

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF  
BALLYMOTE-TOBERCURRY HELD ON MONDAY 19<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2018  
AT 3.00 P.M. IN TEACH LAIGHNE, TUBBERCURRY, CO. SLIGO**

**COUNCILLORS PRESENT:**

- Councillor Martin Baker
- Councillor Michael Clarke
- Councillor Margaret Gormley
- Councillor Keith Henry
- Councillor Jerry Lundy (Chair)
- Councillor Dara Mulvey
- Councillor Joe Queenan
- Councillor Paul Taylor

**OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE:**

- Mr. Tom Kilfeather, Director of Services
- Ms. Marie Whelan, Head of Finance
- Mr. Tom Brennan, Senior Engineer
- Mr. Paddy Hughes, Senior Executive Engineer
- Mr. Seán Martin, A/Senior Architect
- Mr. Frank Moylan, Senior Planner
- Mr. Declan Noone, Area Engineer
- Mr. David Golden, Area Engineer
- Mr. Joseph Devaney, Area Engineer
- Ms. Clodagh Quinn, Staff Officer

**CATHAOIRLEACH:**

The Cathaoirleach Councillor Lundy presided and welcomed all present to the meeting. With the agreement of the meeting, Item No. 11 on the Agenda was taken first.

**11. BOIL WATER NOTICE ON  
LOUGH TALT SUPPLY &  
NEW TREATMENT PLANT:**

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

AND AGREED

“The boil water notice on the Lough Talt supply is causing severe hardship for the 13,000 households and business people in South Sligo. I will ask if this “boil water” notice can be lifted soon, and if planning can be fast-tracked to allow for a new treatment plant to be constructed at Lough Talt asap”.

Mr. Frank Moylan, Senior Planner, reported on behalf of Ms. Margaret McConnell, A/Director of Services stating that the previous planning application for a replacement water treatment plant at Lough Talt was the subject of a refusal of planning permission following a determination by An Bord Pleanála who were not satisfied that the proposed development would not adversely affect the integrity of the designated sites at the location. Mr. Moylan explained that when such a negative determination is made, a Planning Authority is legally precluded from granting planning permission unless the project proponent applies for a Derogation to Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive. Mr. Moylan went on to state that it is understood that Irish Water are preparing the necessary documentation to support such an application whereby the Planning Authority is asked to consider whether there are imperative reasons of overriding public interest (IROPI) for implementing the project which outweigh its impact on the conservation objectives of the designated sites.

Mr. Moylan assured the Members that the Planning Department of Sligo County Council will provide any assistance required by Irish Water in the preparation of such a planning application and when submitted, the application will be processed as expeditiously as possible in accordance with the statutory timeframes set out in national planning legislation.

In response to queries raised by Members, Mr. Moylan advised that a Part 8 application would not be a suitable solution in this case, the correct route being the aforementioned IROPI process.

The Members expressed their dissatisfaction with the ongoing “boil water” notice and in relation to same, Mr. Tom Kilfeather, Director of Services advised that the Council has been in constant contact with Irish Water regarding the issue and will continue to engage with them on the matter.

**1. MINUTES OF MEETING OF MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF BALLYMOTE-TOBERCURREY HELD ON 18<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2017:**

**Proposed by Councillor D. Mulvey  
Seconded by Councillor K. Henry**

AND AGREED

“To confirm the Minutes of the Meeting of the Municipal District of Ballymote-Tobercurrey held on 18<sup>th</sup> December 2017”.

**2. MATTERS ARISING:**

Councillor Margaret Gormley asked for an update on the drainage works at Monasteraden Crossroads and in reply, Mr. Declan Noone, Area Engineer, advised that the works are gone to tender and should be carried out within the next number of months.

Councillor Gormley then raised the issue of motorists using excessive speed on the N17 at North Connaught College and Mr. Tom Brennan, Senior Engineer advised that the matter is being brought to the attention of Transport Infrastructure Ireland’s Road Safety Office.

