

**MINUTES OF FEBRUARY ORDINARY MEETING OF SLIGO COUNTY COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY, 1ST
FEBRUARY, 2016 AT 11.00AM IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, COUNTY HALL, RIVERSIDE, SLIGO**

COUNCILLORS PRESENT:

- Councillor Baker,
- Councillor Bree,
- Councillor Casserly,
- Councillor Clarke,
- Councillor Gormley,
- Councillor Healy,
- Councillor Keaney,
- Councillor Kilgannon,
- Councillor Lundy,
- Councillor Maguire,
- Councillor MacManus,
- Councillor MacSharry,
- Councillor Mulvey,
- Councillor O'Boyle,
- Councillor O'Grady,
- Councillor Queenan,
- Councillor Scanlon,
- Councillor Taylor.

OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE:

- Mr. Ciarán Hayes, Chief Executive
- Mr. Tom Kilfeather, Director of Services
- Ms. Dorothy Clarke, Director of Services
- Ms. Marie Whelan, Head of Finance
- Mr. John Reilly, Head of Enterprise
- Mr. Bartley Gavin, A/Director of Services
- Mr. Donal Tinney, County Librarian
- Mr. Frank Moylan, A/Senior Planner
- Mr. Tom Brennan, Senior Engineer
- Mr. Joe Murphy, Senior Executive Officer
- Ms. Margaret McConnell, Senior Executive Officer
- Mr. Kevin Colreavy, Meetings Administrator
- Ms. Caroline Conmy, Administrative Officer
- Ms. Dolores McDonagh, Senior Staff Officer
- Ms. Karen Gallagher, I.S. Technical Support Officer
- Ms. Jo-Anne McGonigle, Assistant Staff Officer

CATHAOIRLEACH:

Cathaoirleach, Councillor Rosaleen O'Grady, presided.

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**1. MINUTES OF MEETING OF MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF SLIGO HELD ON HELD
ON 16TH NOVEMBER, 2015:**

**Proposed by Councillor S. Maguire
Seconded by Councillor S. Kilgannon**

AND AGREED

*To confirm the Minutes of the Meeting of the Municipal District of Sligo held on
16th November, 2015".*

**2. MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING OF SLIGO COUNTY COUNCIL (NUIG) HELD
ON 11TH JANUARY, 2016:**

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

AND AGREED

*"To confirm the Minutes of the Special Meeting of Sligo County Council held on
11th January, 2016".*

**3. MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING OF SLIGO COUNTY COUNCIL HELD ON
11TH JANUARY, 2016:**

**Proposed by Councillor S. Maguire
Seconded by Councillor S. Kilgannon**

AND AGREED

*To confirm the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Sligo County Council held on
11th January, 2016.*

**4. SECTION 183 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT, 2001 – 77 ST. JOSEPH'S
TERRACE, SLIGO:**

**Proposed by Councillor S. MacManus
Seconded by Councillor D. Bree**

AND AGREED

*"To approve, pursuant to Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001, the disposal
of the freehold interest in property at 77 St. Joseph's Terrace, Sligo to Mr. Laurence
McGarry".*

**5. SECTION 183 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT, 2001 – 22 COLLERY
DRIVE, SLIGO:**

Proposed by Councillor S. MacManus
Seconded by Councillor T. Healy

AND AGREED

“To approve, pursuant to Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001, the disposal of property at 22 Collery Drive to Ms. Lisa McLoughlin”

6. COMMUNITY AND VOLUNTARY GRANTS SCHEME:

Proposed by Councillor D. Bree
Seconded by Councillor S. Kilgannon

“Noting that there is ongoing correspondence between residents associations and the Council Executive in respect of the community grants scheme, this meeting resolves to defer consideration of Item No. 6 until the March meeting, and further the meeting resolves to establish a small committee to examine the proposed community and voluntary Grants Scheme and to bring forward proposals which might assist in resolving the differences between the Council and residents associations”.

Ms. D. Clarke indicated that this was a decision for the Members and that discussions are currently taking place with only three or four of the Residents' Associations. These discussions are in relation to the 2015 Grant Scheme which is now closed. Ms. Clarke confirmed that the Scheme before the Members at this meeting, and which was also at the January Meeting, is the grant scheme which it was intended to work with for 2016. This Scheme had been reviewed at the end of 2015 and has received positive feedback.

The breakdown under the various headings was outlined to the Members with Ms. Clarke indicating that this was a matter for the Members to confirm or amend.

The Chief Executive, in referring to the motion above, said that the Members already had a Committee in existence in their Strategic Policy Committee.

Mr. Hayes further clarified that, in relation to the difficulty referred to between the County Council and the Residents' Associations, the difficulty is between the Council and a small number of Residents' Associations. He did not see how the Council could be expected to extend its insurance cover to include the activities of Residents' Associations. Whether a further Committee is established or not, the difficulty will remain for the Members if they decided to extend the insurance cover to Residents' Associations. Mr. Hayes raised the questions as to where it would then stop, how it would be funded and if requests were then received from other voluntary organisations? The Chief Executive said he would not be advising the Members to do so and, further, in relation to the “small committee to examine the proposed community and voluntary Grants Scheme”, Mr. Hayes' suggestion is that it would be left with the Strategic Policy Committee.

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Councillor Bree enquired whether it is a condition of the Grant Scheme that Residents' Associations have public liability insurance in place and that evidence must be provided when they are making an application. From the 4.5.8 Committee in the former Borough Council, Councillor Bree did not recall this condition being included in the grant notification. Ms. D. Clarke replied that, depending on what works a Community Group is undertaking an activity and funded by the County Council, there would be an expectation that there would be public liability cover in place. By the time the group are drawing down the grant, they will have to prove that they have insurance in place.

Ms. Clarke further advised the Members that discussions had taken place with the Council's Insurers, I.P.B., about insurance in relation to Section 128 of the Local Government Act, 2001. They have left the Council in no doubt that any Organisation that receives funding for any activities will not be covered by any policy. They must indemnify the Council and have their own insurance.

In reply, Councillor Bree said he was noting that every Residents' Association that had received funding in 2015 submitted Public Liability Insurance.

The Chief Executive added that it was good advice that every Organisation organising events in public spaces should have their own public liability insurance, e.g. Community Games organised in open spaces, Summer parties for children. Mr. Hayes said it was critical that every Association would have their own Public Liability Insurance. It should not be for the local authority to extend its insurance to other groups.

Councillor Lundy advised the Meeting that the former Community Forum, now the P. P. N., had organised insurance in the past through an Organisation known as "The Wheel" and all Community Groups were able to avail of this.

Councillor Kilgannon enquired whether it would be possible for the Committee that looked at the Arts Grants could look at the Community Grants Scheme.

