

Minutes of Meeting of Monaghan County Council held in the Council Chamber, Mtek Building, Armagh Road, Monaghan on Monday 10 July, 2017 at 10.00 a.m.

Chair: Cllr C. Bennett, Cathaoirleach

Present: Cllrs. Aughey, Campbell, Carthy, Crowe, Gilliland, Keelan, Maxwell, McElvaney, B. McKenna, McNally, O'Hanlon, P. Treanor and S. Treanor.

Mr. J. Murray, Deputy Chief Executive, Mr. P. Clifford and Mr. A. King, Directors of Services, Ms. P. Monahan, A/Director of Service, Mr. A. Hughes, Senior Planner, and Ms. C. Thornton, Meetings Administrator.

Apology: Cllr S. Conlon, Cllr P. Connolly

1. Confirmation of Minutes

(i) Minutes of Council meetings held on 12th June and 19th June, 2017

On the proposal of Cllr S. Treanor seconded by Cllr McKenna, it was agreed that the minutes of the Council meeting held on the 12th June 2017, be confirmed.

(ii) On the proposal of Cllr P. Treanor seconded by Cllr B. McKenna it was agreed that the minutes of the Annual Council meeting held on the 19th June, 2017, be confirmed.

2. Correspondence.

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

- Letter from the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment in response to the Council's resolution regarding littering and illegal dumping.
- Letter from the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine in response to the Council's resolution regarding GLAS & AEOS payments.
- Letter of acknowledgement from the Office of the Taoiseach regarding Rebuilding Ireland Targets.
- Letter of acknowledgement from Office of the Taoiseach regarding Brexit Fund for Business Supports.
- Letter from the Office of the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade regarding Brexit fund for Business Support.
- Letter of acknowledgement from the Department of Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government regarding the National Planning Framework.
- Letter of acknowledgement from the Office of the Minister for Social Protection regarding the re-instating of the telephone allowance and reduction of ESB units.
- Letter of acknowledgement from the Office of the Minister for Social Protection regarding Community Employment Schemes.
- Letter of congratulations from URBACT on Monaghan County Council receiving the URBACT Good Practice label.
- Letter from Department of Transport to Deputy Niamh Smyth regarding the N2 Clontibret to the Border Road Scheme.

- Letter from TII to Deputy Niamh Smyth regarding the N2 Monaghan to Emyvale Phase 3 scheme.
- Copy of responses to Dáil Questions from Deputy Niamh Smyth relating to the A5/N2 and the inclusion of County Monaghan on the IDA agenda.
- Resolution from Sligo County Council requesting AILG to provide a briefing to elected members on “The role, funding and activities of the Local Government Management Agency”
- Notice of Motion from Tipperary Council calling on the Minister for Health to take necessary measures to make Regional Health Forum Committees relevant.

The following additional correspondence was circulated at the meeting:

- Letter from the Office of the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade regarding Brexit meeting request.
- Resolution from Sligo County Council calling on Government to prioritise ratifying the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

Proposals arising out of correspondence:

On the proposal of Cllr McKenna, seconded by Cllr P. Treanor, it was agreed that the Council writes to Minister Shane Ross requesting that he use his good efforts to have the Clontibret to the N.I. Border Road Scheme included in the reviews of the Capital Plan which is in progress.

On the proposal of Cllr P. Treanor, seconded by Cllr Carthy, it was agreed that Monaghan County Council accepts the invitation to attend the URBACT event in Tallinn, Estonia on the 3rd October 2017 and that the Council be represented by the Cathaoirleach, Cllr Cathy Bennett.

3. To consider the following disposals under Section 183 of the LG Act 2001:

(i) Disposal of 0.0133545 hectares at 10 Sruth an Mhuilinn, Emyvale

On the proposal of Cllr McKenna, seconded by Cllr Maxwell, it was unanimously agreed that the Council approve the disposal of 0.0133545 hectares at 10 Sruth an Mhuilinn, Emyvale in accordance with the terms of notice dated 23rd June, 2017 under Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001.

