

Minutes of Meeting of Monaghan County Council held in the Council Meeting Room, Mtek 1, Monaghan on Monday 5th September, 2016 at 10.00 a.m.

Chair: Cllr P.J. O'Hanlon, Cathaoirleach.

Present: Cllrs. Aughey, Bennett, Campbell, Carthy, Conlon, Connolly, Coyle, Crowe, Gilliland, Keelan, Maxwell, McElvaney, B. McKenna, McNally, McPhillips, P. Treanor and S. Treanor.

Mr. E. O'Sullivan, Chief Executive, Mr. P. Clifford and Mr. A. King, Directors of Service, Mr. J. Murray, Head of Finance, Ms. P. Monahan, Financial Management Accountant, Mr. J. McKernan, A/Senior Engineer and Ms. C. Thornton, Meetings Administrator.

At the outset, the Cathaoirleach proposed that the sympathy of the Council be extended to the relatives of the Hawe family from Ballyjamesduff, Co. Cavan who died in tragic circumstances the previous week. The proposal was agreed unanimously by the Council. A minutes silence was observed and the meeting adjourned for a few minutes as a mark of respect.

Urgent Business:

The Cathaoirleach informed the members that he had received two notices of Urgent Business, as follows:

(1) Notice in the names of Cllrs Aughey, Coyle, McNally and O'Hanlon.

"That Monaghan County Council seek an immediate meeting with the Minister for Housing, Planning and Local Government, Simon Coveney T.D. to request the government to address the serious anomalies and deficiencies in the current Tenant Purchase Scheme, which are leaving thousands of families ineligible to purchase their homes i.e. Part V Homes, Social Welfare Only Income Homes and Voluntary Housing Association Tenants".

It was noted that a similar notice of motion had been included on the agenda for the meeting and in accordance with Standing Order 14.2.4 a notice of urgent business shall not be accepted if it relates to a notice of motion on the agenda.

A vote by show of hand resulted in 4 for 14 against. The Cathaoirleach declared the proposal to take urgent business defeated.

(2) Notice in the names of Cllrs Bennett, Carthy, Conlon, Crowe, Keelan, McKenna and P. Treanor.

Monaghan County Council calls on the Government to set up an Independent public inquiry to establish the details of the Irish state's tax deal with Apple which has seen a perceived €13 billion omitted from the Irish exchequer since 2003. We ask that this investigation is carried out separately to this appeal which has been proposed by the Government against the recent EU Commissions report.

A vote by show of hands resulted in 7 for 10 against and 1 abstention. The Cathaoirleach declared the proposal to take urgent business defeated.

1. Confirmation of Minutes

(i) Minutes of Council meeting held on 4th July, 2016

On the proposal of Cllr Maxwell, seconded by Cllr Crowe, it was agreed that the minutes of the Council meeting held on the 4th July, 2016, be confirmed.

(ii) Minutes of Special Council meeting held on 6th July, 2016

On the proposal of Cllr Coyle, seconded by Cllr P. Treanor, it was agreed that the minutes of the special Council meeting held on the 6th July, 2016, be confirmed.

2. Correspondence.

- Letter from the Chief Executive SEUPB outlining the approach of the body to the continued implementation of the PEACE and INTERREG Programmes following the result of the EU (Brexit) Referendum.
- Letter of acknowledgement from the Office of the Taoiseach in relation to the Council's motion supporting the exemption for Irish hauliers from the UK Road User levy.
- Letter of acknowledgement from Minister Shane Ross TD in relation to the Council's motion supporting the exemption for Irish hauliers from the UK Road User levy.
- Letter of acknowledgement from the North South Ministerial Council in relation to the Council's motion supporting the exemption for Irish hauliers from the UK Road User levy.
- Letter of acknowledgement from the British Irish Parliamentary Assembly in relation to the Council's motion supporting the exemption for Irish hauliers from the UK Road User levy.
- Email from Brendan Smith, T.D., enclosing response from Minister Shane Ross TD to the Council's request for a meeting to discuss roads funding.
- Letter of acknowledgement from the Office of the Taoiseach in relation to the Council's motion regarding the wishes of the Northern Ireland people to remain within the EU and to ensure the peace process is safeguarded.
- Letter of acknowledgement from the Minister for Arts, Heritage Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs in relation to grant aid for repairs to listed buildings.
- Letter of acknowledgement from the Minister for Agriculture in relation to the Council's resolution regarding super levy fines.
- Letter of acknowledgement from the Minister for Transport, Tourism & Sport in relation to the Council's resolution regarding the Sports Capital Programme.
- Letter from Deputy Caoimhghín Ó Caoláin in response to the Council's resolution regarding the status of cross border bodies and enclosing a copy of reply to a parliamentary question that he asked.
- Email from the Minister for Training, Skills and Innovation, John Halligan, T.D. offering a meeting with officials in his Department in relation to the School Transport Scheme.
- Letter of acknowledgement from the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade to Minister Humphreys, in relation to the Council's resolution on the UK Brexit Referendum.
- Letter from Minister Charles Flanagan T.D., in relation to the Council's resolution regarding the Brexit Referendum.

