

**Minutes of Meeting of Monaghan County Council held in the Council Chamber, Mtek Building, Armagh Road, Monaghan on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> April, 2018 at 10.00 a.m.**

**Chair:** Cllr C. Bennett, Cathaoirleach

**Present:** Cllrs. Aughey, Campbell, Carthy, Conlon, Connolly, Coyle, Crowe, Humphreys, Keelan, Maxwell, McElvaney, McKenna, McNally, O'Hanlon, P. Treanor and S. Treanor.

Mr. E. O'Sullivan, Chief Executive, Mr. P. Clifford, Mr. J. Murray, Head of Finance, Ms. P. Monahan, A/Director of Service, Mr. A. Hughes, Senior Planner, Mr. T. Gourley, Senior Executive Planner, Mr. S. MacConghail, Arts Officer, Ms. M. McGarvey, Senior Staff Officer and Ms. C. Thornton, Meetings Administrator.

**Apologies:** Cllr. Gilliland and Mr. A. King, Director of Service

**Urgent Business:**

The Cathaoirleach informed the members that she had received a notice of Urgent Business from Cllrs Aughey, Coyle, McNally and O'Hanlon, as follows:

*"That Monaghan County Council totally condemns the chaotic inaction of the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine, Michael Creed T.D. and the Government to the National Farm Fodder and Feed crisis, on farms in County Monaghan and nationally due to atrocious weather conditions of the past 8 months.*

*The Council Demands-*

*(1) The declaration of a National Emergency and the immediate appointment of a Committee, comprising of the Department, Teagasc, Farm Organisations, Co-Ops, Financial Institutions, Millers, Livestock Marts, Licensed Merchants, Veterinary Representatives and relevant stakeholders, to monitor and co-ordinate the necessary emergency responses.*

*(2) All On-Farm Inspections be immediately suspended.*

*(3) All Outstanding Farm Payments i.e. Glas, Sheep Payments, worth in excess of €30 million, be paid out to farmers immediately, with the fast tracking and removal of impediments of all delayed payments due to E.U. or National bureaucracy.*

*(4) The National Fodder Transportation Scheme be extended immediately to include fodder sourced in Northern Ireland, which is a key to Border Counties like Monaghan and that the application process be as simple as possible and open to all Co-Ops, Livestock Marts, Licensed Merchants and open to all farming sectors and all regions of the country.*

*(5) That a meal voucher scheme be introduced, due to the pending shortage of feedstuffs, available for importation as farmers in Wales and other parts of the U.K. are also experiencing severe fodder shortages.*

*(6) Banks and Financial Institutions must support farmers with cash flow problems, due to the inclement weather.*

The motion if adopted to be forwarded immediately to be forwarded to the Minister Michael Creed T.D., all local Oireachtas Members and Farm Organisations.

*On the proposal of Cllr S. Coyle, seconded by Cllr P. Treanor it was agreed to discuss, In Committee, whether or not to take the motion of urgent business.*

Following a short consideration of the matter, it was unanimously agreed to discuss the urgent business motion at the end of the meeting.

*On the proposal of Cllr S. Coyle, seconded by Cllr P. Treanor it was agreed to revert to public session.*

## **1. Confirmation of Minutes**

### **(i) Minutes of Council meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> March, 2018.**

*On the proposal of Cllr P. Treanor seconded by Cllr S. Coyle, it was agreed that the minutes of the Council meeting held on the 5<sup>th</sup> March, 2018, be confirmed.*

