

Minutes of Meeting of Monaghan County Council held in the Council Chamber, Mtek Building, Monaghan, on Monday 6th January, 2020 at 10.00 a.m.

Chair: Cllr S. Coyle, Cathaoirleach

Present: Cllrs. Aughey, Bennett, Campbell, Carthy, Conlon, Connolly, Gilliland, Keelan, Kerr-Conlon, Maxwell, McCooey, McElvaney, McKenna, O'Hanlon, P. Treanor, S. Treanor and R. Truell.

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

Observers: Lynn McElvaney, Jenn Gonnely (Monaghan Womens Network) and Paddy Grenham

At the outset, the Cathaoirleach welcomed everyone present to the first meeting of 2020 and indeed the first meeting of the new decade. He stated that he looked forward to working with the members and officials during the coming year for the betterment of the county.

Vote of Sympathy:

On the proposal of Cllr McKenna, seconded by Cllr Conlon it was agreed that the sympathy of the Council be extended to Deputy Caoimhghín Ó Caoláin and his family on the recent death of his brother Dermot RIP.

All Councillors associated themselves with the vote of sympathy as did the Chief Executive on behalf of the Management and Staff of the Council.

A minute's silence was observed as a mark of respect.

Urgent Business:

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

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

Monaghan County Council calls on the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs, Katherine Zappone TD, the Minister for Finance and Public Expenditure, Paschal Donohoe TD, and the Insurance Reform Minister, Michael D'Arcy TD, to engage with all insurance providers in this state, and throughout the EU, to find those willing to cover insurance for Childcare Providers. In the absence of an insurer willing to enter the market specifically for childcare/creche facilities, we call on Government to legislate for a state-run insurer to offer cover for the vital service offered by private and community childcare providers in this state

- (ii) Notice in the names of Cllrs Aughey, Coyle, McCooey and O'Hanlon

That Monaghan County Council calls on the Minister for Agriculture, Mr. Michael Creed, TD to convene a special meeting with the Department of Agriculture officials to address the continuing severe TB situation in Co. Monaghan.

On the proposal of Cllr McKenna, seconded by Cllr Maxwell, it was agreed to go 'Into Committee' to discuss whether to accept the motion submitted as urgent business.

Following a short discussion, it was agreed to take both motions of urgent business at the end of the meeting.

On the proposal of Cllr Carthy, seconded by Cllr Maxwell, it was agreed that the Council revert to public session.

1. Confirmation of Minutes

(i) Minutes of Council meeting held on 2nd December, 2019

On the proposal of Cllr Maxwell, seconded by Cllr McKenna, it was agreed that the minutes of the Council meeting held on the 2nd December 2019, be confirmed.

2. Correspondence.

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

- Letter from the Office of the Minister for Health, Mr. Simon Harris, TD regarding Monaghan General Hospital.
- Letter from the Office of the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment, Mr. Richard Bruton, T.D. regarding Mattress Recycling Initiative.
- Letter from the Office of the Minister of State for Local Government & Electoral Reform, Mr. John Paul Phelan, T.D, regarding funding for Councillors salaries.
- Letter from the Office of the Minister for Justice & Equality, Mr. Charles Flanagan, T.D, regarding Coroners.
- Letter from Dr. Martin J. Watters regarding Coroners.
- Letter from the Office of the Minister of State for Local Government & Electoral Reform, Mr. John Paul Phelan, T.D, regarding the Moorehead report.
- Letter from the Office of the Tánaiste Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade, Mr. Simon Coveney, T.D regarding UK's withdrawal from the European Union.
- Letter from the Office of the Minister for Agriculture, Mr. Michael Creed, TD regarding Calving.
- Email from the Office of the Minister for Communications, Climate Action & Environment, Mr. Richard Bruton, T.D. regarding recyclable packaging /funding for climate action officer/introduction of carbon tax on aviation fuel.
- Resolution from Donegal County Council regarding Parental Alienation.
- Resolution from Laois County Council regarding the rollout of 5G fifth generation cellular technology.
- Resolution from Waterford City & County Council regarding fair employment for all employees.
- Resolution from Kerry County Council regarding the removal of the cap on Co Enterprise Boards.
- Resolution from Westmeath County Council regarding an excavation of remains.
- Resolution from Westmeath County Council regarding LPT basic rate

The following additional correspondence was also circulated:

- Letter from the Office of Transport Infrastructure Ireland regarding National Road Allocations for 2020.

