

Minutes of Meeting of Leitrim County Council held in the Council Chamber, Aras An Chontae, Carrick-on-Shannon, Co Leitrim on Monday, 7th March, 2016

Members Present: Councillor Armstrong–McGuire, Finola
Councillor Barry, Brendan
Councillor Bohan, Mary
Councillor Gerry Dolan
Councillor Dolan, Frank
Councillor Fallon, Padraig
Councillor Ellis, Caillian
Councillor Guckian, Des
Councillor Guckian, Sinead
Councillor Gurn, Felim
Councillor Kenny, Martin
Councillor Logan, Seadhna
Councillor McDermott, Sean
Councillor McGowan, Sean
Councillor O'Rourke, Paddy
Councillor Stenson, Enda
Councillor Warnock, Justin

And Councillor John McCartin, Cathaoirleach presiding

Officials Present: Mr. Frank Curran, Chief Executive
Mr. Joseph Gilhooly, Director of Services, Economic Development, Planning, Environment and Transportation
Ms. Mary Quinn, Director of Services, Housing and Community, Corporate Services, Culture and Emergency Services
Mr. John McKeon, A/Head of Finance & Water Services
Mr. Shay O'Connor, Senior Engineer, Infrastructure
Mr. Shane Tiernan, Senior Executive Officer
Ms. Sinead Flynn, Meetings Administrator
Ms Carmel Coll, Staff Officer
Ms. Kathleen McGovern Ellis, Assistant Staff Officer

16/27

07/03/2016 Votes of Sympathy

The Members extended a vote of sympathy to the following:

- Ms. Bridie O'Rourke, Laghty, Glenfarne on the death of Mr. Seamus O'Rourke.
- Mr. Fergus Burns, Cornaman, Glenfarne on the death of Ms. Philomena Burns.
- Ms. Elizabeth Anne Murphy, Tawnaleck, Melvin, Rossinver on the death of Johnny McGowan.

16/28

07/03/2016 Deimhniu Miontuairisci

(a) Councillor Des Guckian requested that the following amendment be recorded in the minutes" that academic institutions should have freedom of thought and that such institutions are poorly funded".

Proposed by Councillor Enda Stenson, seconded by Councillor Mary Bohan and UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED:

"That the Minutes of the Special Election Meeting of Leitrim County Council for the purpose of appointing a representative to the Governing Authority of NUI Galway in Kiltyclogher Community Centre, Kiltyclogher, Co Leitrim on Monday, 11th January 2016 be adopted, subject to the amendment to Minute Reference No. 16/01 as outlined above".

(b) Councillor Des Guckian requested that the following amendment be recorded in the minutes on page 3 to "2 metres" and on page 7 should read". The current road design of the bypass is extremely dangerous and cannot be accepted".

Proposed by Councillor Enda Stenson, seconded by Councillor Mary Bohan and UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED:

"That the Minutes of the Council Meeting of Leitrim County Council held in Kiltyclogher Community Centre, Kiltyclogher, Co Leitrim on Monday, 11th January 2016 be adopted, subject to the amendments to Minute Reference No. 16/04 and No. 16/12."

16/29

07/03/2016 Disposal of Freehold Interest

Notice of intention dated 22nd February, 2016 from Ms. Kathyne Bohan, Administrative Officer, Housing Department in relation to the disposal of freehold interest in Rural Cottage No. 402 and adjoining site comprising circa 0.992 acres (0.401 hectares) in the townland of Killinaker, Dromod, Co Leitrim in accordance with Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001 as circulated to each Member appears as **Appendix 1** to the Minutes of this Meeting in the Minute Book.

Proposed by Councillor Des Guckian, seconded by Councillor Enda Stenson and UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED:

"That the disposal of freehold interest in Rural Cottage No 402 and adjoining site comprising circa 0.992 acres (0.401 hectares) in the townland of Killinaker, Dromod, Co Leitrim in accordance with Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001 and Notice of Intention to Dispose of freehold interest in Rural Cottage dated 22nd February, 2016 as circulated to each Member be approved".

16/30

07/03/2016 Disposal of a portion of Land

Notice of intention dated 25th February, 2016 from Mr. Joseph Gilhooly, Director of Services, Economic Development, Planning, Environment and Transport in relation to the disposal of a

portion of land in the townland of Tully, Ballinamore, Co. Leitrim (0.0098ha) to Mr. Michael McMahon, Tully, Ballinamore, Co Leitrim in accordance with Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001 as circulated to each Member appears as **Appendix 2** to the Minutes of this Meeting in the Minute Book.

Proposed by Councillor Gerry Dolan, seconded by Councillor Enda Stenson and UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED:

“That the disposal of a portion of land in the townland of Tully Ballinamore, Co. Leitrim (0.0098ha) to Mr. Michael McMahon, Tully, Ballinamore, Co Leitrim in accordance with Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001 and Notice of Intention dated 25th February, 2016 to dispose of land at Tully, Ballinamore, Co. Leitrim as circulated to each Member be approved”.

16/31

07/03/2016

Disposal of a portion of Land

Notice of intention dated 25th February, 2016 from Mr. Joseph Gilhooly, Director of Services, Economic Development, Planning, Environment and Transport in relation to the disposal of a portion of land in the townland of No 17. Summerhill, Carrick on Shannon, Co. Leitrim (0.015ac) to Niall & Tanya Scollan, No 17. Summerhill, Carrick-on-Shannon in accordance with Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001 as circulated to each Member appears as **Appendix 3** to the Minutes of this Meeting in the Minute Book.

Proposed by Councillor Brendan Barry, seconded by Councillor Sinead Guckian and UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED:

“That the disposal of a portion of land in the townland of No 17 Summerhill, Carrick on Shannon, Co. Leitrim (0.015ac) to Niall & Tanya Scollan, No 17 Summerhill, Carrick-on-Shannon in accordance with Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001 and Notice of Intention to dated 25th February, 2016 as circulated to each Member be approved”.

16/32

07/03/2016

Annual Service Delivery Plan 2016

Report dated 1st March, 2016 from Mr. Frank Curran, Chief Executive with regard to the Draft Annual Service Delivery Plan, 2016 as circulated to the Members appears as **Appendix 4** to the Minutes of this meeting in the Minute Book.