## **2. Correspondence.**

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

- Letter from the Minister for Health, Mr. Simon Harris, T.D, regarding the upgrade of Monaghan Hospital.
- Letter from the Minister for Health, Mr. Simon Harris, T.D, regarding births that lead to premature death or catastrophic injuries where hospital negligence is evident.
- Letter from the Minister for Health, Mr. Simon Harris, T.D, regarding the Down Syndrome Centre North East.
- Letter from the Minister for Health, Mr. Simon Harris, T.D, regarding First Aid Training for Teachers & SNA's.
- Letter from the Office of the Minister for Rural & Community Development, Mr. Michael Ring, T.D, regarding additional funding for Roads.
- Letter from the Office of the Minister for Finance and Public Expenditure and Reform, Mr. Paschal Donohoe, T.D regarding Greenhouses Gases.
- Letter from the Office of the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine, Mr. Michael Creed regarding Suckler Farmers.
- Letter from the Health Service Executive regarding Dyspraxia/DCD Ireland.
- Letter from Matt Carthy, MEP regarding Wifi4EU Scheme.
- Email from the Office of the Minister for Disabilities Mr. Finian McGrath regarding Disabilities Tax Relief Scheme.
- Email from HSE regarding a suitable date to hold a meeting to discuss the Ambulance service in the Monaghan area.
- Letter from Cavan General Hospital regarding support to Cavan & Monaghan Hospital – Storm Emma.
- Letter from John O'Reilly, Chief Superintendent regarding Severe Weather Incident March 1<sup>st</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> 2018.
- Letter from Dr. John McHugh, Co. Donegal regarding his nomination as a candidate for President of Ireland.

- Resolutions from Clare County Council -
  - Calling for support for publicly-funded higher education and rejecting income contingent loans.
  - Calling on the Minister for Housing, Planning and Local Government and the Minister for Finance to put in place a redress scheme to provide financial support to purchasers of houses and apartments who find that their property was not properly constructed and is non compliant with Building and Fire Regulations.
  - Calling on the Minister for Trade and Employment to introduce financial incentives to companies who are prepared to employ apprentices.
- Email from Senator Robbie Gallagher regarding correspondence from Minister Jim Daly declining invitation to visit Monaghan General Hospital.

The following additional correspondence was circulated at the meeting:

- Letter from the Office of the Minister for Education and Skills, Mr. Richard Burton, T.D, regarding Occupational First Aid Training in schools.
- Letter of acknowledgement from the Office of the Minister for Education and Skills, Mr. Richard Burton, T.D, regarding Occupational First Aid Training in schools.
- Letter of acknowledgement from the Office of the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs, Dr. Katherine Zappone, T.D, regarding Occupational First Aid Training in schools.
- Letter from the Office of the Minister for Finance and Public Expenditure and Reform, Mr. Paschal Donohoe, T.D, regarding the Disabled Driver and Passengers Tax Relief Scheme.
- Letter from Mr. Leo Varadkar, Taoiseach expressing his thanks to the Chief Executive and staff in MCC during Storm Emma.
- Letter from Ms. Marie Goretti Moylan, Co. Westmeath regarding her nomination as a candidate for President of Ireland.
- Email from Mr. Kevin Sharkey, his nomination as a candidate for President of Ireland.
- Resolution from Ballybay-Clones Municipal District regarding the current fodder crisis facing the counties farmers.
- Letter from Ballybay-Clones Municipal District to the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine, Mr. Michael Creed, T.D. regarding the current fodder crisis.

#### **Proposals arising out of correspondence:**

*On the proposal of Cllr B. McKenna, seconded by Cllr Connolly it was agreed that the Council renew the request to the Minister for Health Simon Harris TD to meet with a delegation from the Council to discuss Monaghan General Hospital.*

*On the proposal of Cllr Connolly seconded by Cllr Coyle, it was agreed that the Council accept the proposal of Mr. William Merriman, HSE Ambulance Service to attend the June meeting of the Council.*

*On the proposal of Cllr P Treanor seconded by Cllr McKenna it was agreed that we support the motion from Clare County Council in relation to the need to tackle the proliferation of plastic waste.*

*On the proposal of Cllr Bennett seconded by Cllr Connolly it was agreed that this Council requests that:*

- *A representative from CMETB is invited to make a presentation in relation to apprenticeships in County Monaghan.*

- *A representative from the LEO is invited to attend a Council meeting and explain any opportunities that are available for young people.*

*On the proposal of Cllr O'Hanlon, seconded by Cllr McNally it was agreed the Council writes to Minister Humphreys, Minister Ring, and Minister Ross to seek a meeting for additional funding for roads which are in a despicable state - our regional and local roads, are the worst in the country.*