Proposals arising out of correspondence:

On the proposal of Cllr Connolly, seconded by Cllr S. Treanor it was agreed that the Council adopt the motion from Donegal County Council, calling on the Irish Government, Departments of Health, Justice and Equality, Children and Youth Affairs to recognise that parental alienation is “substantial and sustained dissatisfaction within a caregiver-child relationship associated with significant disturbance in functioning” as coded by the World Health Organisation in the latest International classification of Diseases version 11 and to implement recommendation 36 of the Report of the Reform of the Family Law System October 2019.

On the proposal of Cllr McKenna, seconded by Cllr Bennett, it was agreed that this Council writes to the General Managers of Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital, Drogheda and Our Lady’s Hospital Navan encouraging their support for the provision of post mortem examinations at weekends.

On the proposal of Cllr O’Hanlon, seconded by Cllr McCooley,, it was agreed that this Council requests a meeting with the Tanaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs, Simon Coveney TD, in relation to discussion the serious issue of Brexit and the impact it will have on the Border Region.

On the proposal of Cllr Conlon, seconded by Cllr Bennett it was agreed that this Council acknowledges the response from the Office of Health Minister Simon Harris TD and seeks further information regarding what future plans are in place to expand on existing services at Monaghan General Hospital as per the Slainte Care proposals that seeks to enhance the provision of health care services throughout the community.

On the proposal of Cllr McKenna, seconded by Cllr Carthy it was agreed that the Council adopt the motion from Waterford County Council endorsing the rights of all employees to be represented individually/or collectively, by a Trade Union if they so wish.

Cllr Bennett proposed, Cllr Carthy seconded that the Council write again to the Department of Communications, Climate Change and Environment seeking clarity on the health implications arising from the roll out of 5G.

Ms. P. Monahan, Director of Services stated that the EPA had a role in providing advice and information on public exposure to Electromagnetic Fields (EMF) within the spectrum of radio frequencies that are envisaged for 5G. She referred to information that was given by the EPA at a broadband event in December and she would make it available to the elected members.

3. To consider Chief Executive’s Report on submissions received in respect of Proposed Variation 1 of the Monaghan County Development Plan 2019-25 relating to Policy NRP 7 –

Mr. T. Gourley, Senior Executive Planner, outlined the main elements of the report which had been circulated with the agenda. He explained that the purpose of the proposed variation was to protect the selected route of the N2 upgrade road scheme between Ardee

and Castleblayney and the selected route between Clontibret and the border with Northern Ireland, when identified, and to prohibit development that could prejudice their future delivery.

Mr. A. Hughes, Senior Planner responded to queries from the members, emphasising that only the final selected routes were to be protected under this policy.

On the proposal of Cllr McKenna, seconded by Cllr Conlon, it was agreed that the Council approve the variation of the County Development Plan 2019-2025 to include a new policy NRP 7 - To protect the selected route of the N2 upgrade road scheme between Ardee and Castleblayney and the selected route between Clontibret and the border with Northern Ireland, and to prohibit development that could prejudice their future delivery.

4. To consider Section 183 Notices – Disposal of land at Latlorcan, Monaghan:

The members noted the reports relating to the disposal of six sites at Latlorcan, Monaghan. Mr. J. Murray, Director of Housing stated that the proposed disposals had been discussed with the Monaghan MD members who were in agreement with the arrangements.

Site A – Disposal of 0.043 ha at Latlorcan, Monaghan.

On the proposal of Cllr Connolly, seconded by Cllr Aughey it was agreed that the Council approve the disposal of 439 sq metres/0.043 ha (Site A) at Latlorcan, Monaghan in accordance with notice dated 12 November 2019 under Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001.