(ii) Disposal of 0.0121 hectares at Drummond Otra, Carrickmacross

On the proposal of Cllr McNally, seconded by Cllr Campbell, it was unanimously agreed that the Council approve the disposal of 0.0121 hectares at Drummond Otra, Carrickmacross in accordance with the terms of notice dated 23rd June, 2017 under Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001.

(iii) Disposal of 0.46 hectares at Drummond Otra, Carrickmacross

On the proposal of Cllr O’Hanlon seconded by Cllr Carthy, it was unanimously agreed that the Council approve the disposal of 0.46 hectares at Drummond Otra, Carrickmacross in accordance with the terms of notice dated 23rd June, 2017 under Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001.

Cllr Carthy proposed, Cllr Keelan seconded that Monaghan County Council calls on the Executive to earmark a portion of the land adjacent to the Carrickmacross Civic Offices, Library and the CTEK building for use as a suitable for all age's public amenity (eg swimming pool, cinema etc).

A vote by show of hands on Cllr Carthy's proposal resulted in 6 for 7 against. The Cathaoirleach declared the motion defeated.

4. Notice to consider Proposed Developments under Part VIII of the Planning and Development Regulations, 2001 (as amended) and Section 179 of the Planning & Development Act 2000 (as amended)

- (a) To consider granting permission to remove old and erect new lighting columns, resurface car parking areas, install new flower beds and all associated site works at Drummond Otra & Drummond Etra Carrickmacross - 17/8004

The members noted the report that had been circulated with the agenda in relation to proposed development at Drummond Otra & Drummond Etra Carrickmacross - 17/8004

On the proposal of Cllr McNally, seconded by Carthy, it was agreed that the Council approve the granting of planning permission to remove old and erect new lighting columns, resurface car parking areas, install new flower beds and all associated site works at Drummond Otra & Drummond Etra Carrickmacross (Ref 17/8004) to comply with the report from the A/Director of Services, in accordance with Part VIII of the Local Government (Planning and Development) Regulations 2001 (as amended).

- (b) To consider granting permission to construct new walkway and cycle way, construct new car parks, removal of existing hedge, installation of new timber rail fence, the installation of pedestrian crossing and all associated site works at Tullynaskeagh East, Carrickmacross Ref 17/8005

The members noted the report that had been circulated with the agenda in relation to proposed development at Tullynaskeagh East, Carrickmacross (Ref 17/8005).

On the proposal of Cllr Campbell, seconded by Carthy, it was agreed that the Council approve the granting of planning permission to consider granting permission to construct new walkway and cycle way, construct new car parks, removal of existing hedge, installation of new timber rail fence, the installation of pedestrian crossing and all associated site works at Tullynaskeagh East, Carrickmacross (Ref 17/8005) to comply with the report from the A/Director of Services, in accordance with Part VIII of the Local Government (Planning and Development) Regulations 2001 (as amended).

- (c) To consider granting permission to refurbish Clones Market House, as office accommodation for the Ballybay-Clones Municipal District staff at Crossmoyle Clones. Ref 17/8006

The members noted the report that had been circulated with the agenda in relation to the proposed refurbishment of Clones Market House, as office accommodation for the Ballybay-Clones Municipal District staff at Crossmoyle Clones. Ref 17/8006

On the proposal of Cllr P. Treanor, seconded by Gilliland, it was agreed that the Council approve the granting of planning permission refurbish Clones Market House, as office accommodation for the Ballybay-Clones Municipal District staff (Ref 17/8006) at Crossmoyle, Clones, to comply with the report from the A/Director of Services, in accordance with Part VIII of the Local Government (Planning and Development) Regulations 2001 (as amended).