*On the proposal of Cllr Maxwell, seconded by Cllr Campbell, it was agreed that the Council writes again to Minister Shane Ross TD, seeking a meeting in order to discuss the roads in the county with a view to getting additional funding.*

*On the proposal of Cllr Coyle, seconded by Cllr McNally it was agreed that Monaghan County Council demands of the Minister for Finance Pascal Donohoe TD a full review of the criteria for a Primary Medical Certificate as the current criteria deprives many persons of necessary mobile facilities, particularly to access medical appointments, treatments etc, especially those with end of life conditions.*

*On the proposal of Cllr Connolly, seconded by Cllr Carthy, it was agreed that the Council adopts the resolution from Clare County Council calling on the Minister for Housing and the Minister for Finance to put in place a redress scheme to provide financial support to purchasers of houses and apartments who find that their property was not properly constructed and is non-compliant with Building and Fire Regulations.*

### **3. To consider the following Section 183 Notices:**

- (i) The members considered the Section 183 Notice in relation to the Lease of the Council Yard at Riverbank, Emyvale

*On the proposal of Cllr McKenna, seconded by Cllr Maxwell, it was agreed that the Council approve the disposal by lease, of the Council yard situated at Riverbank, Emyvale to Riverbank Community Childcare Limited in accordance with the terms of notice dated 5<sup>th</sup> March, 2018 under Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001.*

- (ii) The members considered the Section 183 Notice in relation to the Lease of the Pringle Building, Clones.

*On the proposal of Cllr P. Treanor, seconded by Cllr McElvaney, it was agreed that the Council approve the disposal by lease, of the building known as Pringle Building situated in the townland of Crossmoyle, Clones, in accordance with the terms of notice dated March, 2018 under Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001.*

### **4. To consider the Monaghan County Council Review of the NOAC Performance Indicators 2016**

The Meetings Administrator outlined the main objectives of the review which set out to compare the Council's performance in 2016 (i) against the highest and lowest performers nationally; (ii) against similar indicators in previous years (iii) on the basis of both of these to establish targets for improved performance for subsequent years. She stated that the

report indicated a strong performance by the Council with above average performance in most indicators.

*On the proposal of Cllr Maxwell, seconded by Cllr McElvaney, it was agreed that the Council's review of the NOAC Performance Indicators 2016, be noted.*

**5. To consider the Monaghan County Council Draft Annual Report for 2017**

The members consider the Monaghan County Council draft Annual Report for 2017 which had been circulated.

*On the proposal of Cllr Maxwell, seconded by Cllr Crowe, it was agreed that the Draft Annual Report for 2017, as presented, be adopted.*

**6. To consider the Monaghan County Council's Culture and Creativity Strategy 2018-2022**

Mr. Somhairle MacConghail, Arts Officer, on behalf of Ms. D. McQuaid, Creative Ireland Co-ordinator, gave an overview to the members on Council's Draft Culture and Creativity Strategy for the period 2018 – 2022. He explained that the draft Strategy complements and runs across all of the Council's strategic policies (development plans, heritage, museum library, corporate, community, age friendly, diaspora, tourism) linking them and opening the way for even more collaboration, with clear priorities set around delivery into every part of our community, supporting individuals to reach their creative potential. The framework plan has been developed by the Council's Culture Team after considerable public and stakeholder consultation. The team comprises experts from Monaghan County Council on library, arts, heritage, museum, tourism, enterprise, community and youth.

Following his presentation, Mr. MacConghail responded to queries from the elected members.

Cllr P. Treanor requested that having regard to the fact that this is 'Bliain na Gaeilge' that the Oifigeach Gaeilge would be added to the Culture Ireland Team.

*On the proposal of Cllr McElvaney, seconded by Cllr P. Treanor it was agreed that the Draft Culture and Creativity Strategy 2018 – 2022 be adopted.*

**7. To consider the Arts Partners Grant recommendations for 2018**

Cllr Bennett and Cllr Maxwell declared a conflict of interest in relation to the Garage Theatre and left the meeting while this item was being discussed. Cllr A. Campbell, Leas Chathaoirleach assumed the Chair.

