

Minutes of Meeting of Monaghan County Council held in the Council Chamber, Mtek Building, Armagh Road, Monaghan on Monday 11th January, 2016 at 10.00 a.m.

Chair: Cllr Noel Keelan, Cathaoirleach

Present: Cllrs. Bennett, Campbell, Carthy, Conlon, Connolly, Coyle, Crowe, Gallagher, Gilliland, Maxwell, McElvaney, B. McKenna, McNally, O’Hanlon P. Treanor and S. Treanor.

Mr. A. King, Chief Executive, Mr. P. Clifford, Director of Services, Mr. J. Murray, Head of Finance, Ms P. Monahan, A/Director of Services, Mr. G. McMahon and Mr. D. McKernan, Senior Executive Engineers, Mr. T. Gourley, Senior Executive Planner, and Ms. C. Thornton, Meetings Administrator.

Apology: Cllr McPhillips.

At the outset the Cathaoirleach wished a very happy new year to all present. He stated that the start to the New Year had been tinged with sadness due to the two fatalities on the N2 near Broomfield earlier that morning when two lorries had collided resulting in the death of the two drivers. He expressed the sympathy of the Council to the families of the deceased.

He further stated that whilst he understood that the accident had nothing to do with road junctions or road design; he called on T11 to examine this stretch of road given the number of accidents in recent years.

Cllr Coyle thanked the members and staff for the expression of sympathy on the death of his mother Rosie in early December and for the support he received at this difficult time. He especially thanked his party colleagues for all their help and support. As he had not been present at the December meeting, he also sympathised with Cllr McPhillips on the death of her uncle. He welcomed Cllr Gilliland onto to the Council and wished him success in his new role.

1. Confirmation of Minutes

Cllr McElvaney requested that the minutes of the 7th December, 2015 be amended to include a reference to a statement he had made at the meeting about a RTE programme that was to be broadcast later that night and that he would be featured on it.

It was agreed that the minutes of the 7th December be amended to include the following sentence.

“Cllr McElvaney made a statement during which he referred to an RTE programme that was to be broadcast later that night and that he would feature in it.”

(i) Minutes of Council meeting held on 7th December, 2015

On the proposal of Cllr McElvaney, seconded by Cllr B. McKenna, it was agreed that the minutes of the Council meeting held on 7th December, 2015, as amended, be confirmed.

(ii) Minutes of Special Council meeting held on 16th December, 2015

On the proposal of Cllr McNally, seconded by Cllr Crowe, it was agreed that the minutes of the Council meeting held on 16th December, 2015 be confirmed.

In response to a query from Cllr McElvaney, Mr. A. King, Chief Executive stated that the investigation had begun and was ongoing but that he could not say when it would be concluded. He further stated that the Council had not initiated a Garda investigation at this stage.

Urgent Business:

The Cathaoirleach stated that he had received two notices of urgent business, as follows:

- (i) Notice from Cllrs Bennett, Carthy, Crowe, Conlon, Keelan, B. McKenna, P. Treanor:

This Council calls on the Minister for Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, Heather Humphreys T.D., and the Minister for the Environment, Community and Local Government, Alan Kelly, T.D., to ensure that the areas around 10-25 Moore Street, Dublin are fully protected for the purpose of preserving locations associated with Easter 1916.

- (ii) Notice from Cllrs McNally, O'Hanlon, Coyle and Gallagher

That this Council sets aside 30 minutes to discuss the severe flooding recently experienced all across County Monaghan as to allow the officials make a statement regarding same.

It was agreed that Urgent Business Notice (i) would be dealt with at the end of the meeting and that Urgent Business Notice (ii) would be taken along with Item 6 on the Agenda.

