

**COMHAIRLE BAILE MHUINEACHÁIN**  
**MONAGHAN TOWN COUNCIL**

Minutes of Monthly Meeting of Monaghan Town Council held on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> November 2012 at 4.30p.m.in the Council Chamber of Monaghan Town Council, Town Hall, No. 1 Dublin Street, Monaghan.

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**Cathaoirleach:** Cllr. Seamus Treanor

**Present:** Cllrs Seán Conlon, Robbie Gallagher, Thomas Hagan, David Maxwell, Paul McGeown, Donal Sherry and Pádraigín Uí Mhurchadha.

**In Attendance:** David Fallon, Acting County Manager, Jonathon Condell, Assistant Engineer, Marie Deighan, Town Clerk and Miriam McMahan, Staff Officer.

An apology for inability to attend was received from Cllr Mary Carroll.

It was noted that Bridget Clarke, General Manager, Cavan/Monaghan Hospital Group is unable to attend the Council meeting due to urgent commitments. On the proposal of Cllr David Maxwell seconded by Cllr Seán Conlon it was agreed to extend an invitation through the offices of the HSE Area Manager for Cavan/Monaghan for Ms Clarke to attend the December Monthly Meeting of the Town Council.

The Members congratulated Gareth Mc Mahon, Executive Engineer on his recent secondment to a Monaghan County Council project – Phases 2 & 4 – Coolkill East to Corracrin Realignment Scheme. David Fallon, A/County Manager concurred with the Members sentiments and stated that there will be a replacement for Gareth McMahan during his secondment. The A/County Manager also stated that there will be transition issues to be dealt with as Monaghan Town would be a centre of one of the proposed new Municipal Districts.

**To Consider the Draft Town Development Plan 2013-2019 and the Manager's report on the submissions received in respect of it and the Environmental report.**

The Members welcomed Adrian Hughes, Senior Planner and Toirleach Gourley, Senior Executive Planner to the meeting. The Members noted the following documents:-

- Manager's introduction
- Extracts no's 6, 38, 40, 42 & 44 from the Planning Guidelines
- Monaghan Town Council Manager's Report on submissions received (3 no.) to the Strategic Environmental Assessment (Environmental Report) dated November 2012
- Monaghan Town Manager's Report dated 19<sup>th</sup> November 2012 on submissions received (10 no.) on the Draft Monaghan County Development Plan (incorporating the Development Plan for the towns of Monaghan, Carrickmacross, Castleblayney, Clones and Ballybay) 2013-2019
- Manager's Report on submissions in respect of the Environmental Report

Cllr. Robbie Gallagher withdrew from the meeting.

The Members examined the documentation in detail. On the proposal of Cllr Seamus Treanor seconded by Cllr David Maxwell it was agreed to approve of the Monaghan Town Manager's Report on submissions received in relation to the Draft County Development Plan (incorporating the Development Plans for the towns of Monaghan, Carrickmacross, Castleblayney, Clones and Ballybay) 2013-2019. On the proposal of Cllr Seamus Treanor seconded by Cllr David Maxwell it was unanimously agreed to approve of the Monaghan Town Council Manager's Report on submissions received to the Strategic Environmental Assessment (Environmental Report) in relation to the Draft Monaghan County Development Plan (incorporating the Development Plan for the towns of Monaghan, Carrickmacross, Castleblayney, Clones and Ballybay) 2013-2019.

Cllr David Maxwell proposed the following:-

"I propose to include lands Ref: DMCDP 71 lands at Milltown Monaghan. Planning permission was granted on these lands 99/234 in December 2004, planning was granted P/04/1524. Site is zoned for low density housing. June 2010 – extension for duration P/24/1524 was granted – 11 dwellings have been purchased. Roads, footpaths and public lighting are completed, development is fully serviced, the pumping station has capacity to serve 75 no. dwellings. This parcel of land where 7 dwellings will be built is an infill site to the existing 11 dwellings. This site in Milltown is closer to centre of Monaghan than lands N and O. This site makes use of infill opportunities. This site is continuous to an existing zoned and developed site with 11 houses built and purchased. As Monaghan Town has an overall residential requirement of 47.4 hectares I propose to exclude 1.2 hectares which is the size of the proposed lands in Milltown at land parcel which comprises 8.26 hectares. The excluded portion is around the Bishops House at Latlurcan, Monaghan as I believe these lands will not be developed in the lifetime of this plan".

