

Minutes of Meeting of Monaghan County Council held in the Council Chamber, Mtek Building, Armagh Road, Monaghan on Monday 2nd July, 2018 at 10.00 a.m.

Chair: Cllr D. Maxwell, Cathaoirleach

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

Mr. A. King, Deputy Chief Executive, Ms. P. Monahan, A/Director of Service Mr. F. McPhillips, A/Director of Service, Ms. N. Woods, A/Head of Finance, Mr. T. Gourley, Senior Executive Planner, Ms. O. McConnon, Financial Management Accountant and Ms. C. Thornton, Meetings Administrator.

Apologies: Mr. E. O'Sullivan, Chief Executive, Mr. P. Clifford, Director of Service, Mr. J. Murray, Head of Finance.

Urgent Business

1. Confirmation of Minutes

(i) Minutes of Council meeting held on 11th June, 2018

On the proposal of Cllr Coyle seconded by Cllr P. Treanor it was agreed that the minutes of the Council meeting held on the 11th June 2018 be confirmed.

(ii) Minutes of the Annual Council meeting held on 18th June, 2018

On the proposal of Cllr Campbell seconded by Cllr B. McKenna it was agreed that the minutes of the Council meeting held on the 11th June 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 regarding Versatis Patches.
- Letter from the Minister for Health, Mr. Simon Harris regarding Open Disclosure Policy.
- Email from Senator Robbie Gallagher regarding Ministers Ross to visit County Monaghan roads.
- Resolution from Kerry County Council regarding efforts to require people to work until they are 68.
- Resolution from Kerry County Council regarding Post Offices to offer full Banking Services including Current Accounts, Loans & Mortgages.

The following additional correspondence was circulated at the meeting:

- Letter from the Minister for Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, Ms. Josepha Madigan, T.D. regarding the Ulster Canal.

Proposals arising out of correspondence:

On the proposal of Cllr O’Hanlon, seconded by Cllr McNally it was agreed that this Council calls on the Minister Shane Ross to visit Monaghan as soon as possible as agreed in principle by the request made by Senator Robbie Gallagher and that the local Minister Heather Humphreys meet the Council – relation to additional funding for our road network.

3. To elect a Chairperson for the Housing and Fire & Civil Protection SPC

On the proposal of Cllr Humphreys, seconded by Cllr Campbell, it was agreed that Cllr Maxwell transfer from the Housing and Civil Protection SPC to the Social, Cultural and Community SPC and that Cllr Gilliland transfer from the Social, Cultural and Community SPC to the Housing and Social Protection SPC.

On the proposal of Cllr Maxwell, seconded by Cllr Campbell, it was agreed that Cllr Sean Gilliland be elected as the Chair of the Housing and Civil Protection SPC.

4. To consider Section 183 Notice relating to the disposal of land at Drummond Otra, Carrickmacross

The members noted the report from the Senior Executive Engineer Roads recommending the disposal of 0.042 hectares of land in the townland of Drummond Otra, Carrickmacross.

On the proposal of Cllr McNally, seconded by Cllrs O’Hanlon and Keelan it was agreed that the Council approve the disposal of 0.042 hectares of land in the townland of Drummond Otra, Carrickmacross in accordance with the notice dated 11 June 2018 under Section 183 of the Local Government Act 2001.

5. Part VIII of the Local Government (Planning & Development) Act 2000

- (i) To consider granting permission to renovate and restore Hope Castle’s Gate Lodge No. 2 (a protected structure) for use as a branch library and community space. (Ref 18/8005)

The members considered the report from the Senior Planner which recommended that planning permission be granted subject to the conditions included in the report.

On the proposal of Cllr Campbell, seconded by Cllr Crowe, it was agreed that the Council approve the granting of planning permission for the renovation and restoration of Hope Castle’s Gate Lodge No. 2, to comply with the report from the Senior Planner, in accordance with Part VIII of the Local Government (Planning and Development) Regulations 2001 (as amended) (Ref 18/8005).