5. To consider Material Contraventions to the County Monaghan Development Plan 2013-2019

- (i) Permission to construct a replacement dwelling; amended design and the retention of the existing farm dwelling for Agricultural use (as previously approved under Planning Ref 16/349) – at Tullyhirm, Armagh Road – (Name of Applicants Martin & Pauline McVicar)

Mr. A. Hughes, Senior Planner referred to the report that had been circulated with the agenda for the meeting. He stated that the report recommended the granting of planning permission for the proposed development, subject to seven conditions. He further stated that, in order to grant the permission, three-quarters of the membership of the Council must vote in favour of the proposal.

Cllr McElvaney proposed, Cllr Maxwell seconded

That the Council approve a Material Contravention of the Monaghan County Development Plan 2013-2019 to grant planning permission, subject to the conditions specified, to Martin and Pauline McVicar, Tullyhirm, Armagh Road, Monaghan (Ref 17/181)

The proposal was put to the meeting and it was agreed unanimously.

- (ii) Permission to erect a new two storey extension to the existing food facility site works will include landscape reinforcement at the southern boundary, storm & foul drainage, minor amendments to road and associated works (previously approved under planning reference 10/30013), car parking provision, new service yards and walls, with any other ancillary site works at Mullaghduin, Monaghan – Name of Applicant Arthur Mallon Foods.

Mr. Hughes referred to the report that had been circulated with the agenda for the meeting. He stated that the report recommended the granting of planning permission for the proposed development, subject to thirteen conditions. He further stated that, in order to grant the permission, three-quarters of the membership of the Council must vote in favour of the proposal.

Cllr Maxwell proposed, Cllr McElvaney seconded

That the Council approve a Material Contravention of the Monaghan County Development Plan 2013-2019 to grant planning permission, subject to the conditions specified, to Arthur Mallon Foods, Mullaghduin, Monaghan (Ref 17/202).

The proposal was put to the meeting and it was agreed unanimously.

6. To consider proposed Variation No. 6 to Monaghan County Development Plan 2013-2019 to incorporate Dublin Street Regeneration Plan.

Ms. M. Cullinan, Executive Planner gave a detailed presentation to the members on the proposed Dublin Street Regeneration Plan. The purpose of the plan is to provide guidance on the regeneration options for the future development of the Dublin Street Regeneration Plan area. A Variation to the County Development Plan is required to give statutory basis to the plan and it was intended to bring the variation to the July Council meeting.

She stated that the plan was presented in committee to the Monaghan Municipal District members on the 15th May and was circulated to Dublin Street landowners and residents and the Town Team on the 16th May. A landowner consultation clinic on the 29th May was attended by six landowners and approximately 45 persons attended a public consultation meeting on the 29th May. Submissions on the plan were invited by the 9th June – one submission was received which was summarised in the report circulated to the Council.

She recommended that the proposed variation be put on display and that submissions be invited from the public. A report will be brought back to the September Council meeting.

Cllr Maxwell requested that the public consultation process be extended until after August to allow for the holiday period. This was agreed.

On the proposal of Cllr Maxwell, seconded by Cllr McKenna, it was agreed that the proposed Variation No 6 of the Monaghan County Development Plan 2013-2019 incorporating the development plans for Monaghan, Castleblayney, Carrickmacross, Clones and Ballybay – Dublin Street Regeneration Plan - be advertised publicly and submissions/comments invited from the general public.

7. To consider proposed taking in charge of Knockcarrick Estate, Annyalla and associated roads, footpaths, public lighting, sewerage services and open space areas

Mr. A. Hughes referred to the report that had been circulated.

On the proposal of Cllr McKenna, seconded by Cllr Campbell, it was agreed that the Council approve the taking in charge of Knockcarrick Estate, Annyalla and associated roads, footpaths, public lighting, sewerage services and open space areas.

8. To approve minutes and recommendations from CPG meeting held on 20th June, 2017

On the proposal of Cllr Maxwell, seconded by Cllr McKenna, it was agreed that the minutes of the CPG meeting held on 20th June, 2017 and the recommendations contained therein be approved.