Cllr. Seamus Treanor seconded the proposal and it was agreed by the Members.

Adrian Hughes, Senior Planner left the Council Chamber. Cllr Robbie Gallagher returned to the Council Chamber.

### **Presentation of Walking and Cycling Strategy for Monaghan Town.**

The Members welcomed Kieran Boyle, Kieran Boyle Consulting and Carol Lambe, Community and Enterprise, Monaghan County Council to the meeting. The Members were circulated with the Monaghan Town Active Travel Plan Walking and Cycling Draft Strategy dated November 2012 which creates a vision to develop the town with a network of safe and convenient walking and cycling routes that will improve the quality of life for everybody in the community by prioritizing walking and cycling for travel to work, education, shopping and day to day business in the town whilst also providing high quality routes for leisure and fitness activities. It was noted that extensive consultation took place with the general public, businesses and schools in order to gain a deeper understanding of travel habits in the town and to identify specific improvements that would encourage more walking and cycling.

The Members noted map 3 and map 4 of the report which set out the proposed walking and cycling link recommendations.

The Members thanked Kieran Boyle for his detailed presentation and acknowledged the work also carried out by Carol Lambe. It was agreed to write to the National Roads Authority asking them to recognize that people use the by-passes for walking/cycling and to call for measures to be put in place to make the by-passes safer for people. The Members called on the public to ensure that they wear high visibility vests when walking/cycling. It was noted that the Minister for Transport has granted €471,000 for the development of the Ulster Canal Greenway project.

Kieran Boyle, Toirleach Gourley and Carol Lambe left the Council Chamber.

**1. Confirmation of October Monthly Meeting held on 15/10/12**

On the proposal of Cllr. David Maxwell seconded by Cllr Seán Conlon it was agreed to adopt the Minutes of the October Monthly Meeting of Monaghan Town Council held on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> October 2012.

**2. Confirmation of Meeting held in Committee regarding Draft Monaghan County Development Plan 2013-2019**

On the proposal of Cllr. Seán Conlon seconded by Cllr Thomas Hagan it was agreed to adopt the Minutes of the Meeting held in Committee on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> October 2012 regarding the Draft Monaghan County Development Plan 2013-2019.

**3. Matters arising from the Minutes**

Jonathon Condell, Assistant Engineer confirmed that he met with representatives from the Monaghan Allotment Society in relation to the provision of community allotments at Killygoan and that a planning application will be submitted within the next couple of weeks.

It was agreed to write to Phil Hogan TD, Minister for the Environment, Community and Local Government in relation to a request made by the Council to put in place more powers for Local Authorities to deal with situations where private dwellings have gone into disrepair.

It was agreed to write again to Joan Burton TD, Minister for Social Protection calling for action by her Department to address the plight of part time firefighters who are being denied job seekers benefit.

Cllr Seán Conlon commended the Executive for the manner in which the Joint Policing Public Meeting was advertised.

Cllr. Pádraigín Uí Mhurchadha stated that she has contacted the Courts Service nationally in relation to the reinstatement of the Harp emblem over the entrance to Monaghan Courthouse.

#### **4. Manager's Orders**

The Members noted Managers Orders numbered 150/12 – 166/12.

