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MIONTUAIRISCÍ NA CRUINNITHE MHIOSIÚIL DE COMHAIRLE CONTAE CHIARRAÍ A THIONÓLADH I ÓSTÁN AN MHAINÉIR THJAR, BÓTHAR CHILL ÁIRNE, TRÁ LÍ AR AN LUAN , 14 AIBREÁN, 2014

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF KERRY COUNTY COUNCIL HELD IN THE MANOR WEST HOTEL, KILLARNEY ROAD, TRALEE ON MONDAY, 14TH APRIL 2014

PRESENT/I LÁTHAIR

Cllrs/Comhairleoirí

R. Beasley	J. Brassil	T. Buckley
M. Cahill	P. Connor-Scarteen	S. Counihan
B Cronin	J. J. Culloty	P.J. Donovan
T. Ferris	J. Finucane	S. Fitzgerald
N. Foley	M. Gleeson	M. Griffin
D. Healy-Rae	J. Healy-Rae	P. Leahy
P. McCarthy	A. McEllistrim	T O'Brien
B O'Connell	P. O'Donoghue	M. O'Shea
L. Purtill	J. Sheahan	G. Wharton Slattery

IN ATTENDANCE/I LÁTHAIR

Mr. T. Curran, County Manager	Mr. M. McMahon, Dir. of Planning
Mr. J.D. Flynn, Dir. of Corp. Serv.	Mr. J. Breen, Dir. Hsg. & C&E
Mr. G. MacNamara, A/Dir. of Roads	Mr. C. O'Sullivan, DoS L.A. Procur. Off.
Ms. A. McAllen, A/Head of Finance	Mr. O. Ring, Dir. Env. & Water Services
Mr. B. Looney, Head of IT	Mr. T. Hayes, County Enterprise Officer
Mr. G. O'Brien, Meetings Admin.	Mr. P. O'Shea, A/SEO Finance
Mr. P. Corkery, Press & Comm. Off.	Ms. S. Griffin, Comm. & Enterprise
Ms. B. Reidy, SSO Corporate Affairs	Ms. S. Sheridan, SSO Finance
Ms. O. O'Shea CO Corporate Affairs	Ms. M. Galvin, CO Corporate Affairs

The meeting commenced at 10.40am.

The Mayor Cllr. S. Fitzgerald took the Chair.

Comhghairdeas le Pobalscoil Chorca Dhuibhne

Dhéan an Mhéara comhghairdeas le Pobalscoil Chorca Dhuibhne a bhuaigh Corn Uí Ógáin i bPáirc an Chrócaigh an tseachtain roimhe sin. Thréaslaigh sé leis na himreoirí, a gcuid meantóirí, múinteoirí agus tuismitheoirí.

14.04.14. 01 Mayor's Report on the CPG Meeting held on the 8th April 2014

The Mayor read the following report into the record of the meeting.

"Item 1 Agenda for the April Council Meeting

Mr. G. O'Brien, Meetings Administrator, briefed members on the Agenda for the April Council Meeting.

Item 2 Financial Updates

Ms. A. McAllen, A/Head of Finance briefed the CPG on the Annual Financial Statement for 2013. A modest surplus was retained for 2013, after a number of provisions were made which is very satisfactory. She indicated that she would brief the Council in greater detail on this item at the Council Meeting.

Item 3 Proposed LCDC Structure

The Manager briefed members on the proposed structure for the Local Community Development Committee. Following a lengthy discussion the CPG recommended that the full Council would adopt the recommendations contained in the Manager's report which was circulated.

Item 4 County Development Board

Mr. J. Breen informed the meeting the issue considered by the CDB recently was the LCDC and this has already been discussed by the CPG.

Item 5 Presentation on Broadband

Mr. G. O'Brien said at the February Council Meeting Cllr. B. Cronin proposed that broadband providers in the county would be invited to a Council meeting to discuss how the broadband service in the county can be improved. Letters issued to 16 broadband providers and 6 of these confirmed they would attend. In replying Telefonica (O2) suggested that the best way to get cross-industry representation at such a meeting would be to invite a delegation from IBEC's Telecoms and Internet Federation. This is an umbrella body for the main service providers. A letter of invitation then issued to IBEC's Telecoms and Internet Federation and we are awaiting a reply.