- Letter of acknowledgement from the Office of Arlene Foster MLA, in relation to the Council's request to reconsider the decision not to join the All Ireland Forum.
- Email from the office of the Minister for Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation acknowledging the Council's resolution calling on the Government to respect the wishes of the people of Northern Ireland in relation to the outcome of the UK Brexit Referendum.
- Letter of acknowledgement from the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine in relation to the Council's resolution regarding the Brexit Referendum.
- Letter of acknowledgement from the office of the Minister of State for Health in relation to the health risks associated with sugar consumption in products.
- Letter from the office of the Minister for the Environment, Community and Local Government regarding the Council's concern with the cost of the landfill levy.
- Letter from the office of Minister Simon Coveney TD regarding the Council's resolution calling on the Minister to remove the barrier preventing occupants of Part 5 houses buying their house.
- Letter from the Department of Housing, Planning Community and Local Government regarding the Council's resolution relating to the treatment of hard water.
- Email from Marian Harkin MEP giving information to the Council in relation to the issue of hard water.
- Letter from the Department of Social Protection regarding the Council's resolution relating to the provision of a centrally located Intreo Office in Co. Monaghan.
- Email from Brendan Smith, TD enclosing copy of reply to Parliamentary Question regarding Intreo Office in Ballybay.
- Letter from Niamh Smyth TD confirming support for the Council's resolution in relation to the completion of the N2 Monaghan-Emyvale realignment scheme.
- Letter from Senator Joe O'Reilly confirming support for the Council's resolution in relation to the completion of the N2 Monaghan-Emyvale realignment scheme.
- Letter from the Tydavnet Twinning Committee seeking a meeting to discuss the 25th anniversary of the Twinning with Geel Belgium.
- Letters from the Health Service Executive in relation to the Council's resolution regarding the use of St. Davnet's Campus for the U3A group.
- Letter from Leo Kinsella, HSE in relation to accommodation for the Monaghan U3A group on the St. Davnet's campus.
- Letter from the Ballybay-Clones MD calling on the Minister for Agriculture to act immediately to increase intervention prices.
- Letter from the Ballybay-Clones MD calling on EirGrid to withdraw the planning application for the North South Interconnector.
- Resolution from the Monaghan M.D., calling on the TII to provide a right turning lane on the N2 at Moyles, Castleshane.
- Resolution from Cork County Council in relation to the Global Valuation undertaken by the Valuation Office.
- Resolution from Cork County Council calling on the Department of Education to provide additional classes for students with an autism spectrum disorder.
- Resolution from South Dublin County Council calling on the Government to enact legislation that gives expression to and recognises the Traveller Community as a distinct Ethnic Group in Ireland.
- Resolution from Donegal County Council calling on the Taoiseach and the Government to clarify with the British Government that the North West Radiotherapy Unit will be available to all and that the vote on Brexit will not have any derailing effects on the service.

- Resolution from Leitrim County Council calling on the Minister to bring all future afforestation under the planning regulations regardless of the size of the plantation or its location.

The following correspondence was circulated at the meeting:

- Press release from Minister Heather Humphreys TD announcing funding of €115,935 towards upgrade and development works in Rossmore Forest Park, Monaghan.
- Letter from Minister Heather Humphreys TD in relation to the Council's resolution regarding a properly funded grant scheme for repairs to listed buildings.
- Letter from the IDA Ireland relating to the continued marketing of County Monaghan to relevant FDI opportunities, enquiries and potential investors
- Letter of acknowledgement from the Minister for Finance in relation to the Council's resolution regarding the outcome of the UK Brexit Referendum.
- Email from Deputy Ó Caoláin confirming support for the completion of the N2 Monaghan to Emyvale road realignment scheme.
- Email from Q4PR offering a presentation to the Council by the CEO of the Children's Hospital Group in relation to the new children's hospital.
- Email from Brendan Smyth TD enclosing copy of reply to Parliamentary Question regarding the proposed N2 Clontibret to the border road improvement scheme,

Proposals arising out of correspondence:

On the proposal of Cllr Coyle, seconded by Cllr Bennett it was agreed that Monaghan County Council fully endorse and support the request of the Members of the Ballybay/Clones Municipal District, for a meeting with the Minister for Social Protection Leo Varadkar T.D, to see the provision of the a Intreo Centre for county Monaghan - one of only two counties nationwide to not have this facility.