9. To adopt the Draft Monaghan County Council Library Development Plan 2017-2022

Ms. C. Elliott, A/County Librarian gave a comprehensive overview of the Draft County Library Development Plan 2017-2021, during which she outlined the main objectives of the draft plan. The Plan sets out a clear vision for the development of Monaghan County Library Service over the next five years. The Plan has been prepared in accordance with the Local Government Act 2001

(Section 78) and is set within a framework of six key strategic aims and associated actions. Each aim of the plan is focussed on a key area of activity for the years ahead. Ms. Elliott responded to queries from the elected members.

The Cathaoirleach thanked Ms. Elliot for a very informative presentation.

On the proposal of Cllr Treanor, seconded by Cllr Keelan it was agreed that the draft Monaghan County Library Development Plan 2017-2021, be adopted.

10. To receive the Draft Road Safety Plan 2017-2020

Mr. Adrian O’Sullivan, Road Safety Officer explained that the Road Safety Working Together Group had been established under Action 43 & 44 of the ‘National Road Safety Strategy 2013-2020’. The role of the Working Group was to co-ordinate a multi-agency road safety policy and implementation at a local level. The Group was also required to produce and implement a Road Safety Action Plan for County Monaghan for the period 2017 – 2020, which is complementary to the national strategy, outlining the actions to be undertaken to improve the safety of our roads in the County and that Report was now being presented to the Council.

Mr. O’Sullivan stated that the main objective of the Road Safety Plan was to reduce the number of fatalities and serious injuries incurred by County Monaghan road users, in line with national casualty reduction targets. He then gave an overview of the contents of the plan and explained that there were a total of 65 Actions contained within it divided across the four “E’s” of Road Safety – Education; Engineering; Enforcement and Evaluation.

He stressed that road safety is a shared responsibility which requires co-operation and co-ordination by state agencies, the general public and business sector working together at national, regional and local level to develop effective and innovative initiatives and interventions. Each road user must ensure their own personal safety and responsible road use while contributing to the safety of others.

Mr. O’Sullivan then responded to queries from the elected members.

On the proposal of Cllr McKenna, seconded by Cllr P. Treanor, it was agreed that this Council lobby T11 and Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport to have N2 brought up to motorway standards as the ultimate goal to eliminate the loss of life on our National primary route through Monaghan.

The Cathaoirleach thanked Mr. O’Sullivan for his presentation.

11. To receive the Draft Environmental Enforcement Policy 2017

Ms. P. Monahan, A/Director of Services referred to the Draft Environmental Enforcement Policy which had been circulated to the members. The draft policy, which had been first prepared in 2008 and updated recently, had been considered by the Environment and Transport SPC and had been recommended for noting by the Council. The purpose of the policy document is to ensure that all environmental enforcement functions such as fly tipping, littering, domestic or commercial waste offences, water pollution and air pollution offences are integrated into one

policy document and to be cognisant of changes in legislation, such as the introduction of fixed penalty notices in the intervening years.

It was agreed that the Draft Environmental Enforcement Policy 2017 be noted.

12. To receive Management Report – June 2017

The members noted the Management Report for the month of June which had been circulated with the agenda. The Deputy Chief Executive responded to a number of queries from the members in relation to the report.

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

The members noted the reports from Cllrs Bennett, Carthy, Conlon, Coyle, Crowe, Gilliland, Keelan, Maxwell and McNally in relation to their attendance at the following conferences/training events:

- AILG Module 2 Training, Community Development Initiatives, Westport, Co Mayo
- AILG Module 3 Training, Commercial Rates, Bundoran, Co Donegal
- LAMA Spring Seminar, Gormanstown, Co Meath
- AILG Training, Rural Action Development Plan, Arklow, Co Wicklow
- AILG Module 1 Training, National Planning Framework, Co Cavan
- AILG Annual Training Conference, Ireland Looking Forward, Ennis, Co Clare
- Brexit and The Border Corridor, Enniskillen, Co Fermanagh
- AILG, National Planning Framework, Co Waterford

14. Business submitted by the Chief Executive.

Materials Recovery Facility:

Mr. J. Murray/Deputy Chief Executive informed the members that the contract for the operation of the Materials Recovery Facility had been awarded to Exomex Ltd.