#### **5. Correspondence**

The Members noted the following correspondence:-

- Letter dated 8<sup>th</sup> November 2012 from the Department of Finance in relation to AIB's interest rates.
- Letter dated 25<sup>th</sup> October 2012 from the Department of Finance in relation to mortgage interest relief.
- Letter dated 24<sup>th</sup> October 2012 from the Department of Environment, Community and Local Government regarding extending the sewage system on the Scotstown/Clones road to the main sewage system of Monaghan Town. Cllr. Thomas Hagan called for an extension of the sewage scheme in the Milltown area.
- Letter dated 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2012 from the Department of Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation regarding supports for Monaghan Town and County Council.
- Acknowledgement letter dated 1<sup>st</sup> November 2012 from the Office of the Minister for Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation regarding a Notice of Motion of Monaghan Town Council concerning the funding of enterprise centres.
- Acknowledgement letter dated 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2012 from the Office of the Minister for Education and Skills regarding Elections/Referenda.
- Acknowledgement letter dated 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2012 from the Department of Environment, Community and Local Government regarding a proposal to hold all elections/referenda on a Saturday.
- Letter dated 6<sup>th</sup> November 2012 from the Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government regarding employment of staff at polling stations and during the count at the forthcoming Referendum. On the proposal of Cllr. Donal Sherry seconded by Cllr. Seán Conlon it was agreed to write to the Local Returning Officer to ascertain how many of the unemployed had received work at the polling stations at the recent Referendum.
- Letter received 16<sup>th</sup> October 2012 from Andrea Curran, Peace by Piece Project Worker, Youth Work Ireland, Monaghan thanking the Members of Monaghan Town Council for hosting a reception for the cyclists who took part in the Peace Cycle from Belfast to Enniskillen.
- Letter received on the 16<sup>th</sup> October 2012 from the Chairman of the Halloween Bats Festival, Monaghan Town requesting the draw down of €5,000 to facilitate the Halloween Bats Committee in the implementation plan for the festival. The Members also noted an expenditure statement for the festival 2012. It was agreed to contribute €5,000 to the Halloween Bats Festival.
- Letter received 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2012 from Rehab regarding the Monaghan People of the Year Awards 2012
- Letter dated 26<sup>th</sup> October 2012 from Mullaghmatt/Cortolvin Community Development Ltd seeking a donation of €3,000 towards the Mullaghmatt/Cortolvin Youth Café. It was agreed to refer this correspondence to the Budget Sub-Committee.

- Email dated 15<sup>th</sup> November 2012 from Shirley Clerkin, Heritage Officer, Monaghan County Council outlining the up-to-date position on Tom Young's Wood.
- Letter dated 6<sup>th</sup> November 2012 from Raymond Aughey stating that Cheryl Gormley will be replacing him as Chairperson of the Monaghan Tidy Towns Committee. The Members acknowledged the work of Mr. Aughey.
- Letter dated 31<sup>st</sup> October 2012 from Raymond Aughey stating that he is retiring as the Monaghan Vintners representative on the Monaghan Town St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee. The Members acknowledged the work of Mr. Aughey.
- Letter dated 31<sup>st</sup> October 2012 from Julie Brannigan stating that she is stepping down from the post of Secretary of the Monaghan Town St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee. The Members acknowledged the work and commitment of Ms. Brannigan in carrying out her duties as Secretary of the Committee.
- Letter received November 2012 from the Chairman of the Christmas Lights Committee, Monaghan town requesting the draw down of €8,000 to facilitate the Christmas Lights Committee in the implementation plan for the festival on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of December 2012. On the proposal of Cllr Seán Conlon seconded by Cllr Robbie Gallagher it was agreed to contribute €8,000 to the festival committee.
- Letter dated November 2012 from Paul McGeown requesting a road closure around Church Square from 12pm until 8pm on Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2012 to facilitate the big switch on of the Christmas Lights. It was agreed to place an advertisement in the local newspaper this week.
- Letter dated 10<sup>th</sup> November 2012 from Violet McCabe (Parent), Monaghan Training Workshop, St. Davnet's Complex requesting a donation towards their upcoming Christmas Show. It was agreed to refer this request to the Budget Sub-Committee of Monaghan Town Council.
- Letter dated 15<sup>th</sup> November 2012 from Cavan Monaghan Down Syndrome Association seeking a financial contribution towards the holding of classes in Literacy and Technology for Adults with Down Syndrome. It was agreed to refer this correspondence to the Budget Sub-Committee of Monaghan Town Council.
- Letter from the Association of Municipal Authorities of Ireland regarding the launch of document "Putting People First".

