause intermittent trouble by tripping out due mainly to the presence of air (momentary breaks in water supply) in the inlet pipework to the actual pumps. These booster pumps are in-line type with no water storage back-up, and any air-pocket leads the pumps to trip as if there was a break in supply. The Council is in discussions with maintenance contractors with a view to having specialised air release valves and non return valves installed on the stainless steel pipework. It is hoped to commence this work shortly and it is expected that this will solve the problem."

Councillor Frank Dolan said that it is not acceptable for any family to be out of water on a regular basis and he urged that the pressure be maintained to have the matter resolved.
Councillor Mary Bohan supported the motion and stated that it was a mistake that the caretaker had not been kept on at least until the situation was bedded down. She asked that the issue be dealt with as soon as possible.

Councillor Sean McDermott also supported the motion and confirmed that this has been an ongoing problem.

Councillor Gerry Dolan, Councillor John McTernan and Councillor Siobhan McGloin also supported the motion.

11/359  
5/9/2011  Health & Safety Risks

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

"At the next meeting of Leitrim County Council I will ask that this Council take the necessary actions to secure the unfinished building site known as Forest Park, Kinlough. Currently this site poses serious health and safety risks."

Report by Director of Service, Planning, Community and Economic Development
"The primary responsibility for this development and its safety remains with the developer. However, Leitrim County Council continues to engage where possible with all stakeholders associated with such unfinished developments so as to secure the most pragmatic solution in the circumstances. In the meantime the Council continues to liaise with the Department in relation to unfinished housing developments and public safety in accordance with the provisions of Circular HFPD 1/11 & PSSP 2/11 of March 2011."

Councillor Siobhan McGloin outlined that a number of concerned parents had approached her. She outlined that a number of the houses are incomplete, a number have been vandalised etc and asked if there is a bond in place and if the site can be secured.

Mr. Joseph Gilhooly, Director of Services, Planning, Community and Economic Development outlined that the primary responsibility for the development rests with the developer concerned. He stated that this is a very complex case and that the Council are in ongoing correspondence in relation to the matter.

Councillor McGloin outlined that there is a public right of way through the development and that she would like to see this walk reinstated. She asked that pressure continue to be brought to bear on the developer in light of the safety concerns.

11/360  
5/9/2011  School Transport Costs

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

"Department of Transport figures show that the cost of transporting the average child to school for the year is in the region of €1,000. In fact the entire school transport costs (as
paid to the private contractor) for some small rural schools is only €23 per day. In light of this fact, I ask that Leitrim County Council ask Minister Ciaran Cannon to review the role of Bus Éireann in school transport and ensure that the private sector gets an equal opportunity to provide this service."

Councillor John McCartin outlined the background to his Motion and stated that the situation in relation to Bus Éireann involvement needs to be reviewed in the context of the huge administration etc involved. He stated that this contract should be revisited and handed out on a regional basis if necessary.

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

"That Leitrim County Council ask Minister Ciaran Cannon to review the role of Bus Éireann in school transport and ensure that the private sector gets an equal opportunity to provide this service."

**11/361**

**5/9/2011 HSE Ambulance**

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

"I request Leitrim County Council to ask the HSE why it took an Ambulance over one hour to collect a patient who was involved in an accident in Cloone."

Councillor John Ward confirmed that this accident took place on the August Bank Holiday weekend at a football match in Cloone. The player in question was in severe pain with a broken leg. He stated that the level of service is simply not good enough.

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

"That Leitrim County Council ask the HSE why it took an Ambulance over one hour to collect a patient who was involved in an accident in Cloone."

**Part II - Questions.**

**11/362**

**5/9/11 Mohill Civic Amenity and Recycling Centre**

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Gerry Kilrane;

"I ask Leitrim County Council to carry out some works at the sharp corner just past the entrance to the Mohill Civic Amenity and Recycling Centre (Td Tullybraden). This is a very hazardous bend and should not take much work or expense to put right."

**Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure**

"The road in question will be examined with a view to undertaking necessary remedial measures, within the limited funding available at this time."
Taking in Charge of Housing Estates

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Gerry Reynolds:

"I ask the Director of Services, Planning, Community & Economic Development when will the Council be in a position to take in charge the following housing estates in Carrick on Shannon: Shannon Grove, Cnoc na Sí, Dún Rí, Lisnagot and Cluain Sí. Also are there any other housing estates in Carrick on Shannon that have made an application to be taken in charge, the names of any such estates, and what is the current status of each application."