Mr. Frank Curran, Chief Executive outlined that in accordance with the provisions of Section 134A of the Local Government Act, 2001 (as inserted by Section 50 of the Local Government Reform Act 2014), each local authority is required to prepare an Annual Service Delivery Plan which sets out the activities to be undertaken by that local authority in the particular year to deliver on the objectives of the Corporate Plan.

Mr. Curran outlined that the Draft Service Delivery Plan details the principle services that will be provided by Leitrim County Council in 2016. The Plan also details the individual objectives arising from the three main strategies in the Corporate Plan with specific actions to be delivered by the individual Directorates. Mr. Curran advised that the delivery of the Service Delivery Plan will be measured by the data captured in the National and Local Performance Indicators. Mr. Curran invited any questions/comments from the Members and the following items were raised:

- Councillor Sinead Guckian referred to Section 1.8 with regard to the creative sector and she requested details of the staff resource with responsibility for co-ordinating this programme.

Mr. Frank Curran outlined that Mr. Philip Delemere, Arts Officer, has responsibility for the co-ordination of this programme with assistance provided by Mr. Joe Lowe from the LEO Office.

Councillor Sinead Guckian referred to Section 1.25 and sought clarification on whether this item will be re-visited in the event of any changes to Irish Water.

Mr. Frank Curran advised that the matter can be re-visited in the event that there is a fundamental change to Irish Water.

Councillor Des Guckian stated that a programme should be put in place to address derelict buildings in town centres to return them to productive use. He also stated that arrangements should be put in place to dredge the River Shannon on a regular basis. Councillor Des Guckian requested an update on the 2016 Housing Programme and queried if the Council had any proposals to construct new social housing units in order to provide accommodation for long-term homeless houses.

Mr. Frank Curran confirmed that the 2016 Housing Programme provides for an extension of the existing social housing development at Taobh Tire, Manorhamilton to deliver 7 additional social housing units. He advised that Leitrim County Council has no long-term homeless households on the Housing Waiting List.

Councillor Des Guckian disagreed with the statement and he stated that he is regularly contacted by homeless households in the county seeking assistance with the provision of housing supports.

Ms. Mary Quinn, Director of Services outlined that the nature of homelessness in Leitrim tends to be more short-term in nature and that such households are assisted by the local authority in securing accommodation in the private rented sector or by the allocation of a standard local authority tenancy.

Councillor Des Guckian sought clarification on the number of new jobs created in Leitrim in 2015. Ms. Mary Quinn advised that a target of 20 new jobs was set for 2015 and that 16 jobs were delivered. She advised that the target for 2016 is to deliver 20 new jobs.

Councillor Mary Bohan with reference to the actions identified under Planning and Sustainable Development requested that a specific action be inserted to outline that the Members of Leitrim County Council remain opposed to fracking.

Mr. Frank Curran advised that the Council's stance on fracking is clearly outlined in the County Development Plan and that there is no requirement to amend the Annual Service Delivery Plan. He outlined that the Annual Service Delivery Plan details the Council's Work Programme for 2016 and that there is no reference to fracking and therefore there is no requirement to reference fracking.

Councillor Des Guckian supported Councillor Mary Bohan's proposal to insert a reference to the Council's position on fracking in the Annual Service Delivery Plan.

Mr. Frank Curran proposed that a letter issue to the Department of the Environment, Community & Local Government re-stating the Council's opposition to fracking.

Councillor Mary Bohan did not accept this proposal and she again requested that a statement on the Council's opposition to fracking be inserted into the Annual Service Delivery Plan.

Councillor Sinead Guckian also supported the proposal and proposed that a statement on fracking be inserted under Corporate Plan Objective 3 – Maximising Operational and Organisational Capacity i.e. Monitor and review Corporate Plan as necessary in context of major changes in strategic direction e.g. Irish Water, Local Economic and Community Plan, Fracking, local government reform.

Proposed by Councillor Mary Bohan, seconded by Councillor Sinead Guckian and UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED:

‘That Leitrim County Council’s Annual Service Delivery Plan, 2016 be amended as follows:
‘Monitor and review Corporate Plan as necessary in context of major changes in strategic direction e.g. Irish Water, Local Economic and Community Plan, Fracking and Local Government Reform’.

16/33

07/03/2016 Road Works Programme 2016

The Annual Area Programme, 2016 as circulated to the Members appears as **Appendix 5** to the Minutes of this meeting in the Minute Book.

Mr. Frank Curran, Chief Executive informed the Members that the Council received an allocation of €600,000 to fund the cost of repairs to roads damaged as a result of the severe weather events of December, 2015 and January, 2016.

Councillor Mary Bohan queried if details on how the allocation would be distributed will be available for consideration in advance of the next Municipal District meetings.

Mr. Shay O’Connor advised that Council had sought €1.6 million under the programme and that the allocation is €1 million less than anticipated at €600,000. He outlined that the allocation will not facilitate the completion of all the works that the Council had included in their submission to the Department.

Councillor Mary Bohan agreed that the allocation is not sufficient to fund the scale of works required arising from the severe weather events and she outlined her dis-satisfaction with the level of funding provided by the Department. She stated that Leitrim County Council has had huge cuts to the funding for the Roads Programme on an annual basis and that the Council are struggling to maintain the roads infrastructure due to the lack of available financial resources.

The Members unanimously agreed that the funding allocation was insufficient to maintain the roads infrastructure and they requested that a further letter issue to the Department outlining their concerns.

The Road Works Scheme 2016 as presented was noted by the Members.

16/34

07/03/2016 Play & Recreation Policy 2016-2019

Report dated 1st March, 2016 from Ms. Mary Quinn, Director of Services, Housing, Corporate, Culture & Emergency Services with regard to the Draft Play & Recreation Policy 2015-2019 for County Leitrim as circulated to the Members appears as **Appendix 6** to the Minutes of this meeting in the Minute Book.

Councillor Des Guckian welcomed the Draft Play and Recreation Policy but stated that he did not accept that the profile of the population is increasing, he argued that the population is declining particularly in rural areas. Councillor Des Guckian also stated that the policy should make provision for a skating park and that a collaborative approach to develop this proposal between all stakeholders could be initiated. He also requested that reference should be made to include playgrounds and play areas in the policy.

Mr. Frank Curran, Chief Executive agreed to this reference being included in the policy.