The companies that accepted the invitation pointed out that if all the companies are invited to the same meeting members would not learn anything because companies will not disclose information to their competitors. The only way round this would be to hold a briefing for members and to give each of the companies a time to make their presentation. Mr. O'Brien suggested it might be more appropriate to await a reply from IBEC.

The CPG recommended that the Council should await a response from IBEC.

Item 6 Update from the Chairs of the SPC's

Cllrs. McCarthy, Counihan and Gleeson said there were no recent meetings of their SPC's.

Cllr. P. Connor-Scarteen stated the Transport SPC held a meeting on the 24th March when the following items were discussed:

- Update on the 2014 Road Grant Allocations
- Community Hedgecutting Grant Scheme
- Report on Storm Damage in Kerry

A detailed report will be circulated for consideration at the April Meeting.

Mr. J. Breen, on behalf of Cllr. J. Healy-Rae briefed the meeting on the items discussed at the meeting of the Community, Culture & Tourism SPC held on the 26th March under the following headings:

- Presentation by MABS (Money Advice & Budgeting Service)
- 2016 Commemoration of the 1916 Rising
- Arts Office
- Library Update
- Local Community Development Committee Update (LCDC)
- Kerry Integration Strategy Extension 2013 – 2014

Item 7 Civic/Mayoral Receptions

Mr. G. O'Brien said prior to the commencement of work on the Council Chamber it was agreed that no Civic Receptions would be held in the coming months. He was now in receipt of the following requests for Civic Receptions:

1. Cllr. Ferris proposed that a Civic Reception would be held to honour Savannah McCarthy from Listowel Celtic who captained the U17 Irish Soccer Team and who was named the U17 Irish Player of the Year.
2. Cllr. P. McCarthy proposed that a Civic Reception would be held to honour Kerry cyclists who won Irish titles down through the years.
3. Cllr. M. Cahill proposed that a Civic Reception would be held to honour Gold Cup winning trainer and three times Gold Cup winning jockey, Jim Culloty from Killarney.

Mr. O'Brien said he understood the Killarney Race Committee in conjunction with Killarney Town Council would honour Mr. Culloty in May.

The CPG agreed that it was more appropriate that Mr. Culloty would be honoured by Killarney Town Council.

The CPG further agreed that the other two requests for Civic Receptions would be deferred until the new Council and CPG are in place following the Local Elections.”

Cllr. B. Cronin referred to his previous proposal to invite broadband providers to a Council meeting and said he accepted that it would be better to invite representatives of IBEC's Telecoms and Internet Federation to represent the views of all service providers. The lack of an adequate broadband service in rural areas has become a major issue in particular for business people and those working from home. He pointed out that many services are conducted online, i.e. Motor Tax etc and many people in rural areas cannot avail of these services. He pointed out that some areas cannot get broadband. This appears to be very unreasonable as 99.9% of Kerry has a decent TV reception, yet that is not the case for broadband. It is important to meet with representatives of service providers in an effort to ensure progress in this area. He asked how long it since the letter issued to IBEC and he pointed out that it is urgent a reply would be received as he hoped they would attend the May Meeting. Cllr. Cronin said he attended a meeting with Barraduff Community Field Committee at which he was asked to contact Management seeking a once off contribution towards their development. This very active committee raised €120,000 locally and he said he wanted to put on record his gratitude to the County Manager and the Head of Finance for the contribution from Kerry County Council which will be of immense value. He also welcomed the contribution of €4000 for Fleadh Cheoil na Mumhan which will be held in Killarney this summer and said it will be a huge boost to the local economy and culturally also. In conclusion Cllr. Cronin said he wanted to put on record his outrage at the cuts to services provided in St. Francis Special School in Beaufort and he called on the Minister for Health to reinstate these services immediately.