2. Correspondence.

The following correspondence was circulated with the agenda for the meeting:

- Letter from Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) outlining the 2016 National Roads Allocations for Pavement and Minor Works; Bridge Rehabilitation and maintenance totalling €4,166,973.
- Letter from the Minister for Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation regarding the former BOSE factory at Carrickmacross.
- Letter from Enterprise Ireland in relation to the former BOSE factory at Carrickmacross.
- Letter from the Minister for Communications, Energy and Natural Resources confirming the closing date for the REFIT schemes as the 31st December, 2015.
- Letter of acknowledgement from the Minister for Social Protection in relation to the Council's resolution regarding the sourcing of a building in Ballybay for the new Public Service Card Office.
- Email from Irish Water Support Desk regarding the treatment of hard water.
- Letter from the Regional Manager, Bus Eireann, in relation to a presentation requested by the members regarding school transport services for children with special educational needs.

Annual Ethics /Political Donations Declarations:

The members were circulated with the following documents:

- Annual Ethics Declaration Form; Guidance Notices; Appendix 5 to Circular LG2/2015 and the Code of Conduct for Councillors
- Guidelines and Donation Statement in relation to the annual reporting of political donations by elected members.

The members were advised by the Meetings Administrator of the importance of reading these documents and that each member should complete the annual ethics declaration form and return to the Ethics Registrar before the last day of February 2016. The deadline for the receipt of the Political Donations Statement is the 31st January, 2016. She advised that if members required guidance on completing the forms that an information session could be arranged with the Ethics Registrar.

It was agreed that a guidance session would be held on Wednesday 20th January at 11.00 a.m.

Proposals arising out of correspondence:

On the proposal of Cllr Carthy, seconded by Cllr McNally, it was agreed that Monaghan County Council requests information and minutes from any meetings held by the Special Task Force set up to deal with the closure of the BOSE facility in Carrickmacross (IDA, Enterprise Ireland, CMETB and MCC) including details highlighting what plans are in place and what steps are being taken to try and get new/replacement jobs into South Monaghan/Carrickmacross.

On the proposal of Cllr Coyle, seconded by Cllr Bennett, it was agreed that Monaghan County Council seeks an immediate and full commitment from local Fine Gael Minister, Heather Humphreys T.D., her fellow Cavan/Monaghan Fine Gael candidate, Joe O'Reilly, T.D., An Taoiseach, Enda Kenny T.D., the Fine Gael Party in Co. Monaghan and nationally to the full retention of the Department of Social Protection Offices in Ballybay with all associated jobs.

On the proposal of Cllr Bennett, seconded by Cllr P. Treanor it was agreed that Monaghan County Council writes again to Irish Water requesting it to seek a solution to the hard water issues in Ballinode, Scotstown and Smithboro. As Irish Water have advised in their letter softening water chemically is not recommended, Can Irish Water please investigate the following solutions to provide soft water in Monaghan –

- *Purchase water from Group water Schemes (where hard water is not an issue)*
- *Blend water supplies so as to dilute the hardness.*

On the proposal of Cllr Connolly, seconded by Cllr Gallagher, it was agreed that Monaghan County Council writes to the Minister for the Environment, Community and Local Government requesting that grant aid be made available to households to enable them deal with difficulties they are experiencing with hard water supplies.

On the proposal of Cllr Conlon, seconded by Cllr Bennett it was agreed that in light of the mid December announcement from the Northern Assembly of €229 million allocation towards the upgrade of the N2-A5 road, that this Council seeks from Transport Infrastructure Ireland and the Department of Transport an update on what recent progress has occurred that will result in implementation of this road programme.

On the proposal of Cllr P. Treanor, seconded by Cllr Bennett, it was agreed that we invite Bus Eireann representatives to a Council meeting in relation to school transport issues.

A lengthy discussion took place on the national roads allocations for 2016 during which Mr. G. McMahon, Senior Executive Engineer, responded to queries from the members.

3. Management Report – December 2015

The members noted the Chief Executive's Report for December 2015 which had been circulated with the agenda.

4. To consider proposals for the future of the Council's Landfill facility at Scotch Corner.

Cllr McElvaney was not present in the meeting room for the duration of the debate on this item.