Site B – Disposal of 0.048 ha at Latlorcan, Monaghan.

On the proposal of Cllr Connolly, seconded by Cllr Aughey it was agreed that the Council approve the disposal of 483 sq metres/0.048 ha (Site B) at Latlorcan, Monaghan in accordance with notice dated 12 November 2019 under Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001.

Site C – Disposal of 0.053 ha at Latlorcan, Monaghan.

On the proposal of Cllr Connolly, seconded by Cllr Aughey it was agreed that the Council approve the disposal of 530 sq metres/0.053 ha (Site C) at Latlorcan, Monaghan in accordance with notice dated 12 November 2019 under Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001.

Site D – Disposal of 0.047 ha at Latlorcan, Monaghan.

On the proposal of Cllr Connolly, seconded by Cllr Aughey it was agreed that the Council approve the disposal of 479 sq. metres/0.047 ha (Site D) at Latlorcan, Monaghan in accordance with notice dated 12 November 2019 under Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001.

Site E – Disposal of 0.047 ha at Latlorcan, Monaghan.

On the proposal of Cllr Connolly, seconded by Cllr Aughey it was agreed that the Council approve the disposal of 479 sq. metres/0.047 ha (Site E) at Latlorcan, Monaghan in accordance with notice dated 12 November 2019 under Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001.

Site F – Disposal of 0.061 ha at Latlorcan, Monaghan.

On the proposal of Cllr Connolly, seconded by Cllr Aughey it was agreed that the Council approve the disposal of 610 sq. metres/0.061 ha (Site F) at Latlorcan, Monaghan in accordance with notice dated 12 November 2019 under Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001.

5. To receive the Audited AFS, Audit Report and Audit Committee Report on the Annual Financial Statement 2018 and the Local Government Auditors Report 2018 on the Accounts of Monaghan County Council for year ended 31 December 2018

Mr. J. Murray, Head of Finance referred to the Audited AFS, Audit Report and Audit Committee Report on the Annual Financial Statement 2018 and the Local Government Auditors Report 2018 on the Accounts of Monaghan County Council for year ended 31 December 2018, all of which had been circulated to the members.

On the proposal of Cllr McElvaney, seconded by Cllr Coyle it was agreed that the documents circulated be noted.

6. Audit Committee:

(i) To approve the Draft Audit Committee Charter for 2020

The members noted the Draft Audit Committee Charter for 2020 which had been circulated with the agenda.

On the proposal of Cllr Maxwell, seconded by Cllr Aughey, it was agreed that the Draft Audit Committee Charter for 2020, as presented, be adopted.

(ii) To approve the Draft Audit Committee Work Programme for 2020

The members noted the Draft Audit Committee Work Programme for 2019 which had been circulated with the agenda.

On the proposal of Cllr Maxwell, seconded by Cllr Aughey, it was agreed that the Draft Audit Committee Work Programme for 2020 as presented, be adopted.

7. Draft Corporate Plan 2020 - 2024 - to consider extension of time

Mr. C. Flynn, A/Director of Corporate Services informed the members that in accordance with Section 134(2) of the Local Government Act 2001 there is a requirement on the Council

to adopt a Corporate Plan within 6 months of the date of the Annual meeting, in an election year. He stated that work is progressing on the preparation of the Draft Corporate Plan 2020-2024. Consultation with the public was ongoing. Consultation with the SPC's could take place at the inaugural meetings of the SPC's in January. He requested that the members consider approving an extension of time until the March Council meeting 2020, to ensure the necessary consultation work is completed.

It was agreed to recommend to the full Council that an extension of time until the March Council meeting 2020 be approved to allow for consultation with the public and the SPC's.

8. NOAC Performance Indicators 2018 Review

Mr C. Flynn, A/Director of Corporate Services, gave a brief overview of the Report which had been circulated. He explained that the report prepared by Monaghan County Council sets out to compare the Council's performance in 2018 with the highest and lowest performers nationally; against similar size counties (Level 5 counties); against similar indicators in previous years (where applicable) and on the basis of these to establish targets for the following year.