Mr. Somhairle MacConghail, Arts Officer outlined his report together with his recommendations on the applications received under the Arts Partners Grant Scheme for 2018. He was recommending the following grant allocations:

<b>Name of Arts Partner</b>	<b>Recommended for 2018</b>
Clones Artist Studios	€1,300
Clones Film Festival	€8,000

Iontas Arts & Community Resource Centre	€16,500
Patrick Kavanagh Weekend	€9,000
Muckno Mania, Castleblayney	€1,000
The Garage Theatre	€16,500
Scoil Cheoil Na Botha	€2,500
Feile Patrick Byrne	€2,700
Castleblayney Drama Festival	€3,000
Carrickmacross Arts Festival	€3,000
Ballybay Arts Programme	€1,500
<b>Total</b>	<b>€65,000</b>

*On the proposal of Cllr McKenna, seconded by Cllr McElvaney, it was agreed that the allocation of Arts Partners Grants for 2018 as detailed above, be approved.*

At this point, Cllrs Bennett and Maxwell returned to the meeting and Cllr Bennett assumed the position of Chair.

**8. To approve recommendations under the Community & Environment Grants Scheme 2018**

The members noted the recommendations for the allocation of funding under the Community & Environment Grants Scheme for 2018.

*On the proposal of Cllr McElvaney, seconded by Cllr Crowe, it was agreed that the Council approve the allocation of funding under the Community and Environment Grants Scheme 2018 as recommended in the report circulated to members.*

**9. To consider recommendations and minutes from Corporate Policy Group meeting held on 20/03/2018**

*On the proposal of Cllr McKenna seconded by Cllr McElvaney it was agreed that the minutes of the Corporate Policy Group meeting held on 20 March, 2018 and the recommendations contained therein be approved.*

**10. To receive the Management Report – March 2018**

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

A lengthy discussion took place on the serious problem of littering along the roads and in litter black spots throughout County Monaghan.

*On the proposal of Cllr S. Treanor, seconded by Cllr Carthy, it was agreed that this Council calls on Minister for Housing, Planning and Local Government Eoghan Murphy T.D. to legislate for all landlords, including local authorities and AHB's to provide for refuse collection in their rental charges to reduce cases of dumping.*

*On the proposal of Cllr Coyle, seconded by Cllr Keelan, it was agreed that this Council writes to the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and the Environment to consider changing the law as to allow the publication of names of people who are fined for littering by the local authority.*

*On the proposal of Cllr Aughey, seconded by Cllr O'Hanlon, it was agreed that we ask the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and the Environment to put a deposit back on plastic and glass bottles and aluminium cans, to help recycle more of the rubbish that is dumped on the side of the road.*

**11. To receive reports from Members attending Conferences/Training events**

The members noted the reports from Cllrs. Campbell & Keelan in relation to their attendance at the following conferences/training events:

- AILG Training Councillors and Journalists, Carlow
- Centre for Cross Border Studies, Dundalk, Co Louth

**12. Business submitted by the Chief Executive.**

**National Age Friendly Awards:**

The Chief Executive informed the members that the Council was hosting the National Age Friendly Awards on 11<sup>th</sup> April in the Hillgrove Hotel and encouraged as many members to attend as possible.

**St. Patrick's Day, New York:**

The Chief Executive reported to the members on the visit to New York by the Cathaoirleach and himself for the St. Patrick's Day celebrations. They had met with members of the Monaghan Society there and they had seen first-hand how important it is to the ex-pat community to keep the links strong between the two areas. They had also met with officials from the New York offices of Enterprise Ireland, IDA Ireland and Tourism Ireland. They had also met officials from Bord Bia. He felt the visit had been very successful and some good contacts had been established.

Cllr Bennett concurred with the comments of the Chief Executive.