Cllr. J. Healy Rae said he recently requested a meeting with Eircom as they are the biggest provider of broadband in the county. He pointed out that some people did not have a landline until recently following the storms after Christmas. There is an urgent need to talk to Eircom about their infrastructure in the county.

Cllr. D. Healy Rae also called for an enhanced broadband service in the county. There is also an urgent need for an improved landline service and mobile phone coverage. The service being provided at present is totally inadequate. In the Programme for Government this government promised that all the country would have a broadband service, however the service is virtually non-existent in most of Kerry. He thanked the Manager and the Head of Finance, for allocating €10,000 for the Barraduff Community Field and said this would be of great assistance to them. This community put a huge effort into fundraising and they deserve this support. Cllr. Healy Rae said he supported the Partnerships and the attempt by

the Minister to remove the existing structure is wrong as they have given wonderful service.

Cllr. M. Cahill said the lack of an adequate broadband service is one of the biggest issues being raised by constituents on the doorsteps. There are pockets where broadband is not available. This is impacting on business, jobs etc. It is imperative that broadband providers are invited in and asked to draw up a strategy to address this problem. Cllr Cahill complemented Kerry County Council and South Kerry Development Partnership on the significant announcement last week that €3.3 million was allocated for the Greenway from Glenbeigh to Cahersiveen. Kerry County Council must contribute €280,000 to this project, which is a significant sum. He thanked Mr. Noel Spillane and his staff for their support in advancing this project and said it is important to bring landowners on board to ensure its success. This is the single most important project for South Kerry for many years.

Cllr. M O'Shea said the lack of an adequate broadband service is a very serious issue for the county. He called in the County Manager to seek a constructive meeting with the Minister for Communications, Mr Pat Rabbitte TD, to outline the issues and to try to get a satisfactory solution for people who work from home. Alternatively the Minister could be requested to meet with a deputation from the Council to discuss this issue.

Cllr. R. Beasley expressed concern at the lack of effort in relation to the 1916 commemorations. The 2nd April was the 100th anniversary of the establishment of Cumann na nBan and next year will be the 35th anniversary of the 'H' Block and he asked that this would also be commemorated. He added that it is important every political party is represented at these commemorations. He asked if the item on the LCDC would be taken with the Mayor's Report or would it be taken in the order on the Agenda.

The Mayor said the LCDC report would be taken at Item 7.

Cllr. JJ Culloty thanked the County Manager and the Head of Finance for the €10,000 contribution for the Barraduff Community Field. He concurred with the views expressed by Cllr. O'Shea in relation to broadband and said something must be done to improve the situation. He attended a conference recently where it was stated that the numbers working from home in Ireland is very small in comparison to other European countries.

Cllr. J. Brassil said several councillors spoke in relation to broadband yet they are the same councillors who voted to retain the 1 km rule in the County Development Plan. He said if members want an adequate broadband service they should adopt policies that would allow that or they should stop talking nonsense.

Cllr. P. Connor Scarteen supported the views expressed by previous speakers in relation to broadband. He requested that Eircom would be asked when they will connect the new fibre optic broadband in Kenmare to Killarney. He welcomed the excellent work done by Kerry County Council and South Kerry Development Partnership on the proposed Greenway between Glenbeigh and Cahersiveen. He referred to the Cumann na mBan commemorations and said Senator Mark Daly is doing a lot of work on that and an event will be held in Kenmare in the coming weeks.

Cllr. T. Ferris disagreed with the views expressed by Cllr. Brassil and said members were informed An Bord Pleanála have repeatedly overturned decisions of Kerry County Council to refuse permission because of the 1 km rule, therefore he cannot use this as an excuse for poor broadband. It is hugely important that the lack of an adequate broadband service is addressed to enable the people of the county to compete as equals. Cllr. Ferris said a number of groups are arranging 1916 commemorations but this local authority should be central to organising these events. She asked that councillors would be kept informed of the plans for the commemoration of 1916. She reluctantly accepted the CPG's decision not to approve the holding of the Civic Reception which she proposed but added that she is a member of the current Council and she should be entitled to make such a proposal. She did not expect the reception to be held during the lifetime of the current Council but she did expect that it would be approved by the CPG.