On the proposal of Cllr Coyle, seconded by Cllr P. Treanor it was agreed that Monaghan County Council adopts the Motion from Ballybay/Clones Municipal District calling on the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine to increase milk prices for farmers.

On the proposal of Cllr Coyle, seconded by Cllr P. Treanor it was agreed that Monaghan County Council adopts the Motion from Ballybay/Clones Municipal District calling on Eirgrid to withdraw their planning application for the North/South 400KV Interconnector.

On the proposal of Cllr Bennett, seconded by Cllr Carthy, it was agreed that Monaghan County Council writes again to Minister Simon Coveney, Minister for the Environment Community and Local Government, asking him to address the issue of hard water in County Monaghan. The Council notes that correspondence recently received from Mr Vella on behalf of the European Commission states that it is up to member states and their water authorities to address hard water supplies. Can Minister Coveney please re-examine the issue of hard-water as it presently costs households, families and businesses additional charges. Which are unfair and unjust and depends solely on your water supply.

On the proposal of Cllr Bennett, seconded by Cllr McKenna it was agreed that Monaghan County Council writes again to Minister Simon Coveney, Minister for the Environment Community and local Government firstly acknowledging the correspondence received and secondly asking him to urgently consider Councils motion to allow all Council tenants to

purchase their homes. Presently people living in "Part 5" Social houses (houses that were built as part of private developments), do not have the options to purchase their home under the tenants purchase scheme.

Cllr. Bennett proposed, Cllr Conlon seconded,

That Monaghan Council writes to Minister Simon Coveney, Minister for the Environment, Community and Local Government, requesting that the landfill levy is reduced until such time that the Poolbeg incinerator is operational. The current landfill levy is presently an unavoidable cost to landfill users and household as no other option is currently available. The cost is an additional cost to homeowners and families.

A vote by show of hands resulted in 9 for, 4 against – the Cathaoirleach declared the motion carried.

On the proposal of Cllr Connolly, seconded by Cllr S. Treanor, it was agreed that the Twinning Committee and officials from Monaghan County Council meet with Tydavnet Twinning group to discuss arrangements for a special 25 years celebration commemorating the anniversary of the Geel Twinning.

It was agreed that there would be a presentation from the Canada Day Group at the next Twinning Committee meeting.

On the proposal of Cllr Connolly, seconded by Cllr S. Treanor it was agreed that the Council adopt the resolution from Cork County Council on autism that where the NCSE identifies needs for special needs education that special education classes to match that needs to be provided.

On the proposal of Cllr B. McKenna, seconded by Cllr Conlon, it was agreed that the Council writes again to Mr Leo Kinsella of the H.S.E to enquire if the H.S.E have any plans to make the building, which had been occupied by the U3A group, compliant with Fire Regulations, with a view to re-allocating this building to that group.

On the proposal of Cllr Crowe, seconded by Cllr Keelan it was agreed that Monaghan County Council write to the Minister for Finance to ask with the Irish Government ensure that European Funding such as Interreg VA is maintained to 2020 to approved Interreg VA programmes already in the pipeline.

On the proposal of Cllr Carthy, seconded by Cllr Conlon, it was agreed that Monaghan County Council calls on The Minister for Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation and IDA Ireland to ensure Co. Monaghan is to the fore of their sales pitch to Foreign Direct Investment Companies looking to set up in Ireland. As this county has been one of the counties who have had some of the lowest levels of FDI and IDA visits for some years.

On the proposal of Cllr P. Treanor, seconded by Cllr Keelan, it was agreed that Monaghan County Council write to Minister Charles Flanagan acknowledging his letter on 11/07/16 and asking him to defend the "Remain" vote in the North.

On the proposal of Cllr P. Treanor, seconded by Cllr McElvaney it was agreed that the Council accepts the offer of a meeting with Department of Education officials to discuss the

School Transport Scheme and that the following members be nominated to attend the meeting – the Cathaoirleach, Cllr B. McKenna, Cllr Maxwell, Cllr Connolly and Cllr Coyle.

On the proposal of Cllr P. Treanor, seconded by Cllr McElvaney it was agreed that the Council writes to the Principals of all schools in County Monaghan and seek an accurate report of the difficulties in relation to school Transport.

On the proposal of Cllr Coyle, seconded by Cllr McNally it was agreed that Monaghan County Council requests the H.S.E to immediately appoint a dental surgeon to Clones, Co. Monaghan, for the provision of Dental Services, particularly 6th class pupils, as a great inconvenience is currently being caused to pupils, parents and residence of Clones and surrounding areas. Also the additional dental teams are appointed to ensure the delivery of a proper service to all 6th Class, 2nd class and 4th class as identify as priority groups.