Mr Hayes advised that if the Members decide to extend the insurance cover, it will be necessary to decide where the funding for that additional cost will come from, adding that the Council has a difficulty to fund its own activities. In his opinion, to start funding Public Liability insurance of other Organisations would be a major leap.

Ms. Clarke advised the Members that the sum available is €100,000 for the Community and Voluntary Grant Scheme. It was for the Members to prioritise how this would be spent.

**It was proposed by Councillor D. Bree
Seconded by Councillor S. Kilgannon**

AND AGREED

"Noting that there is ongoing correspondence between residents associations and the Council Executive in respect of the community grants scheme, this meeting resolves

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to defer consideration of Item No. 6 until the March meeting, and further the meeting resolves to establish a small committee to examine the proposed community and voluntary Grants Scheme and to bring forward proposals which might assist in resolving the differences between the Council and residents associations”.

Ms. Clarke referred to a resolution agreed at the Ordinary Meeting held on 5th October, 2015:

“That Members allocate €500 from their Councillors’ allowance to those Residents’ Associations who already applied”.

The monies allocated had yet to be distributed and Ms. Clarke sought the approval of the Members to do so. It was agreed that the sum allocated would now be dispersed to the relevant groups.

7. FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO APPROVED HOUSING BODIES:

**Proposed by Councillor H. Keaney
Seconded by Councillor M. Baker**

AND AGREED

To approve in accordance with Section 6 of the Housing (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1992, and Regulations there under, provision of financial assistance in the form of the Capital Assistance Scheme to the following Approved Housing Bodies, as per attached report:

- *Oaklee Housing Trust Ltd*
- *Sophia Housing Association Ltd*
- *Focus Housing Association Ltd*

8. TEMPORARY OVERDRAFT FROM 1ST APRIL, 2016 TO 31ST MARCH, 2017:

**Proposed by Councillor H. Keaney
Seconded by Councillor M. Baker**

AND AGREED

To approve the borrowing of a sum not exceeding €13.5m by way of temporary overdraft for the 12 months from 1st April 2016 to 31st March 2017

With the approval of the Members, it was agreed to deal with Item 40 on the Agenda as the matter had also been referred to in this Report.

9. MONTHLY MANAGEMENT REPORT FOR DECEMBER 2015

AND

40. WATER FACILITIES AT CAIRNS ROAD AND FOXES DEN

Proposed by Councillor S. MacManus

Seconded by Councillor T. Healy

"To ask the Council for any information it may have in relation to Irish Water's intentions for the future development of Cairns Road and the Foxes Den Water facilities".

Councillor MacManus also wished to raise the matters of sewerage and housing as referred to in the Management report.

Councillor MacManus referred to his proposal at a recent Municipal District Meeting for a special meeting to discuss housing in Sligo and enquired whether any progress had been made on this matter.

It was proposed by Councillor S. MacManus

Seconded by Councillor M. Gormley

AND AGREED

"That a suitable date be arranged for a Special Meeting to discuss Housing matters in Sligo".

Councillor MacManus further raised the matter of the Wastewater Infrastructure and, in particular, the "Tubbercurry, Grange, Strandhill and Ballinafad DBO Scheme" referred to on page 21 of the Report. It was queried as to whether there had been a reduction and scaling back in the scheme being put forward for the upgrade of the Strandhill Scheme. The Report stated "Assuming that WIAC approval is granted then this contract could advance to Gate 3 – Construction by Q3 2016".

In reply, Mr. Kilfeather confirmed that the P. E. capacities for this Scheme have been reduced by Irish Water with Strandhill being the Council's main concern. The Council's Staff has advised Irish Water of these concerns and that they would like a higher capacity.

Mr. Kilfeather said it was the opinion in Sligo County Council that it was better to provide sufficient capacity at the start. This work is expected to start in the third quarter of 2016.

Councillor MacManus indicated that he was disappointed with Irish Water's indication that they would be paring back on the Scheme. Strandhill, in particular, has potential to grow.

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Mr. Kilfeather confirmed that the footprint of the Plant in Strandhill will be sufficient for increased capacity in the longer term. However, that would require additional investment to increase the capacity.

Councillor MacManus referred to works proposed for O'Connell Street where difficulties had also been encountered with Irish Water agreeing to do work necessary prior to upgrading of the Street.

In relation to Councillor MacManus' motion, Mr. Kilfeather reported as follows:

"Response received from Irish Water is as follows:

The Foxes Den Water Treatment Plant (WTP) is to be upgraded and Cairns Hill is to be eventually decommissioned.

The proposed solution primarily entails the upgrading of the existing Foxes Den WTP (to achieve 11,500M³/day.), while maintaining Kilsellagh WTP at its reliable yield of 5,800m³/day. Until such time as the Foxes Den WTP upgrade is completed, it is proposed to maximise the existing installed capacity of the Foxes Den WTP, maintain Kilsellagh WTP at its reliable yield while reducing the treated water output from Cairn's Hill WTP to a minimum practical level.

The matter has also been covered in section 22 of the December Management Report circulated under Item 9 on today's Agenda".

In reply to queries raised by Councillor MacManus, Mr. Kilfeather confirmed that the capacity of the Foxes Den upgrade is more than sufficient to meet demands.

In relation to Members' concerns about works being carried out by Irish Water, Mr. Kilfeather confirmed that Staff are engaging with them at present and making the case in relation to increased capacity for Strandhill. However, to date, no understanding or agreement has been reached. It was further outlined to Members that this situation is not unique to Sligo. A number of other local authorities, particularly along the east coast, are coming under huge pressure for the delivery of infrastructure. In relation to queries raised by Councillor Gormley and Councillor Healy regarding Tubbercurry Sewerage Treatment Plant, the relaying of the water pipes in Keash, Ballymote, Collooney and Castlebaldwin Treatment Plants, Mr. Kilfeather confirmed that he would revert to the Members with the relevant details.

Councillor Bree enquired about recreational facilities at the Fairgreen in Sligo and referred to a sum of €33,000 which had been set aside by the former Borough Council for this project. Councillor Bree sought clarification that this left a total of €113,000 available to carry out the works.

Mr. Kilfeather indicated that he could not envisage the €33,000 referred to being available. €80,000 has been secured directly through grant assistance and it was still the intention to deliver a good scheme for this sum which has to be drawn down by June. Councillor Bree expressed his disappointment and asked that the matter be investigated by the Chief Executive as no Official had been authorised to spend this money on any other project.

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Mr. Kilfeather advised the Meeting that he would revert to them in relation to this matter and re-iterated that the funding referred to was not used for any other purpose.

**Proposed by Councillor S. MacManus
Seconded by Councillor T. Healy**

AND AGREED

"To note the Monthly Management Report for December 2015".

10. SLIGO BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT (B.I.D.):

Mr. J. Reilly, Head of Enterprise, referred to the Report which had been circulated to the Members and highlighted various points of interest.