Cllr. J. Sheahan thanked Management for the contribution to Barraduff Community Field and asked that a footpath would be provided to it.

14.04.14.02 Confirmation of the Minutes

- (a) On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. B. Cronin, SECONDED by Cllr. P. Connor-Scarteen it was agreed that the Minutes of the February Ordinary Meeting of Kerry County Council held on 17th February, 2014 be confirmed.
- (b) On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. T. O'Brien, SECONDED by Cllr. B. O'Connell it was agreed that the Minutes of the Special Roads Meeting of Kerry County Council held on 3rd March 2014 be confirmed.
- (c) On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. B. Cronin, SECONDED by Cllr. J. Sheahan, it was agreed that the Minutes of the March Ordinary Meeting of Kerry County Council held on 10th March 2014 be confirmed.

Approval for the holding of the May Council Meeting in the County Library

Mr. G. O'Brien informed the meeting that the Castlemaine Suite in Manor West Hotel is not available for the May Council Meeting and he suggested that the meeting would be held in the County Library.

On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. D. Healy-Rae, SECONDED by Cllr. J.J. Culloty it was agreed that the May Ordinary Meeting would be held in the County Library.

14.04.14.03 Disposal of Property

Mr. M. McMahon, Tralee Town Manager referred members to report dated 3rd April, 2014 on this item which was circulated. He briefed them on the report.

On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. J. Finucane, SECONDED by Cllr. J. Healy-Rae it was agreed to dispose of a plot of land measuring 2.016 ha approx. in total, situated in the townland of Cloon More, Tralee to Kerry Education and Training Board, Dan Spring Road, Tralee in accordance with the terms of notice issued 3rd April, 2014 pursuant to Section 183 of the Local Government Act 2001; Section 211 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 and Article 206 of the Planning and Development Regulations, 2001.

Cllr. J. Brassil said it is fantastic that Kerry Education and Training Board and Kerry County Council worked together to identify a site for the new Gaelscoil. This is a very welcome development and he looked forward to funding being provided by the Department of Education for the school.

Cllr. T. Ferris said she started in the Gaelscoil in 1992 and for the five years she attended there was ongoing talk about the 'scoil nua'. If education had not been taken from local authorities, she wondered, if it would have taken so long to provide the new Gaelscoil. She PROPOSED that a letter would issue to the Department of Education, calling for the allocation of funding to construct the new school.

Cllr. T. O'Brien concurred with the views expressed by previous speakers and said he proposed at a Town Council meeting that land would be given for the new school. He thanked all those involved in this very worthwhile project.

Cllr. J. Finucane said this initiative is driven by officials at a local level. This will be the most exciting development in the Mitchel's area. Significant discussions have taken place with the Department of Education and the transfer of the land is the first step required by the Department. He thanked the Town and County Councils for agreeing to provide the site for the new school.

Cllr. N. Foley said this is a fantastic development and the new school will help to meet the education needs of the town. She thanked the Board of Management, the Town Council and the County Council for their work on this project. She SECONDED the proposal that a letter would issue to the Department of Education seeking funding for the school.

14.04.14.04 Part VIII Report on the proposed Ballyseedy to Ballymullen Amenity Trail

Mr. G. MacNamara referred members to his report dated 8th April, 2014 on this item which was circulated.

On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. J. Finucane, SECONDED by Cllr. T. O'Brien it was agreed to note the Manager's Report in accordance with Section 179(3) of the Planning and Development Act, 2000, Part VIII of the Planning and Development Regulations, 2001 and Articles 17 to 19 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2006 in respect of the proposed Ballyseedy to Ballymullen Amenity Trail.

14.04.14. 05 Issuing of Polling Information Cards for the Local Election

Mr. J.D. Flynn referred members to his report dated 8th April, 2014 on this item which was circulated. He said the European Returning Officer will issue Polling Cards for the forthcoming European and Local Election. However a small number of non EU voters, approx. 2,000, must be issued with Polling Cards as they are only entitled to vote in the Local Election.