- (ii) To consider granting permission to renovate and refurbish the Patrick Kavanagh Centre (a protected structure) (Ref 18/8004)

The members considered the report from the Senior Planner which recommended that planning permission be granted subject to the conditions included in the report.

On the proposal of Cllr Keelan, seconded by Cllr McNally, it was agreed that the Council approve the granting of planning permission for the renovation and refurbishment of the Patrick Kavanagh Centre, Inniskeen, to comply with the report from the Senior Planner, in accordance with Part VIII of the Local Government (Planning and Development) Regulations 2001 (as amended) (Ref 18/8004).

6. To consider the proposed delisting of An Bonnan Bui, Fermanagh Street, Clones from the Council's Record of Protected Structures.

The members considered the report from the Senior Planner in relation to the proposed delisting of An Bonnan Bui, Fermanagh Street, Clones from the Council's Record of Protected Structures.

On the proposal of Cllr E. Humphreys, seconded by Cllr P. Treanor it was agreed that the Council commence the public consultation process to consider the proposed delisting of An Bonnan Bui, Fermanagh Street, Clones from the Council's Record of Protected Structures.

7. To consider Taking in Charge part of development known as Corr An Tobair, Ballybay Road, Carrickmacross

The members considered the report from the Senior Planner which recommended the proposed Taking in Charge of part of the development known as Corr An Tobair, Ballybay Road, Carrickmacross.

On the proposal of Cllr McNally, seconded by Cllr O'Hanlon, it was agreed that the Council approve the taking in charge of part of the development known as Corr An Tobair, Ballybay Road, Carrickmacross in accordance with the report of the Senior Planner dated 18 June, 2018.

8. To consider the Flood Risk Management Plans for Monaghan Town, Ballybay and Inniskeen

Mr. T. Gourley presented a summary to the members of the Flood Risk Management Plans. He stated that County Monaghan falls within two international River Basin Districts – the North Western and the Neagh Bann. The OPW has produced an individual Flood Risk Management Plan for each of the 29 River Basins that include the 300 communities assessed as being potentially significant flood risk. Monaghan Town, Ballybay, Carrickmacross and Inniskeen were identified as Areas for Further Assessment (AFAs) with flood risk management plans being ultimately prepared for Monaghan Town, Ballybay and Inniskeen – Carrickmacross was determined to be at low risk. An initial tranche of fifty flood risk schemes which were selected for funding on a multi criteria assessment basis are being progressed under the flood risk management plans. No funding has been made available for this phase in respect of the flood risk management plans for Monaghan Town, Ballybay or Inniskeen on the basis of the multi criteria assessment scoring. Monaghan is one of only two local authorities that have not been allocated funding in the first tranche of funding. The Council may get funding under a future tranche. The Minor Works Scheme which has an upper threshold of €750,000 is open for local authorities to make a case for funding. An application for works to alleviate flooding in Monaghan Town Centre has been made by the Council under this scheme.

Mr. Gourley stated that the Council was required to consider adopting the Flood Risk Management Plans under the European Communities (Assessment and Management of Flood Risks) Regulations 2010 within three months of publication.

On the proposal of Cllr Connolly, seconded by Cllr Coyle it was agreed that the Council adopt the Flood Risk Management Plans for Monaghan Town, Ballybay and Inniskeen.

On the proposal of Cllr Coyle, seconded by Cllr McNally, it was agreed that Monaghan County Council demand of the Minister with responsibility for the Office of Public Works (OPW) and Flood Relief Kevin "Boxer" Moran TD, Local Minister Heather Humphreys TD and the government immediate funding for Flood Relief Schemes for Ballybay, Inniskeen and Monaghan, also expresses its serious disappointment that these projects are currently not prioritised for funding by Government.