Mr. D. McKernan, Senior Executive Engineer gave a detailed presentation to the members during which he outlined detailed costings in relation to the various options that had previously been put to the members at Council meetings in September and November 2015. He circulated a detailed breakdown of the costings for each option.

OPTION	PERIOD FOR ACCEPTING MATERIAL	CAPACITY TONNES	PERIOD OF LIABILITY	OPERATIONAL COSTS FOR PERIOD	INCOME FOR PERIOD	PROFIT/ LOSS
1	2016	0	2016-2045	€15,537,369	€0	-€15,537,369
2	2017-2023	220000	2016-2053	€26,822,740	€6,952,000	-€19,870,740
3	2017-2025	295000	2016-2056	€31,801,562	€9,510,000	-€22,291,562

Following his presentation, Mr. McKernan responded to the queries raised by the members.

A lengthy debate followed during which a number of members contributed and voiced their opinions as to which options the Council should decide in the matter. Some members were of the opinion that the landfill should close and no further development be undertaken at the site. Other members expressed the view that every effort should be made to retain the landfill and develop a further cell. A number of members expressed concern that were only being presented with information when it was now too late to put a detailed plan of action in place – they stated that they should have been notified of the situation well in advance.

The following proposals were recorded during the debate:

Cllr Conlon proposed, Cllr Bennett seconded

- (i) That in regard to the potential opening up of a new cell at Scotch Corner, that this Council advertises for expressions of interest from consultants required to prepare necessary reports prior to applying to the Environmental Protection Agency.*

(ii) That the proposed meeting between the Council and the Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government is inclusive of an elected representative from each grouping.

Cllr O'Hanlon proposed, Cllr Maxwell seconded

That Monaghan County Council accept Option 1 in relation to the landfill at Scotch Corner – ie that this facility is closed in 2016.

Cllr Maxwell proposed, Cllr Gilliland seconded

That this Council seeks a package of measures from the Department of the Environment for the upkeep of the Scotch Corner landfill to 2045 if the landfill is closed.

Mr. A. King stated that it was not correct for members to state that the situation in relation to the closure of the landfill had not been brought to their attention in time to enable them to make an informed decision. Mr. King stated that the issue had been discussed in detail by the Council at a meeting, as far back as September 2012, when the Council took the decision to proceed to close the landfill facility. He said there would be no problem keeping the facility open, for another couple of years, if the Council didn't have to undertake the further capital investment to develop a new cell. He confirmed that the current cell was reaching capacity and that Scotch Corner will close for the purpose of taking in waste by mid 2016. He also confirmed that for the past number of years the Council had been scarcely able to get 20,000 tonnes of municipal solid waste (MSD) into the landfill (excluding repatriated waste). If there are issues nationally in relation to waste, he considered that Monaghan County Council should not ask its taxpayers to fund these problems.

Mr. J. Murray, Head of Finance advised that every day the facility is open, it's losing money for the Council. He stated that in 2015 while it was taking in €15,000 a week the landfill was making a loss.

On the proposal of Cllr Gallagher, seconded by Cllr Maxwell, it was agreed that the Council defer consideration of Cllr Conlon's and Cllr O'Hanlon's proposals until such time as a meeting is held with officials from the Department of the Environment to discuss the future viability of the Council's landfill.

It was agreed that the officials would pursue a meeting with Department officials before the February Council meeting, if at all possible.

5. To agree commencement of public consultation of draft variation regarding incorporation of the Departmental Manual for Urban Roads and Streets into Monaghan County Development Plan.

Mr. T. Gourley, Senior Executive Planning gave a presentation to the members in relation to this item. He explained that the Design Manual is mandatory for all local authorities and is applicable to all developments onto urban roads and streets within the 60km/h speed limit zone. The manual sets out practical design measures to shift emphasis from car centric urban design to ensure priority for pedestrian and cyclists, as well measures to support and

encourage more sustainable travel patterns in urban areas. Local authorities are required to ensure that the manual is implemented and thus the manual is required to be incorporated into the Monaghan County Development Plan. He added that the manual is already being implemented and that the incorporation of it into the development plan is necessary to bring it to the attention of developers, agents and other interested parties, and to formalise its status within the development plan.