Cllr. N. Foley asked that the public would be informed even if they do not get a Polling Card, provided they are on the Register, they are still entitled to vote. They should go to the Polling Station and produce ID to enable them to vote.

Cllr. J. Healy Rae asked that the same number of Presiding Officers and Polling Clerks would be appointed as in previous elections. He also asked that the Returning Officer would be encouraged to employ the unemployed for the election.

Cllr. B. Cronin called on the County Registrar, An Garda Siochana and Community Alert Organisations to ensure that the elderly are not abused when their Postal Vote is issued. He called on An Garda Siochana to protect the elderly when agents call to collect their Postal Vote or offer assistance to them in casting their Postal Vote. The elderly can complete their vote themselves or get assistance from a family member. He called on the Gardaí to ensure that anyone who interferes with a Postal Vote is brought before the Courts as they show a complete lack of respect for our elderly.

Cllr. B. O'Connell supported the views expressed by Cllr. Cronin.

Cllr. T. Ferris asked what the closing date is for receipt of applications for inclusion in the Supplementary Register. She asked that Polling Cards would issue prior to that date.

Mr. J.D. Flynn said he expects the Polling Cards will issue prior to the closing date.

On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. B. O'Connell, SECONDED by Cllr. B. Cronin it was unanimously agreed to approve the issuing of Polling Information Cards for the forthcoming Local Elections.

Mr. G. O'Brien informed members that the closing date for receipt of applications for inclusion in the Supplementary Register is Tuesday 6th May.

Cllr. P. Connor Scarteen agreed with the views expressed by Cllr. Cronin and said there must be respect on polling days. There must also be respect for staff and elderly citizens. He called on the Gardai to ensure compliance with the law.

Cllr. D. Healy Rae asked that the Polling Booths at Toureencahill and Clonkeen schools would be retained.

Mr. J.D. Flynn said the number of polling booths and staffing is a matter for the County Registrar. Local Elections are financed by Kerry County Council while European Elections are financed by the government. The budget is strictly controlled and the County Registrar is restricted by his budget. He added that he needed a resolution of Council to agree to the issuing of Polling Information Cards as set out in his report.

Cllr. J. Healy Rae PROPOSED that a letter would issue to the County Registrar, calling on him to have the same number of Polling Booths and Polling Clerks and to employ unemployed people for the election.

Cllr. D. Healy Rae SECONDED this proposal and it was agreed.

Cllr. M. O'Shea referred to the availability of wheelchair ramps at Polling Stations and said a ramp was not provided at a Polling Station in Milltown for the last election. He asked that all Polling Stations would be wheelchair accessible for the forthcoming election.

Cllr. B. Cronin requested that a letter would issue to Mr. P. Burke County Registrar and European Returning Officer in relation to the issue concerning Postal Votes which he outlined earlier.

14.04.14.06 Update on New Local Enterprise Office (LEO)

Mr. Curran, County Manager referred members to his report dated 14th April on this item which was circulated. He informed the meeting that the County & City Enterprise Boards (CEB) were the statutory agencies with responsibility for the promotion of enterprise and entrepreneurship at local level and for supporting new and existing micro-businesses. The CEB's have, for the past 20 years, operated as the first point of contact at local level for anyone thinking about starting a business or anyone in business looking for assistance. They focused on job creation through supporting commercially viable businesses, both existing and new.

In 2012, the Government decided to restructure the 35 CEB's by broadening their remit, particularly in relation to having a more extensive advisory and referral role, broadening their services to small businesses, as well as micro-businesses, as well as into areas of broader economic development, while maintaining their core focus on local business development.

The CEB's are to be replaced by Local Enterprise Offices (LEO's) and these new LEO's will operate at local level within the local authorities. The LEO's will be supported externally by the Centre of Excellence in Enterprise Ireland. The LEO will combine the resources of the existing CEB and the Local Authority Business Support Unit and will become the first-stop-shop for all entrepreneurs and existing micro and small businesses to deliver an enhanced and integrated support service.