**13. Matters arising out of the minutes of Council meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> March, 2018.**

There were no matters arising out of the minutes of the 5<sup>th</sup> March 2018.

**14. To receive update on North South Interconnector project.**

Circulated - Letter and brochure update from Eirgrid regarding North-South 400kV Interconnection Development.

*On the proposal of Cllr Coyle, seconded by Cllr O’Hanlon, it was agreed that Monaghan County Council demands a unequivocal commitment from the Minister for Business, Enterprise and Innovation, Heather Humphreys TD, Minister for Communications, Environment and Natural Resources Denis Naughten TD , that Eirgrid E.S.B be allowed issue any further tender notices until there is full community acceptance for the project, which will be undergrounding only, and a fully independent review of the whole project, preferably under the auspices of the European Commission.*

*On the proposal of Cllr Coyle, seconded by Cllr O’Hanlon it was agreed that Monaghan County Council demands direction from the Minister for Communications Environment and Natural Resources Denis Naughten TD the Government in its entirety including local Minister Heather Humphreys, Regina Doherty, Helen McEntee and Damien English, to Eirgrid E.S.B to stop all works etc on the North South 400KV interconnector until a fully independent review of the project in its entirety is complete, preferably under the auspices of the European Commission.*

*On the proposal of Cllr Keelan seconded by Cllr P. Treanor it was agreed,*

- *That this Council review our request to meet with An Taoiseach and leader of Fine Gael, Leo Varadkar TD in order to discuss all aspects of the North South Interconnector.*
- *That this Council request our local Minister Heather Humphreys TD help to facilitate this meeting.*
- *That the Members of the Monaghan Anti Pylon Committee be invited to attend.*

*On the proposal of Cllr Keelan seconded by Cllr P. Treanor it was agreed, that this Council notes that it is not surprised by the insensitive and lack of understanding of rural issues and the farming community by Eirgrid’s action in sending out a further invitation in relation to the N.S Interconnector at a time, when the farming community is going through a terrible time in the terms of the fodder crisis.*

*On the proposal of Cllr Keelan seconded by Cllr P. Treanor it was agreed, that this Council writes to Minister Naughten seeking clarification from him as Minister for Communication, Climate Action and the Environment if he gave permission for a tender notice to issue in relation to construction works etc for the North South Interconnector.*

In response to queries from members regarding comments contained in the Eirgrid North South Interconnector - Winter/Spring Update 2018, the Chief Executive stated that he would discuss the matter with the Council’s Planning officials and circulate a response to the members in advance of the next meeting.

#### **15. To receive update on the Ulster Canal project.**

*On the proposal of Cllr P. Treanor, seconded by Cllr McKenna, it was agreed that the Council writes to the new Minister for Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht Josepha Madigan TD, Simon Coveney TD, Tanaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs and the Minister for Business, Enterprise and Innovation Heather Humphreys TD outlining the benefits and history of the Ulster Canal and requesting urgent funding to progress this agreed cross border project.*



16. Questions:

**Cllr R. Aughey asked:**

1. Can Monaghan County Council in the interests of the environment, investigate the feasibility of implementing a Paint Recycling scheme to benefit Community Groups & Charities to save on wastage and expensive disposal methods?

**Reply: Monaghan County Council have previously investigated the feasibility of introducing a Paint Recycling Scheme. Our research and consultation with community groups, particularly the Tidy Towns network, suggests a limited demand for such a service. However, Monaghan County Council have worked in conjunction with the Re-Discovery Centre in Ballymun to ensure a paint recycling service is available to communities. Monaghan County Council will facilitate community groups with any queries in this regard. Please also note, the Environmental Services unit in Monaghan County Council held a free disposal scheme for hazardous waste, including paint, in Autumn 2017.**

2. Can Monaghan County Council investigate the feasibility of hosting a "Monaghan Day" similar to the "Mayo Day initiative"?

**Reply: Yes. The Council Culture Ireland Team will look at the possibilities of such an event.**

**Cllr C. Carthy asked:**

3. When is it envisaged the Monaghan County Council Traffic Calming Policy will be completed and made available to members?