Councillor Brendan Barry supported the proposal to develop a skate park and outlined that such a facility would enhance the recreational facilities available for the youth of the county.

Councillor Justin Warnock outlined that there is no playground in Kinlough and he proposed that the provision of a playground in Kinlough be considered in the future.

Proposed by Councillor Sinead Guckian, seconded by Councillor Felim Gurn and UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED:

“That the Play & Recreation Policy 2015-2019 for County Leitrim be adopted”.

16/35

07/03/2016

Draft Polling Scheme

Report dated 7th March 2016 from Mary Quinn, Director of Services, Housing, Corporate, Culture and Emergency Services in relation to the New Draft Polling Scheme for Leitrim. The report as circulated to the Members appears as **Appendix 7** to the Minutes of this meeting in the Minute Book.

Ms. Mary Quinn, Director of Services, Housing, Corporate, Culture and Emergency Services outlined that public notification in relation to the preparation of the Draft Polling Scheme was published in the Leitrim Observer dated 20th January, 2016 and also on the Council’s website. The final date for receipt of submissions was 24th February, 2016. Ms. Quinn outlined that the Draft Polling Scheme was also listed as an agenda item at each of the Municipal District meetings.

Ms. Quinn outlined that one submission was received in relation to the Draft Polling Scheme which was referred to the County Register, Mr. Joe Smyth as detailed in the report and she recommended that the Draft Polling Scheme is adopted without amendment.

Proposed by Councillor Sean McGowan, seconded by Councillor Sean McDermott and UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED:

“That the Polling Scheme in accordance with 1992 Electoral Act, as amended, and Electoral (Polling Scheme) Regulations 2005 be approved”.

16/36

07/03/2016

Uncollected Rates

Mr. John McKeon, A/Head of Finance presented an update in relation to the schedule of uncollected rates. He outlined that schedule of uncollected Rates is available for inspection by the Elected Members at the meeting.

The Report was noted by the Members.

16/37

07/03/2016

Rate Collection Report for 2015

Rate Collection Report 2015 dated 29th February, 2016 from Mr. John McKeon, A/Head of Finance as circulated to the Members, appears as **Appendix 8** to the Minutes of this meeting in the Minute Book.

The report as circulated was noted by the Members.

Councillor Sean McGowan queried as to what protocol was in place in order to try and collect uncollected rates. Mr. John McKeon outlined that the following methods were used to collect uncollected rates:

- Rate Collectors calling to ratepayers
- High level of letters issued to ratepayers
- Debt Collection Agencies employed

Councillor Padraig Fallon queried the number of vacant commercial properties in the county. Mr McKeon outlined that the number of vacant commercial properties has risen from 15.1% to 15.9% and this has been verified by An Post Geo Directory.

Councillor Des Guckian queried why rates are not being paid and requested details of the Debt Collection Agencies engaged by the Council to pursue non-payments.

Mr. McKeon acknowledged that difficult economic circumstances experienced over the last number of years that has impacted on the business sector. He outlined that the Council encourage business owners to engage with the Finance Department to negotiate a payment plan in relation to their commercial rate liability to suit their individual financial circumstances. Mr. McKeon stated that the Council explore all other options of directly with Customers and that a referral to a Debt Collection Agency is only considered when all other options have been concluded without resolution.

Councillor Mary Bohan paid tribute to Mr. John McKeon, A/Head of Finance and the staff of the Finance Department for the sympathetic manner in which they engage with customers particularly customers that are experiencing financial difficulties.

Councillor Felim Gurn queried if there is a database with details of new business established in the county. He also outlined that many publicans are operating reduced opening times, yet there is no reduction in their commercial rate liability.

Councillor John McCartin outlined that the Rates Review for Leitrim will be complete in 2018.

The report as circulated was noted by the Members.

16/38

07/03/2016

Audit Report for the Year 2015

The Annual Report for 2015 from the Audit Committee to Leitrim County Council, dated 29th February, 2016 and submitted in accordance with the provisions of Section 122 of the Local Government Act, 2001, as amended by Section 5 of the Local Government (Business

Improvement Districts) Act 2006, as circulated to each Member appears as **Appendix 9** to the Minutes of this Meeting in the Minute Book.

Mr. Frank Curran, Chief Executive gave an overview of the report.

The report was noted by the Members.

16/39

07/03/2016 **Draft Litter Management Plan 2016-2017**

The Draft Litter Management Plan 2016-2019 as circulated to each Member appears as **Appendix 10** to the Minutes of this Meeting in the Minute Book.

Ms. Carmel Coll, Staff Officer, Economic Development, Planning, Environment & Transportation presented an overview of the Draft Litter Management Plan 2016-2019.

Councillor John McCartin, Cathaoirleach, thanked Ms. Coll for her presentation and invited questions from the Members, the following items were raised:

- Councillor Sinead Guckian thanked Ms. Coll for her presentation and welcomed the re-useable Coffee Cups Initiative, appropriate anti litter signage and the use of social media campaigns to promote anti litter initiatives.
- Councillor Mary Bohan stressed that all community and voluntary groups should be encouraged around the county to get involved in the Tidy Towns Scheme and proposed that CCTV be installed at the Bring Bank Centre in Drumkeerin. Councillor Bohan also referred to an issue whereby staff employed on the Gateway Scheme are not permitted to pick up glass under the terms and conditions of their employment and that this was an issue that should be resolved.
- Councillor Sean McGowan, Councillor Pdraig Fallon and Councillor Sean McDermott proposed that CCTV cameras are rotated to litter blackspots throughout the county to act as a cost effective deterrent to reduce illegal dumping of waste and other offensive materials.
- Councillor Sean McDermott also encouraged members of the public to become involved in Tidy Town's in their local areas. He expressed his concern in relation to the amount of litter on the N16.
- Councillor Enda Stenson stated that some locations are more affected by littering than others and he proposed that the Council continue to promote environmental education and awareness to tackle the problem.
- Ms. Coll acknowledged that CCTV is an effective method of preventing littering and illegal dumping and that the Environment Department choose carefully the locations to install CCTV monitoring. Ms. Coll also confirmed that Gateway employees are not permitted to pick up glass.
- Councillor Seadhna Logan queried the rationale for the removal of public bins in Mohill. Ms. Coll advised that this matter should be referred to the Area Engineer.