As part of the variation process the public is consulted on the draft variation and he requested the consent of the Council to allow the document be placed on public display. The draft variation and submissions received would then be returned to the Council for consideration and adoption.

On the proposal of Cllr P. Treanor, seconded by Cllr S. Conlon it was agreed to recommend that the Council allow the draft variation to proceed to public consultation.

6. To receive Report on Flooding – December 2015.

At the outset, the Cathaoirleach and members complimented the Council's staff, both indoor and outdoor, the members of the Fire Service and the Civil Defence who worked so hard to assist people affected by the flooding.

The members considered the Report on Flooding prepared by the Council's Road Section which was circulated at the meeting. Mr. G. McMahon, Senior Executive Engineer outlined the contents of the report in detail to the members. He stated that the month of December will be recorded as the wettest December since records began across many parts of Ireland. Rainfall amounts recorded at Ballyhaise Weather Station (the closest weather monitoring station to Monaghan) was 270.9 mm, a 265% increase on the 3 year average. In addition rainfall was recorded on every day of the month. Storm Desmond and Storm Frank saw intense rainfall across the county over short time durations on land and water courses already close to capacity from a wetter than average November. He then outlined the effects of both Storms on the three Municipal Districts in the county and the actions undertaken by the Council across the three districts. Council staff responded to 95 call outs in December for flood related incidents and provided sandbags to vulnerable properties, closed roads where necessary and provided other supports as necessary. The Council's Fire Service and Civil Defence were also called upon to provide emergency support to the outdoor staff and the ambulance service.

Mr. McMahon explained that there are currently two avenues of funding available to local authorities for the delivery of flood relief schemes – the National Catchment Flood Risk Assessment and Management Programme and the OPW Minor Flood Mitigation Works and Coastal Protection Scheme. He stated that when the CFRAM programme is complete the Council will have to compete nationally for any funding that may be made available for capital works. The Council will continue to make application to the OPW for funding under the Minor Flood Mitigation scheme for suitable flood relief projects within the county.

On the proposal of Cllr McNally, seconded by Cllr Gallagher, it was agreed that this Council calls on An Taoiseach Enda Kenny T.D., to put in place a proper insurance scheme that will provide cover for any house-holders that have been refused insurance following them making a claim in the past. This should not be in the form of a levy on other insurance holders.

On the proposal of Cllr P. Treanor, seconded by Cllr McKenna, it was agreed that Council Engineers work closely with local farmers and landowners to identify blockages/debris in rivers in County Monaghan and help co-ordinate the work of clearing these waterways to reduce the risks of flooding.

On the proposal of Cllr Coyle, seconded by Cllr Gilliland, it was agreed that this Council immediately prioritises flooding prevention works to be carried out on the R190 Ballybay-Cootehill road at Corrybrennan, Cumry, Keenogbane and Lisnalong as the devastation being caused to local residences, farmers and business persons is outrageous with the safety threat to road users. Fortunately to date no lives have been lost but the risk of loss of life is enormous. This Council immediately seeks the funding for the application to alleviate these problems submitted to the Minister for Transport, Pascal Donohoe, T.D., in February 2015 by Ballybay Clones M.D.

On the proposal of Cllr Crowe, seconded by Cllr P. Treanor, it was agreed that this Council calls on the Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government and the Department of Agriculture for the re-introduction of a 'land drainage scheme'. This would help to prevent future flooding and could be implemented through the EU Rural Development Policy.

On the proposal of Cllr Connolly, seconded by Cllr S. Treanor, it was agreed that this Council calls on the Office of Public Works to take immediate measures to alleviate flooding in Monaghan Town that occurs after heavy rainfall.

On the proposal of Cllr O'Hanlon, seconded by Cllr Nally, it was agreed that in relation to flooding of 2011 and 2015/2016, areas, buildings and roads that have flooded on both occasions, that where applications are made to the Office of Public Works that monies for these floodings is automatically granted.