**Reply: Work has recently commenced on the drafting of the Traffic Calming Policy and it is envisaged that the draft will be available for discussion with the members by mid June.**

4. What is the up-to-date position on the Group Home for persons with Physical and Sensory Disabilities in Carrickmacross?

**Reply: HSE have advised as follows:**

**Cavan Monaghan Disability Services met with Respond! on the 5th February 2018 to discuss the queries from our walk around of the building. It was agreed at that time that there were a number of areas that needed to be revisited and adjustments made. Respond! noted that they would make these adjustments and revert accordingly. This is ongoing. The running of this development will be contingent on funding availability at the time of completion. It is envisaged that this home shall be run by an external service provider. RESPOND! were invited to provide an update on this matter but have not done so at time of writing.**

5. Since the introduction of the Rebuilding Ireland Home Loan in February, how many applications have been made by the public and, at present, how many have been successful?

**Reply: Four applications have been received to date on the Rebuilding Ireland Home Loan Scheme. Of this number one application has been forwarded to the Housing Agency for assessment, two have been submitted to the Credit Committee for consideration and the remaining one application has been returned with a request for further information to facilitate completion of the application.**

**Cllr N. Keelan asked:**

6. Further to my question and the Council's response at the March Council meeting in relation to the provision of land banks for much needed housing and industrial sites, can the Council outline in tabular format:

- (a) What Council owned land banks are currently available in Carrickmacross?
- (b) What Council owned land banks are available in County Monaghan?

**Reply: Monaghan County Council does not currently have in tabular form a list of lands identified as "Land Bank". Land in Council ownership is identified by section i.e. Housing, Economic.**

7. Given the housing need in Inniskeen Village including family homes both social and affordable will this Council be proactive in acquiring a plot of land in the village for this purpose?

**Reply: There are 28 Housing Applicants on the Housing Waiting List for Inniskeen. Monaghan County Council has recently been in contact with an Approved Housing Body and a Developer with regard to the potential of providing a number of social houses within an Unfinished Housing Development in Inniskeen. The potential of providing housing within Unfinished Housing Developments must be fully exhausted before any commitment can be made for acquisition and/or development of green field sites.**

8. In relation to motor vehicle tax, how much funding has been collected in County Monaghan in the last 4 years from this tax, and how does this figure compare with funding received from the department for the up keep for our county road network including Regional roads in the last 4 years?

<b>Motor tax receipts vs Road grant income</b>		
	<b>Road Grant income*</b>	<b>Motor Tax receipts for Monaghan</b>
<b>2014</b>	<b>7,700,979</b>	<b>17,309,367</b>
<b>2015</b>	<b>7,608,680</b>	<b>16,608,313</b>
<b>2016</b>	<b>7,199,863</b>	<b>14,105,631</b>
<b>2017</b>	<b>7,726,397</b>	<b>13,938,543</b>
<b>* Figures do not include any national road grant income and also do not include €5.15m received in 2016 for severe weather</b>		

9. Why has no action been taken to-date in relation to illegal dumping on the approach road to Mannan Castle golf club at Donaghmoyn, as I understand this issue was reported a number of times over many months?

**Reply:** The illegal dumping of waste in Donaghmoine was first reported to Monaghan County Council's Environmental Service on the 29<sup>th</sup> November 2017. The Environmental Patrol Warden investigated the complaint on the same day, 29<sup>th</sup> November. The site in question contained a significant volume of waste material and subsequently, was passed to the Carrickmacross-Castleblayney Municipal District for a cleanup. The Municipal District office have scheduled the site cleanup for April 2018. All the associated cleanup costs will be funded by Environmental Services through the Anti Dumping Initiative 2018 scheme.

(a) Can the Council outline how many reports they have received in this regard?

**Reply: Five complaints received from two local residents.**

(b) If a report of illegal dumping is reported to Council what is the average timeframe for dealing with same?