It was agreed that the Council's review of the NOAC Service Indicators for 2018 be noted.

9. Strategic Policy Committees 2020 – 2024

The members were informed that following the adoption of the SPC Scheme, the Council had consulted with the relevant sectoral groups and the Public Participation Network in relation to the filling of the vacancies on the Strategic Policy Committees for the period 2020 – 2024.

The positions on the various Committees were then filled as follows:

SPC for Housing, Social and Cultural:

On the proposal of Cllr P. Treanor, seconded by Cllr Campbell it was agreed that the positions on the SPC for Housing, Social and Cultural be filled as follows:

Elected Members - Monaghan County Council

Cllr Pat Treanor (Chair)

Cllr Aidan Campbell

Cllr Mary Kerr Conlon

Cllr P.J. O'Hanlon

Cllr Aoife McCooley

Cllr Colm Carthy

Business/Commercial - Noeline O'Neill, Castleblayney Trust

PPN Environmental Electoral College - Candice Moen, Transition Monaghan

PPN Community and Voluntary Electoral College - Tom Freeman, (Magheraclone Development Association) and

Teresa Carolan, 21, Cloughvalley, Carrickmacross (Cloughvalley Development Group)

PPN Social Inclusion Electoral College - Eimear McCarthy, Blayney Blades

It was noted that the Development/Construction position on this SPC had yet to be filled.

SPC for Economic Development and Enterprise Support:

On the proposal of Cllr Maxwell, seconded by Cllr O’Hanlon, it was agreed that the positions on the SPC for Economic Development and Enterprise Support be filled as follows:

Elected Members - Monaghan County Council

Cllr Sean Gilliland (Chair)	Cllr David Maxwell
Cllr P.J. O’Hanlon	Cllr Noel Keelan
Cllr Sean Conlon	Cllr Brian McKenna

Business/Commercial – (one of these places for Tourism/Hospitality Sector)

Alan Johnston (Monaghan Town Team)

Martin Daly (Irish Hotels Federation)

Development/Construction - John Tobin (Carrickmacross Chamber)

Agriculture/Farming - Patrick McCormack, (Irish Farmers Association)

PPN Environmental Electoral College - Karen Jeffares, (Transition Monaghan)

PPN Social Inclusion Electoral College - Peadar Black, (Latton Social Services)

SPC for Climate Change and Environment:

On the proposal of Cllr Maxwell, seconded by Cllr P. Treanor, it was agreed that the positions on the SPC for Climate Change and Environment be filled as follows:

Elected Members Monaghan County Council

Cllr Noel Keelan, (Chair)	Cllr Richard Truell
Cllr Raymond Aughey	Cllr Seamus Coyle
Cllr Cathy Bennett	Cllr Pat Treanor

Agriculture/Farming Pillar - Bernard Treanor, Irish Farmers Association

Federation of Group Water Schemes - Patrick McCabe

Business/Commercial - Brian Duffy (Castleblayney ReGen)

PPN Environmental Pillar - Liam Murtagh, Transition Monaghan

PPN Community Pillar - Pat Tierney, Corcaghan Community Preschool

PPN Social Inclusion Pillar - Michelle Mayne, Dochas for Women

SPC for Transport and Community:

On the proposal of Cllr Maxwell, seconded by Cllr P. Treanor, it was agreed that the positions on the SPC for Transport and Community be filled as follows:

Elected Members Monaghan County Council

Cllr Raymond Aughey (Chair)
Cllr Hugh McElvaney
Cllr Sean Conlon

Cllr Sean Gilliland
Cllr Seamus Coyle
Cllr Brian McKenna

Business/Commercial - Deirdre Kelly (Clones Town Team)

Trade Union Pillar - Eileen Riddell, ICTU

PPN Environmental Pillar - Michael Connolly, Transition Monaghan

PPN Community Pillar - Packie Boyle, Latton Bawn Area Groups

PPN Social Inclusion Pillar - Lorraine Cunningham, Blayne Blades

It was noted that the second PPN Community position on this SPC had yet to be filled.