7. Audit Committee

(i) To approve Audit Committee Charter

On the proposal of Cllr Conlon, seconded by Cllr Bennett, it was agreed that the Council approve the Audit Committee Charter.

(ii) To approve Audit Committee Work Plan for 2016

On the proposal of Cllr Conlon, seconded by Cllr Bennett, it was agreed that the Council approve the Audit Committee Work Plan for 2016.

8. To approve recommendations and minutes from Corporate Policy Group meeting held on 3rd December, 2015.

On the proposal of Cllr P. Treanor, seconded by Cllr Gallagher it was agreed that the minutes of the Corporate Policy Group meeting held on 3rd December, 2015 be approved.

9. To consider request from South Monaghan Easter 1916 Centenary Committee for permission to use area of land in Carrickmacross for purpose of erecting a commemoration monument.

The members noted the documents circulated with the agenda in relation to the request from South Monaghan Easter 1916 Centenary Committee for a small area of ground at the Market Square in Carrickmacross to erect a monument to commemorate the events of the 1916 Rising.

On the proposal of Cllr Carthy, seconded by Cllr Crowe, it was agreed that the Council approve the transfer of a small plot of ground at Market Square, Carrickmacross for the purpose of erecting a monument to commemorate the 1916 Rising.

10. To receive reports from Members attending Conferences/Training events

The members noted the reports from Cllrs Bennett, Campbell, Conlon, McElvaney, McKenna, O'Hanlon and P. Treanor in relation to their attendance at the following conferences/training events:

- AILG Training (Water Services), Red Cow Inn, Dublin.
- AILG Training (Roads/Transportation), Cork.
- Budget 2016, Clonakilty, Cork
- AILG Training, (Roads/Transportation) Carrick-on-Shannon
- AILG Training (Water Services) Ballinasloe, Co. Galway.
- Celtic Conference event, Carlingford, Co. Galway
- LAMA Autumn Training Seminary, Kilkenny
- Urbact 111 Ireland Conference, Maynooth, Co. Kildare

11. Business submitted by Chief Executive.

Mr. A. King, Chief Executive gave a brief report on the outcome of the meeting, held in December 2015 with Cavan Monaghan Education and Training Board. The meeting was attended by the Cathaoirleach of Monaghan and Cavan County Councils, the Chief Executives of CMETB and Monaghan County Council and the Chairperson of the CMETB. The meeting discussed the Arts in Education Programme submitted to Monaghan County Council in October 2015. Key conclusions of the meeting included the importance and potential of an effective local Arts in Education Partnership; a commitment by all to proceed with the establishment of a local steering committee and supporting the Partnership in sourcing funding from national and EU sources to deliver agreed plans and programmes.

On the proposal of Cllr Bennett, seconded by Cllr Carthy it was agreed that Monaghan County Council keep the Arts Partnership as an item on the agenda into the future, so that Councillors will receive updates on the partnership quarterly.

Newly Appointed Chief Executive:

Mr. King confirmed that the newly appointed Chief Executive, Mr. Eamonn O'Sullivan would be taking up appointment with effect from Monday 25th January, 2016.

12. Matters arising out of the minutes of Council meetings held on 2nd, 10th and 20th November and 7th and 16th December, 2015.

Queries arising out of the minutes of the above mentioned meetings were responded to by the appropriate officials.

Cllr. Conlon informed the meeting that plans for 'Canada Day' to be held in Monaghan Town in July 2016 are at an advanced stage. He confirmed that the Canadian Ambassador will attend the event as will Professor Brendan O'Grady's son Thomas who is a Director of Irish Studies, at the University of Massachusetts, Boston.