Audit Committee:

Mr. Murray explained that following Cllr McPhillips resignation from the Council that the Audit Committee had requested that the vacancy on that committee would be filled.

On the proposal of Cllr Maxwell, seconded by Cllr Campbell, it was agreed that Cllr S. Gilliland be nominated to fill the vacancy on the Audit Committee arising from the resignation of Cllr C. McPhillips.

15. Matters arising out of the minutes of Council meeting held on 12th and 19th June, 2017.

Matters arising out of the minutes of the Council meeting held on 12th and 19th June, 2017 were responded to by the relevant officials.

16. To receive update on North South Interconnector project.

The following correspondence was circulated:

- Letter from the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment regarding An Bord Pleanála granting planning permission for North-South Interconnector.
- Letter from Niamh Smyth enclosing responses to parliamentary questions in relation to the North South Interconnector

The members noted the minutes of the meeting between the Oireachtas members and Council members held on 19 June, 2017

On the proposal of Cllr Keelan, seconded by Cllr P. Treanor, it was agreed that this Council writes to all the Fine Gael Oireachtas members representing the area affected by the proposal by the NS Interconnector including Minister Heather Humphreys, Minister Regina Doherty, Minister Helen McEntee, Minister Damien English, Senator Joe O'Reilly and Senator Ray Butler seeking clarity on their positions in relation to the undergrounding of the NS Interconnector, and also responses to the following questions:

- *Have you or your party colleagues raised and discussed the issue at your parliamentary, party meetings (Have you raised the issue at Cabinet Level)?*
- *Have you or your party colleagues raised or discussed the issue with Minister Dennis Naughten, or have you raised or discussed this issue with An Taoiseach Leo Varadkar, and what was the response?*
- *Has the Fine Gael party a clear written policy position in relation to the undergrounding of the NS Interconnector, as is the case with other political parties?*

17. To receive update on the Ulster Canal project.

Cllr P. Treanor referred to the very slow progress being made on this project. He stated that there was a need for funding to be allowance for the sections of the Ulster Canal through Monaghan to Lough Neagh. He noted that the planning permissions for the project were due to expire in 2018 and he suggested that Waterways Ireland would apply to extend the duration of the two planning permissions in the coming months to secure the aim of redeveloping the Ulster Canal.

18. To receive update on Brexit.

Mr. P. Clifford, Director referred the members to Question 19(1) which outlined the various supports being made available to Monaghan businesses by the Local Enterprise Office and Enterprise Ireland. He stated that, in addition to their role as hosts of Brexit seminars held in Monaghan with Intertrade Ireland and Enterprise Ireland, Monaghan LEO currently provides a suite of supports, both online and directly to small business in the county. As the Brexit negotiations unfold, Monaghan LEO will update its client base and provide revised information in the form of advice and further public sessions.

19. Questions:

ClIr P. Connolly asked:

1. In view of the fact that Enterprise Ireland have advised companies that as a means of preparing themselves for Brexit and its potential consequences they should appoint a dedicated Brexit person within their company to appraise themselves with issues related to Brexit and the potential consequences for their company, has Monaghan County Council any plans to take similar actions by assigning/appointing an individual within the staff of Monaghan County Council as a Brexit reference point for small local employers, manufacturers and businesses in order to help and support these businesses for a transition period and during Brexit negotiations?