- Councillor Paddy O'Rourke stated that environmental awareness and education is the best method to address the issue for future generations.
- Councillor Caillian Ellis proposed that a letter issue to the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government requesting that they impose fines on multi-national companies for litter e.g. discarded packaging from fast-food outlets dumped on the roadsides. Councillor Ellis also referred to incidents where waste material is dumped on private property by offenders and the dumping on private property by offenders and noted that it is very unfair that landowners are responsible for the removal of same from their property.

16/40

07/03/2016 Waste Enforcement Regional Lead Authority

The Cathaoirleach, Councillor John McCartin welcomed, Mr Sean Scott, Regional Co-Ordinator, Connacht Ulster WERLA and Mr. Dearn McClintock, Technical Officer of Connacht Ulster WERLA to the meeting.

Mr. Scott and Mr. Clintock thanked the Cathaoirleach and Elected Members for affording them the opportunity to address the meeting. Mr Scott then proceeded to give a detailed presentation on the Waste Enforcement Regional Lead Authority. A copy of the presentation appears as **Appendix 11** to the Minutes of this meeting in the Minute Book.

The Cathaoirleach, Councillor John McCartin, thanked Mr. Scott and Mr Clintock for the detailed and informative presentation and invited questions/comments from the Members.

- Councillor Sinead Guckian noted that the current waste management bye laws should include a provision to allow for the sharing of bins particularly in rural areas e.g. parents and their families living in neighbouring properties.
- Councillor Mary Bohan queried if the Waste Service Providers have an up to date list of all persons registered for a Waste Collection Service.
- Councillor Justin Warnock stated that a landowner should not be held responsible for the cost of removing waste material that has been illegally dumped on their landholding.
- Councillor Pdraig Fallon noted that this goes against the Polluter must Pay Principle.
- Councillor Frank Dolan noted that a number of locations in the county are not serviced by a Waste Collector and that this poses difficulties for the disposal of waste for a number of households.

Mr. Scott responded to questions and comments from the Members as follows:-

- Unless a landowner can prove who dumped rubbish on their property, they are held responsible for the disposal costs as provided for in the current legislation.
- Members should contact the Environment Department with details of the locations that are not currently serviced by an Authorised Waste Collector.

16/41

07/03/2016 Allocation of Grants under the Arts Act 2003

Report from Ms. Mary Quinn, Director of Services, Housing, Corporate, Culture and Emergency Services dated 7th March, 2016 with regard to the allocation of grants under the terms of the Arts Act, 2003 as circulated to each Member appears as **Appendix 12** to the Minutes of this Meeting in the Minute Book.

Proposed by Councillor Finola Armstrong McGuire, seconded by Councillor Frank Dolan and UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED:

“That the Allocation of Grants under the terms of the Arts, Act 2003 be approved”

16/42

07/03/2016 Monthly Management Reports by the Chief Executive

Monthly Management Reports for the period 1st December, 2015 to 31st December, 2015 and 1st January, 2016 to 31st January, 2016 by Mr. Frank Curran, Chief Executive, dated 12th January, 2016 and 11th February, 2016 respectively, prepared in accordance with Section 136 (2) of the Local Government Act, 2001 as inserted by Section 51 of the Local Government Reform Act, 2014, as circulated to the Members, appear as **Appendix 13** and **Appendix 14** to the Minutes of this meeting in the Minute Book.

The reports as circulated were noted by the Members.

16/43

07/03/2016 Section 138 (1) of the Local Government Act 2001

Ms. Sinead Flynn, Meetings Administrator outlined that there were no commitments to note under this item.

16/44

07/03/2016 Corporate Policy Group Report

Ms. Sinead Flynn, Meetings Administrator gave an overview of the items considered by the Corporate Policy Group at their meeting held prior to the Council meeting.

Update from Strategic Policy Committee's:

Housing Policy, Social & Cultural Development SPC

Ms. Flynn outlined that the SPC held a meeting on 16th February, 2016 and considered the following items: SPC Work Programme and Schedule of Meetings for 2016, Housing Grant Scheme, Peace IV Programme, Draft Policy for Play and Recreation 2016 – 2019, Review of Anti-Social Behaviour Strategy and Incremental Tenant Purchase Scheme.

Environmental, Transportation & Infrastructural SPC

Ms. Flynn outlined the SPC held a meeting on 9th February, 2016 and considered the following items: Draft Litter Management Plan 2016-2019, Draft Road Safety Strategy and the SPC Work Programme for 2016.

Ms Flynn also provided an update from the Corporate Policy Group in relation to the following:-

The Appointment of a Councillor to the Board of Arigna Enterprise Fund.

The CPG agreed to refer this item to the Ballinamore Municipal District meeting for consideration.

To consider a Civic Reception to mark the success of the North Leitrim Athletics in the All Ireland Athletics Championships

The CPG agreed that recognition of sport success is catered for in the Leitrim Sports Partnership Awards, 2016.

May Council Meeting

The CPG agreed that the May Council meeting will take place on Tuesday 3rd May, 2016 in Drumreilly G.A.A Club.

Association of Irish Local Government

The CPG agreed that Councillor Paddy O'Rourke will replace Councillor John McCartin on the Association of Irish Local Government.

Proposed by Councillor Caillian Ellis, seconded by Councillor Sinead Guckian and UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED:

"That Councillor Paddy O'Rourke will replace Councillor John McCartin on the Association of Irish Local Government".

Special/Co-Option meeting of Leitrim County Council

The CPG agreed that a special meeting to consider the filling of the casual vacancy in the membership of Leitrim County Council and Ballinamore Municipal District arising from the election of Deputy Martin Kenny to Dail Eireann in accordance with Section 19 of the Local Government Act, 2001 be held on Monday, 14th March 2016 at 2.30 pm in Aras An Chontae, Carrick-on-Shannon, Co Leitrim.

Ms. Flynn concluded by stating that the Corporate Policy Group also considered agenda items for the Council meeting and approved the attendance of members at forthcoming conferences and training seminars.

This update was noted by the Members.

16/45

07/03/2016

Conferences/Training

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

"That the attendance of Councillor John McCartin at the Co Leitrim Society of New York Dinner dance and St Patrick's Day Parade in New York from Thursday, 10th March to Saturday, 19th March, 2016 be approved".