Following the ratification of the SPC members, the following dates were agreed for the inaugural meetings of the committees:

Housing Social and Cultural	Thursday 23 January at 6pm
Economic Development and Enterprise Support	Monday 27 January at 6pm
Climate Change and Environment	Tuesday 28 January at 6pm
Transport and Community	Thursday 30 January at 6pm

10. To adopt Waste Presentation Bye Laws

The members noted the draft County of Monaghan (Segregation, Storage and Presentation of Household and Commercial Waste) Bye-laws, 2019 which had been circulated. Mr. A. King, Director of Services explained that the introduction of the draft byelaws was necessary to combat litter and illegal dumping; to meet EU and National waste targets; was a requirement of the Regional Waste Management Plan and also to ensure uniformity in the bye laws across the country. The draft bye laws had been presented to the Council at the October meeting and had been placed on public display for the prescribed period.

On the proposal of Cllr Carthy, seconded by Cllr Aughey, it was agreed that the draft County of Monaghan (Segregation, Storage and Presentation of Household and Commercial Waste) Bye-laws, 2019, as circulated, be adopted.

11. To re adopt Draft County Monaghan (Regulation and Control of the Consumption of Intoxicating Substances in Public Places) Bye Laws 2020

Note - the Draft Bye Laws must be adopted not earlier than 2 months from the date of the notice seeking public consultation (ie 17th October 2019). Therefore, the adoption at the December meeting was premature as the Bye Laws shouldn't have been adopted until after 17th December.

On the proposal of Cllr Aughey, seconded by Cllr Bennett it was agreed that the Draft County Monaghan (Regulation and Control of the Consumption of Intoxicating Substances in Public Places) Bye Laws 2019 be adopted.

12. To receive Report on the Capital Programme 2020 – 2022

Mr. C. Flynn, A/Director of Corporate Services outlined the main elements of the Capital Programme 2020-2022. He stated that the Programme is a rolling programme and will be reviewed and updated annually. Time, financial and other constraints may vary the progress of particular projects within a given period. The programme includes a total of 105 projects, which will require funding of some €250 million over the three year period.

He further stated that it was important to note that consideration of the Capital Programme by the members does not confer Council approval on any individual project. This can only be achieved through the normal statutory processes and compliance with the Public Spending Code. Funding arrangements also need to be clearly identified and secured in advance of committing to any particular project and any proposal to borrow money required the approval of the full Council.

It was agreed that the programme would be discussed by the Municipal Districts at their next meetings.

13. To consider recommendations and minutes from Corporate Policy Group meeting held on 17th December, 2019.

The members noted the minutes of the Corporate Policy Group meeting held on 17th December, 2019 which had been circulated.

On the proposal of Cllr Aughey, seconded by Cllr P. Treanor, it was agreed that the minutes of the Corporate Policy Group meeting held on 17th December, 2019 and the recommendations contained therein be approved.

The members were informed that a Climate Change Training Workshop had been arranged for Wednesday 22nd January at 2pm in the Four Seasons Hotel. All members were being invited to the event along with senior Council staff.

14. To approve the replacement of Cllr Pat Treanor by Cllr Sean Conlon on the Garage Theatre Board

On the proposal of Cllr Carthy, seconded by Cllr Keelan, it was agreed that Cllr Sean Conlon would replace Cllr Pat Treanor on the Garage Theatre Board.

15. To receive Management Report - December 2019

The members noted the Management Report for the month of December which had been circulated with the agenda.

The Chief Executive and Directors of Services responded to queries from the elected members.