**3. SCHEDULE OF MUNICIPAL DISTRICT WORKS 2018 – INCLUDING ROADS, TRANSPORTATION & INFRASTRUCTURE:**

Mr. Tom Kilfeather advised the Members that a total of €29m in funding has been allocated for the public road network in County Sligo for 2018. This funding comes from Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII), the Dept. of Transport, Tourism & Sport and the Council’s own resources and represents an increase of 54% on 2017.

Mr. Kilfeather then invited Mr. Tom Brennan, Senior Engineer to go through the Programme which had been circulated to the Members in advance of the meeting.

Mr. Brennan took the Members through the draft Schedule of Ballymote-Tobercurrey Municipal District Works for 2018 for Roads, Transportation & Infrastructure which specified the allocation of funding received together with a detailed breakdown of all planned expenditure for the year in relation to specific projects and categorised headings and outlined each individual category that related to the Municipal District.

The Cathaoirleach thanked Mr. Brennan and his staff for the comprehensive report and then invited queries and comments from Members.

In response to specific queries from Members, Mr. Kilfeather and Mr. Brennan responded as follows:

- Easkey Pier:  
An application has been made to the Dept. of Agriculture, Food and the Marine for repairs to the pier in the region of €133,000.
- Beach Lifeguards:  
To be maintained for Summer 2018.
- Staffing:  
Staffing levels to be reviewed now Roads Programme is completed. New panel of general operatives to be put in place.
- CLÁR/LIS Schemes:  
Suggestions for the above schemes were offered to Members.

The Members thanked the Roads staff and Area Engineers for all the good work done but some expressed their disappointment at the amount of funding available particularly for Class 2 and 3 roads. The Members also highlighted the need for the recruitment of additional outdoor staff to carry out works.

Following further discussion it was then:

**Proposed by Councillor M. Clarke**  
**Seconded by Councillor J. Queenan**

AND AGREED

“To approve the Schedule of Municipal District Works 2018 – including Roads, Transportation & Infrastructure”.

#### **4. LEASE OF PROPERTY TO EASKEY COMMUNITY COUNCIL LTD.:**

A draft map showing the lands/property in question had been circulated to Members prior to the meeting.

It was then:

**Proposed by Councillor J. Queenan**  
**Seconded by Councillor M. Clarke**

AND AGREED

“Proposed lease of property at Easkey, Co. Sligo – Townland of Bunowna – known locally as ‘Easkey Castle Lands’ and toilet block to Easky Community Council Ltd.”.

**5. PROPOSALS FOR COMPLETION OF WORKS AT CONNOLLY PARK, TUBBERCURRY:**

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

AND AGREED

“That we be provided with a detailed report on proposals and timeframe for completion of works at Connolly Park, Tubbercurry”.

Mr. Seán Martin, A/Senior Architect reported as follows, making reference to an attached map which was circulated to Members:

Connolly Park is divided into a number of potential sites – A, B, C & D. In terms of priority, proposals for sites A and B have been submitted to the Department of Housing, Planning & Local Government.

Following discussions with the Dept., approval to submit refurbishment proposals to house nos. 19, 43 & 44 was given in 2017 and these works are now complete.

Approval was also given to the Council to prepare and submit a Stage 1 Capital Appraisal for the demolition of house nos. 13, 14, 45 & 46 which are derelict. A Stage 1 Capital Appraisal for the demolition of the aforementioned dwellings, together with the construction of 10 no. dwellings on sites A & B generated by the demolition works was submitted to the Dept. on 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2017.

Approval remains outstanding with a response expected at the end of February. Subject to approval being forthcoming, it is intended that a Stage 2 submission be made at the latter end of Q2 2018. On approval of Stage 2, a Part 8 planning procedure will commence in Q3 with the project being scheduled for delivery in 2020.

**6. SITE INSPECTIONS TO FACILITATE THE RE-OPENING OF PLAYGROUNDS WHICH HAD WORKS CARRIED OUT:**

**Proposed by Councillor K. Henry  
Seconded by Councillor M. Clarke**

AND AGREED

“To ask Sligo County Council to immediately put in place the necessary rosters for weekly site inspections to allow the playgrounds which had work carried out on them to open to the public”.