As outlined therein, the result of the recent ballot had been:

Number of ballot papers issued to ratepayers:	1209
Votes cast:	513
Valid poll:	501
In favour:	349 (69.66%)
Against:	153 (30.34%)

The summary of decisions required by Sligo County Council at this time were listed as follows:

1. Consider resolution on the implementation of a BID and, if approved
2. Nominate an elected member to the BID Board
3. Approve the establishment of a fund pursuant to Section 129K (into which all levies collected will be retained temporarily and paid to the BID Company at regular intervals, other than €14,000 deductible in respect of Council administration).

Mr. Reilly replied to queries raised by Members on various aspects of the proposal including the layout of the ballot paper, the cost of the B.I.D. levy, those eligible to vote, publicity surrounding the proposal and administration involved, if approved.

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The Chief Executive advised the Meeting that this development is overwhelmingly positive. A wide cross-section of the community has come together for the common good. If approved, challenges will be created for the County Council, the Industrial sector and the B.I.D. Company. The issue is how these challenges will be dealt with and the concerns that have been aired. These concerns need to be taken on board. The statutory process has been followed. In fact, it had been gone a little bit further with an additional meeting with representatives of the industrial sector, the I.D.A. and representatives from the B.I.D. Company.

The Cathaoirleach, Councillor O'Grady, acknowledged the work that had been carried out by local business people on this proposal. In her opinion, the only way forward is by collaboration to bring Sligo to a new place.

**It was proposed by Councillor S. Kilgannon
Seconded by Councillor H. Keaney**

AND AGREED

"That the Sligo BIDs Committee consults further with the Finisklin businesses with a view to having a number of them represented on the BIDs Committee".

**It was proposed by Councillor H. Keaney
Seconded by Councillor M. Clarke**

AND AGREED

"That Sligo County Council, having considered the foregoing report hereby establishes the area set out in the application for a Business Improvement District and approves implementation of a Business Improvement District Scheme submitted by the Sligo BID Proponents within that area, which will operate for a period of five years from 1st March, 2016 and will be financed in whole or in part by BID contribution levies".

**It was proposed by Councillor H. Keaney
Seconded by Councillor T. MacSharry**

AND AGREED

"To approve the establishment of a fund pursuant to Section 129K of the Local Government Act, 2001 (into which all levies collected will be retained temporarily and paid to the B.I.D. Company at regular intervals, other than €14,000 deductible in respect of Council administration)".

Following a discussion regarding the nomination to the Board of the B.I.D., two nominations were received as follows:

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**Proposed by Councillor M. Gormley
Seconded by Councillor D. Bree**

"To nominate Councillor R. O'Grady, Cathaoirleach, to the Board of the Business Improvement District (B.I.D.)".

**Proposed by Councillor S. Maguire
Seconded by Councillor D. Mulvey**

"To nominate Councillor H. Keaney, to the Board of the Business Improvement District (B.I.D.)".

It was agreed to defer this proposal until after lunch.

Councillor Clarke sought clarification as to whether it was necessary to retain the sum of €14,000 from the levies collected. In reply, Ms. D. Clarke, advised the Members that there is a lot of work involved from the County Council's perspective.

Mr. Reilly further advised the Members that there is a lot of work in the administration of this Scheme. The County Council will also be a contributor to the levy so the net cost is very small.

11. GRANTS UNDER THE CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE ARTS SCHEME:

Ms. D. Clarke outlined the background to the Report in relation to these Grants which had been circulated to the Members.

**It was proposed by Councillor M. Gormley
Seconded by Councillor E. Scanlon**

AND AGREED

"To approve the recommendations of the Assessment Panel for Grants under the Contributions to the Arts Scheme, 2016".

In relation to Councillor Gormley's motion at item 27 on the Agenda, the Members were advised that The County Fleadh has been approved €3,000, as per recommendations of the Assessment Panel for Grants under the Contribution to the Arts Scheme 2016.

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Councillor T. MacSharry referred to representations that had been made to Members in relation to the reduction in funding to the "Sligo Live" event. In reply, Ms. Clarke indicated that she did not have any other source of finance available to facilitate their request for increased funding.

**Proposed by Councillor T. MacSharry
Seconded by Councillor J. Lundy**

AND AGREED

"I wish to propose that the Executive of Sligo County Council have a look at the recommendation of the Assessment Panel for grants to the Arts re. "Sligo Live" with a view to further funding from another source".

Ms. Clarke agreed to a request to meet with the Organisers of this Event but reiterated that no other funding source was available at present.

12. ANNUAL ETHICS DECLARATION:

**Proposed by Councillor S. MacManus
Seconded by Councillor H. Keaney**

AND AGREED

"To note requirements in relation to Local Government Act 2001 - Annual Ethics Declaration".

13. PROPOSED FORTHCOMING PRESENTATIONS TO THE COUNCIL:

The Members were advised that the following Presentations were proposed for forthcoming Council Meetings:

- Ordinary March Meeting - Irish Cellular Industry Association
- Ordinary April Meeting – Lobbying Act and Sligo Gaol Committee.

In reply to a query raised by Councillor MacManus, the Cathaoirleach confirmed that a report would be presented at the March Meeting on the matter of Presentations to Council Meetings.

ADJOURNMENT FOR LUNCH:

The Meeting adjourned at 1.00 p.m. and resumed at 2.10 p.m.

10. NOMINATION TO BOARD OF SLIGO BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT (B.I.D.) CONTINUED:

On resumption of the Meeting, Councillor Kilgannon advised the Members that a consensus had been reached on the proposals for nominations to the Board of the Sligo Business Improvement District.

As there are three years remaining in the term of the current Council, Councillor R. O'Grady, Cathaoirleach would join the Board for the initial year and a half, followed by Councillor H. Keaney for the remaining year and a half.

14. COMMERCIAL RATES ON EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES:

"To ask Sligo County Council to remove the burden of commercial rates from early childhood care and educational facilities in Co. Sligo, as is the case with all other educational premises, both public and private throughout the country."

With the agreement of the Members, this item was deferred to the Agenda for the March Meeting.

15. GREENWAY FROM COLLOONEY TO BELLAGHY:

"That Sligo County Council write to the Minister for Transport Paschal Donohoe requesting funding for the feasibility study of the disused rail route as a greenway from Collooney to Bellaghy in County Sligo."

Councillor T. MacSharry advised the Members that both parties have met in recent times and will be issuing a joint statement in the near future.

With the agreement of the Members, this item was deferred to the Agenda for the March Meeting.