Reply: Further to your email the Local Enterprise Office is the reference point for small local employers with Brexit queries. The LEO hosted a Brexit seminar in association with Intertrade Ireland and has worked together with Enterprise Ireland to provide Brexit-related services and advice for Monaghan businesses. Enterprise Ireland has also hosted a Brexit seminar in Monaghan in May 2017. The LEO currently provides a suite of programmes for small businesses including:

- Prepare for Brexit SME Scorecard
- Mentoring Clinics
- Lean Programme
- LEO Innovation Investment
- Co-Innovate Programme

ClIr P. McNally asked:

2. Why has this Council not circulated a map showing proposed new link road between N2 and N53 i.e. Castleblayney by-pass and Dundalk road as requested on a number of occasions.

Reply: A copy of the draft alignment for the proposed new link road between the N2 and N53 has recently been circulated to the members of the Castleblayney/Carrickmacross Municipal District.

3. Has this Council purchased any land suitable for housing in Carrickmacross and Castleblayney given that there are very few houses being developed by the private sector in order to develop local authority housing for our very extensive waiting lists.

Reply: In May 2017, Monaghan County Council advertised for the purchase of houses and/or land for social housing purposes in County Monaghan and the response to the advertisements was satisfactory. Advertising in this manner allows the Council to target the purchase of individual houses that are available on the open market throughout County Monaghan. Monaghan County Council has not, as yet, purchased land in the Carrickmacross-Castleblayney Municipal District and is continually pursuing opportunities to purchase land/houses for the provision of additional social housing within County Monaghan.

CLlr P. McNally asked:

4. Has Monaghan County Council's Housing Section a plan in place for regularly inspecting Council properties to ensure that out of respect for the neighbouring residents that these premises are properly maintained and kept neat and tidy.

Reply: Monaghan County Council Housing Section has responsibility for the maintenance of 1,500 social houses located within the county and Housing Staff & Contractors inspect up to a 1,000 properties each year.

CLlr C. Carthy asked:

5. How many applications have been taken off the Monaghan County Council Social Housing list over the last 12 months and what were the reasons for their removal?

Reply: The number of applications that were closed over the past 12 months and which were not related to the statutory annual housing needs assessments was 95. The main reasons for the closure of those applications were as follows:

Housed by Approved Housing Bodies/Other Housing	50
Exceeding Income Limits	19
Other (Deceased/Change of Circumstances/Left County)	26

The number of applications closed over the past 12 months as part of statutory annual housing needs assessments was as follows:

Housing Needs Assessment (HNA) 2016	352
Summary Social Housing Assessment (SSHA) 2017	29

Of the applications closed during HNA 2016, 40 applicants have re-applied for housing support and all are now included on the housing list. Applications have not been received from the remainder of those closed applicants. A report on HNA 2016 was presented to the Housing Fire and Civil Protection SPC on 06th October 2016.

6. Can the executive highlight, to whatever extent is legally possible, the reasons for the delay in commencing work on the Magheross unfinished housing development in Carrickmacross?

Reply: The developers, East Coast Estates Ltd, obtained planning permission for the completion of 19 No town houses and 14 No apartments on this site in March of this year. It is understood that the developers have had advanced discussion with and Approved Housing Body in respect of the acquisition of the properties. The Council is unaware of a commencement date for works.

7. Has any applications for further roads funding in 2017 been made by Monaghan County Council?

Reply: An application for additional funding of €189,000 for safety Improvement Works at the N54/R186 junction in Monaghan Town has recently been approved by the TII. The TII will also be providing additional funding of €2.0 million for pavement

overlays on the N54 in Monaghan Town and on the N53 from Ballinacarry Bridge to Castleblayney. The roads section has also made an application to the TII for €525,000 to carry out additional maintenance works on the National Road network which is currently being assessed.

Clr C. Carthy asked:

8. Has the Housing Section made any complaints to the RTB regarding landlords breaking tenancy laws over the last 12 months, if so, how many (including landlords refusing to accept HAP, illegal removal of tenants from houses without proper notice etc?)