## **6. Planning Applications**

The Members noted Planning Applications numbered M.T. 12/19 – M.T. 12/20.

## **7. Business Submitted by An Cathaoirleach**

No business was submitted by An Cathaoirleach.

## **8. Consideration of Reports of Committees**

The Cathaoirleach, Cllr. Seamus Treanor stated that the Planning Sub-Committee of Monaghan Town Council recommend that Monaghan Town Football Club and FC Sporting Youths be granted the use of Belgium Park Football Field for the winter months. It was agreed that in future the football field be confined to groups located only in Monaghan town.

## **9. Roads/Housing**

A number of matters were noted for the attention of the Town Engineer:-

- Entrance to Cloverhill Housing Estate – drains blocked/leaves
- North Road – loose bricks on footpaths.
- Clear Road markings/signage required at Flacks Garage and Beech Hill College Area.
- Traffic congestion – Heatons corner
- Improved public lighting required – Ballybay Road.
- Assessment of footpaths in Beechgrove Lawns

On the proposal of Cllr Thomas Hagan seconded by Cllr Seamus Treanor it was agreed to investigate a proposal to provide a disabled parking bay in the vicinity of St. Joseph's Church, Park Street to facilitate mass-goers.

The Members welcomed the repair of railings on the Pound Hill and the works carried out recently at the St. Louis Primary Schools.

Cllr Thomas Hagan referred to children playing football on the road in the Mullaghmatt Housing Estate and enquired if signs could be erected to address the problem.

Cllr. Donal Sherry called for the relocating of a loading bay in Glaslough Street as the vehicles parked in the bay are overshadowing a business. Cllr. Sherry noted that there is a need for a loading bay in this area.

## **10. Telecommunication Mast at Killygoan**

The Members look forward to the removal of the Telecommunication Mast at Killygoan.

## **11. Mullaghmatt Remedial Works Scheme**

It was noted that Council officials met with the Department regarding the Scheme and that no official approval has yet been received. The Members noted that planning documents are being prepared in advance of official approval.

## **12. Report on Mixed Use Development at Rooskey**

The Members noted that work is underway by the Contractor in reinstating the car park at Rooskey.

**13. Question No. (18a) adopted at September Monthly Meeting:-**

“In an effort to enhance pedestrian and vehicle safety at the location where several schools and road networks converge on the Clones Road will the Engineering Section invite recommendations from the relevant schools and Gardaí in a view to improving on existing measures?”

*The Town Council Executive can arrange to invite recommendations from the Schools and the Gardaí in a view to improving on existing measures in the area.* Jonathon Condell, Assistant Engineer reported that a meeting was held with the School Principals and the Gardaí who acknowledged the recent works carried out in the area. Jonathon Condell stated that proposals for additional road improvements will form part of the programme for inclusion under the Road Grant 2013.

**14. Setting of date for Annual Budget Meeting**

The Members noted Circular Letter Fin 12/2012 setting out the prescribed periods that apply for the holding of 2013 Budget Meetings. It was agreed to hold the Statutory Annual Budget Meeting on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> December 2012 at 5.00p.m. It was agreed to hold a Budget Sub-committee meeting on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> November 2012 at 9.30a.m.

**15. Notices of Motion:-**

(a) “That this Council supports proposals for minimum penalties for assaults on emergency workers”.

Cllr. Gallagher

On the proposal of Cllr. Robbie Gallagher seconded by Cllr. Seamus Treanor it was agreed to adopt the above Notice of Motion.

(b) “That this Council condemns cuts to home-help services which will impact the most vulnerable as the winter approaches”.