9. To note the Monaghan County Council Anti Fraud and Corruption Contingency Plan

Ms. O. McConnon, Financial Management Accountant, presented the revised Anti Fraud and Corruption Contingency Plan to the members. She explained that the document details the Council's policy towards detected or suspected acts of fraud or corruption, relating to members, employees and/other persons in a position designated by the Chief Executive (eg consultants or others providing a service to the local authority). The document also outlines the role of elected members, Directors, employees, Internal and External Audit and takes account of Protected Disclosures legislation and the Ethical Framework for the local government service. All elected members and employees of the Council have a responsibility to report suspected fraud or corruption. The document provided examples of fraud and corruption and also gave guidance for the reporting and investigation of suspected fraud or corruption.

Following the presentation Ms. McConnon responded to queries from the elected members.

The Cathaoirleach thanked her for a very informative presentation.

10. To consider recommendations and minutes from Corporate Policy Group meeting held on 19 June 2018

On the proposal of Cllr McKenna, seconded by Cllr P. Treanor, it was agreed that the Council approve the minutes of the Corporate Policy Group meeting held on 19 June 2018 and the recommendations contained therein.

11. To receive the Management Report – June 2018

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

On the proposal of Cllr Conlon, seconded by Cllr McKenna it was agreed that to expedite further social and private housing projects at the considerable land bank at Latlorcan and that the Housing Section publish the Masterplan for consultation.

On the proposal of Cllr Bennett proposed, seconded by Cllr Conlon it was agreed that the Council writes to Failte Ireland/Tourism Ireland and ask them to seek funding to upgrade the roads in the Sliabh Beagh Area.

- *Presently funding has been sourced to upgrade Tourism in the area e.g. Signs/Way makers.*
- *Funding has also been allocated under the "CANN PROJECT" to the area.*
- *Presently the roads in the area are in a very bad state of despair and to encourage to encourage tourism under the above initiatives. The roads need to be repaired urgently.*

12. Business submitted by the Chief Executive.

There were no items submitted under this heading.

13. Matters arising out of the minutes of Council meetings held on 11 and 18 June, 2018.

Matters arising out of the minutes of Council meetings held on 11 and 18 June 2018 were responded to by the relevant officials.

Cllr David Maxwell, Cathaoirleach, informed the members that himself and a delegation from the Council met with Minister for Health, Simon Harris T.D., on Saturday 30 June. The Minister had visited Monaghan General Hospital prior to the meeting with Councillors. A number of matters had been raised with the Minister and he had undertaken to revert back to the Cathaoirleach on these. He had also undertaken to meet with the delegation again in September/October.

14. To receive update on North South Interconnector project.

On the proposal of Cllr Keelan, seconded by Cllr Crowe, it was agreed that this Council writes to Minister Denis Naughten TD, calling on him to publish the two outstanding reports which he committed to do when this Council met with him earlier in the year. That these reports be public before the Dail recess on the 12th July next.

On the proposal of Cllr Keelan, seconded by Cllr Crowe, it was agreed

- (i) that this Council notes its deep disappointment at the lack of response from An Taoiseach in relation to this Council's repeated requests for a meeting.*
- (ii) That this Council renew our request for a meeting.*
- (iii) That this Council calls again on our local Minister heather Humphreys TD and the Fine Gael members for this meeting to happen.*

On the proposal of Cllr Coyle, seconded by Cllr McNally it was agreed that Monaghan County Council demands of the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment Denis Naughten TD to immediately publish the two reviews on the North South Interconnector and in

any event before the Oireachtas Summer recess on the 12th July and welcome the Supreme Court decision to hear an appeal of Bord Pleanála grant of planning permission.

On the proposal of Cllr Conlon, seconded by Cllr Keelan, it was agreed that this Council write in support and solidarity to the residents of Ratheniska Co Laois and surrounding regions impacted by the proposed overhead Eirgrid interconnectors. We commend your effort in opposing this violation of your rights and recognition of your genuine concerns affecting your livelihoods and communications.

15. To receive update on the Ulster Canal project.

The members noted the letter from the Minister for Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, Ms. Josepha Madigan, T.D. and the Minister for Foreign Affairs in relation to this matter.