16. To receive reports from Members attending Conferences/Training events:

The members noted the reports from Cllrs. Bennett, Carthy, Conlon, Connolly, Keelan, Maxwell, McKenna, P. Treanor and Truell, in relation to their attendance at the following conferences/training events:

- LAMA - Biodiversity and Sustainability, Co Clare
- AILG – Climate Action, Co. Roscommon
- AILG - Climate Action, Co Cork
- AILG - Induction training for Councillors, Co Tipperary
- AILG - The office of the Planning Regulator, Co Louth
- Celtic Conferences – Biodiversity, Co Cork
- Eastern & Midland CARO & Local Enterprise Office Offaly - Creating Economic & business Opportunities from climate Change, County Offaly

17. Business submitted by the Chief Executive.

There was no business submitted by the Chief Executive.

18. Matters arising out of the minutes of Council meeting held on 2nd December, 2019

Matters arising out of the minutes of the Council meeting held on 2nd December 2019 were responded to by the relevant officials.

On the proposal of Cllr Coyle, seconded by Cllr Keelan it was agreed that the Council write to Minister Moran requesting that he place Ballybay, Clones and Monaghan at the top of his funding agenda for flooding assistance grants.

19. Update on N2 National Primary Road Schemes

This matter had already been discussed under Item 3.

20. To receive update on North South Interconnector project

The members noted the following correspondence:

- Letter from the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment stating that the construction of the North/South Interconnector is an operational matter for Eirgrid and ESB networks.
- Email from Deputy Brendan Smith, enclosing written reply to Question submitted in Dail Eireann in relation to the North/South Interconnector

On the proposal of Cllr Keelan, seconded by Cllr P. Treanor, it was agreed that this Council writes to all party leaders and their spokespersons on Communications, Climate Action and Environment requesting that they respond to the following questions:

- (i) What is your Party's position in relation to the undergrounding of the North-South Interconnector?;*
- (ii) Has your Party a specific policy on the undergrounding of the North-South Interconnector?*

Questions to be also sent to all Oireachtas members for this constituency, including all general election candidates.

21. To receive update on the Ulster Canal project.

In response to a query from Cllr P. Treanor, the Meetings Administrator confirmed that a letter had issued to Waterways Ireland seeking a presentation to Monaghan County Council at a future meeting.

22. To receive presentation from Donal Murphy, Monaghan Alzheimers Association

The Cathaoirleach welcomed Donal Murphy from Monaghan Alzheimers Association.

In addressing the Council, Mr. Murphy stated that The Alzheimer Society of Ireland is a national non-profit organisation. It is the leading dementia specific service provider in Ireland. The vision for the Society is an Ireland where no one goes through dementia alone and where policies and services respond appropriately to the person with dementia and their carers, at the times they need support. The Alzheimer Society of Ireland works across the country in the heart of local communities providing dementia specific services and supports and advocating for the rights and needs of all people living with dementia and their carers. He stated that there are circa 700 persons living with dementia in Co. Monaghan and he outlined the types of services that are available to them. He stated that the Society had three asks – funding, volunteers and they may a bigger premises in the future to replace the Drumkill Centre.

Following the presentation, Donal responded to queries from the elected members.

The Cathaoirleach thanked Donal for his presentation.

The Chief Executive also thanked him for the presentation. He suggested that the Alzheimers Society might establish a link with the Age Friendly Alliance with a view to attending a future meeting.

23 Questions:

Cllr C. Carthy asked:

1. What is the expected timeline of retrofitting (Energy Efficiency Works) Council owned housing in Co. Monaghan to have a minimum energy rating (BER)?

Reply: Monaghan County Council has improved the insulation of the vast majority of its housing stock and continues to upgrade houses when the opportunity arises under the Energy Efficiency Programme, under the Planned Maintenance

Programme and when work is undertaken prior to letting of vacant and recently purchased houses.

Subject to Department funding it is intended that works to the remaining small number of houses that require external insulation and/or internal insulation will be undertaken / commenced in 2020. Following that there may be a further Government funded Energy Efficiency Programme that Monaghan County Council will hope to avail of if/when the opportunity arises.

Cllr C. Carthy asked (contd):

2. When is it expected that Monaghan County Council will be submitting its Climate Action plan to the Department of Local Government for review/funding?