"That the attendance of Councillor Enda Stenson, Councillor Finola Armstrong McGuire, Councillor Sean McDermott, Councillor Felim Gurn, Councillor Paddy O'Rourke and Councillor Caillian Ellis at the LAMA Seminar in the Sligo Park Hotel, Sligo on the 1st to 2nd April, 2016 be approved."

“That the attendance of Councillor John McCartin at the Leitrim London Association Dinner Dance in London from 4th March to 6th March, 2016 be retrospectively approved”.

“That the attendance of Councillor Caillian Ellis, Councillor Paddy O’Rourke and Councillor Mary Bohan at the Conference on the “Finance Act 2014” held in Clonakilty, Co Cork on the 4th to 6th March 2016 be retrospectively approved”.

“That the attendance of Councillor Finola Armstrong McGuire at the LAMA Awards in the Crowne Plaza Hotel on the 30th January, 2016 be retrospectively approved”.

“That the attendance of Councillor John McCartin at the Lord Mayor’s Show in London on the 12th to the 14th November, 2015 be retrospectively approved”.

“That the attendance of Councillor John McCartin at the Launch of the Purple Flag event in London on the 3rd November 2015 to the 4th November 2015 be retrospectively approved”.

16/46

07/03/2016

Meeting Correspondence

The following items were considered under Meeting Correspondence:

1. Letter received from the Department of Justice and Equality on 20th January, 2016 in with regard to the closure of Garda Stations.
2. Letter received from the Jean-Pierre Thébault, Ambassador of France acknowledging the support from Leitrim County Council with regard to the attacks that took place in Paris on the 13th November, 2015.
3. Letter received from the Office of the Minister for Education and Skills on the 3rd February, 2016 with regard to the DEIS status for Drumkeerin National School, Co Leitrim.
- 3(a) Letter received from the Office of the Minister for Education and Skills on the 15th February 2016 regarding the DEIS Status for Drumkeerin National School.
4. Letter of acknowledgement received from the Office of the Minister for Skills, Research and Innovation on the 3rd February, 2016 in regard to Resolution passed by Leitrim County Council in regard to the Primary School Transport Scheme.
5. Letter received from the Office of the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade acknowledging receipt of Resolution passed by Leitrim County Council with regard to the release of Ibrahim Halawa.
6. Letter received from the Department of Justice and Equality on the 5th February, 2016 acknowledging receipt of Resolution passed by Leitrim County Council with regard to Burglar Alarms.
7. Letter received from the Office of the Taoiseach on the 5th February, 2016 acknowledging receipt of Resolution passed by Leitrim County Council with regard to a proposed public holiday on the 24th April, 2016.

- 7(a) Letter received from the Office of Minister for Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht acknowledging receipt of Resolution passed by Leitrim County Council with regard to a proposed Public Holiday on the 24th April, 2016.
- 7(b) Letter received from the 2016 Project Office with regard to the Centenary of the 1916 Easter Rising.
- 8 . Letter received on the 5th February, 2016 from the Department of Communications, Energy and Natural Resources acknowledging receipt of Resolution passed by Leitrim County Council with regard to Fracking.
- 8(a) Letter received on the 5th February, 2016 from the Office of the Taoiseach acknowledging receipt of Resolution passed by Leitrim County Council with regard to Fracking.
9. Letter received on the 5th February, 2016 from the Office of the Taoiseach acknowledging receipt of Resolution passed by Leitrim County Council in relation to the River Shannon.
- 9(a) Letter received on the 15th February, 2016 from the OPW acknowledging receipt of Resolution passed by Leitrim County Council with regard to dredging the River Shannon.
10. Letter received on the 8th February, 2016 from the Office of the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine acknowledging receipt of Resolution passed by Leitrim County Council with regard to slurry spreading.
- 10(a) Letter received on the 1st March, 2016 from the Office of the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine with regard to slurry spreading.
11. Letter received on the 11th February, 2016 from the Office of the Minister for Finance acknowledging receipt of Resolution passed by Leitrim County Council with regard to the introduction of new regulations for Credit Unions by the Registrar of Credit Unions at the Central Bank.
12. Email received on the 23rd February, 2016 from Councillor Sinead Guckian attaching details from Ms. Monica Monaghan an Anti Bullying Practitioner/Conflict Resolution Consultant from NABC.
- Councillor Sinead Guckian outlined that Ms. Monica Monaghan has recently completed a pilot project in conjunction with Roscommon County Council on the “O.K. Kids Pilot Programme”. Councillor Sinead Guckian acknowledged that the anti-bullying strategies are traditionally outside the remit of local authorities, however, she proposed that if a funding stream became available that this project could be supported in Leitrim. Councillor Enda Stenson also supported the proposal.
13. Resolution from Limerick City and County Council received on the 25th February, 2016 with regard to the re-introduction of the Early Retirement and Farm Installation Schemes to ensure viability and continuity within this valuable sector of the local economy and seeking the support of Councils nationwide with farming interests.
14. Letter received 25th February, 2016 from Mr. Labhrás O Murchú with regard to the Pádraig Pearse Award, 2016.

16/47

07/03/2016 Presentation to Deputy Martin Kenny, former member of Leitrim County Council

Cathaoirleach, Councillor John McCartin congratulated Deputy Martin Kenny on his recent election to Dail Eireann. He stated that he was confident that Deputy Kenny will represent the people of Leitrim, Sligo North Donegal and West Cavan with the same hard work and dedication that he has demonstrated as a Councillor since his election to Leitrim County Council in November, 2003 and he wished Deputy Kenny every success in his future political career.

Mr. Frank Curran, Chief Executive also congratulated Deputy Martin Kenny on his recent Election and he commended him for his many years of service as a former Elected Member of Leitrim County Council. Mr. Curran acknowledged that Deputy Kenny had forged excellent relationships with the staff and the executive of the Council during his term in office.

The Members individually extended their good wishes to Deputy Kenny and his family and wished his every success in his future political career as a member of Dáil Eireann.

Mr. Curran presented Deputy Kenny with a presentation piece to commemorate his term as an Elected Member of Leitrim County Council from November, 2003 to February, 2016.

Deputy Kenny thanked his former fellow Elected Members and staff of Leitrim County Council and the local media for their good wishes and support. He stated that he will work hard to represent the people Leitrim at a national level and that he looked forward to the challenges ahead.