16. To receive presentation from Dr. Linda Pinkster, Director of Further Education & Training and Caroline Flanagan, Authorised Officer, CMETB and John McEntegart, CEO Monaghan LEO re apprenticeships.

The Cathaoirleach welcomed Dr. Linda Pinkster, Director of Further Education & Training and Caroline Flanagan, Authorised Officer, CMETB and John McEntegart, CEO Monaghan and invited them to address the members.

Ms. Flanagan then gave a detailed presentation to the members during which she outlined specific information relating to the Apprenticeship Programme being operated by the CMETB. She referred to the Generation Apprenticeship initiative being undertaken by Solas and stated that a number of initiatives were being taken to increase workplace learning so employers had people tailor made to work in their organisations and skill gaps were filled. She also referred to the traditional craft based apprenticeships. She explained that the old forms of apprenticeship provided certification up to QQI level six whereas new apprenticeships ranged from level six up to levels nine/ten. Eight apprenticeships are currently being rolled out by the Board based in both the Monaghan and Cavan campuses. It is hoped to have approval for a further 6 apprenticeships by August 2018. She outlined how young people can apply for an apprenticeship.

Dr. Pinkster referred to the traineeship programme operated by the ETB, which lasted between 6 – 18 months, and was based in Monaghan Institute and the Tanagh Outdoor Education Centre. She said there were plans to launch a programme with Entekra in addition to those being operated in conjunction with Monaghan Mushrooms and Combilift.

Ms Flanagan and Dr. Pinkster responded to queries from the members.

The Cathaoirleach thanked both ladies for the presentation and wished them every success with the programme.

On the proposal of Cllr Conlon, seconded by Cllr Bennett it was agreed that this Council asks the Minister of Business Enterprise and Innovation Heather Humphreys TD and her Department to initiate a financial assistance scheme specifically aimed at supporting apprenticeships and trainees as they pursue qualifications that will strengthen their skill set as well as the Irish economy. Similarly, that employers are compensated for their efforts in providing on-site training and mentoring to their apprentices.

17. Questions:

ClIr P. McNally asked:

1. When does this Council expect the TII to carry out the additional traffic safety measures at Tullyvaragh on the N2 near Carrickmacross?

Reply: Once lands are acquired the scheme will progress to construction. Land acquisition by agreement is progressing. Construction works are targeted for October 2018.

2. Has this Council any intention of constructing local authority houses directly instead of being totally reliant on housing associations and private developers.

Reply: Through proactive engagement with Approved Housing Bodies (Housing Associations), Private Developers and Property Owners, Monaghan County Council provided 107 additional social houses in 2017. It is intended that a similar number of houses will be provided in 2018 through Buy & Renew, Repair & Lease, Long Term Leasing in conjunction with AHBs and the rolling Housing Acquisition Programme.

Monaghan County Council will commence the direct construction of 43 houses at Latlorcan in Monaghan Town and 8 houses at Bree, Castleblayney in July 2018 and has secured preliminary funding approval to provide 21 new apartments on six derelict sites in Clones. In June 2018 Monaghan County Council advertised for the "Purchase of Houses and Land for Social Housing" and intends to purchase suitable land for the development of housing in locations where there is significant social housing need. Similar adverts were placed in 2016 and 2017 and resulted in the provision of 41 houses so far through turnkey construction contracts and 75 houses through the Acquisition Programme. The provision of a further 16 unfinished houses through turnkey construction is currently being worked on and every opportunity to deal with Unfinished Housing Developments through the provision of social housing is being examined and, where feasible, social houses are being provided.

Monaghan County Council is very successfully employing every means at its disposal to provide social housing in areas of housing need including the direct construction of social houses on land owned by Monaghan County Council, on land owned by Private Developers, Unfinished Housing Developments, Derelict Sites and in partnership with Approved Housing Bodies (Housing Associations).

3. Has this Council received any response from the Department following our submission highlighting the crisis situation with many of our County and Regional roads due to lack of funding and a huge increase in the price of road resurfacing.