Reply: Housing Section does not have a remit in referring complaints or disputes on behalf of private rented tenancies to the Rented Tenancy Board. It is open to individual tenants or landlords to avail of RTB disputes resolution procedures.

Clr S. Conlon asked:

9. With the recent failure of the Department of Local Government to approve this Council's application, on behalf of the Milltown Group Sewerage Scheme, to the Rural Water Multi Annual Programme Measure 4 – 'Transition of schemes to public water and waste water sector', what guidance can Water Services now provide to the Milltown Residents Association that can assist in advancing this long sought after group sewerage scheme.

Reply: Monaghan County Council received Circular L4/17 on the 13th June 2017, detailing an 'Interim Allocation' under the various measures of the Rural Water Multi-Annual Programme 2016 -2018 of €299,665 for Group Water Schemes in Monaghan. No allocation was received for Measure 4 in relation to Group Sewerage Schemes. Monaghan County Council awaits the 'Final' overall allocation for 2017 notification from the Department.

Milltown Group Sewerage Scheme is shortlisted for funding (2016-2018) following a review by the Departments Expert Panel in 2016 along with six other schemes and ranked at *priority 5* by the Expert Panel under Measure 4 *Transition of schemes to public water and wastewater sector*:

Priority	Local Authority	Scheme Name	2016 Funding Requested	2017 Funding Requested	2018 Funding Requested	Total Funding Requested
1.	Kerry	Alderwood Road	€50,000	€300,000	€300,000	€650,000
2.	Leitrim	Hartley Cartown	€95,175	€222,075	€0.00	€317,250
3.	Leitrim	Edenvilla	€64,800	€151,200	€0.00	€216,000
4.	Clare	Barefield, Ennis	€50,000	€300,000	€350,000	€700,000
5.	Monaghan	Milltown	€280,000	€0.00	€0.00	€280,000
5.	Wexford	Oilgate	€160,500	€0.00	€0.00	€160,500
5.	Wexford	Bing	€0.00	€235,900	€0.00	€235,900

Clr S. Conlon asked:

10. Regarding the abandoned site and environs at Forest Walk Cortolvin, has a Derelict Sites notice been issued, or further steps initiated by the Council, that will hold the owners accountable for the state of neglect that is having an injurious impact on this residential area.

Reply: The developers, Rapid Developments NI Ltd, applied for planning permission to complete the development in November 2016. Additional information requested in January must be submitted by 12 July 2017 or the application will be deemed withdrawn.

It is understood that the developers have had advanced discussions with an Approved housing Body in respect of the acquisition of the properties.

In the event that the development is not satisfactorily resolved, the Planning authority may use the powers available to it under Derelict Sites Act.

Clr N. Keelan asked:

11. What is the up-to-date position in relation to the provision of extra safety measures on the N2 (Aclint to Castleblayney) as a follow on from the TII report including much needed improvement works at the Tullyvaragh junction?

Reply: Road Safety Audits are nearing completion for submission to the TII for final approval of the works proposed by Road plan consulting engineers. It is envisaged that the junction alterations will take place in late July and August subject to TII approval.

12. How many individuals/families are currently on the social housing waiting list for Inniskeen village; will the Council investigate the possibility of purchasing a small parcel of land in order to build homes to cater for this need or will the Council consider working in collaboration with one of the approved housing bodies to meet the housing needs of people from the area?

Reply: The number of housing applicants who have selected Inniskeen as an area of choice is 25 and the breakdown is as follows;

One Bed =	15
Two Bed =	07
Three Bed =	02
Four Bed =	01
TOTAL	25 Applicants

No of Applicants

1 st preference =	09
2 nd preference =	13
3 rd preference =	03
TOTAL	25 Applicants

Monaghan County Council is continually pursuing opportunities to purchase land/houses for the provision of additional social housing within County Monaghan

and owners/groups interested in selling any land or properties can send written submissions to Tenders for sale of Houses and/or Land to Monaghan County Council" F.A.O. Administrative Officer, Corporate Affairs, Monaghan County Council, County Offices, The Glen, Monaghan. These details are provided on Monaghan County Council's website;

<https://monaghan.ie/housing/purchase-of-houses-andor-land-for-social-housing-by-public-tender/>

Monaghan County Council currently work in collaboration with a number of approved housing bodies (AHB) and housing staff are available to liaise with any AHB to help meet the housing needs of the county.