The Cathaoirleach Councillor John McCartin also congratulated former Councillor Gerry Reynolds, Councillor Paddy O'Rourke and Councillor Des Guckian on the manner in which they conducted their election campaigns.

16/48

07/03/2016

Presentation from EIR on Broadband

The Cathaoirleach, Councillor John McCartin welcomed, Mr Paul Bradley and Mr. Allan Mulrooney to address the meeting.

Mr. Paul Bradley thanked the Cathaoirleach and Elected Members for affording him the opportunity to address the meeting and then proceeded to give a detailed presentation on broadband. A copy of the presentation appears as **Appendix 15** to the Minutes of this meeting in the Minute Book.

The Cathaoirleach thanked both Mr. Bradley and Mr Mulrooney for the presentation and invited questions and comments from the Members:

- Plans should be re-drafted to include Drumkeerin and Dowra to have fast broadband rolled out in advance of the planned 2017-2020 dates.
- Welcomed the announcement that broadband will be rolled out in Glenfarne by June, 2016.
- Will Dromod be serviced by the Rooskey exchange, broadband is critical for new start up's in business?
- Members welcomed that broadband and mobile phone services have improved but expressed concerns that the high speed services were focussed in the south of the county and that rural parts of the county particularly in the North of Leitrim were being left behind.

- Clarification was sought in relation to the speeds available and cost of the service to the customer?
- Clarification in relation to the status of the Fibre Optic cable in Manorhamilton was sought.
- An update in relation to broadband service provision for Carrigallen was also sought.

Mr. Bradley then responded to questions and comments from the Members as follows:

Mr Paul Bradley outlined that Eir has to follow a regulated service arrangement for upgrading exchange cabinets and because of the small size of the exchange in areas like Drumkeerin and Dowra they had not initially been included in the fibre roll out. Eir will upgrade this exchange to a high speed service but this will have to take its place in the list of upgrades. It will be 2017-2020 when 1,000 mb/sec will be available in Drumkeerin and Dowra.

Mr. Bradley acknowledged that initial high speed services were focussed in the south of the county due to the larger population and he added that services to the North of the county will be advanced later in the year. Mr. Bradley outlined that EIR are committed to improve service delivery in all locations and he advised that exchanges in Carrigallen are currently being upgraded. He confirmed that Eir has not experienced any unnecessary delays from Leitrim County Council from a planning perspective in relation to the roll-out of broadband.

Mr. Bradley noted that four locations in County Leitrim have been connected recently to high speed broadband including Carrick-on-Shannon, Drumshanbo, Mohill and Ballinamore. He outlined that Keshcarrigan is due to be connected to high speed broadband by the end of March, 2016 with additional locations in Carrigallen, Cloone, Drumsna, Glenfarne, Rossinver, Kiltyclogher, Manorhamilton, Dromahaire and Leitrim Village connected to high speed broadband by June, 2016.

Mr. Bradley concluded by stating that EIR offers a variety of pricing bundles to its customer's for the services including broadband that it provides.

Part I - Notices of Motion.

16/49

07/03/2016

Increase level of funding to community groups

To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Pdraig Fallon;

"I propose that this Council call on the Minister for Social Protection and Pobal to increase the level of funding to Community Groups affected by the increase in the minimum wage which came into effect on 1st January, 2016. All employers are obliged to pay the minimum wage, the extra cost of funding the increase has put huge pressure on already limited resources within the Community and Voluntary Sector. These struggling Community Groups simply cannot cover the extra cost required. I am asking the Minister and Department to provide the necessary funding that these groups need to survive immediately."

Councillor Mary Bohan supported the Notice of Motion.

Proposed by Councillor Pdraig Fallon, seconded by Councillor Mary Bohan AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED:

"That Leitrim County Council calls on the Minister for Social Protection and Pobal to increase the

level of funding to Community Groups affected by the increase in the minimum wage which came into effect on 1st January, 2016. All employers are obliged to pay the minimum wage, the extra cost of funding the increase has put huge pressure on already limited resources within the Community and Voluntary Sector. These struggling Community Groups simply cannot cover the extra cost required. Leitrim County Council is asking the Minister and Department to provide the necessary funding that these groups need to survive immediately."

16/50

07/03/2016

Planning Process

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

"That the planning application process, for rural areas in particular, be simplified and made into a series of easily understood steps, which if followed will lead to a successful outcome."

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

"The planning application process is largely determined through secondary planning legislation – the Planning & Development Regulations. These Regulations specify the extent of information which is required to be submitted with an individual application inclusive of the content of the planning application form, drawing scales and details to be included, planning application fee, etc. The Planning Department through information contained on our website and the operation of pre planning clinics each Wednesday morning provides advice and guidance to prospective applicants. In 2015, 79 pre planning meetings were facilitated. This service is invaluable in assisting applicants through a process which they may only become involved in once or twice during their lifetime. The Planning Department also propose to hold a workshop with agents who submit planning applications later this year in an attempt to reduce the invalidation rate of planning applications which was 26%. It is also worth stating that 93% of all decisions on planning applications made in 2015 was a decision to grant planning permission."

Councillor Des Guckian acknowledged receipt of the reply received to his Notice of Motion and queried how many planning applications were granted in 2015 and how many of the total applications received related to new houses?

Mr. Joseph Gilhooly, Director of Services, Economic Development, Planning, Environment and Transportation confirmed that the Council granted 155 planning applications in 2015, inclusive of 25 planning permissions relating to new houses.

16/51

07/03/2016

Wastewater Treatment Plants

To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Justin Warnock;

"I ask Leitrim County Council to contact the EPA immediately to seek professional expertise to find a workable and a feasible solution to the ongoing problem of waste water treatment systems, which is crippling the building of rural houses and is having a negative impact on job creation in County Leitrim. Doing nothing is not an option, as the survival of our rural communities demands this Council hastily finds a solution to this problem."