It was also agreed that the Council members on the HSE Forum would raise this matter at the next meeting.

Cllr McPhillips proposed, Cllr Maxwell seconded, that Monaghan Country Council invites Eilish Hardiman CEO of Children’s Hospital Group and John Pollock, Project Director to the November Council meeting, to discuss progress on national children’s hospital.

A vote by show of hands resulted in 17 for, 1 against. The Cathaoirleach declared the motion carried.

On the proposal of Cllr McPhillips, seconded by Cllr Gilliland, it was agreed that Monaghan County Council seeks clarification as to who recommends that main hard water is not softened “en masse” as referred to in letter from Department of Housing, Planning, Community & Local Government dated 18th August 2016.

- 3. Part VIII of the Local Government (Planning & Development) Act** - To consider granting permission for the construction of a two storey Civil Defence H.Q. at Annaghagh, Monaghan (Ref 16/8001).

The members noted the report dated 22nd August, 2016 from the Senior Planner in relation to the construction of a two storey Civil Defence HQ at Annaghagh, Monaghan.

On the proposal of Cllr McPhillips, seconded by Cllr McKenna seconded, and it was agreed that the Council approve the granting of permission for the construction of a two storey Civil Defence HQ at Annaghagh, Monaghan (Ref16/8001), to comply with report dated 22nd August, 2016 and in accordance with Part VIII of the Local Government (Planning and Development) Regulations 2001.

A number of members paid tribute to the great work undertaken by the Civil Defence members in the County.

- 4. To consider setting the local adjustment factor for the Local Property Tax:**

The members considered Circular Fin 04/2016, together with report prepared by Mr. J. Murray, Head of Finance.

Mr. Murray explained that a local authority may, as a reserved function, resolve to vary the basic rate of the Local Property Tax within its functional area by a maximum of + / - 15%. Any decision by a local authority to vary the basic rate of Local Property Tax must be taken by 30th September. In determining the rate of LPT a local authority must take account of its financial position and have regard to a number of factors -

- The local authority's estimation of the income it will receive and the expenditure it will incur in the period for which LPT is to apply.
- The financial position of the local authority.
- Feedback from any consultation held.
- The financial effect of any variation to the rate of LPT.

Mr. Murray outlined the information relating to income and expenditure contained in the report and responded to queries from the members.

Cllr. Carthy proposed, Cllr. P. Treanor seconded

That Monaghan County Council reduce the 100% LPT by 7.50% for 2017.

Cllr Maxwell proposed, Cllr McNally seconded

That Monaghan County Council leaves the discretionary element of LPT at 15% for the coming year.

A vote by show of hands on Cllr Carthy's motion resulted in 8 for, 10 against. The Cathaoirleach declared the motion defeated. It was, therefore, not necessary to put Cllr Maxwell's proposal to the meeting.

5. To consider Road Traffic Special Speed Limit in Housing Estates Draft Bye laws No. 1 – 2016

The members noted the draft bye laws which had been circulated with the agenda. It was noted that the document had already been discussed at the CPG meeting the previous week, where it had been recommended for approval.

On the proposal of Cllr Maxwell, seconded by Cllr Bennett, it was agreed that the Council adopt the Road Traffic Special Speed Limit in Housing Estates Bye Laws No. 1 – 2016.

On the proposal of Cllr Connolly, seconded by Cllr McPhillips, it was agreed that the Council writes to the relevant Ministers recommending that a review of speed limits in estates with through roads be reviewed with a view to reducing speed limits from 50mph to 30mph.

6. To nominate two members to the Ulster Canal Advisory Forum.

The members noted the letter from the Department of Arts Heritage, Regional and Rural Development seeking the nomination of two members of the Council to the Ulster Canal Advisory Forum. The following members were proposed -

Cllr P. Treanor, Cllr S. Coyle and Cllr S. Gilliland.

As only two positions were available on the Advisory Forum, the Cathaoirleach stated that it was necessary to take a vote on the matter. A vote by show of hands resulted as follows:

<i>For Cllr P. Treanor</i>	<i>11</i>
<i>For Cllr Coyle</i>	<i>12</i>
<i>For Cllr Gilliland</i>	<i>7</i>

The Cathaoirleach declared Cllrs P. Treanor and S. Coyle nominated to the Ulster Canal Advisory Forum.

7. To nominate four members (one from each grouping) to the Monaghan Peace Campus Steering Committee.

The following members were nominated to the Monaghan Peace Campus Steering Committee:

Cllr D. Maxwell, Cllr S. Conlon, Cllr R. Aughey and Cllr P. Connolly.