Reply: A response was received from DTTAS on the 11th May stating that 'there is no additional funding available to the Department to allocate to works on regional and local roads at present.

ClIr C. Carthy asked:

4. When is it expected that the roads section of MCC will mount the proposed road safety campaign regarding pedestrians/cyclists on National roads?

Reply: The Road Safety Officer contacted local cycling and walking groups in January 2018 asking them to highlight to their members the dangers of using the hard shoulder of national roads such as the N2, N53 and N54, particularly during the hours of darkness.

The item has been added to the agenda of June's Road Safety Working Together Group meeting for discussion. Another campaign will be launched over the summer period via social media, local newspapers and radio to reinforce the message.

Cllr C. Carthy asked

5. What is the up-to-date position on the N2 Upgrade from Ardee to Castleblayney; has a design been agreed?

Reply: A Tender to appointment design consultants is currently open and is scheduled to conclude by end August 2018. Design and route finalisation will follow.

6. How many new cases of homelessness have been declared to Monaghan County Council since the start of 2018?

Reply: The number of presentations to Monaghan County Council in the period 1st January to 25th June was 47, which comprised of 52 adults and 14 children

7. Has the Housing Section received any response to its funding request to the department for a Vacant Housing Officer?

Reply: The Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government have issued a letter (19/06/18) to each local authority stating that funding of €50,000 per annum is being made available to each authority for a period of two years 2018/2019 to support the work of a Vacant Homes Office.

8. What capital/building works are planned by Monaghan County Council, if any, over the next 12 months (throughout the county)?

Project	Project	High Level - Actions/Milestones
1	PEACE Campus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Detailed design has been completed. Application for funding made to SEUPB
2	Office Refurbishment to 1 Dublin Street, Monaghan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tender for the Project advertised on E-tenders May 2018. Constriction to be completed in 2019
3	Hope Castle Gate Lodge No.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Part 8 Planning Application for July Council Meeting. Stage 2 Funding Submission submitted to the Library Department at the end of May. Detailed Design scheduled for completion by the end of July. Follow up meetings are scheduled with Library Department Officials.
4	Newbliss Courthouse - Arts Centre Capital Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Part 8 Planning Application for Sept Council Meeting. Detailed Design scheduled for completion by the end of August 18. Follow-up contact with Dept. for funding application.

5	Energy Improvement projects to Council Buildings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Projects submitted for approval to SEAI • SEAI approval received for 2018 projects • To go to tender for all 2018 BEC projects
6	Public Lighting Upgrade to LED	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue with retrofit of LEDs in 2018. • Priority to be given to replacement of SOX lamps due to the planned phasing out of these types of lamps. To be phased out over next 18-24 months.
7	TII Funded upgrade of Public Lighting on National Routes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 No schemes awarded - 162 PL / €101,518
8	Clones Civic Building - Clones Market House	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Substantial completion of construction scheduled for July.
9	Clones PO (Arts Centre)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Detailed design is ongoing and substantially complete.
10	Civil Defence HQ	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tenders review currently underway
11	Castleblayney Fire Station	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final tender contract documents and cost plan review: May '18 • Tendering for works: June '18 • Tender review and award planned for: July/August 18
12	Landfill Capping Works	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Upon receipt of EPA approval, commence tender for procurement of contractor in June 2018. • Appoint Contractor in August 2018. • Contractor mobilisation in August 2018. • Commence capping works August/September 2018. • Project completion in Q1 2019.

ClIr R. Aughey asked:

9. Can Monaghan County Council clarify their position in relation to the recommendations of the "Fire Safety in Ireland Report" from the Department of Housing?

Reply: Monaghan County Council welcomes the recommendations set out in the comprehensive report from the Fire Safety Task Force on 'Fire Safety in Ireland'. The Fire Safety Task Force was established in the aftermath of the Grenfell Tower fire tragedy in London to review the current approach to fire safety in Irish Society and make appropriate recommendations, and the report recognises that 'the conditions which gave rise to Grenfell Tower do not appear to be present in Ireland'.