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

"The 2009 EPA Code of Practice was developed to protect human health and the environment. The Council must require proposals for individual waste water treatment systems to be designed and constructed in accordance with the EPA Code of Practice. In each case, the installation of the

treatment system must be certified by a qualified site assessor and be certified when installed and commissioned. Further, the option of discharge of treated wastewater to surface water with adequate assimilative capacity remains an option albeit subject to other surface water discharge licensing requirements. There are also a number of sites which have commenced construction under the pilot scheme to test integrated wetlands systems in the context of the requirements of the Code of Practice. The capacity of this scheme to accommodate a further small number of sites has been reviewed. The Planning Department proposes to open up this scheme to further eligible applicants until the end of September 2016 or until capacity of the scheme is reached whichever is the earlier. Details of this scheme and the application form seeking to participate in same will be available by the end of this week (Friday 11th March) and uploaded onto our website. With an adequate representative sample in place, an independent monitoring system will be established to validate the operation of these systems and demonstrate that there is no adverse impact on the receiving environment. The EPA is aware of our proposals in this regard and has stated that they look forward to seeing the results of this pioneering work."

Councillor Warnock stated that the reply to his Notice of Motion did not adequately respond to the motion and he requested that the Council contact the EPA to seek a solution to the matter given the impact it was having on rural communities and job creation in the county.

Mr. Joseph Gilhooly outlined that the Council have commenced a pilot scheme to test integrated wetlands systems in the context of the requirements of the Code of Practice. He also outlined that there may be capacity to extend the pilot scheme to include a number of additional sites with the scheme being extended to the end of September, 2016.

Councillor Warnock again expressed his concern in relation to the impact of the Code of Practice on rural communities and the broader impact on schools etc. if local people are unable to build new houses in their native areas.

Councillor Mary Bohan welcomed the update in relation to the extension of the Pilot Scheme and queried if Agents were notified that the pilot scheme was re-opened to new applications. She also outlined that in a number of cases households have purchased a dwelling as an alternative to constructing a new dwelling where difficulties with the site had arisen.

Mr. Gilhooly acknowledged that prospective home-owners may achieve savings by purchasing dwellings rather than funding the cost of constructing a dwelling which is the more expensive option having regard to the current market rates for the sale of dwellings.

Councillor's Frank Dolan and Brendan Barry also welcomed the update in relation to the Pilot Scheme.

Proposed by Councillor Justin Warnock, seconded by Councillor Mary Bohan AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED:

"That Leitrim County Council contact the EPA immediately to seek professional expertise to find a workable and a feasible solution to the ongoing problem of waste water treatment systems, which is crippling the building of rural houses and is having a negative impact on job creation in County Leitrim. Doing nothing is not an option, as the survival of our rural communities demands this Council hastily finds a solution to this problem."

16/52
07/03/2016

Road Repairs

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

"I will ask for an update on the possibility of Council staff carrying out repairs on private roads."

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

"Leitrim County Council is not in a position to carry out work on private roads. In any event, Council staff and plant will be fully utilised in delivering the 2016 Road Works Programme."

Councillor Sean McDermott asked if Leitrim County Council is making any progress in this regard.

Mr. Joseph Gilhooly, Director of Services, Economic Development, Planning, Environment and Transportation outlined that Leitrim County Council do not have the staff or financial resources or duty to carry out repair works on private roads.

Mr Frank Curran, Chief Executive advised that Private Contractors would in a position to carry out such works, however, the cost of the works would have to be funded by the households residing in these locations.

16/53
07/03/2016

Planning Laws

To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Felim Gurn;

"Following on from the outgoing Government's decision to increase ministerial planning powers over Local Authorities, we call on the incoming Government to rescind this law immediately. The change allows the Minister for the Environment, Community and Local Government to issue mandatory instructions which must be adopted regardless of the opinions of the Local Authorities or County Councillors on any planning application. This will result in an erosion of the powers of the peoples' representatives to have an input into local planning decisions. We have few enough powers as it is, unless this law is changed, local democracy will be even further demeaned."

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

"The Planning and Development Amendment Act 2015 was signed into law on 29th December 2015. The primary background to this Act is the Government's recently approved package of measures to deal with problems currently being observed in the Irish housing market. Section 2 amends Section 28 of the Act of 2000 relating to the issuing of Ministerial planning guidelines to Planning Authorities. Section 28 already provided that Planning Authorities shall have regard to Ministerial guidelines in the performance of their planning functions, such as in the adoption of development plans and the determination of planning applications. The amendment introduces a new power whereby the Minister may, within the Section 28 guidelines, expressly state specific planning policy requirements to be applied by Planning Authorities in the exercise of their planning functions. Therefore, the content of guidelines will now distinguish between advisory or general commentary, on the one hand, and specific requirements that must be mandatorily applied by Planning Authorities. This amendment was considered necessary to underpin the new revised guidelines that provide for national minimum apartment standards to be applied by Planning Authorities. The intention of the amendment is to improve consistency and certainty in the planning process generally by distinguishing, in policy terms, between matters to be determined locally and by national policy. It should be noted that the Minister shall not exercise any power or

control in relation to any particular case (planning application) being assessed by a Planning Authority (Section 30 Limitation on Ministerial power refers)."

Proposed by Councillor Felim Gurn, seconded by Councillor Mary Bohan AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED:

That Leitrim County Council call on the incoming Government to rescind the law immediately from the outgoing Government's decision to increase ministerial planning powers over Local Authorities. The change allows the Minister for the Environment, Community and Local Government to issue mandatory instructions which must be adopted regardless of the opinions of the Local Authorities or County Councillors on any planning application. This will result in an erosion of the powers of the peoples' representatives to have an input into local planning decisions. We have few enough powers as it is, unless this law is changed, local democracy will be even further demeaned."

16/54

06/03/2016

Litter Management

To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Finola Armstrong-McGuire;

"I ask that the Environment Department complete the following to engage people to assist with litter management in the county.

- Arrange that a timetable of national clean up dates is made available and well publicised;
- Provide an outline of assistance available to Community Groups involved in Tidy Town's, Pride of Place, Floral Pride etc;
- Consider new initiatives to assist the upkeep of our County e.g. perhaps the mechanical sweeper can be used on roads not normally enroute, waste disposal initiatives e.g. free access to the Mohill Recycling Centre for a limited time."

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

"• The Environment Department of Leitrim County Council re-invigorated the 'Adopt a Road' Programme which has been in operation to some degree throughout the county over the past decade. To broaden the participation in the programme the Environmental Awareness Officer engaged with all the GAA Clubs in the county in relation to the Adopt a Road Scheme. The response rate was positive with more than 50% of the clubs signed up for the programme. On 7th December, 2015 the Environment Department contacted all of these groups to notify them of the dates of the Clean-up weeks in Leitrim which will take place on the following dates: Saturday 9th April, 2016, Saturday 11th June, 2016, Saturday 9th July, 2016 and Saturday 8th October, 2016.