Cllr. Gallagher

On the proposal of Cllr Robbie Gallagher seconded by Cllr Donal Sherry it was agreed to adopt the above Notice of Motion.

© “That Monaghan Town Council endorses the recent motion passed at the County Council meeting that seeks assurances from Bus Éireann CEO Martin Nolan that the existing 177 Monaghan-Dublin service retains its current route and frequency of provision”.

Cllrs. Conlon, Uí Mhurchadha, Sherry, McGeown

On the proposal of Cllr Seán Conlon seconded by Cllr Donal Sherry it was agreed to adopt the above Notice of Motion.

(d) “That this Council call on the Ministers for Finance and Foreign Affairs to suspend payment to some third World Countries until there is more accountability and transparency forthcoming as to how this money is being spent”.

Cllr. Treanor

Cllr Seamus Treanor proposed the Motion and Cllr Thomas Hagan seconded the Motion. Cllrs Conlon and Maxwell stated that they could not support the Motion. Following a discussion a vote was taken which resulted as follows:-

In favour of the Motion:- Cllrs Treanor, Gallagher, Hagan (3)

Against the Motion:- Cllrs. Maxwell, McGeown, Sherry, Uí Mhurchadha (4)

Cllr Seán Conlon abstained from voting.

The Motion was declared lost.

(e) “That this Council write to the Minister for Education, Ruairi Quinn requesting the return to Local Authorities, the system that has worked extremely well, in granting the Student Grant Scheme for third level education”.

Cllr. Treanor

On the proposal of Cllr. Seamus Treanor seconded by Cllr. Robbie Gallagher it was agreed to adopt the above Notice of Motion.

(f) “That this Council calls for a minimum jail term for anyone convicted of assaulting or threatening the life of a frontline emergency worker such as an on-duty garda, fireman, ambulance worker or nurse”.

Cllr. Gallagher

On the proposal of Cllr. Robbie Gallagher seconded by Cllr. Seamus Treanor it was agreed to adopt the above Notice of Motion. It was also agreed to circulate the Motion to all Local Authorities.

(g) “That this Council calls for legislation to limit the height of overly tall boundary trees (such a leylandi) which affect a neighbours “right of light” by casting excessive shade over another persons property”.

Cllr. Gallagher

On the proposal of Cllr Robbie Gallagher seconded by Cllr. Seamus Treanor it was agreed to adopt the above Notice of Motion. It was also agreed to circulate the Motion to all Local Authorities.

## **16. Ceisteanna/Questions:-**

**Cllrs. Uí Mhurchadha, Conlon, Sherry, McGeown asked:-**

(a) Following on from the Council decision at the July Monthly Meeting to take in charge the Canal View residential estate, have Airtricity been requested to repair the considerable number of street lights not working and if so is there a timescale for repair?

*A quotation has been sought for this work with Airtricity to repair the existing faults within this estate. This work will be completed within the next two weeks. After the initial repairs, Monaghan Town Council will have Canal View added to the maintenance contract with Airtricity so repairs can be made through the normal call out procedures without the need for future quotations.*

(b) With the extensive amount of litter evident on the streets on the October Bank Holiday Monday, what are the scheduling arrangements for litter retrieval on holiday weekends? This issue was similarly questioned by the Sinn Féin members following the Easter Monday holiday earlier this year.

*The current schedule is that on a Bank Holiday an early morning sweep is carried out on a Saturday and a Sunday morning. This is the same schedule as a standard weekend litter retrieval.*

Cllr Seán Conlon circulated photographs to the Members showing examples of litter strewn on the streets in the town on the October Bank Holiday Monday and called on management to re-examine the current situation with staff with a view to implementing a revised system of litter collection in the town.

© How many fines/penalties have been issued for litter violations during 2011 and year to date?

*In 2011 – 18 litter fines were issued. To date in 2012 - 20 litter fines have been issued.*

(d) Following on from the Sinn Féin proposal at the October Meeting, have negotiations commenced between Council representatives and financial institutions on potential purchase of the undeveloped lands adjoining the Latlorcan Estates on the Castleblayney Road?