Following a review of high rise buildings it can be confirmed similar conditions to Grenfell Tower do not exist in County Monaghan. Furthermore, a review and inspection of multi-unit social housing in County Monaghan has been undertaken and subsequent improvement works completed. The report makes a number of recommendations for enhancing the current fire safety system in Ireland, most notably a new requirement for a 'Public Notice of Fire Safety', new fire safety regulations to deal with 'sleeping accommodation' to ensure compliance with statutory responsibilities, and new provisions for large and complex buildings. Otherwise, the report aligns with the key objectives within Monaghan County Council's Fire & Civil Protection Fire and Emergency (Section 26) Operations Plan adopted at the February 2018 meeting of the Council.

Cllr R. Aughey asked:

10. a) Can Monaghan County Council clarify how many Property Marking Events there have been in County Monaghan in 2018?

Reply: The property marking machine is constantly employed around the communities, and is normally booked approx 2-3 weeks ahead at any time. To date, the following communities have carried out property marking events: Tydavnet, Clontibret, Kilmore Drumsnatt, Oram Mullyash, Doohamlet, Clones and Tullycorbett as well as Castle Leslie Riding Club.

Demonstrations have been carried out at an IFA Farm Safety event, the launch of Mullaghmatt Text Alert scheme, and Drumkill Day Care Centre Threemilehouse. Warning signs have been purchased and will be erected in the areas which have carried out events in the next few weeks.

- b) How many Property Marking Events are scheduled for the rest of the year?

Reply: The machine is available free of charge to community groups, businesses, sports clubs etc., who can organise to mark property for people in their area/ club. The service is in demand, and there is a waiting time of 2-3 weeks for the machine at present. Full training is given on its operation, which is straightforward, with no reported problems to date from users. Bookings can be made with through the Community Department within the Council

11. Can the Council state how many first responder groups exist in the county and how many groups took up the opportunity through the Clar programme to install defibrillators and AED cabinets and where?

Reply: There are currently three First Responder groups live with the National Ambulance Service in Co. Monaghan. They are:

- Castleblayney Community First Responder (CFR) Group
- Annyalla Cremartin CFR group
- Bawn Latton CFR group

There are many local groups who have fundraised to provide defibrillators in their local area, or who are training local people in CPR. This is different from a CFR service. CFR groups are contacted by the National Ambulance Service whenever an emergency call is received from their area and they are despatched to the scene to give whatever assistance they can until the ambulance arrives. Volunteers carry a phone and are 'on call' for a set period, during which they bring with them an emergency bag which includes a defibrillator as well as other first aid equipment. They are trained in first aid, CPR and sometimes have other medical training also.

The CLAR funded project facilitated by the Council in 2017 involved the three CFR groups, as well as Monaghan Sub Aqua Search & Rescue and a number of the CPR groups and Defibrillator groups. The groups met in advance of the application being made, and listed their equipment needs. This then became the basis of the funding application. Each group received different allocations of equipment, tailored to their stated needs. For example, Truagh Donagh Defibrillator Group requested seven defibrillators as their existing defibrillators were obsolete while other groups requested CPR manikins.

In all, there were 15 new defibrillators purchased, and these have been allocated around the county. Seven are in the Truagh Donagh area. The three CFR groups received one each (it is a condition of the National Ambulance Service that all CFR groups must have a defibrillator before they can go 'live'). The Sub Aqua Club received a defib, so they can have one on the rescue boat. Cuchulainn Blood Bikes received two defibrillators, so that their volunteers may assist at a Road Traffic Accident scene (many of their volunteers are former gardai and fire officers), and Bellatrain Defibrillator Group, Tydavnet CPR Group and Drumkill Daycare Centre received the remaining defibs. There were 20 outdoor heated cabinets purchased under the scheme. 19 have been allocated, 1 is still available. The 19 are located as follows:

Bellatrain	Raferagh National School
Currin GFC	Inniskeen
Lisnagrieve Hall	Cornagilta School
Loughmourne School	Tullycorbett Community Centre
Ardaghey Community Centre	Kilmore Swanns Cross
Monaghan Sub Aqua Club premises	Blackwater Learning Centre
Neill Park, Clontibret	Coyles Filling Station Rockcorry
Braeside Stores, Clontibret	Scotshouse Community Centre
Drumkill Daycare Centre	Raferagh National School
Scotshouse Community Centre	

Cllr R. Aughey asked:

12. What actions has the Council taken to ensure compliance with and promotion of the National Pollinator Plan?

Reply: The All-Ireland Pollinator Plan 2015-2020 is a strategy addressing pollinator declines and protecting pollination services on the island of Ireland. (www.pollinators.ie). It encourages individuals, communities, farmers and local authorities to take actions to help conserve pollinators. The Heritage Officer attended training on the strategy and its action plans. The local authority heritage offices initiated and support a Tidy Towns award for pollinators as part of the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan. There are many cross-departmental objectives in the plan relevant to the operations of the local authority. In Heritage Week 2017, the Irish Wildlife Trust in conjunction with Monaghan County Council delivered Bumblebee Training as part of the education and outreach part of the plan, and in May 2018 the National Biodiversity Data Centre delivered Butterfly Identification training also in conjunction with MCC. The Pollinator Plan will be incorporated into the new Heritage and Biodiversity Plan for County Monaghan 2018 -2023.

Cllr S. Conlon asked:

13. For the purpose of enhancing road safety conditions for both vehicle and pedestrian, I ask that the Roads Section initiate with Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) a road safety audit at the four point intersection of the North Rd, Hospital Hill, Rope Walk and Plantation Rd. in Monaghan.

Reply: Roads design section will engage with TII and other relevant stakeholders in relation to designing safety enhancement works in this area and how they can be incorporated in planned future N54 upgrade works.

Cllr N. Keelan asked:

14. Given the very serious illegal dumping uncovered by RTE investigates in parts of Donegal and the poor enforcement regime, what is the overall picture in this county in relation to large scale illegal dumping and enforcement etc.?

Reply: Matter addressed in this month's Management report.

15. In commending the great work that has been done over the years including up to the present day by the Inniskeen Development association /Patrick Kavanagh centre committee how much funding has this council contributed in the previous 5years to the Kavanagh centre in order to enhance this work in promoting Inniskeen village and the works of this famous poet?

Fund	Year(s)	Amount
Community Development Fund	2013-2017	€5,500
Community Facilities Scheme	2017	€500
Arts Partners Grant	2014-2018	€49,250
Ireland 2016 Funding to Inniskeen Enterprise Dev Group	2016	€5,000
Tourism	2013-2015	€8,000
Capital Funding Supports		
Arts Capital Grant*	2016	€188,000 + €188,000*
Fáilte Ireland – Visitor Interpretation*	2018	€198,000 + €198,000*
Visitor Interpretation Design#	2018	€25,000
Total		€411,000 + €386,000*
GRAND TOTAL	2013-2018	€479,250 + €386,000* = €865,250

** The amounts of €188k and €198k are to be matched from Council resources at 50% of project cost. Spending has to commence yet.*

Procurement process just completed. Spending not completed.

Council has also applied for funding under Town & Village Scheme 2018 for implementation of Plan.

In 2 other funding schemes the Council Arts Office strongly assisted in writing up applications on behalf of the Centre. These applications succeeded in securing €10,000 from Co-operation Ireland Fund (Dept CHG 2016/17) and €5,000 from the Arts Council for 2018 festival programme.

16. In relation to the very important provision of play-park facilities across the county how much funding has been spent in the provision of these community facilities including General maintenance, upgrading and Insurance etc in the previous 5years?