8. Approval of PPN nominee to fill vacancy on the Social Cultural and Community SPC.

The members considered the recommendation from the Public Participation Network that Mr. Kevin Gartlan, Farney Community Development Group be nominated to fill the vacancy on the Social Cultural and Community Development SPC. The vacancy had arisen following the resignation of Anja Nohlen.

On the proposal of Cllr McNally, seconded by Cllr Campbell it was agreed that Mr. Kevin Gartlan, Farney Community Development Group, Carrickmacross be appointed to fill the vacancy on the Social, Cultural and Community Development SPC arising from the resignation of Anja Nohlen.

9. Town and Village Renewal Scheme 2016

The Members noted the details of the Town and Village Renewal Scheme outline which had been circulated with the agenda for the meeting.

It was agreed that the selection of relevant projects would be agreed at Municipal District level.

10. To receive Management Report – July/August, 2016:

The members considered the Management Report for July/August 2016. Queries raised by the elected members were responded to by the Chief Executive and appropriate officials.

On the proposal of Cllr McNally, seconded by Cllr Coyle, it was agreed that the Council invites officials from Tourism Ireland to a Council meeting to outline their plans for Monaghan Tourism under the recently established Ireland Ancient East promotion.

On the proposal of Cllr McNally, seconded by Cllr Treanor it was agreed that the Council lobby the Department of Agriculture to include hedge cutting along public roads in the Department's Code to good practices as well as asking that a system be put in place to assist local authority's to compile a proper date base for the purpose of annual notifications to land owners.

11. To approve Minutes and recommendations from CPG meeting held on 1st September, 2016

On the proposal of Cllr B. McKenna, seconded by Cllr P. Treanor it was agreed that the minutes of the CPG meeting held on 1st September, 2016 together with the recommendations contained therein, be approved.

12. To note minutes of meeting held on 4th July, 2016 with Minister Humphreys and officials from her Department.

The Members noted the minutes of the meeting held on 4th July between a delegation from the Council and Minister Humphreys and officials from her Department.

13. To receive reports from Members attending Conferences/Training events (attached)

The members noted the reports from Cllrs Connolly, Coyle, Keelan and McNally in relation to their attendance at the following conferences/training events:

- AILG Annual Conference, Bunrana, Co. Donegal.
- EBR Members Forum, Newry, Co. Down.
- AILG Training (Planning), Virginia, Co. Cavan.

14. Business submitted by Chief Executive.

There were no items discussed under this heading.

15. Matters arising out of the minutes of Council meetings held on 4th and 6th July, 2016

There were no matters raised under this item.

16. To receive update on North South Interconnector project.

The members noted the letter from An Bord Pleanala advising that the Board intends to determine the planning application for the North South Interconnector before the 20th September, 2016.

17. To receive update on the Ulster Canal project.

It was noted that an Ulster Canal Advisory Forum had been established and that the Council had nominated two members to the forum, earlier in the meeting.

18. To receive Presentation from Adrian Harney, Office of Public Works on the CFRAM project.

The Cathaoirleach welcomed Aidan Harney and Stephen Jones from the Office of Public Works and Alan Barr from RPS Consultants and invited them to address the Council in relation to the CFRAM project.

Mr. Harney outlined the process involved in the preparation of the draft flood risk management plans. He then briefly outlined the plan structure and content and the recommendations for Co. Monaghan. He urged local authorities and the public to engage in the process as their input was critical to the success of the plans. The draft plans are available to view at the offices of Monaghan County Council and on line at www.opw.ie/floodplans. Mr. Harney stated that public consultation meetings on the draft plans would be held on the following dates:

- 28 September 2016 2-7pm North-Western/Neagh-Bann Four Seasons Hotel, Monaghan Town, Co. Monaghan Monaghan Monaghan Town / Ballybay
- 29 September 2016 2-7pm North-Western/Neagh-Bann Civic Office, Riverside Road, Carrickmacross, Co. Monaghan Monaghan Carrickmacross / Inniskeen

Following the presentation Mr. Harney and Mr. Barr responded to queries from the elected members.

The Cathaoirleach thanked Mr. Harney, Mr. Barr and Mr. Jones for giving the briefing and urged the public to engage in the consultation process.

19. Questions:

Cllr Colm Carthy asked:

1. Can you confirm the number of cases of homelessness that has been presented to Monaghan County Council in the first 6 months of 2016 and how do these numbers compare to the same period of 2015?

Reply: There were 49 presentations in this period, some of the presentations were families but the actual number of presentations in this period was 49.