DRAFT COUNTY DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2017-2023

UNCONVENTIONAL GAS EXPLORATION AND EXTRACTION:

**Proposed by Councillor D. Bree
Seconded by Councillor T. Healy**

"That Sligo County resolves to include the following text and policies in regard to Unconventional Gas Exploration and Extraction, in the Draft County Development Plan 2017-2023:

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UNCONVENTIONAL GAS EXPLORATION AND EXTRACTION

It is a strategic goal of the County Development Plan to adopt the 'precautionary principle' in respect of development where significant environmental implications are involved, in particular proposals for unconventional oil/gas exploration and extraction projects/operations.

Further to this, the Council wishes to safeguard and nurture the unspoilt/green image and reputation of Sligo and the health of its present and future communities, centered on the rural characteristics of the County, agricultural activity, the landscape and its environmentally sensitive lands and water bodies – both surface and groundwater.

This Council is cognisant of the significant ongoing controversy around, and the significant proven levels of risk associated with, unconventional oil/gas exploration and extraction internationally and acknowledges that the high volume of public objections to unconventional oil/gas exploration and extraction internationally, nationally and locally relate to potential and actual adverse impacts on the environment and human health, including impacts on:

Local Communities;

Local Infrastructures;

Local Landscapes and Amenities;

Water Quality and Water Supplies;

Air Quality and Safety;

Land/Soil Integrity;

Agriculture;

Tourism;

Climate Change;

Local Businesses;

Property Prices.

Objections are not solely restricted to the above.

Applications for onshore exploration licences have been received for the Northwest Carboniferous Basin including parts of Leitrim and several other counties.

It is acknowledged by this Council that there is significant and growing public concern in respect to the social, public health, economic and environmental impacts that may be associated with unconventional oil/gas exploration and extraction in County Sligo and adjacent counties. This Council will endeavour to protect the rights of the people of Sligo and adjoining counties to be safe in their own; communities AND

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understands that short term national policy can have long term and permanent negative effects.

In 2012 Sligo County Council adopted the following motion: "Recognising the dangers that hydraulic fracturing/fracking poses to water quality, to human safety and the general environment, this council resolves to work together with other local authorities in the region, to oppose the practice of hydraulic fracturing/fracking and we call on the Northern Ireland Assembly and the Irish Government to ban the practice of hydraulic fracturing/fracking North and South of the border."

Having regard to the foregoing, the Council has set out the following policy with regard to hydrocarbon exploration and extraction

Policy (A) It is the policy of the Council to apply the precautionary principle to Unconventional Oil/Gas Exploration and Extraction (UGEE) projects/operations proposed within the county. Given the scientific evidence, and personal testimonies, of the risks of UGEE projects /operations and with the objective of avoiding the risk of serious danger to human health or the environment, it is therefore the policy of Sligo County Council that UGEE projects/operations shall not be permitted within the County of Sligo.

Policy (B) It is the policy of the Council to carefully scrutinise any unconventional oil/gas exploration and extraction project/operation proposal outside the County where it may, due to geographical proximity, have a significant impact on the County and where available evaluation does not allow the risks to the environment of the region, the ecology of the region and human and animal health within the region to be determined with certainty. It is also the policy of this Council in such cases to seek from the relevant authorities a comprehensive full life cycle Health Impact Assessment, together with a full life cycle analysis of all possible cumulative and permanent negative effects for the potential full development.

Policy (C) It is the policy of the Council, in the eventuality that an outside body or bodies takes steps to overrule Policy (A) above, that a comprehensive full life cycle Health Impact Assessment, together with a full life cycle analysis of all possible cumulative and permanent negative effects for the potential full development, will be required for any proposal for oil/gas exploration and extraction projects located inside the County, as a mandatory component of the evaluation of any such proposals.

Footnotes

1. 'Precautionary Principle': -

<http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0013/001395/139578e.pdf>

2. Unconventional Gas Exploration and Extraction (UGEE) refers both to the use and full life cycle of hydraulic fracturing (fracking) of low permeability sources such as shale gas deposits, coal seams and tight sandstones. The impacts of UGEE projects/operations to be considered are those arising from UGEE projects/operations in their totality, not just from fracking activities, including all stages of UGEE projects/operations, i.e, drilling, construction, commissioning, operation, decommissioning and aftercare as well as off-site and other developments.

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3. Including but not limited to the Compendium of Scientific, Medical, and Media Findings Demonstrating Risks and Harms of Fracking (Unconventional Gas and Oil Extraction) Concerned Health Professionals of NY, July 2014 (<http://concernedhealthny.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/07/CHPNY-Fracking-Compendium.pdf>) ”.

Councillor Bree outlined the background to the placing of this motion on the Agenda, and Members added their concerns in relation to the issue of ‘Fracking’

The Chief Executive said he believed the Members and Executive were at one in relation to their concerns about ‘fracking’, there was an important issue in relation to the Development Plan process, and he believed the terminology was not appropriate for a policy document. The Members that he did not think there is any difference between the Executive and the Members on this matter with both at one on the potential for damage. However, Mr. Hayes felt the Council should not be putting this in a policy document. The point that was being made is about the process of getting this in to the Development Plan. The Council have a very clear legal opinion that indicates that if the above resolution is passed at this meeting, the Chief Executive would be obliged to ignore it for fear it would expose the Council to a potential challenge. The time for directing the Chief Executive had been last November when the Plan was before the Council.

Mr Hayes noted that the Draft Plan will come back to the Members again in April or May of this year. At that time, the Council will have the opportunity of considering the draft and whatever policies are included at that stage by the Executive, having gone through the first stage of process. The opportunity will rest with the Members to do that at that stage. Mr Hayes added that in the absence of a national policy in relation to ‘fracking’, his advice to Members that he did not think that the Council is in a position to insert this provision in any policy document.

Councillor Kilgannon asked for clarification from Chief Executive what fears he had if the resolution was passed and how colleagues in other local authorities, where this resolution had been passed, were coping.

In reply, Mr. Hayes said that there would be the potential for a legal challenge if the format of the statutory process for the Development Plan was not adhered to. The Council would then be open to a legal challenge. Councillor Keaney referred to the procedure for the formulation of the Development Plan and agreed that when it would next come before the Council, it will be within their remit to amend or delete from that policy.

Following a further discussion, Mr. Hayes again advised the Meeting that, as a Corporate Body, the Council is obliged to take the advice of our Legal Advisers.

Following further discussions, a recess was agreed by Members at 2.45 p.m.

The Meeting resumed at 3.30 p.m.

MINUTES OF FEBRUARY ORDINARY MEETING OF SLIGO COUNTY COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY, 1ST FEBRUARY, 2016 AT 11.00AM IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, COUNTY HALL, RIVERSIDE, SLIGO

On resumption of the Meeting, Councillor Kilgannon advised the Meeting that it was very clear that everyone is opposed to “fracking”. It was then

**Proposed by Councillor S. Kilgannon
Seconded by Councillor H. Keaney**

“That Sligo County Council resolves to consider the following text and policies in regard to Unconventional Gas Exploration in the Draft County Development Plan 2017-2023 when it comes before the Council in April or May 2016

UNCONVENTIONAL GAS EXPLORATION AND EXTRACTION

It is a strategic goal of the County Development Plan to adopt the ‘precautionary principle’ in respect of development where significant environmental implications are involved, in particular proposals for unconventional oil/gas exploration and extraction projects/operations.