*The Council are in contact with the Receivers in this case on a number of issues.*

(e) Please provide an update on the Section 183 first brought to the Councillors attention in November 2006 and recently at the September meeting, relating to transfer of Town Council property at the O' Neills farm location on the N2 bypass. *Additional wording has been received from the Council's Solicitor and a revised map is being prepared by Monaghan Town Council Engineering Staff. Both the revised map and the wording will be submitted before the Members at the December Monthly Meeting.*

(f) The Works Programme for 2012 funded under the Road Grant allocation listed 24 projects valued at €195,000. Please provide an update as to the progress/completion of these works.

*See attached spreadsheet*

(g) What progress is there to report regarding the recommencement of the Mullaghmatt Remedial Scheme? Is the allocation of €1.5m committed to this scheme earlier in the year secure despite being unspent during the 2012 financial year?

*Monaghan Town Council staff met with the Department regarding the remedial Scheme, however no official approval has yet been received. Planning documents are being prepared in advance of official approval. The allocation of the €1.5m is allocated to the Phase and not for expenditure during the 2012 financial year.*

(h) Is there a timescale available from Airtricity as to when street lighting will be repaired/replaced at the Latlorcan housing development on the Castleblayney Road?

*An order has been placed with Airtricity for the upgrade of lighting within the Latlorcan Housing Estate. This work will be completed over the next two weeks.*

**Cllr. Robbie Gallagher asked:**

(i) Could the Council investigate the situation with regard to lights at traffic islands on the Clones Road between Century Homes and the town with a view to replacing bulbs, etc as unlit islands are a danger to traffic?

*Monaghan County Council is aware of this situation and is working with an electrical contractor to replace bulbs and make further repairs. However, a number of the traffic islands on the Clones Road have no lighting in place and are identified only by reflective directional bollards. Monaghan County Council last week washed these reflective bollards as part of their ongoing maintenance.*

(j) With no street cleaning service on Bank Holiday weekends would the Council consider investigating and organising alternatives to help deal with litter on Bank Holiday Mondays in particular as the levels of litter witnessed were disturbing?

*The current status of litter collection over Bank Holiday weekends is that early morning sweeps are carried out on a Saturday and a Sunday. This requires 4 no. men working for 5 hours. Up till last year on a Bank Holiday weekend, the litter collection was extended to include three mornings, Saturday, Sunday and Monday. Owing to budgetary restraints, this litter collection is now restricted to two mornings. To operate the early morning sweep on a bank holiday Monday would cost Monaghan Town Council €600 for labour costs only. To move the early morning sweep from a Sunday morning to a Monday morning would transfer the problems being experienced from a Monday to a Sunday.*

(k) Would the Council erect more signage on Glaslough Street to clearly indicate that all large vehicles cannot turn right at the Diamond

*There are vacant signpost poles on Glaslough Street at the entrance to the Car Park where a new sign will be erected to indicate that large vehicles cannot turn right at The Diamond. This new sign will be erected before the end of the year.*

**17. Resolutions from Other Local Authorities:-**

(a) "That Muinebheag Town Council asks Jan O Sullivan T.D., Minister for Housing and Planning to postpone the termination of the current Tenant Purchase Scheme, scheduled for December 2012, until such time as an alternative scheme commences".

Muinebheag Town Council

It was agreed to support the above Resolution.

(b) “That this Council condemns the decision of the Minister for the Environment, Community and Local Government to abolish all Town, City and Borough Councils and further calls upon the Minister to embark on a programme of meaningful reform of Local Government which includes the retention of Town, City and Borough Councils”.

New Ross Town Council

It was agreed to support the above Resolution.

© “That Castlebar Town Council supports the same rights and entitlements to civil marriage for all citizens of Mayo regardless of race, religion or sexuality and this be communicated to the Minister of Justice, Equality and Defence”.