Reply: Total expenditure from July 2013 to June 2018 (5years) is €52,741.56. Wages & travel for weekly inspections are not included in these costs. The Public Liability insurance charge is a general charge for all of the Council's assets. It's not broken down for Playparks or any other area. The full cost is charged up to the Central management charge and divided between the various sub-divisions. In addition a capital investment of €89,000 has been made through the Clar Programme for the years 2016/2017.

Cllr N. Keelan asked:

17. In relation to very serious fires that have destroyed some residential buildings in particular in the Dublin city area and given some very poor building standards and a poor Inspection regime in recent years, has the Council fire service a robust inspection regime in particular in relation to large apartment/ flat complexes etc?

Reply: Monaghan County Council's Fire & Civil Protection has a vigorous annual Inspection plan based on risk profile and statutory requirements in accordance Services Acts 1981 & 2003. Inspections are also taken on foot of information or complaints of premises considered to be of a fire risk and appropriate action is taken, which may result in enforcement proceedings.

The recently published report from the Fire Safety Task Force on 'Fire Safety in Ireland' which was established in the aftermath of the Grenfell Tower fire tragedy in London has reviewed the current approach to fire safety in Irish Society and has made a number of recommendations for enhancing the current fire safety system. Most notably among the recommendations are new requirements for a 'Public Notice of Fire Safety', new fire safety regulations to deal with 'sleeping accommodation' to ensure compliance with statutory responsibilities, and new provisions for large and complex buildings.

18. In relation to those families wishing to build a home in rural areas across county Monaghan is there any further update from the department in relation to the relaxing of the local needs Rule (locals only policy)? This is an issue that has been ongoing without adequate response to our requests for a number of years. In light of the European court ruling of 2013 which suggests this policy is illegal can officials confirm whether the Department has responded and if it has not done so will our planning section make contact again?

Reply: The Council has received no further update on this matter from the Department. The Planning Section will undertake to contact the Department again seeking an update.

18. Notices of Motion:

Cllr P. McNally proposed, Cllr Coyle seconded

1. In light of the review being carried out by EU Agricultural Commissioner Phil Hogan as a result of Brexit, that this Council calls on the Minister for Agriculture, Michael Creed, to lobby the EU to ensure that payments to small farmers are increased immediately in order to protect the small family farms in County Monaghan and across Ireland.

Following a debate on the motion, the Cathaoirleach put it to the meeting and it was agreed unanimously.

19. Votes of sympathy/congratulations.

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

- Kevin McNally, Council employee on the death of his aunt, Brigid McNally RIP
- Paul Clifford, Council employee on the death of his sister in law Sandra Clifford RIP
- Seamus McMahan, Council employee on the death of Sean Moore, RIP

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

- Fr. Sean Mulligan, Knockatallon on the occasion of his ordination to the priesthood.
- Fr. Thomas Quigley, PP on the occasion of his Golden Jubilee of his ordination to the priesthood.
- Fr. Thomas Coffey PE on the occasion of his Diamond Jubilee of his ordination to the priesthood.
- Sliabh Beagh Swimming Club on their outstanding success in Stuttgart, in Germany where the club won numerous medals and performed to the highest level; also to Head Coach Eamon O'Hara for his commitment to the Club.
- Cavan Monaghan Partnership on reaching the semi-final of the Kennedy Cup and that the team be afforded a Civic Reception.

It was agreed that the proposal in relation to a Civic Reception be forwarded to the CPG for consideration and recommendation.

20. Conferences/Training

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

Promoting Authority	Subject/Theme	Venue	Dates	Members Selected
Magill Summer School 2018	The Future of Ireland in a New Europe: The Challenges Ahead?	Glenties, Co. Donegal	22nd – 27th July 2018	Cllr P. Treanor
Darcy Magee International Forum 2018	"Canada and Ireland - exploring new beginnings in uncertain times"	Carlingford, Co. Louth	15 th – 17 th August 2018	Cllr S. Conlon

The meeting then concluded.

Signed: _____
Cathaoirleach

Meetings Administrator

Date: _____