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

"The position in regard to the Housing Estates referred to in the Question is as follows:

1. Shannon Grove – no application has yet been made as site completion works are ongoing by the developer.
2. Cnoc na Sí – no application has been made. However enforcement action has been initiated in this regard.
3. Dún Rí – no application has been made by the developer.
4. Lisnagot – no application has been made by the developer but enforcement action has been initiated.
5. Cluain Sí – Application has been made - TIC-01; This development has been snagged, however the developer has not commenced works.

With regard to other Estates in Carrick on Shannon where applications have been made the following is the position:

1. Cluain Ard – TIC-17; snagged; discussions ongoing with the developer.
2. Tir na Sí – TIC-20; snagged; Waiting on developer to complete outstanding snag list
3. Ros na hInse – TIC-23; An invalid application was received and returned - no valid application has been received to date
4. Carraig Beagh – TIC-25; Awaiting new application from the developer as previous application was invalid.
5. Caldragh Crescent – TIC 39; Invalid application was received and returned - no valid application received to date."

Lay – Bys

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Enda Stenson:

"I ask the Directorate of Services, Infrastructure if it is Council policy, as stated at previous Council meetings, to create lay-bys or tar and chip in front of houses where possible along local roads, to allow for the meeting of two cars or School Buses on those narrow country roads."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure

"In the past it was the policy to create lay-bys and surface the front of houses when resurfacing work was being carried out on that particular section of road. However given the significant reduction in roads funding it is imperative that priority is given to dealing with damaged potholed road surfaces. Diverting funding to lay-bys and areas in front of houses"
reduces the amount of repairs that can be carried out on a road itself."

**11/365**  
5/9/2011  **Road Improvements**

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Enda Stenson;

"A section of the road from the Rosebank Group Housing Scheme over to past the NCT Centre in Carrick on Shannon is very dangerous as there is no footpath at a bend thus forcing people walking to walk out into oncoming traffic. Monies were provided for the upgrade of this road in previous budgets. May I ask could improvements be carried out here."

**Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure**

"Significant improvements were undertaken on the road in question, however the funding provided did not allow every desired improvement to be undertaken. The improvements requested is indeed desirable but are subject to funding being available for the works. The County Council have already entered into negotiations with other land owners on this road, which if concluded will use up the remaining funding available this year. Additional funding will be required to be provided in the 2012 Budget to allow work to be completed at the NCT Centre."

**11/366**  
5/9/2011  **Road Surface**

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Sean McSharry;

"I ask the Director of Services, Infrastructure to examine the road surface on the cul-de-sac at Kilroosk, Churchmount, Manorhamilton. The residents are concerned that during the bad weather last winter, the road surface was badly cut up and are there any plans to upgrade the surface on this road."

**Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure**

"The Road in question is LT 21282-0 which is a Cul-De Sac at Kilroosk. This road was badly damaged by the installation of the Mullies/Brackery GWS Upgrade. Temporary road restoration was carried out by the Contractor. The issue of permanent road restoration will now be addressed."

**11/367**  
5/9/2011  **Water Pressure**

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Sean McSharry;

"I ask the Director of Services, Infrastructure to examine the lack of water pressure in the Ahanlish area in Glenade, specifically in the house of (Name supplied) and the houses closest to the reservoir. (Name Supplied) and other houses in the surrounding area have intermittent water supply throughout the day."

**Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure**

"Following investigation the top water level in the reservoir which supplies the properties has been adjusted so the water supply will be more constant. This situation will be further improved with the completion of the new pipeline which is currently under construction."
This new rising main will allow us to increase the pump output at Glenade with attendant increased pressure and the problem in this location should be resolved.

11/368
5/9/2011  **Public Lighting at Foghera Lane, Ballinamore**

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Gordon Hughes;

"I ask the Area Engineer if they will extend the public lighting at Foghera Lane, Ballinamore that presently only goes as far as Brendan Gormley’s property. There have been a number of additional properties built along this laneway over the past few years which are not served by any public lighting resulting in it presenting a danger to pedestrians & in particular small children from passing traffic."

**Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure**

"There is currently no available funding for public lighting in the Ballinamore District for 2011. The matter can be included for consideration in the 2012 Budget subject to the level of funding available."

11/369
5/9/2011  **Landscaping**

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Gordon Hughes;

"I ask the Area Engineer if they will carry out landscaping on the Carrigallen approach road to Ballinamore at the junction with the Line Road. The Tidy Towns have done great work to improve this area in recent times but more funding is needed from the local authority to help improve the visual aspect as no significant works regarding landscaping have been done by the authority since this road was completed."

**Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure**

"Leitrim County Council have given considerable funding to the Tidy Towns Committee in Ballinamore over the past number of years, and will continue to work closely with this committee. The County Council would indeed like to acknowledge the great work carried out by the Ballinamore Tidy Towns Committee, and the District Engineer is available to discuss how this area can be further improved. Provision for such improvements will have to be considered in the 2012 estimates, subject to the level of funding available."

11/370
5/9/2011  **Lock Estate in Rooskey**

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Sean McGowan;

"I request Mr John Mc Guinness, Director of Services, Infrastructure to provide sewerage connections to the residents of the Lock Estate in Rooskey. This estate which was built in the 90's consists of 5 houses and was in place before funding was secured for the sewerage scheme. Those houses should have been provided with a connection when the ground works on the sewerage scheme were being carried out. I have been contacted over the summer months by some of the residents who are anxious to get connected up to the scheme."
Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure
"A wayleave has been arranged with the neighbouring landowner to the rear of these five houses to allow the extension of the public sewer network to service these five sites. Tenders will be sought for the construction of the extension of the sewer and the works will be carried out as soon as possible. Connections will be provided to the boundary of each property and the householder in each case will be responsible to make the connection on their property."

11/371
5/9/2011  Hedge Cutting Notices

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Sean McGowan;

"To ask Mr John Mc Guinness, Director of Services, Infrastructure, to immediately set about issuing hedge cutting notices to all landowners including the Forestry companies, throughout the County as a number of hedges are overhanging the roads and are a danger to motorists and pedestrians alike & could lead to serious accidents occurring."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure
"Leitrim County Council routinely issue notices when it becomes aware of dangerous hedges. Councillors and members of the public are encouraged to assist in identifying such dangerous hedges and the landowners in question. The public are reminded that under The Roads Act 1993 the Landowner or Occupier is responsible for maintenance of Roadside hedges and that failure to comply with a Hedge Cutting Notice will result in the Landowner or Occupier of such lands being guilty of an offence."

11/372
5/9/2011  Traffic Calming Measures

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Enda McGloin;

"Will the Director of Services for Infrastructure consider traffic calming measures/warning signage at the road leading to the Mahanagh/R280 road junction at the ‘Galley Bridge’, Drumshanbo. There are a large number of houses very close to the road and the speed of the traffic is very fast for a built up area. I urge Leitrim Co Council to do something here in the short term, coupled with a consideration of reducing the speed limit here in the medium term."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure
"There are proposals in place to have advance warning signage erected on the R280 approach from the Carrick on Shannon side of this junction. These signs will be erected as part of this years programme of work and should be effective in reducing the speed of traffic at this location."

11/373
5/9/2011  Teach Ceoil

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Enda McGloin;
"I wish to ask the Director for Community and Planning what future plans there are for the ‘Teach Ceoil’ at the Acres Amenity Area, Drumshanbo?"

Report by Director of Service, Planning, Community and Economic Development
"The Teach Ceoil will be redeveloped under the ‘Harnessing Natural Resources’ Project to facilitate a new Sliabh an Iarainn Visitors Centre."

11/374
5/9/2011  Leitrim Community Games

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Sinead Guckian;

"At the September meeting I will ask the County Manager to consider including an annual contribution towards the Leitrim Community Games, in the Council’s budget to assist the organisation continue its great work with the youth of Leitrim. I would also ask that consideration would be given, this year, to making a contribution to the group who successfully brought Leitrim’s Under 10 boys and girls to an All Ireland football Final and won. This was a fantastic achievement and should be acknowledged."