Further to this, the Council wishes to safeguard and nurture the unspoilt/green image and reputation of Sligo and the health of its present and future communities, centered on the rural characteristics of the County, agricultural activity, the landscape and its environmentally sensitive lands and water bodies – both surface and groundwater.

This Council is cognisant of the significant ongoing controversy around, and the significant proven levels of risk associated with, unconventional oil/gas exploration and extraction internationally and acknowledges that the high volume of public objections to unconventional oil/gas exploration and extraction internationally, nationally and locally relate to potential and actual adverse impacts on the environment and human health, including impacts on:

Local Communities;

Local Infrastructures;

Local Landscapes and Amenities;

Water Quality and Water Supplies;

Air Quality and Safety;

Land/Soil Integrity;

Agriculture;

Tourism;

Climate Change;

Local Businesses;

MINUTES OF FEBRUARY ORDINARY MEETING OF SLIGO COUNTY COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY, 1ST FEBRUARY, 2016 AT 11.00AM IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, COUNTY HALL, RIVERSIDE, SLIGO

Property Prices.

Objections are not solely restricted to the above.

Applications for onshore exploration licences have been received for the Northwest Carboniferous Basin including parts of Leitrim and several other counties.

It is acknowledged by this Council that there is significant and growing public concern in respect to the social, public health, economic and environmental impacts that may be associated with unconventional oil/gas exploration and extraction in County Sligo and adjacent counties. This Council will endeavour to protect the rights of the people of Sligo and adjoining counties to be safe in their own communities AND understands that short term national policy can have long term and permanent negative effects.

In 2012 Sligo County Council adopted the following motion: "Recognising the dangers that hydraulic fracturing/fracking poses to water quality, to human safety and the general environment, this council resolves to work together with other local authorities in the region, to oppose the practice of hydraulic fracturing/fracking and we call on the Northern Ireland Assembly and the Irish Government to ban the practice of hydraulic fracturing/fracking North and South of the border."

Having regard to the foregoing, the Council has set out the following policy with regard to hydrocarbon exploration and extraction

Policy (A) It is the policy of the Council to apply the precautionary principle to Unconventional Oil/Gas Exploration and Extraction (UGEE) projects/operations proposed within the county. Given the scientific evidence, and personal testimonies, of the risks of UGEE projects /operations and with the objective of avoiding the risk of serious danger to human health or the environment, it is therefore the policy of Sligo County Council that UGEE projects/operations shall not be permitted within the County of Sligo.

Policy (B) It is the policy of the Council to carefully scrutinise any unconventional oil/gas exploration and extraction project/operation proposal outside the County where it may, due to geographical proximity, have a significant impact on the County and where available evaluation does not allow the risks to the environment of the region, the ecology of the region and human and animal health within the region to be determined with certainty. It is also the policy of this Council in such cases to seek from the relevant authorities a comprehensive full life cycle Health Impact Assessment, together with a full life cycle analysis of all possible cumulative and permanent negative effects for the potential full development.

Policy (C) It is the policy of the Council, in the eventuality that an outside body or bodies takes steps to overrule Policy (A) above, that a comprehensive full life cycle Health Impact Assessment, together with a full life cycle analysis of all possible cumulative and permanent negative effects for the potential full development, will be required for any proposal for oil/gas exploration and extraction projects located inside the County, as a mandatory component of the evaluation of any such proposals.

MINUTES OF FEBRUARY ORDINARY MEETING OF SLIGO COUNTY COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY, 1ST FEBRUARY, 2016 AT 11.00AM IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, COUNTY HALL, RIVERSIDE, SLIGO

Footnotes

1. 'Precautionary Principle': -

(<http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0013/001395/139578e.pdf>)

2. *Unconventional Gas Exploration and Extraction (UGEE) refers both to the use and full life cycle of hydraulic fracturing (fracking) of low permeability sources such as shale gas deposits, coal seams and tight sandstones. The impacts of UGEE projects/operations to be considered are those arising from UGEE projects/operations in their totality, not just from fracking activities, including all stages of UGEE projects/operations, i.e, drilling, construction, commissioning, operation, decommissioning and aftercare as well as off -site and other developments.*

3. *Including but not limited to the Compendium of Scientific, Medical, and Media Findings Demonstrating Risks and Harms of Fracking (Unconventional Gas and Oil Extraction) Concerned Health Professionals of NY, July 2014*

(<http://concernedhealthny.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/07/CHPNY-Fracking-Compendium.pdf>) ".

Vote result:

FOR: Councillor Baker, Councillor Keaney, Councillor Kilgannon, Councillor Maguire, Councillor MacSharry, Councillor Mulvey, Councillor O'Grady, Councillor Scanlon and Councillor Taylor (9)

AGAINST: Councillor Bree, Councillor Casserly, Councillor Clarke, Councillor Gormley, Councillor Healy, Councillor MacManus, Councillor O'Boyle and Councillor Queenan (8)

ABSENT: Councillor Lundy.

This resolution was deemed to be passed.

**Proposed by Councillor D. Bree
Seconded by Councillor T. Healy**

"Delete the word "consider" and replace it with the word "include" in the first paragraph"

That Sligo County Council resolves to include the following text and policies in regard to Unconventional Gas Exploration in the Draft County Development Plan 2017-2023 when it comes before the Council in April or May 2016

**MINUTES OF FEBRUARY ORDINARY MEETING OF SLIGO COUNTY COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY, 1ST
FEBRUARY, 2016 AT 11.00AM IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, COUNTY HALL, RIVERSIDE, SLIGO**

Vote resulted as follows:

FOR: Councillor Baker, Councillor Bree, Councillor Casserly, Councillor Clarke, Councillor Gormley, Councillor Healy, Councillor MacManus, Councillor MacSharry, Councillor O'Boyle, Councillor Queenan and Councillor Scanlon (11)

AGAINST: Councillor Keaney, Councillor Kilgannon, Councillor Maguire, Councillor Mulvey, Councillor O'Grady and Councillor Taylor (6)

ABSENT: Councillor Lundy

This resolution was deemed to be agreed.

**Proposed by Councillor D. Bree
Seconded by Councillor T. Healy**

Substantive motion:

"That Sligo County Council resolves to include the following text and policies in regard to Unconventional Gas Exploration in the Draft County Development Plan 2017-2023 when it comes before the Council in April or May 2016

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Air Quality and Safety;

Land/Soil Integrity;

Agriculture;

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seek from the relevant authorities a comprehensive full life cycle Health Impact Assessment, together with a full life cycle analysis of all possible cumulative and permanent negative effects for the potential full development.