2. As of the start of Q3 2016, how many applicants are on the Monaghan County Housing list (including those on the HAP scheme) and what is the breakdown for each Municipal District?

Reply: There are currently 1,311 on the Social Housing list, this includes the HAP Transfer applicants and RAS applicants who have applied for a transfer.

552 – Monaghan Municipal

208 – Ballybay Clones Municipal

551 – Castleblayney Carrickmacross Municipal.

3. Have all HAP Scheme tenants been notified of the rate limit changes recently introduced?

Reply: As soon as Monaghan County Council was notified by the Department of the rate changes all HAP Applicants were informed.

4. How many fines have been issued for littering offences in Co. Monaghan in the first 6 months of 2016?

Reply: 60 fines have been issued by Monaghan County Council for the first 6 months of the year.

5. When does Monaghan County Council envisage works to start on the refurbishment of the Market Square/Old Library in Carrickmacross?

Reply: Monaghan County Council, together with the Lace Co-operative will progress this project when an appropriate source of funding becomes available.

Cllr. P. Connolly asked:

6. Other than as a result of a requested road closure by an Garda Síochána, how many RTA's have been reported by An Garda Síochána and the general public to Monaghan County Council in the past year?

Reply: Monaghan County Council does not receive direct reports from An Garda Síochána, except when assistance is required in a clean up operation after an accident, and this is done via the Municipal Districts. The TII reports annually all accidents by An Garda Síochána from their Pulse System.

Cllr S. Conlon asked:

7. In an effort at enhancing the urban environment and increasing the ratings in the Tidy Town and IBAL competitions, what progress has been made regarding the issuance of thirteen Derelict Sites Notices served in June? Have additional Notices been served following the comprehensive review of the Sites Register as referred to at the July monthly meeting?

Reply:

Notices of Intention to register properties on the Derelict Sites Register were issued in June 2016 in respect of 13 No buildings. Of those 13 notices, 11 properties were served with Section 8(7) Notices, entering them onto the Derelict Sites Register. The two remaining properties were not entered onto the register as the owners were either in negotiations with the Council or the properties were in the process of being sold. Furthermore, 9 of those 11 were then issued with Section 11 Measures Notices

at the beginning of August and the owners given a period of time to carry out the works. In respect of four of these properties, it was necessary to recommence the process as new ownership details have emerged.

Since June, 4 No additional Section 8(2) Notices of Intention to register properties on the Derelict Sites Register have been served, one of which has now been entered onto the Register.

The process of reviewing the Derelict Sites Register remains on-going.

8. What is the total number of housing applications on file for social housing throughout the county, giving a breakdown per urban Centre. Please include the number of former applicants who have been transferred to and accommodated through the RAS and HAP schemes.

Reply: As of the 26/08/2016, there are 1,311 households on the Monaghan County Council waiting list. This is broken down further in to MD's. The information in relation to individual urban centres is not available.

There have been 250 HAP and 257 RAS (166 private and 91 voluntary) households respectively accommodated through HAP and RAS.

9. Regarding the crisis in the lack of social housing throughout the county, and in reference to Pillar 2 of the governments recently launched 'Rebuilding Ireland Action Plan' that will increase the level and speed of delivery of social housing, are Monaghan County Council in a position to immediately submit applications to the Department that will avail of the '*Extensive supports for Local Authorities*' and '*Streamlined approval process*' as stated in the plan as key actions?

Reply: A presentation is being made at the October Council meeting in which Monaghan County Council's response to the document "Rebuilding Ireland" – will be outlined. This will include specific details in respect of how the authority is and will accelerate Social Housing delivery.

Cllr S. Conlon asked:

10. In an effort at reducing the negative visual impact of empty commercial properties, will Council Executive agree to introducing a Long Term Vacant Property Incentive Scheme and additional schemes in ensuring job retention, and creation of additional employment opportunities?

Reply: While there are currently no plans to introduce a vacant property incentive scheme, it may be appropriate in the first instance, that the principle and details of any such proposed scheme should be considered by the relevant Strategic Policy Committee.

Cllr. C. Bennett asked:

11. In relation to the recent launch of the Town and Village Renewal Scheme:
- How do towns and villages in County Monaghan access this funding?
 - What is the criteria for this funding?
 - What is the closing date for application?
 - What type of projects would be considered?

Reply: Details of the scheme are contained in the document 'Town and Village Renewal 2016 Scheme Outline'. These can be summarised as follows;

- The process for funding includes identification of town/village projects, establishing a Town/Village Project Renewal Committee, conducting a Health-Check on the Town/Village and agreeing project works.
- The allocation for County Monaghan is €380,000 to be spread over a maximum of 8 town/village projects.
- There is a maximum grant €100,000, and minimum grant €20,000, at least 15% of which must be match funded by Local Authority.
- There are 2 categories of eligible towns/villages:
 - Category 1: Towns/villages with population of less than 5,000
 - Category 2: Towns with population between 5,000 and 10,000
- The closing date for applications is end of September 2016. Expenditure must be completed by end of December 2016.