Clr N. Keelan asked:

13. In relation to new house builds, what is the current regulation regarding the provision of renewable energy systems including solar panels etc; what plans has this Council to retro fit our housing stock with energy saving systems such as solar panels?

Reply: For new dwellings Part L of the current Building Regulations requires that a reasonable proportion of the energy consumption to meet the energy performance of a dwelling is provided by renewable energy sources. Solar technologies can be used to help meet this contribution as can Heat Pumps and other renewable technologies. For future housing developments under its management Monaghan County Council will consider the use of solar panels and/or where appropriate Heat Pumps or other renewable technologies in compliance with the Building Regulations.

Monaghan County Council has undertaken various energy efficiency works to the social housing stock in County Monaghan since 2009, an example of these works are solar panels, cavity insulation, attic insulation, dry lining, heating upgrades, window & door replacements. Monaghan County Council will continue to upgrade the energy efficiency of social housing within County Monaghan and when suitable will make use of Solar Panels.

14. In relation to planning and the recent European court ruling re (local need criteria) as discussed at the June meeting, has there been any response from the Department on this issue as it is my understanding that other Councils have amended their development plans in order to comply with this ruling?

Reply: The Council has received no further guidance from the Department in respect of this matter following the issue of Circular PL 2/2017 on 31 May 2017.

15. How many individuals/families are in receipt of a housing assistance payment (HAP) in the county; in monetary terms how much per month/annum is been spent on this scheme?

Reply: A total of 356 individual/families are currently accommodated under the terms of the Housing Assistance Payment (HAP) scheme. The monthly expenditure in relation to the HAP Scheme is €80,920.25.

Cllr R. Aughey asked:

16. Can the Monaghan County Council contact the HSE with regard to the office for registration of births, marriages and deaths in Saint Davnet's with regard to its location and size and the lack of privacy for members of the public using same?

Reply: While this service is not a function of Monaghan County Council the Council will write to the Health Service Executive conveying the member's concerns.

Cllr S. Coyle asked:

17. Will Monaghan County Council assure all Council housing tenants and occupiers/users of County Council properties/facilities of safety/fire standards and the Council's compliance with standards and regulations?

Reply: Monaghan County Council Housing Section will ensure that all social housing owned by Monaghan County Council complies with the fire safety under compliance document b of the building regulation 2006, at the time of design & construction.

20. Notices of Motion:

In the absence of Cllr Coyle, Notice of Motion 20 (a) was deferred to the September meeting.

21. Votes of sympathy/congratulations.

It was agreed that a vote of sympathy be extended to Grainne McAviney, Council employee on the death of her mother in law Sally McAviney, RIP

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

- Eamonn O'Hara and the Sliabh Beagh Swimming Club on their fantastic success in the international swimming competition held recently in Eindhoven, Holland where the club finished 3rd in the Medal Table.
- Glaslough Community and Monaghan County Council officials on the great work undertaken in preparation for the Entente Florale competition 2017 and wishing them every success in the final.
- The Organising Committee of the Canada Day Celebrations 2017 on the success of this event which took place on the 1st and 2nd July in Monaghan Town.

22. Conferences/Training

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

Promoting Authority	Subject/Theme	Venue	Dates	Members Selected
McGee Summer School	Canada 150	Carlingford, Co. Louth	21 st – 23 rd August 2017	Cllr S. Conlon

The meeting then concluded.

Signed: _____
Cathaoirleach Meetings Administrator

Date: _____