Reply: Monaghan County Council formally submitted a copy of its Climate Change Adaptation Strategy 2019-2024 to the Department of Communications Climate Action and Environment (DCCA) on 27th August 2019. All local authorities were required to have their Climate Change Adaptation strategies adopted by 30th August 2019 and to subsequently submit a copy of the approved strategy to the DCCA.

3. When is it expected the 'Community Alert' signage, recently ordered by Monaghan County Council, will be fitted throughout the county?

Reply: Monaghan County Council, Community Section, has been supporting groups in setting up and managing community alert schemes across the county. Part of this support is the acquisition and erection of appropriate signage. It is usually the responsibility of the local groups to procure those signs and meet the cost of them, but from time to time, Monaghan County Council has managed to access funding to assist in this regard. MCC also works with the local groups to identify suitable locations and to erect the signs with the support and assistance of each Municipal District Office so that they are covered by MCC's public liability insurance.

The most recent batch of signs have been procured with funding from the Public Sector Innovation Fund, and are linked to the Monaghan Community Alerts project. 100 signs have been purchased, and are to be erected at the county boundary on every road into the county, to draw attention to the fact that there is a county-wide scheme in operation. It is intended that the signs will raise awareness of the scheme, and will act both as a deterrent to criminals and as a promotional tool to encourage residents to subscribe to the Komeer app and receive notifications.

Signs are currently being distributed to the MD's and should be appearing around the county over the coming weeks. It is intended to have the signs in place by early February, to coincide with the launch of additional features on the Komeer app, which have also been funded by the Public Sector Innovation Fund.

4. Has there been any further progress in initiating a purpose-built facility/development of Older Person specific housing incorporating services and supports on campus (similar to the North-East Housing development in Dundalk)?

Reply: Monaghan County Council has recently completed accessible purpose built housing for older persons in two developments; four single storey houses at Bree in Castleblayney and six at Latlorcan in Monaghan Town. In addition, Monaghan County Council has commenced the construction of 24 homes in Clones town centre, 10 of which will be accessible and purpose built for older persons and a further four accessible houses are planned for the proposed Lui na Greine social housing development in Scotstown.

Monaghan County Council in conjunction with Approved Housing Bodies is providing a further sixteen accessible purpose built sheltered houses for older persons at Liseggerton in Clones (Oaklee Housing) and it is intended that twelve apartments will be constructed at Drummond Radhairc in Carrickmacross (North & East Housing Association). Monaghan County Council is currently investigating the possibility of providing additional accessible/sheltered accommodation for older persons in Monaghan Town, Castleblayney and Ballybay.

5. Following on from the 2019 success Monaghan County Council had with rolling out water-bottle refill stations, can the executive confirm if plans are in place to introduce one in Carrickmacross?

Reply: In relation to the roll out of water filling stations, Environmental Services currently have no plans for a unit in Carrickmacross. However, Environmental Services will look into funding opportunities for such a project in 2020.

Clr R. Aughey asked:

6. With regard to the major projects on the N2 between Corracrin and Emyvale and the bridge at Coolshannagh has an application been made for the Per Cent for Art Scheme and will there be any liaison in relation to same with the relevant Tidy Towns groups?

Reply: The Roads Department have queried this with the TII and will revert with an update in the coming weeks.

7. With regard to the Councils decision to sign up to the National Pollinator Plan, what actions are planned for the [2020](#) and beyond and will these actions be communicated to the Tidy Towns and Residents Network?