Castlebar Town Council

It was agreed to mark the above Resolution read.

(d) “That this Council rejects the decision of the Minister for the Environment, Community and Local Government to abolish all Town and Borough Councils. While the Members of Macroom Town Council recognize that there is a need for meaningful reform, the undemocratic way in which the Minister has proposed to eliminate the least expensive layer of Local Government, being Town and Borough Councils without debate defies the meaning of democracy in Politics”.

Macroom Town Council

Cllr Pádraigín Uí Mhurchadha condemned the Minister’s plan and stated that the announcement on taking away local democracy was one of the saddest days for the Country.

It was agreed to support the above Resolution. It was agreed to write to the Cavan/Monaghan Dáil Deputies calling on them to give serious consideration to the contribution Town Council’s make to the people and to take up the fight to save Town Local Authorities from abolition as is recommended in the new “Putting People First” document on Local Government Reform.

(e) “Balbriggan Town Council calls on the Minister for the Environment, the Taoiseach and the Tánaiste to meet Balbriggan Town Council to discuss the impact the proposed abolition of the Council will have on the Town”.

Balbriggan Town Council

It was agreed to mark the above Resolution read.

(f) “That the Government would not introduce a property tax because of the intense hardship it will inflict on the Irish People who do not have the finance to pay such a tax in todays economic climate”.

Carrick on Suir Town Council

It was agreed to support the above Resolution.

(g) “That Castlebar Town Council resolves to write to Senator Martin McAleese in support of the Magdalene survivors and request all Town, City and County Councils to do the same”.

Castlebar Town Council

It was agreed to support the above Resolution.

## **18. Conferences:-**

- (a) Superior Training – “Information and Communications Technology for Councillors” – Great Northern Hotel, Bundoran – 23<sup>rd</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> November 2012 – approx. cost €380).
- (b) Superior Training – “The Local Government Budget 2013” – Carlton Millrace Hotel, Bunclody, Wexford – 30<sup>th</sup> November 2012 – 1<sup>st</sup> December 2012 – (approx. cost €480)
- (c) Tgr Seminars – “Putting People First – Reform and Strategic Planning for 2013” - Bunratty Castle Hotel, Co. Clare – 7<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> December 2012 - (approx. cost €700).
- (d) Celtic Conferences – Budget 2013 Seminar – Celtic Ross Hotel, Rosscarbery, Cork – 14<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> December 2012 – (approx. cost €880)

No attendance is to take place to the above Conferences.

The Members were circulated with reports complying with Section 142(5)(f) of the Local Government Act 2001 in relation to the following Conferences:-

- AMAI Annual Conference, Ballinasloe – attended by Cllr. Thomas Hagan
- AMAI Spring Conference, Cavan - attended by Cllr. Thomas Hagan.

## **19. Any Other Business**

It was agreed to extend an invitation to His Excellency Loyola Hearn, Canadian Ambassador to Ireland to attend the St. Patricks Day Parade in Monaghan Town on the 17<sup>th</sup> March 2013.

## **20. Sympathy/Congratulations**

A vote of sympathy was extended to the following:-

- The Rafferty family, Crumlin, Silverstream on the death of Jeanne.
- Margaret Duffy and family, Ard Glas, Killygoan on the death of Terry Duffy, (brother-in-law of Cllr Donal Sherry).

A vote of congratulations was extended to the following:-

- O’ Hanrahan Travel on their success in the National Travel Centres Awards 2012.
- Monaghan Gospel Choir who have accepted an invitation to Prague to participate in a Choir Festival.
- Monaghan Elim Church on the recent official opening of their new Church Complex.
- Paul Ward, Biotech Ltd. on receiving an Intertrade Award for a project which deals with oral health care in cats/dogs.
- Bishop Liam MacDaid and the priests of the Parish on the newly renovated St. Joseph’s Church, Park Street.

This concluded the business of the Meeting.  
Dated this the 17<sup>th</sup> day of December 2012.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
**Cathaoirleach**