Policy (C) It is the policy of the Council, in the eventuality that an outside body or bodies takes steps to overrule Policy (A) above, that a comprehensive full life cycle Health Impact Assessment, together with a full life cycle analysis of all possible cumulative and permanent negative effects for the potential full development, will be required for any proposal for oil/gas exploration and extraction projects located inside the County, as a mandatory component of the evaluation of any such proposals.

Footnotes

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[\(<http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0013/001395/139578e.pdf>\)](http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0013/001395/139578e.pdf)

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3. *Including but not limited to the Compendium of Scientific, Medical, and Media Findings Demonstrating Risks and Harms of Fracking (Unconventional Gas and Oil Extraction) Concerned Health Professionals of NY, July 2014*

[\(<http://concernedhealthny.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/07/CHPNY-Fracking-Compendium.pdf>\)](http://concernedhealthny.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/07/CHPNY-Fracking-Compendium.pdf) ".

FOR: Councillor Bree, Councillor Casserly, Councillor Clarke, Councillor Gormley, Councillor Healy, Councillor MacManus, Councillor O'Boyle and Councillor Queenan (8)

AGAINST: Councillor Baker, Councillor Keaney, Councillor Kilgannon, Councillor Maguire, Councillor MacSharry, Councillor Mulvey, Councillor O'Grady, Councillor Scanlon and Councillor Taylor (9)

ABSENT: Councillor Lundy

This resolution was deemed to be lost.

17. MOORE STREET 1916 TERRACE, DUBLIN:

Proposed by Councillor T. Healy

Seconded by Councillor S. MacManus

AND AGREED

"I ask that Sligo County Council calls on the Irish Government Minister for Heritage Heather Humphreys TD to intervene immediately to halt the current works on the historic Moore Street 1916 terrace which involve the virtual destruction of Number 18, the inappropriate encroachment on the National Monument 14-17 and the potential demolition of the remaining buildings on the terrace (10-25), based on the plan of the previous developer Chartered Land and also ask the Minister to work with the 1916 relatives and all relevant stakeholders to implement a new plan which would conserve and develop the terrace 10-25 and create an historic 1916 quarter, and not allow such shameful destruction in the Centenary of the Easter Rising to continue."

18. REGIONAL JOBS TASK FORCE:

**Proposed by Councillor S. Kilgannon
Seconded by Councillor T. MacSharry**

AND AGREED

"Sligo County Council welcomes the setting up of the Regional Jobs task forces. I will request this Council to invite Mr Richard Hanlon the Chairman of the Implementation Committee for the North-East and West to make a short presentation to this Council on what new Jobs will be created in Sligo Town and County in 2016".

It was noted that the Council's Corporate Policy Group would be requesting Mr. John Nugent of the I.D.A. to meet with them to discuss this and other related issues.

Mr. Hayes agreed that the major issue here is jobs, and he expressions of support offered by Members in relation to the local families whom had experienced recent job losses with the closure of Xtravision and Elanco. It was also noted that there has been a large reduction in Sligo County Council's own staff numbers. Mr Hayes noted that the challenge is to have sufficient resources to advance and create conditions for employment. The Council has shown itself to be professional and adept in events from the recent major emergency with flooding, major Festivals such as the Fleadh and occasions like the Royal visit. It is essential that Sligo has infrastructure in place such as the N4 and has the resources to then build on that.

Councillor Kilgannon said one of the downsides of the new Task Force is that it covers the north-east and west. This is causing a distortion in statistics.

Mr. Hayes agreed that the particular area from Dundalk to Inishowen had a wide variation in geography and circumstances. It is necessary to look within the region as how best the north west can be represented.

LEAS-CATHAOIRLEACH:

At 4.20 p.m., Leas Cathaoirleach, Councillor P. Taylor, took the Chair.

19. STRATEGY FOR EDUCATION SYSTEM:

**Proposed by Councillor S. Kilgannon
Seconded by Councillor H. Keaney**

AND AGREED

"Sligo County Council calls on the Department of Education to put in place an ambitious strategy to restore and enhance the quality of our Education system".

20. WAIVERS FOR UNDOCUMENTED IRISH IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:

**Proposed by Councillor E. Scanlon
Seconded by Councillor T. MacSharry**

AND AGREED

"This Council calls on the Taoiseach and Minister for Foreign Affairs to formally ask the President of America and the U. S. Ambassador for waivers for the huge number of undocumented Irish citizens living and working in the United States of America. This opportunity will arise when the Taoiseach visits New York and Washington for next month's St. Patrick's Day celebrations".

21. "THE GATEHOUSE" DOORLY PARK:

**Proposed by Councillor S. MacManus
Seconded by Councillor T. Healy**

To ask what progress - including all relevant efforts over the past eighteen months - has been made by Sligo County Council to address the dereliction of the building at Doorly Park known as "The Gatehouse".

Mr. B. Gavin, A/Director of Services reported as follows:

"The Lodge is included in the ideas raised in the Sligo East City master plan process. Responses from the consultation process were mainly positive towards the refurbishment of the building and putting it to use. Respondents considered the building to have potential as a community space or, possibly, a use linked to the tourism and amenity characteristics and patronage of the riverside area.

The Department say the level of funding necessary to renovate the building would be difficult to justify. Previously funding was sought from the department to undertake a limited level of intervention intended to secure the structure and to halt its ongoing decline. The department remarked on the need to identify a use for the building.

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It is considered that a sustainable future for the building lies in a community driven project – be that as a community meeting space or a community use incorporating a degree of commercial activity e.g. cafe and with any return being for the benefit of the community. This was raised with the community and they were encouraged to consider a future for the building in their hands; the building to be leased to a constituted group put in place by the community. The regeneration team also committed to getting involved with such a community group to assist with funding applications as may be available or possible. It may be, that with community involvement and a clear use for the building, some regeneration funding could be levered from the department to compliment other funding. A community driven project would also expand potential funding sources and options. Community involvement and external agency funding is sometimes a good lever to support or drive a funding request from the department's regeneration funds.

The regeneration team would, as stated to the residents association, welcome the pursuance of community uses for the building and that could sustain into the future, run and operated by the community. Any potential uses going forward for funding would have to address future sustainability and a developed business case.

In reply to an enquiry from Councillor T. Healy, Mr. Gavin agreed to have the Gate Lodge examined for loose slates.

CATHAOIRLEACH:

Cathaoirleach, Councillor R. O'Grady, resumed the Chair at 4.30 p.m.