Reply: Monaghan Co. Co. are pro active to date in relation to implementing of the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan including the following:

1. Currently undertaking trials of organic alternatives to allow the complete ban of chemical use for weed control. I.e. Glyphosate (RoundUp).
2. An Invasive Species App to map the locations of invasive species across the County has been developed and is being rolled out. This app will record GPS co-ordinates of invasive species locations, which will facilitate mapping of incidents across the county.
3. Pollinator friendly planting programme - October 2019 saw the planting of over 250,000 mixed species of bulbs, at a rate of 130 bulbs per square metre across locations in Monaghan, Clones, Ballybay, Doohamlet Castleblayney and Carrickmacross. These bulbs were planted in green areas, and will now offer food for pollinators.
4. All feature planting to amenity areas i.e shrubs and trees, will include pollinator friendly species.
5. Reduction in grass cutting - First grass cutting postponed until April - this allows first flush of Dandelions.
6. Landscaping plan for the N2 Phase 3 Emyvale Road Scheme includes a mixture of over 7,000 sqm of wildflowers and pollinator shrubs and trees. These are in keeping with the TII '*Guidelines for Pollinator friendly Management of Transport Corridors*'. Work has commenced on the planting and will be completed in 2020.

Communications with Tidy Town and Residents Networks via various outlets eg. PPN meetings will be advised accordingly.

8. How many recycling or "bring" banks are provided across the county, what are their locations and who ensures that they are regularly emptied?

Reply: There are currently 24 "bring sites" in the County. The servicing and emptying of these Bottle banks is carried out by a private operator under contract to Monaghan County Council. The Environmental Patrol Warden inspects bring banks on a regular basis to ensure there are no issues with them.

Information on all recycling facilities and their exact location in the County is available on www.mywaste.ie, which is Ireland's official guide to managing waste.

The locations are as follows:

Monaghan, McNallys car park; Monaghan, Glaslough St., Monaghan, Cortolvin and Monaghan, Sloans shop

Castleblayney, Commons Car park

Clones, Car park

Ballybay, Mart Entrance

Carrickmacross, Car park

Carrickroe, RC Car park

Emyvale, Community Centre

Glaslough, Community Centre

Tydavnet, Carpark

Scotstown, RC Car park

Aghabog, RC Car park

Inniskeen, Car park

Clontibret, RC Car park

Rockcorry, RC Car park

Latton, RC Car park

Lisdoonan, Community Centre

Scotshouse, Housing estate

Newbliss, Council Car park

Castleblayney, Commons Car park

Clones, Apple Green Service Station

Oram GAA Car Park

24. Notices of Motion:

Cllr C. Carthy proposed, Cllr Bennett seconded:

1. On behalf of Aitheantas, we call on Monaghan County Council to write to Minister Katherine Zappone's Department requesting/demanding that her Department acknowledges Adoptee Identity Rights and immediately allows Adoptees access to their own information on Health, History and Heritage in line with the equality and personal autonomy rights of other citizens.

Following a short debate on the motion, the Cathaoirleach put it to the members and it was agreed.

16. Votes of Sympathy/ Congratulations.

There were no votes proposed at this point.

17. Conferences/Training

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

Promoting Authority	Subject/Theme	Venue	Dates	Members Selected
Celtic Conferences	Tackling Carbon Emissions and Fuel Poverty	O' Donovans Hotel Clonakilty Co Cork	24 th , 25 th & 26 th Jan.	Cllr Seamus Coyle Cllr David Maxwell Cllr Sean Gilliland Cllr Aidan Campbell

Urgent Business

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

Cllr Carthy proposed, Cllr McKenna seconded

Monaghan County Council calls on the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs, Katherine Zappone TD, the Minister for Finance and Public Expenditure, Paschal Donohoe TD, and the Insurance Reform Minister, Michael D'Arcy TD, to engage with all insurance providers in this state, and throughout the EU, to find those willing to cover insurance for Childcare Providers. In the absence of an insurer willing to enter the market specifically for childcare/creche facilities, we call on Government to legislate for a state-run insurer to offer cover for the vital service offered by private and community childcare providers in this state

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

- (ii) Notice in the names of Cllrs Aughey, Coyle, McCooey and O'Hanlon

Cllr O'Hanlon proposed, Cllr Coyle seconded

That Monaghan County Council calls on the Minister for Agriculture, Mr. Michael Creed, TD to convene a special meeting with the Department of Agriculture officials to address the continuing severe TB situation in Co. Monaghan.

Following a debate 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: _____