On behalf of Mr. Paddy Hughes, Senior Executive Engineer, Mr. Tom Kilfeather reported that management of the Playgrounds Programme is currently in transition from the Community & Economic Development Section to the Environment Section and as this will involve new staff, official training by an independent training body is required for insurance purposes. Once the training is completed, Mr. Kilfeather assured the Members that the playgrounds will be re-opened and weekly site inspections will commence.

**7. FUNDING FOR COASTAL PROTECTION WORKS, PIERS & HARBOURS ETC IN WEST SLIGO:**

**Proposed by Councillor J. Queenan  
Seconded by Councillor M. Clarke**

AND AGREED

“To ask the Director of Services to ensure that funding is applied for towards coastal protection works, piers and harbours regarding projects in West Sligo”.

On behalf of Mr. Tom Brennan, Senior Engineer, Mr. Tom Kilfeather stated that an application has been made to the Dept. of Agriculture, Food and the Marine for Piers and Harbours 2018 Capital Funding and included under Harbour Development Schemes are Easkey Pier Improvements\Repairs (project cost €133,000) and Enniscrone Harbour Winch Replacement (project cost €60,000).

Mr. Kilfeather added that Sligo County Council are currently surveying sites for coastal protection works in 2018 and intend to make a submission to the Office of Public Works in the near future.

**8. EASKEY POST OFFICE:**

**Proposed by Councillors D. Mulvey, M. Clarke & J. Queenan  
Seconded by Councillor M. Gormley**

AND AGREED

“To call on Sligo County Council to write to Mr. David Redmond, CEO, An Post to ensure that Easkey P.O. will remain open after the current post master retires in March 2018. It is vital that such a service remains in Easkey Village and everything possible be done to ensure this Post Office is kept open. The Post Office serves as an important business point but also as an important meeting point. It plays a pivotal role in the heart of the Easkey and wider community both in terms of social and economic impact. Currently there are 3 post vans operating out of Easkey Post Office which shows it is vital it will remain open and also to seek from An Post when its strategic national review will be complete and published”.

The Cathaoirleach, Councillor Lundy stated that he had written to Mr. Peter Gillespie, An Post, Sligo regarding the matter and invited other Members to make submissions to Mr. Gillespie also.

**9. RE-SURFACING OF N17  
AND INSTALLATION OF  
GULLIES IN  
BALLINACARROW VILLAGE:**

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

AND AGREED

“That this Municipal District request funding from TII to resurface the N17 at (A) Tubbercurry to Rhue, and (B) in Ballinacarrow village. Also to install gullies along the N17 in the village of Ballinacarrow to prevent the flooding of private houses”.

Mr. Paddy Hughes explained that re-surfacing schemes are identified by the Pavements Asset Management System of Transport Infrastructure Ireland who prioritise the schemes and provide the funding. Mr. Hughes stated that €12m has been allocated in 2018 for re-surfacing schemes on the N15, N16, N17 & N59 and these schemes will be carried out this year however neither of the aforementioned locations have been identified as in need of re-surfacing. Mr. Hughes advised that funding for minor repairs including drainage on the national network can be applied for via the geoapp which is operated by the Area Engineer.

**10. POSSIBLE RELOCATION OF  
GOVERNMENT  
DEPARTMENT TO  
TUBBERCURRY:**

With the agreement of the meeting, this item was deferred.

**12. RELOCATION OF SPEED  
LIMIT SIGNS AT  
COOLANEY:**

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

AND AGREED

“To ask Sligo County Council if the speed limit signs 50 kmh on road L2101 at Coolaney can be moved further out the Collooney side”.

On behalf of Mr. Paddy Hughes, Senior Executive Engineer, Mr. Tom Brennan, Senior Engineer reported that the extension of the 50 km/hr speed limit zone along the L2101 Coolaney/Collooney road can be given consideration during the next speed limit review process and that any amendments to the current speed limit zones must be in accordance with the Department of Transport 2015 Guidelines for the Setting and Managing of Speed Limits in Ireland.

Mr. Brennan advised that it is not possible to include the location in the current speed limit review as the statutory process is already underway.

**13. WORKS TO L1502  
BALLYMOTE TO  
RIVERSTOWN ROAD:**

**Proposed by Councillor K. Henry  
Seconded by Councillor M. Baker**

AND AGREED

“Due to the number of incidents on the L1502 Ballymote to Riverstown road over the winter and that the road is sinking on stretches near Ardrea, that Sligo County Council carry out works on this road as a priority in 2018”.