It was noted that a meeting with representatives of Comhaltas Ceoltoiri Eireann and Monaghan County Council had been agreed for Thursday 28th January at 6pm in the Council meeting room in Mtek. Cllr Conlon requested that Jack Keyes, former Chief Executive, Cavan County Council and/or other officials from Cavan be invited to the meeting also. This was agreed. Cllrs R. Gallagher, S. Conlon, D. Maxwell and P. Connolly were nominated by the Council to attend the meeting, in addition to the Cathaoirleach.

13. To receive update on North South Interconnector project.

Cllr N. Keelan, Cathaoirleach updated the members in relation to this project. He proposed the following motion:

That this Council write to EirGrid and An Bord Pleanala, requesting that the further information requested by An Bord Pleanala on November 2015 and the response by EirGrid be made available on the website and on hard copy to the Council's Planning Section immediately in the interest of openness and transparency.

The motion was seconded by Cllr McNally and agreed unanimously.

14. To receive update on the Ulster Canal project.

On the proposal of Cllr P. Treanor, seconded by Cllr Connolly it was agreed that the Council write to Minister Heather Humphreys, T.D., and Minister Carál Ní Chuilín MLA asking if they have considered the Council's resolution relating to the expansion of the Interagency Forum to include elected representation from each of the local Councils along the Ulster Canal route and what is the outcome of their considerations.

15. Questions:

Cllr P. Connolly asked:

1. To ask Monaghan County Council in the aftermath of Storm Desmond and in view of the fact that €8m has been allocated by the Government to help with repairs associated with the storm damage
 - (a) Have Monaghan County Council calculated in monetary terms what level of damage has been caused by Storm Desmond?

Reply: A full investigation of all bridges and culverts will be required after the flooding has receded in order to evaluate the full cost of the flooding.

Cllr P. Connolly asked (contd):

- (b) Have Monaghan County Council applied to the Dept. of Environment for compensation to repair damage caused by the storm?

Reply: An application was made to the Department of the Environment to recoup the cost of wages and costs associated with the clean up works in the aftermath of the storm.

- (c) Are there any indications from the Dept. that Monaghan County Council will receive funding to offset the costs associated with the storm?

Reply: The Department of Environment in their letter of 17 Dec. 2015 stated that the costs of clean up works necessary in the aftermath of the flooding would be recouped. However, no commitment has been given to date in relation to repair of damage to public infrastructure.

2. What plans do Monaghan County Council have to take measures to reduce the risk to areas subject to flooding in 2016?

Reply: Monaghan County Council will continue to work with CFRAM in this regard and to utilise the OPW flood mitigation scheme in full for smaller projects that fall within its remit.

3. In relation to the recent litter campaign and the advertising of the helpline free phone number 1800200014 in Oct 2015:

- (a) How many calls have been received on this number?
(b) What actions have been taken as a result of these calls?

Reply: The Environment section has received no calls on the free phone number from 1 October to 31 December 2015.

Cllr C. Carthy asked:

4. Does Monaghan County Council envisage works to commence on the Group Home for persons with Physical and Sensory Disabilities in Carrickmacross in January?

Reply: Respond! Housing Association is in the process of appointing the Contractor for the construction of the Group Home for persons with Physical and Sensory Disabilities in Carrickmacross. The construction guarantee bond is currently being procured and Respond! Housing Association intends to submit the commencement notice during the week ending 15 January 2016. Respond! Housing Association has informed Monaghan County Council that "construction is programmed to commence on the 8th of February 2016".

Cllr C. Carthy asked (contd):

5. What does this Council intend to do with the money it receives from potential sales once the new 'Tenant Purchase Scheme' is introduced?

Reply: Money received from the sale of houses under tenant purchase schemes is called Internal Capital Receipts (ICRs). Approval is required from the Department of the Environment, Community & Local Government before ICRs are used and their use is strictly limited to housing work e.g. work prior to re-letting of houses and planned maintenance work to houses. The Department can also direct the Local Authority to use the ICRs to supplement capital projects such as the construction of new houses and in particular there is a requirement to use ICRs to part fund Remedial Works Schemes such as the one in progress at Mullaghmat in Monaghan town.