22. FOOTPATH AT TEMPLE MANOR ESTATE, BALLINACARROW:

Proposed by Councillor M. Gormley

Seconded by Councillor D. Mulvey

"The crash barrier that is erected at the junction of County Road 702 as part of the works to Temple Manor Estate, Ballinacarrow is blocking the newly constructed footpath. I am calling on the council to have this matter resolved to allow residents use the footpath without an obstruction".

Mr. T. Kilfeather reported as follows:

"The footpath will be extended in the near future so as to avoid the crash barrier and allow access".

23. SLIGO-DUBLIN RAIL LINE AT CLUID AND KNOCKADALTEEN, BALLYMOTE:

Proposed by Councillor D. Mulvey

Seconded by Councillor E. Scanlon

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"To call on Sligo County Council to offer support to the 28 farmers whose lands along the Sligo/Dublin rail line at Cluid and Knockadalteen, Ballymote as these are subject to constant flooding, in light of the recent statement by Irish Rail in which they stated that there are willing to cover 50% of the remedial work required to solve the flooding problem. I would appeal to Sligo Co. Co. to make a financial contribution to cover the other 50%. The total estimated cost of the full project would be in the region of €40,000. "

Mr. T. Kilfeather advised the Meeting that this is clearly a matter between Iarnród Éireann and private landowners. Iarnród Éireann has indicated the cause of this and, therefore, the Council would have no role in this matter. The Council's role is in relation to public infrastructure. Mr. Kilfeather could not identify how the Council could become a party to resolving this matter.

Members indicated that there was a possibility of the landowners getting compensation from the flood relief Scheme and Mr. Kilfeather agreed that they should enquire with the relevant Body as to their eligibility.

24. KILLORAN OLD CEMETERY:

**Proposed by Councillor D. Mulvey
Seconded by Councillor M. Gormley**

"To call on Sligo County Council and other agencies to work with Coolaney Development Company who are seeking assistance with the upkeep and maintenance of Killoran old Cemetery, Coolaney which requires urgent work to make it accessible for relatives and visitors to the cemetery".

Mr. T. Kilfeather reported that the Enniscrone Area Engineer is agreeable to meet the Coolaney Development Company so as to discuss the various issues and to advise on and provide assistance where possible.

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS:

**It was proposed by Councillor M. Gormley
Seconded by Councillor T. Healy**

AND AGREED

"To suspend Standing Orders to allow the business to continue after 5.00 p.m. until all items on the Agenda are dealt with".

**25. BARRIER AT JUNCTION OF ROADS 293 AND 640 AT DEROON,
BALLYMOTE:**

**Proposed by Councillor E. Scanlon
Seconded by Councillor S. Kilgannon**

"To ask Sligo County Council to erect a barrier at Junction roads 293 and 640 at Deroon Ballymote".

Mr. Kilfeather advised the Members that the Ballymote Area Engineer will inspect this junction in order to determine if a barrier is warranted. It should be noted that funding for these works is limited.

26. UNCHIN RIVER AT CARROWNAGARK, KILMORGAN, BALLYMOTE:

**Proposed by Councillor E. Scanlon
Seconded by Councillor P. Taylor**

"Ask Sligo County Council to apply for funding from the OPW to clear blockage on the tributary to the Unchin river at Carrownagark, Kilmorgan, Ballymote".

Sligo County Council is not aware of any specific blockages on the tributary to the Unshin River at Carrownagark, Kilmorgan. The extreme rainfall events of December 2015 appear to have been responsible for any flooding that occurred in that area at that time.

However, Sligo County Council Roads Department will, in due course, examine the area from a roads point of view to see if there is anything that can be done to mitigate the risk of flooding.

**28. IARNROD EIREANN EARLY MORNING COMMUTER SERVICE – LONGFORD
TO SLIGO:**

**Proposed by Councillor D. Bree
Seconded by Councillor M. Gormley**

AND AGREED

"That Sligo County Council calls on Iarnrod Eireann to provide an early morning commuter rail service from Longford serving all the stations - Dromod, Carrick, Boyle, Ballymote, Collooney into Sligo arriving in Sligo's MacDiarmada Station before 9.00.a.m."

29. SLIGO DISABILITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE:

Proposed by Councillor D. Bree

Seconded by Councillor S. O'Boyle

"That the meeting be provided with a report regarding the re-establishment of the Council's Disability Consultative Committee."

Mr. B. Gavin, A/Director of Services, reported as follows:

"This matter was discussed by the Council at its meeting in October last year. The Council were advised that the establishment of a committee would be included in the 2016 work programme."

- Previously the committee was a subcommittee of the SPC. The formation of a new Disability Consultative Committee will be placed before the next meeting of the SPC for its consideration and with a view to considering appropriate membership structure / terms of reference for the sub-committee.*
- Subject to the consideration of the committee and any decision to form a committee the proposal from the SPC will go before the full Council".*

30. RURAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ZONE (REDZ) TUBBERCURRY:

"To recognise the importance of the Rural Economic Development Zone (REDZ) for Tubbercurry and south Sligo and to acknowledge the work of the Chamber of Commerce in Tubbercurry and this Council in promoting this very important initiative for all of south Sligo in the promotion of employment and enterprise".

With the agreement of the Members, this item was deferred to the Agenda for the March Meeting.

31. OVERCROWDING AT SLIGO GENERAL HOSPITAL:

Proposed by Councillor T. MacSharry

Seconded by Councillor S. Kilgannon

AND AGREED

"That Sligo County Council call on the Government and the Minister for Health in particular to address the serious overcrowding and bed shortage at Sligo General Hospital as a matter of extreme urgency".

32. DEPARTMENT FUNDING FOR CLASS 1, 2 & 3 ROADS FOR 2016:

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"Ask the Director of Services to outline how much funding has been allocated by the Department towards class 1, 2 and 3 roads in the county for 2016".

With the agreement of the Members, this item was deferred to the Agenda for the Ballymote-Tobercurry Municipal District Meeting.

33. VEOLIA CONTRACT WITH SLIGO COUNTY COUNCIL:

"Ask the County Manager when is Veolia contract completed with Sligo County Council".

With the agreement of the Members, this item was deferred to the Agenda for the March Ordinary Meeting.

34. WALL AT SEA FRONT ON CLIFF ROAD, ENNISCRONE:

"Ask the Director of Services to allocate funding for raising the height of wall along the sea front where new footpath was constructed on Cliff Road, Enniscrone".

With the agreement of the Members, this item was deferred to the Agenda for the Ballymote-Tobercurry Municipal District Meeting.

35. FLOODING ON R294 AT TUBBERCURRY:

Proposed by Councillor M. Gormley

Seconded by Councillor P. Taylor

"The continued closure of the R294 at Kilcoynes due to flooding is impacting on the lives of people in the general South Sligo area, also its having a negative impact on the businesses in Tubbercurry. Some are down over 30%. I ask the Director of Services for a detailed report on what measures the council propose to take to try and resolve the problem".