The types of projects covered:

- Consultation
- Streetscape and environmental enhancement
- Enhancement of heritage and other community assets
- Shop front enhancement
- Development of quality marks
- Provision/enhancement of leisure facilities
- Car parking improvements
- Town safety and accessibility enhancements
- Training initiatives
- Branding and marketing
- Targeted action to tackle minor infrastructural deficiencies

Cllr. C. Bennett asked:

12. In relation the Governments housing plan 'Rebuilding Ireland':
- What are the plans for County Monaghan?
 - Is there a breakdown of plan?
 - How and where will it add to the housing shortage in County Monaghan?
 - When will these plans and houses be in place?

Reply: A presentation will be made at the October Council Meeting where the questions raised will be addressed.

Cllr. B. Mc Kenna asked:

13. In relation to the site inspection of the MRF and the Civic Waste Facility at Scotch Corner by the EPA on 9/2/2016, and the subsequent report, what sanctions, if any, have been imposed on the contractor in relation to the breaches of the licence conditions.

Reply: The licence for the Scotch Corner site which incorporates the landfill facility, the MRF and the Civic Amenity site was issued to Monaghan County Council by the EPA. The caretaking contract between Monaghan County Council and the contractor provides no provision for sanctions in relation to a breach of license conditions.

Cllr. B. Mc Kenna asked:

14. Were staff or indeed the general public who use the MRF made aware that asbestos was being processed in the MRF?

Reply: Asbestos is not processed on site. The asbestos waste that was brought to the MRF was a once off incident. It should be noted that the asbestos was double wrapped and properly packaged on arrival and was only stored on site prior to its subsequent removal to an appropriately licensed facility.

15. Records of domestic and commercial mixed waste from commercial waste collection vehicles was not weighed either on arrival or upon departure from the MRF, which was in breach of Condition 10.6 of the licence. This lack of oversight and management is, and should be of major concern. What steps have been taken to address this manner?

Reply: Monaghan County Council has been liaising with the EPA on this issue following the site inspections of February 9th 2016 and June 15th 2016. Whilst Monaghan County Council had not been weighing loads outside of weighbridge office working hours, the details of these particular loads were always subsequently forwarded to Monaghan County Council. On the basis of the EPA site inspection reports and subsequent discussions with the EPA, Monaghan County Council has now put in place a revised protocol that has been agreed with the EPA.

16. Black bin waste as well as mixed unsorted skip waste from waste collection vehicles was being accepted for transfer to onward destinations, which was in breach of Condition 5.10.1 of the licence. What guarantees can this council give that the MRF will only be used for recyclables, and not used as a transfer station for waste?

Reply: Following confirmation from the EPA in February 2016 that the MRF cannot be used as a transfer station for waste, Monaghan County Council subsequently informed the contractor of this clarification both verbally and in writing. Black bin waste is no longer accepted or stored at the MRF but continues to be accepted at the Civic Amenity site in accordance with our license conditions.

Cllr. J. Crowe asked:

17. Would Monaghan County Council National Roads Section investigate the dilemma of a farmer in Moneyvolan, Annyalla who finds himself in a very dangerous situation because of the constant closures of the Castleblayney By Pass due to maintenance works, accidents etc. This farmer applied at the time of the building of the road for an underpass across the road at Moneyvolan on the now old N2 and was refused.

Reply: This is no longer a national road and therefore funding would not be available from the TII. The opening of the Castleblayney Bypass in 2007 changed the status of the old N2 to a local primary category road.

20. Notices of Motion:

Cllr McNally proposed, Cllr Coyle seconded, and it was resolved,

- (1) *In light of the huge increase in the theft of farm machinery i.e. tractors, jeeps & trailers as well as livestock, that this Council call on the Minister for Agriculture, Michael Creed, TD to introduce grant aid to help farmers put proper security in place, i.e. camera's, trackers and security fencing.*

Cllr Connolly proposed, Cllr McNally seconded, and it was resolved,

- (2) *That Monaghan County Council write to the insurance industry that young people who have been named on their parents car insurance be credited with driving experience and reduced cost of motor insurance.*

Cllr Campbell proposed, Cllr Maxwell seconded, and it was resolved,

- (3) *That Monaghan County Council calls on the Department of Environment to consider the introduction of a levy on disposal of coffee/tea cups similar to that which was introduced on plastic bags to discourage littering.*

Cllr Coyle proposed, Cllr McNally seconded, and it was resolved,

- (4) *That Monaghan County Council demands of the Minister for Social Protection, Leo Varadkar TD, Michael Noonan, TD, and the government, the payment in full of the Christmas bonus to all Social Welfare and Children's Allowance recipients for Christmas 2016, as an indication of economic recovery and reward to the less well off members of society, who suffered greatly from government cuts in expenditure in the last number of years.*

It was agreed that the resolution would be circulated to all local authorities.