- Further correspondence issued to the 62 groups on our Adopt a Road database and to Groups that have participated in National Spring Clean Week advising them of the above weekends and inviting them to contact the Environmental Enforcement Officer if they require support materials (litter pickers, bags, etc.).

The Environment Department has registered all Primary and Secondary Schools on the Green Schools Programme and contact will be made with all school Principals in the county to promote the Cleanup weekends within the school community."

Councillor Finola Armstrong-McGuire welcomed the reply to her Notice of Motion and she also thanked Ms. Carmel Coll for her informative presentation on Litter Management.

16/55
06/03/2016

Primary School Transport Scheme

It was agreed by the Members that Motions 23 and 27 relate to the same issue and that they should be taken concurrently.

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

"I call on the support of Leitrim County Council in seeking a review by the Department of Education and Skills and Bus Eireann of the Primary School Transport Scheme, in particular, the emphasis on eligibility based on the applicant's proximity to the nearest school. The rule does not take into account that our primary school system is based on a parish model and not on proximity to the nearest school. If strictly applied the current eligibility rules will undermine rural communities because it will force children to be educated outside of their customary school."

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

"I ask for the support of all Members of Leitrim County Council, to support a call by the Members to ask Bus Eireann to meet the Members, and discuss the ongoing problems regarding our Primary School collection points, and the drastic effect this can /will have on rural communities.

Proposed by Councillor Sean McGowan, seconded by Councillor Enda Stenson AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED:

"That Leitrim County Council seek a review by the Department of Education and Skills and Bus Eireann of the Primary School Transport Scheme, in particular, the emphasis on eligibility based on the applicant's proximity to the nearest school. The rule does not take into account that our primary school system is based on a parish model and not on proximity to the nearest school. If strictly applied the current eligibility rules will undermine rural communities because it will force children to be educated outside of their customary school."

"That Leitrim County Council ask Bus Eireann to meet the Members, and discuss the ongoing problems regarding our Primary School collection points, and the drastic effect this can /will have on rural communities."

16/56
0703/2016

People with Disabilities

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

"I propose that Leitrim County Council call on the Minister for Health and the HSE to take immediate steps to reduce waiting lists for people with disabilities, particularly children. The waiting times for diagnosis for various illnesses and services such as speech therapy is a serious concern and distress for families."

Proposed by Councillor Mary Bohan, seconded by Councillor Des Guckian AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED:

"That Leitrim County Council call on the Minister for Health and the HSE to take immediate steps to reduce waiting lists for people with disabilities, particularly children. The waiting times for

diagnosis for various illnesses and services such as speech therapy is a serious concern and distress for families."

16/57

06/03/2016

Monitoring System in Housing Estates

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

"I propose that the Housing Department of the Council put in place some form of a monitoring system in the estates that would prevent houses being kept or left in very poor conditions. Some pressure must be brought to bear on tenants to maintain houses to a reasonable standard."

Report by Senior Executive Officer, Housing

"Local authority tenants are required to maintain their dwellings in accordance with the terms and conditions of their tenancy agreement. Mandatory Pre-tenancy training is completed by all newly appointed tenants with the Tenant Liaison Officer to ensure that tenants are made aware of their responsibilities to maintain the dwelling and the exterior of the property in a clean and proper state. Our Clerks of Works (2 No.) have responsibility for the ongoing monitoring and maintenance of our Housing Stock and they call regularly to all of our Estates in connection with general maintenance issues as they arise. In circumstances, where there is a breach of the tenancy agreement and a property is not being maintained as appropriate then this matter can be pursued by the Tenant Liaison Officer. In a number of circumstances having regard to the household concerned an inter-agency approach may be required or the provision of additional supports to manage and sustain the tenancy be maintained. A revised Tenant Handbook clearly outlining tenant responsibilities will be circulated to all tenants by the end of March, 2016. Where vacant dwellings arise - they can become a target for illegal dumping etc, however, our Voids and Casual Vacancy Programme will minimise the vacancy periods and return our Housing Stock to productive use in the shortest possible time-frame."

Councillor Frank Dolan acknowledged the reply to this Notice of Motion and stated that the majority of tenants maintain their dwellings in accordance with the terms of their tenancy agreement, however, he stated it is unfair to these residents when a small minority of tenants do not maintain their dwellings in an acceptable manner.

16/58

0703/2016

Delayed payments from the Department of Agriculture

To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Brendan Barry;

"I request that Leitrim County Council call on the Minister for Agriculture to ensure that farmers still waiting on payments are paid promptly and that sufficient staff are put in place to ensure that this year's payments are paid on time."

Councillor Brendan Barry said that this is unacceptable situation and sufficient staff should be put in place to deal with this issue immediately.

Proposed by Councillor Brendan Barry, seconded by Councillor Gerry Dolan AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED:

"That Leitrim County Council call on the Minister for Agriculture to ensure that farmers still waiting on payments are paid promptly and that sufficient staff are put in place to ensure that this year's

payments are paid on time”.

16/59

07/03/2016

National Reserve and Young Farmers Scheme Payments

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

"I ask Leitrim County Council to call on the Department of Agriculture to process the remainder of the National Reserve and Young Farmers Scheme Payments. A number of these applications were made over twelve months ago and were due to be paid in the first week of December, 2015. This situation is unacceptable and needs to be addressed immediately as it has put excess stress and pressure on young farmers in the area."

Proposed by Councillor Gerry Dolan, seconded by Councillor Brendan Barry AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED:

"That Leitrim County Council call on the Department of Agriculture to process the remainder of the National Reserve and Young Farmers Scheme Payments. A number of these applications were made over twelve months ago and were due to be paid in the first week of December, 2015. This situation is unacceptable and needs to be addressed immediately as it has put excess stress and pressure on young farmers in the area”.

This concluded the Business of Meeting 3.10 p.m.

Signed:

**Councillor John McCartin
Cathaoirleach**

Signed:

**Sinead Flynn
Meetings Administrator**

Date:

3rd May 2016