Mr. T. Kilfeather advised the Meeting as follows:

"This section of the R294 Regional Road is through an existing groundwater turlough. Recent extreme rainfalls have raised water levels to historic highs in surrounding fields. The road has been flooded to depths of up to 0.5m. Water levels have subsided slightly in recent days.

The Tubbercurry Area Engineer is currently investigating and endeavouring to implement short term solutions that may help the situation and relieve the flooding. These include the use of 1 tonne sandbags at the road edge and pumping, raising the road level locally, attempts to minimise the catchment area flowing into the turlough

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and identifying outfalls. At all times it must be ensured that existing adjacent property is not flooded.

Longer term solutions can only be investigated when the flooding recedes. These may include raising the road, drainage improvements in surrounding lands, attempting to reduce water flow into the turlough etc.

It should be noted that solutions to flooding due to turloughs are difficult and complicated and satisfactory solutions may not be possible".

36. JUNCTION OF ROADS 430/N17 – THE CASHEL GATES:

"I will ask if any funding is available in 2016 from the Department or the Council to start works on the very dangerous junction of roads 430/N17, known locally as "The Cashel gates" which is the most dangerous road junction on the N17 between Sligo and Galway".

With the agreement of the Members, this item was deferred to the Agenda for the March Meeting.

37. CARERS ALLOWANCE:

"That Sligo County Council call on the Government to immediately increase the Carers allowance substantially considering carers save the state Billions".

With the agreement of the Members, this item was deferred to the Agenda for the March Meeting.

38. TRAFFIC FLOW AT CLEVERAGH/PEARSE ROAD JUNCTION:

"That Sligo County Council engineering staff review the Traffic flow at the Cleveragh/Pearse road junction as motorists are experiencing significant delays exiting from Cleveragh".

With the agreement of the Members, this item was deferred to the Agenda for the March Meeting.

39. TAKING IN CHARGE OF "LAR EASA" HOUSING ESTATE, STRANDHILL:

**Proposed by Councillor D. Bree
Seconded by Councillor T. Healy**

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That the Council be provided with a progress report in respect of the proposed taking in charge of the Lar Easa housing estate, Strandhill."

Ms. D. Clarke, Director of Services advised the Meeting that *"The public lighting has been inspected by Electric skyline. The process of taking the lights in charge has been initiated. The CCTV survey of the sewers has been completed. A submission has issued to Irish Water in relation to taking the services in charge and IW has indicated that there is no objection.*

The roads department have indicated that a section of the final road wearing course has not been provided. Sligo County Council cannot recommend taking in charge of the development until the road has received the final road surface. There is currently no funding source available to provide this at this point in time.

Should funding become available either from the Department through additional funding from the Site Resolution Fund (SRF), the works outstanding can then be prioritised for completion".

41. RESURFACING OF R293 AT RATHMULLEN:

**Proposed by Councillor P. Taylor
Seconded by Councillor E. Scanlon**

"To ask the Director of services to make the resurfacing of the R293 at Rathmullen a priority over the coming months due to the dangers this stretch of road is causing to motorists".

Mr. Kilfeather advised the Members that *"The Tubbercurry Area Engineer is currently preparing proposals and seeking quotes to repair this section of road. These proposals can be considered for inclusion as part of the 2016 Schedule of Municipal District Works for Ballymote/Tubbercurry".*

VOTES OF SYMPATHY:

**Proposed by Councillor R. O'Grady
Seconded by Councillor S. Kilgannon**

AND AGREED

"That a vote of sympathy be extended to the Burke family, Hanley Terrace, Sligo on the death of their brother, Padraig.

**Proposed by Councillor R. O'Grady
Seconded by Councillor S. Kilgannon**

AND AGREED

**MINUTES OF FEBRUARY ORDINARY MEETING OF SLIGO COUNTY COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY, 1ST
FEBRUARY, 2016 AT 11.00AM IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, COUNTY HALL, RIVERSIDE, SLIGO**

"That a vote of sympathy be extended to Charles Church and family of Oakfield Crescent on the death of his wife, Margaret.

**Proposed by Councillor D. Mulvey
Seconded by Councillor E. Scanlon**

AND AGREED

"That a vote of sympathy be extended to Michael Brennan, Rockfield, Coolaney on the death of his mother, Mona.

**Proposed by Councillor E. Scanlon
Seconded by Councillor P. Taylor**

AND AGREED

"That a vote of sympathy be extended to Pat and Noreen Walsh of Lisananny, Ballymote on the death of their father, Paddy.

**Proposed by Councillor T. Healy
Seconded by Councillor G. O'Boyle**

AND AGREED

"That a vote of sympathy be extended to the Flynn family, Main Street, Collooney on the death of their father, Michael.

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

AND AGREED

"That a vote of sympathy be extended to Lucy Marren of Doobeg, Bunninadden on the death of her father, Padraic McDonagh.

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

AND AGREED

**MINUTES OF FEBRUARY ORDINARY MEETING OF SLIGO COUNTY COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY, 1ST
FEBRUARY, 2016 AT 11.00AM IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, COUNTY HALL, RIVERSIDE, SLIGO**

"That a vote of sympathy be extended to Frank Lennon of Monasteraden on the death of his mother, Annie.

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

AND AGREED

"That a vote of sympathy be extended to Mai Henry and family of Harristown, Killavil, Ballymote on the death of her brother, Paddy Walsh.

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

AND AGREED

"That a vote of sympathy be extended to Bridie Coleman and family on the death of her son, Frank.

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

AND AGREED

"That a vote of sympathy be extended to Anna Durcan of Tubbertelly, Tubbercurry on the death of her brother, Patsy Cooke.

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

AND AGREED

"That a vote of sympathy be extended to Kathleen Clancy of Kilturra, Bunninadden on the death of her brother, Frank Coleman.

The Chief Executive, on his own behalf and on behalf of the Staff, wished to be associated with these expressions of sympathy.

43. VOTES OF CONGRATULATIONS:

No matter was raised under this heading.

44. CONFERENCES:

**Proposed by Councillor
Seconded by**

AND AGREED

"That the list of Conferences, as circulated with the Agenda, be approved".

45. SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS OF CONFERENCES:

**Proposed by Councillor
Seconded by Councillor**

AND AGREED

"To note the summary of proceedings of conferences attended in accordance with Section 142(5) (f) of the Local Government Act, 2001".

46. CORRESPONDENCE:

Councillor Gormley referred to the recent reply received from Mr. Aaron Forde of Aurivo. In noting that Mr. Forde would not be attending a forthcoming Council Meeting, Councillor Gormley expressed her disappointment that he had, however, chosen to participate in a radio interview with Ocean FM.

47. MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES:

No matter was raised under this heading.

48. ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

No matter was raised under this heading.

END OF MEETING:

The meeting concluded at 5.20 p.m.