Mr. Paddy Hughes stated that temporary repairs will be carried out on the section of the L1502 at Ardrea. He added that the road is not included in the 2018 Restoration Improvement Programme but will be considered when drafting the 2019-2021 Multi-Annual Restoration Improvement Programme.

Following queries from Members regarding imposing a weight restriction on the road, Mr. Tom Brennan advised that the matter would have to be considered as usually weight restrictions are only applied to bridges. Mr. Brennan added that investigations will be made as to alternative signage that could be used instead.

**14. SIDE CLEANING ON  
BUNNINADDEN TO  
KILLAVIL ROAD:**

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

AND AGREED

“That side cleaning be carried out on the Bunninadden to Killavil road known locally as “The Hilly Road” to remove water lodging on it”.

Mr. Paddy Hughes informed the meeting that drainage improvement works along local road LP 4301-0 known locally as “The Hilly Road” will be undertaken in the coming days subject to weather conditions.

**15. CLEANING OF DRAINS  
ALONG MULLAGHROE TO  
MONASTERADEN ROAD:**

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

AND AGREED

“That the drains along road 497 Mullaghroe to Monasteraden and in particular,

at Fauleens, Monasteraden be cleaned to prevent water coming out on to the road”.

Mr. Paddy Hughes advised that the drainage works along CR497 at Fauleens will be included in the programme of works for the current year.

**16. REQUEST FOR MEETING WITH MAYO & ROSCOMMON COUNTY COUNCILS TO DISCUSS R294 & POSSIBILITY OF MAKING JOINT SUBMISSION FOR FUNDING:**

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

AND AGREED

“Is there any response from Mayo and Roscommon County Councils to our request seeking a meeting to discuss Regional Road R294 and the possibility of making a joint submission for funding to carry out much needed improvements to this road?”.

On behalf of Mr. Paddy Hughes, Senior Executive Engineer, Mr. Tom Brennan, Senior Engineer reported that the Road Design Dept. is currently reviewing previous studies and reports in relation to the upgrade of the R294 from Boyle to Ballina and stated that Sligo County Council have initiated discussions with the Dept. of Transport regarding developing a strategy to improve the road and funding for same. Mr. Brennan advised that improvement works to the road were previously carried out under the Specific Improvement Grant Scheme which has since been discontinued but is hoped will be re-introduced in 2019 and if so, the R294 could be considered under such a scheme.

Mr. Brennan further advised that, as part of its review of the R294, Sligo County Council is considering the development of an improvement scheme in the Mullinabreena area but warned that there may be other locations along the road that may be worthy of first call on any funding that may be available.

In conclusion, Mr. Brennan stated that Sligo County Council will liaise with Mayo and Roscommon County Councils in a strategy to upgrade the road in question.

**17. PROVISION FOR ADDITIONAL CHARGING POINTS FOR ELECTRIC/HYBRID CARS:**

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

AND AGREED

“In light of the growing popularity of electric/hybrid cars, to call on the Minister for the Environment to provide additional charging points in this region”.

**18. UPGRADING OF ROAD FROM CORRICK TO CARROWDARGNEY:**

**Proposed by Councillor M. Baker  
Seconded by Councillor K. Henry**

AND AGREED

“To call on the Council to upgrade the road from Corrick to Carrowdargney”.

Mr. Paddy Hughes informed the meeting that the section of the L-1101 at Ummeryroe from its junction with the L-1901 to its junction with L-11016 is included in the 2018 Restoration Improvement Programme and the section of the L-1101 at Carrowdargney from its junction with L-11016 to its junction with

L-1102 at the Crosskeys Junction is included in the 2018 Restoration Maintenance Programme.

**19. CORRESPONDENCE:**

None.

**20. ANY OTHER BUSINESS:**

It was agreed that the possibility of imposing a weight restriction on vehicles at Carrowntemple in relation to forestry works being carried out at the location would be explored.

The business of the meeting concluded at 17.10 p.m.

\_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Cathairleach**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Meetings Administrator**