6. How many reports of homelessness has Monaghan County Council had to deal with/review in 2015 and how did 2015 compare to the previous 5 years?

Reply: Monaghan County Council had 71 Homeless presentations between 1st January 2015 and 15th December 2015. Of the 71 Homeless Presentations, 30 persons were provided with emergency accommodation and 41 persons assisted without the need to be placed in emergency accommodation.

Homeless presentations for the previous five years were as follows:

2014 – 42 Homeless presentations

2013 – 47 Homeless presentations

2012 – 74 Homeless presentations

2011 – 36 Homeless presentations

2010 – 52 Homeless presentations

Monaghan County Councils Homeless Section also assists other agencies and persons seeking advice and support, this is to try and ensure preventative measures are in place to limit the number of homeless presentation.

7. How many offers of tenancy were refused in 2015 and what were the most common reasons for refusal?

Reply: There were 52 refusals of offers of Social Housing by applicants in 2015. There were significant number of reasons given however the Local Authority have deemed that there were 37 unreasonable refusals and 15 reasonable refusals for the period.

Monaghan County Council take action to ensure that the houses are attractive to potential tenants and are provided in areas of their choices.

Cllr R. Gallagher asked:

8. Following on from the recent positive announcement of the securing of the €200,000 bond for the Knockcarrick housing estate in Annyalla can the Council outline what works will be carried out and the time-frame for same?

Reply: It is the intention of the planning section, in co-operation with Irish Water, to prepare a Site Resolution Plan (SRP) for the development, which will identify outstanding

issues and prioritise remedial works. The SRP will be processed through the standard procurement process, with the intention of commencing works on site in spring / summer 2016.

Cllr R. Gallagher asked:

9. What is the current position regarding Phase 3 of the Monaghan to Emyvale Road Scheme and what is the projected time frame for the completion of same?

Reply: The TII (NRA) has allocated €600,000 to this project for 2016.

10. In relation to the Monaghan Town Strategic Infrastructural Plan what is the current position and the time-frame for the completion of the project?

Reply: Currently we are undertaking a consultation process with interested stakeholders and the general public. An online questionnaire is available to the public to give feedback and ideas and this was publicised in the Northern Standard in late November.

Businesses, community groups and school were contacted directly by letter, including a questionnaire and freepost reply envelope. The responses are currently being considered. Further suggestions or ideas can be sent directly to transport@monaghancoco.ie. The development of a computer based traffic model for the town will be an on-going process.

The current timeframe for completion of the project is July 2016.

11. With regard to the rough sleepers count which took place in every county on the 30th November 2015 how many people were recorded as sleeping rough country wide and how many were recorded for County Monaghan?

Reply: Monaghan County Council undertakes an annual (National) rough sleeper's count. The 2015 count took place on the 30th November 2015 and there was no rough sleepers recorded in County Monaghan. At the moment Monaghan County Council does not have access to the national figure but will make available once received.

16. Notices of Motion:

It was agreed that consideration of Notices of Motion 16(1) – 16(5) be deferred to the February meeting

17. Votes of sympathy/congratulations:

There were no votes of sympathy/congratulations for consideration.

18. Conferences:

On the proposal of Cllr O'Hanlon, seconded by Cllr McNally it was agreed that the Council be represented at the following conference by the member listed.

Promoting Authority	Subject/Theme	Venue	Dates	Members Selected
Celtic Conferences	Housing Grants & Schemes	The Clonakilty Hotel Clonakilty Co. Cork	22 nd , 23 rd & 24 th January 2016	Cllr S. Coyle

Urgent Business:

On the proposal of Cllr Conlon, seconded by Cllr B. McKenna it was agreed that this Council calls on the Minister for Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht Heather Humphreys TD and the Minister for the Environment, Community and Local Government Alan Kelly TD to ensure that the areas around 10-25 Moore Street, Dublin are fully protected for the purpose of preserving locations associated with Easter 1916.

The meeting then concluded.

Signed: _____
Cathaoirleach

Meetings Administrator

Date: _____