**Reply: All complaints referred to Environmental Services are investigated and prioritised based on risk. In terms of clean ups, the time can vary depending on scale and the resources needed for the cleanup.**

10. In relation to the 350,000 euro spent per annum on rented accommodation by Monaghan County Council what action has this Council taken to address the situation as this amount of money spent on rent does not represent best value for the tax/rate payers of the county in my view?

**Reply:** Rebuilding Ireland, the national housing policy document outlines a number of mechanisms to address the current housing shortages. The Housing Authority have taken significant actions to address the shortages of housing supply in the county and to use all measures available to directly address the social housing supply problem in the County. The direct measures taken by the local authority include accelerating the building of social housing; the reuse of derelict housing units for social use and the reduction of vacancy rates in local authority housing. In conjunction with this various approved housing bodies are involved in developing housing schemes throughout the county to also address social housing demands. However given the resources made available to the housing authority, and the fact that there 1120 households on the current housing waiting list, insufficient housing will be provided directly by social housing providers to address all the current social housing demands. It is essential therefore that financial support is given to our residents to secure private rented accommodation ensuring that their current housing needs are addressed. In the current climate it is essential that the local authority continues to use HAP/RAS/Leasing to address this need.

**Cllr P. Connolly asked:**

11. In relation to unfinished housing developments at Cnoc Na Greine Tydavnet , Carrickroe and Forest walk.

(a) What is the timescale for completion of these works?

(b) What action will be taken if these target dates are not complied with?

**Reply:** The developments referenced at Cnoc na Greine, Tydavnet and Carrickroe are not currently the subject of any statutory notices requiring specific works.

The unfinished housing development at Mullaghmatt has been placed on the Derelict Sites Register. A section 11 Measures Notice has been served on the owners of the property requiring works to be carried out to address the dereliction. The time period for completion of these works will expire on 27<sup>th</sup> April 2018. A current planning application for housing development, 17/529 (ANG Property Limited) is awaiting a response to additional information requested on 9<sup>th</sup> January 2018.

**Cllr P. McNally asked:**

12. When is it expected that the new safety measures will be put in place at the Tullyvaragh junction, N2 near Carrickmacross?

**Reply: Discussions are ongoing in relation to the acquisition of land required for the proposed realignment works at Tullyvaragh junction.**

13. Has this Council submitted its proposals for urgent additional funding to deal with the crisis situation that exists in our regional & county roads?

**Reply: The submission has recently been submitted to the Department.**

14. (a) How many claims have been lodged to Monaghan County Council for vehicles damaged as a result of potholes so far this year?

**Reply: Total of 41 claims submitted from 1<sup>st</sup> Jan – 29<sup>th</sup> March 2018.**

- (b) What was the figure for all of 2017? Successful

**Reply: Total of 23 pothole claims in respect of 2017.**

**Cllr A. Campbell asked:**

15. Regarding the recent options appraisal report which was recently carried out on The Hope Castle and Annexe buildings in Castleblayney.

- (a) When will the findings of this report be released?  
(b) What actions will the Council now be taking as a result of these findings?  
(c) Has Monaghan County Council applied for any funding with regard to Hope Castle or the Annexe?

**Reply: The options appraisal report was discussed by the members of Monaghan County Council in February and referred to the Corporate Policy Committee. The matter was discussed at the March Corporate Policy Committee, with a view towards placing the report on the agenda of the May meeting of Council.**

16. With the recent announcement of grants for the LIS scheme from the Department. When will Monaghan County Council be in a position to start work on the LIS scheme for 2018?

**Reply: Monaghan County Council will be in a position to commence works on the 2018 LIS programme in June.**

**18. Notices of Motion:**

**Cllr R. Aughey proposed, Cllr S. Coyle seconded**

1. To call on Monaghan County Council to invite Ray Bonar General Manager, Cavan and Monaghan Hospital and other HSE officials to the next County Council meeting to address questions and concerns relating to what services are available within the Monaghan Minor Injuries Unit. What plans are being undertaken to create more awareness and footfall through the Unit. What are the future plans for the Unit are and if he will make a statement on the matter?