Report by Director of Service, Planning, Community and Economic Development
"Leitrim County Council through it's Community and Voluntary Grant Scheme provides a funding allocation to assist organisations such as that mentioned to carry out specific actions in accordance with the scheme. The scheme operated in 2011 and will be further considered for continued support as part of the budgetary process for 2012. In the meantime, Leitrim County Council would like to congratulate all involved in the operation of the community games and commend on those who had particular achievement in this years Games. Given the particular success this year the Council is happy to engage with the relevant group to assist in some way in the acknowledgement of the achievement."

11/375
5/9/2011  Concealed Entrance

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Sinead Guckian;

"I request the Carrick on Shannon Area Engineer to erect a “Concealed Entrance” sign on the Liscallyroan road, Drumsna on the approach to Mr John Joe Briens house."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure
"The County Council does not erect " Concealed Entrance" signs at private entrances but the District Engineer will inspect the location in question and discuss possible solutions with the house owner."

11/376
5/9/2011  Lisacoghill Bridge

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Mary Bohan;

"When will Leitrim County Council carry out the necessary repairs on Lisacoghill Bridge in order to render it safe for the public."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure
"Following an inspection of this bridge at Lisacoghill on road number LP 4247 it is felt that
there is no immediate safety concerns for the public at this location. The Council will clear all vegetation off the bridge and re build any damaged sections of the parapet walls following the completion of this years programme of works."

11/377
5/9/2011 \textbf{Illegal Dumping}

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Mary Bohan;

"I ask what extra measures will Leitrim County Council undertake to deal with the high level of illegal dumping that is currently taking place throughout the County and does Leitrim County Council have a list of businesses and households availing of the existing waste disposal service?"

\textbf{Report by Director of Service, Environment, Emergency and Cultural Services}

"The Council implements both an environmental awareness programme aimed at encouraging environmental responsibility and an environmental enforcement programme where it takes action in accordance with the Litter Pollution Acts against those who cause litter pollution. Environmental awareness raising is done at many levels, with primary and secondary school children, community groups and tidy towns associations, and by means of competitions and promotions. Environmental enforcement involves the work of the Council's Environmental Enforcement Officer and the Community Wardens in identifying illegal dumping and taking appropriate action. The Council is aware from data submitted quarterly by the refuse collection operators of the number of householders availing of the refuse collection service and of the tonnage of waste being taken to landfills. This information identifies trends in usage of the service. The Council is currently in the process of registering all users of the service as per recently adopted Waste Presentation Bye-laws. This is at an early stage but when complete, we will have a complete database of users of the service."

11/378
5/9/2011 \textbf{Road Repairs}

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Tony Ferguson;

"I ask the Director of Services, Infrastructure and the District Engineer when it is proposed to re-instate and surface dress the old N15 road from the Diamond Bar to the Drowes Bridge at Tullaghan? These works were to be done with the Development Charges which were collected."

\textbf{Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure}

"The Road in question is LP 2059-3. As part of the development contributions scheme, new decorative public lighting was erected in this area and the resulting trench area was surface dressed back in 2009. No further development contributions are available for Tullaghan. This road can be included for consideration in the 2012 Roads Estimates subject to the level of funding available."
11/379  
5/9/2011  
**Sewerage Services in Rossinver**

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Tony Ferguson;

"I ask the Director of Services, Infrastructure what progress is being made on the provision of sewerage services in Rossinver and if any piping is in place to accommodate developments."

**Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure**

"Rossinver was included in the Leitrim Towns and Villages Sewerage scheme Bundle 2 which was brought to Preliminary Report stage. This preliminary report was submitted to the Department of the Environment and Local Government for approval to proceed to the next stage of Design, Contract documents and Tendering. Approval was not granted by the Department and the scheme is not included in the Water Services Investment Programme 2010 - 2012 and is effectively shelved. Leitrim County Council made submissions as part of the annual review of this programme to reinstate the scheme without success. We will apply again for the reinstatement of this scheme in the next annual review of the Water Services Improvement Programme 2010- 2012 next year, however the issue of the affordability of a sewerage scheme in Rossinver in particular, is still not accepted by the Department."

11/380  
5/9/2011  
**Corraleskin, Kiltyclogher**

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Sean McDermott;

"Can I ask Leitrim County Council to investigate the problem of water running into the driveway of two houses in the townland of Corraleskin, Kiltyclogher, Road No: LT61214-1. This problem arises when there is heavy rain. The houses are the 1st two houses coming off the R281?"

**Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure**

"The road in question is LT 61214-1. The side drains on this road were cleaned. The two houses in question at this location had a Planning Permission Condition that required the property owner to ensure that their development made the appropriate accommodation to ensure that run off from the public road did not gain access to the drive ways. It is therefore the responsibility of the property owner to install drainage channels at the entrance of each house to divert the water from the public road away to the existing Roadside drain."

11/381  
5/9/2011  
**Riverview Kiltyclogher**

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Sean McDermott;

"Can I ask the Director of Services, Infrastructure if action can be taken to prevent re-occurrences of leaks at Riverview, Kiltyclogher where there was no water for a considerable length of time last year when there was severe frost. The water pipes seem to be laid close to the surface."

**Report by Director of Service, Corporate Services & Housing**
"The matter will be investigated and necessary works carried out."

11/382  
5/9/2011  
Roads Programme

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Frank Dolan;

"I will ask the Director of Services, Infrastructure to consider the inclusion of the Gleanneague Road in Differeen, Glencar in next years Roads Programme. This road is in poor condition."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure
"The road in question can be included for consideration in the 2012 Budget subject to the level of funding available in 2012."

11/383  
5/9/2011  
Fracking

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Francis Gilmartin;

"What can Leitrim County Council do to stop Fracking in Lough Allen?"

Report by Senior Executive Officer, Corporate Services & Housing
"The position is as outlined in correspondence issued from the County Manager to Members on 1st September 2011."

11/384  
5/9/2011  
Group Water Scheme

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Francis Gilmartin;

"Can a Group Water Scheme that wants to upgrade receive grant assistance?"

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure
"Under the 2011 allocation for Rural Water there is some funding still available for refurbishment works on Group Schemes. Interested Groups should contact the Rural Water Section."

11/385  
5/9/2011  
Hedges

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

"I ask Leitrim County Council to liaise with the landowners in the townland of Drumboura between the junction at Drumboura Cross and the Local Road LS5520-0 with a view to having the hedges cut back in the interest of safety, particularly with the reopening of schools and the increase in traffic including buses associated with schools."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure
"Hedge Cutting Notices will be served, as appropriate on the landowners along this road."
To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Paddy O'Rourke;

"I would ask that Leitrim County Council carry out the necessary patching to road at Gulladoo, Carrigallen."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure
"The road in question will receive routine repairs when the roads programme in the area is complete."

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Gerry Kilrane;

"I ask that Leitrim County Council provide suitable signage at the entrance to the Shannagh Grove Estate in Mohill to ensure safe entrance and egress for residents."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure
"Suitable signage will be provided as requested."

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Siobhan McGloin;

"I ask that Leitrim County Council carry out urgent repairs to the Rookrey Road which links the Coast Rd and the N15 at Wardhouse."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure
"The road in question is LS 6058-0. Routine road maintenance was carried out on this road and further routine maintenance will be carried out when required subject to funding availability."

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor Siobhan McGloin;

"I ask that Leitrim County Council carry out maintenance at Derrynaseer Amenity Area as a matter of urgency, and that they engage with the local community and other bodies to develop a plan to keep the area in good condition."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure
"This area has suffered from littering and Anti-Social behaviour in the past. Leitrim County Council currently has no funding to upgrade this area. However we will endeavour to carry out routine maintenance in this area in the next few weeks."
Leitrim County Council would however be very interested in working with the community and other interested bodies to explore where funding might be sourced to improve facilities at this location.

11/390  
5/9/2011  Yield Right of Way Sign  

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor John Ward;

"I ask Leitrim County Council to erect a 'Yield Right of Way' sign at Corduff Road in Annaduff."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure  
"Appropriate signage will be erected as requested."

11/391  
5/9/2011  Cloonsheebane, Hartley  

To consider the following Question submitted by Councillor John Ward;

"I ask Leitrim County Council to erect a sign at Cloonsheebane, Hartley, Carrick on Shannon as the road narrows at that point and it is very dangerous."

Report by Director of Service, Infrastructure  
"The road in question will be examined and the requested signs erected if appropriate."

The business of the meeting concluded at 8.55 pm

Signed  Cllr John McTernan, Cathaoirleach  
Signed  Aideen McGovern, Meetings Administrator