Cllr Carthy proposed, Cllr Keelan seconded, and it was resolved

- (5) *That Monaghan County Council ensures that any future publicly funded building projects, accessible to the public, will have properly designed Disabled Access toilet facilities which will include a 1m clearance on both sides of the lavatory (allowing those who may be able-bodied on one side and/or for those who need assistance to use it) and a changing bench at 1.9m long with washable upholstered surface. We also call on the government to introduce the above steps in the building regulations for privately built facilities that will be open to the public.*

Cllr Connolly proposed, Cllr Maxwell seconded, and it was resolved,

- (6) *That in view of the fact that road traffic accidents are not reported directly to Monaghan County Council, except in cases where road closures are requested by an Garda as a result of a RTA, and in order to establish a database of where accidents occur and with a view to improving road safety, that Monaghan County Council liaise with an Garda Siochana at regular intervals regarding RTA locations and whether road conditions etc, may have been a contributory factor.*

Consideration of Notices of Motion 20 (7) and(8) was deferred to the next meeting.

21. Votes of sympathy:

It was agreed that the sympathy of the Council be extended to the following:

- John and Declan McKernan on the death of their mother Anna McKernan, RIP
- Thomas Murray, Council employee on the death of his brother Michael Murray RIP
- Damien Douglas, Council employee on the death of his mother Florence Douglas, RIP.
- Deirdre Power, Council employee on the death of her mother Dympna McNally, RIP.
- Thomas O'Reilly, a member of Fermanagh/Omagh Council on the death of his mother Peggy, RIP.

It was agreed that a vote of congratulations be extended to the following:

- Fr. Stephen Duffy, Ballybay on the occasion of his ordination to the priesthood.
- Fr. Kevin Malcolmson, Swann's Cross on the occasion of his ordination to the priesthood.
- Latton O'Rahilly's GFC on winning the 2016 Minor Football Championship and League Division 3.
- Donaghmoynne Ladies GFC on winning the 2016 Monaghan Senior Football Championship.
- Truagh Ladies GFC on winning the 2016 Monaghan Intermediate Football Championship.
- Latton Ladies GFC on winning the 2016 Monaghan Junior Football Championship
- Carrickmacross Emmett's GFC on winning the Division 1 and Division 5 Coyle Cup Under 12 Competition; the U16 Division 1 Shield and the Division 2 Minor Championship.
- Shirley Clerkin, Heritage Officer and her staff for such a superb Heritage Week in Co. Monaghan and to all the volunteers that helped out and to the public that attended in such numbers.

22. Conferences/Training:

On the proposal of Cllr Carthy, seconded by Cllr McNally, it was agreed that the Council be represented at the following conferences by the members listed:

Promoting Authority	Subject/Theme	Venue	Dates	Members Selected
AILG	Local Authority Housing with a briefing from the Dept. of Housing, Planning, Community & Local Government	Galway	6 th September 2016	Cllr. S. Coyle Cllr. P. McNally Cllr. P. Connolly Cllr. J. Crowe Cllr. C. Carthy Cllr. N. Keelan Cllr. S. Conlon Cllr. P. Treanor Cllr. B. McKenna Cllr. D. Maxwell Cllr. S. Gilliland
Celtic Conferences	Domestic Water Saving & Conservation Techniques	The Clonakilty Hotel, Clonakilty, Co. Cork.	23 rd to 25 th September 2016	Cllr. C. McPhillips Cllr. A. Campbell Cllr. P. McNally
LAMA	2016 Autumn Seminar	Westlodge Hotel, Bantry, Co. Cork	30 th September & 1 st October 2016	Cllr. S. Coyle Cllr. P. McNally Cllr. PJ O'Hanlon Cllr. P. Connolly Cllr. C. Carthy Cllr. N. Keelan Cllr. B McKenna Cllr. C. Bennett Cllr. J Crowe Cllr. S. Conlon Cllr. C. McPhillips Cllr. D. Maxwell Cllr. S. Gilliland Cllr. A. Campbell

The meeting then concluded.

Signed _____
Meetings Administrator

Date _____

Signed _____
Cathaoirleach

Date _____