Cllr B. McKenna suggested that this motion should have been raised firstly with the Council members who are on the HSE Forum. Cllr Coyle stated that they could put down a question for the next Forum meeting. This was agreed.

**19. Votes of sympathy/congratulations.**

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

- Philomena Connolly and Macartan Carroll, Council employees on the death of their mother Agnes Carroll, RIP
- Brendan Hughes, former member of Monaghan County Council on the death of his sister Marcella Whelan, RIP
- Mark Johnston, Council employee on the death of his father Josiah RIP,
- Cllr Pdraig McNally and his wife Dolores and family on the death of Dolores’s mother Rita Byrne, RIP
- The wife and family of the late Malachy Clerkin, Threemilehouse, former Council employee.
- Kim McKenna, Council employee on the death of her aunt, Nancy Cullen, RIP
- Jim McCarron and family, Mullinahinch on the death of his wife Ellie, the niece of a former Council employee.

It was agreed that a vote of congratulations would be extended to Gavin Coyle, Bawn Handball Club on winning the All Ireland U21 40 x 20 Handball title for the third time in a row.

**20. Conferences/Training**

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

Promoting Authority	Subject/Theme	Venue	Dates	Members Selected
ICLRD	“Rural Society in Transition: Planning for 21 <sup>st</sup> Century Rural Potentials & Challenges”	Crowne Plaza Hotel, Dundalk, Co. Louth	26 <sup>th</sup> April 2018	Cllr. Pat Treanor Cllr. C. Carthy

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>AILG</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">‘Councillors &amp; Community Safety’ – A briefing on Joint Policing Committees and Presentation on “Use your Brain Not your Fists” Project (Leitrim Co. Co./Comhairle na nOg)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Westport, Co. Mayo</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">19<sup>th</sup> May 2018</p>	<p>Cllr. A. Campbell Cllr. D. Maxwell Cllr. E. Humphreys Cllr. S. Coyle Cllr. P. McNally Cllr. PJ O’Hanlon Cllr. J. Crowe Cllr. S. Conlon Cllr. C. Carthy Cllr. B. McKenna Cllr. P. Treanor Cllr. N. Keelan Cllr. P. Connolly</p>
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**Urgent Business:**

Cllr Coyle proposed, Cllr McNally seconded

*"That Monaghan County Council totally condemns the chaotic inaction of the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine, Michael Creed T.D. and the Government to the National Farm Fodder and Feed crisis, on farms in County Monaghan and nationally due to atrocious weather conditions of the past 8 months.*

*The Council Demands-*

*(1) The declaration of a National Emergency and the immediate appointment of a Committee, comprising of the Department, Teagasc, Farm Organisations, Co-Ops, Financial Institutions, Millers, Livestock Marts, Licensed Merchants, Veterinary Representatives and relevant stakeholders, to monitor and co-ordinate the necessary emergency responses.*

*(2) All On-Farm Inspections be immediately suspended.*

*(3) All Outstanding Farm Payments i.e. Glas, Sheep Payments, worth in excess of €30 million, be paid out to farmers immediately, with the fast tracking and removal of impediments of all delayed payments due to E.U. or National bureaucracy.*

*(4) The National Fodder Transportation Scheme be extended immediately to include fodder sourced in Northern Ireland, which is a key to Border Counties like Monaghan and that the application process be as simple as possible and open to all Co-Ops, Livestock Marts, Licensed Merchants and open to all farming sectors and all regions of the country.*

*(5) That a meal voucher scheme be introduced, due to the pending shortage of feedstuffs, available for importation as farmers in Wales and other parts of the U.K. are also experiencing severe fodder shortages.*

*(6) Banks and Financial Institutions must support farmers with cash flow problems, due to the inclement weather.*

The motion if adopted to be forwarded immediately to be forwarded to the Minister Michael Creed T.D., all local Oireachtas Members and Farm Organisations.

Following a discussion on the motion to which a number of members contributed, the Cathaoirleach put it to the meeting and it was agreed unanimously.

The meeting then concluded.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Cathaoirleach Meetings Administrator

Date: \_\_\_\_\_