A specific Service Level Agreement (SLA) was prepared by Enterprise Ireland and was signed by both Kerry County Council, by the County Manager, and Enterprise Ireland by Mr. Tom Hayes, Manager of Micro Enterprise & Small Business. This SLA specifies the actions and roles of the LEO.

The new LEO will have an Evaluations and Approvals Committee which will review and decide on qualifying projects for financial support.

The Committee will consist of the County Manager (Chief Executive), as Chair or his nominee, a representative from Enterprise Ireland, and five individuals with specific areas of business expertise. There is no remuneration attached to the positions.

Appointment of the business sector representatives will be made by the County Manager in consultation with the Head of the LEO. In considering the composition of the Committee, the Local Authority will give due consideration to principles of broad equality and gender balance. It will also ensure that all of those appointed have the relevant mix of knowledge and expertise to contribute to the Committee. Members of the Committee should have:-

- Experience in assessing financial proposals and an ability to challenge company submissions;
- Broad Business experience and a clear ability to empathise with challenges facing micro and small enterprises.
- The ability to demonstrate their understanding and experience in the micro and small enterprise sectors.

The selecting committee members, the Local Authority should look at specific expertise in the following:-

- Entrepreneurship;
- Debt/banking/Cashflow Management Expertise;
- Equity/Investment Expertise;
- Financial/Business Qualifications;
- Business Development;
- Marketing/Sales;
- Technology;

Committee Members will be appointed for a maximum period of three years. Changes in Committee Membership will be on a phased basis to ensure that a critical mass of experienced people is maintained. Of the five business sector individuals, membership will be such that one member retires from the Committee every 12 months.

Following consultation with Mr. Tomás Hayes, CEO of the Kerry CEB, (future Head of the LEO) the following is the membership of the Kerry LEO:-

- ***Mr. Tom Curran, County Manager, Chair of Committee;***
- ***Mr. Tomas Hayes, Head of LEO;***
- ***Mr. Jerry Moloney, Regional Manager, Enterprise Ireland;***
- ***Ms. Breda O'Dwyer, Manager of Centre of Entrepreneurship & Enterprise Development in I.T. Tralee;***
- ***Mr. Barry Murphy, Regional Manager, AIB, Business Lending Section;***

- ***Mr. Mike Fitzgerald, Founding Member of Altobridge;***
- ***Mr. Kristian O'Donovan, Managing Director of Flúirse Software and Pitman Training;***
- ***Ms. Kate Murphy, Managing Director of Southern Scientific Services Ltd;***

Staffing

There are currently three staff employed directly by the County Enterprise Board Company. These Staff Members were given an option to transfer to Forfas or Kerry County Council. All three have decided to transfer to Kerry County Council with no loss of current terms of employment etc.

Two employees of Kerry County Council had been seconded to the Company and this will not have any impact in relation to the new structure. Additional staff will be transferred to new LEO on a phased basis under the new re-organisation proposal.

Considerable work has taken place on transferring the financial arrangements of the CEB across to the County Council financial account. IT systems have also been changed/upgraded to facilitate the integration of the LEO into the County Council. The new branding of LEO is also well advanced.

In summary, the new LEO is virtually in position and following the final meeting of the existing CEB, fixed for 9th April, 2014, the first meeting of the new LEO will be arranged.

The Manager pointed out that approx. 1,300 part time jobs and in excess of 600 full time positions were created with help from the CEB. In excess of 1,000 people took part in various initiatives. The CEB was very involved with the Secondary Schools Entrepreneur Programme and the Kerry representative was runner up at a national level in 2013 and was placed 3rd in 2014.

In conclusion the Manager thanked all the members of the CEB Board and its Evaluation Committee Members for the great work done in supporting small businesses in Kerry over the past 20 years and said he looked forward to the new LEO, fully integrated into the Council business structure, continuing the role of the CEB in a more integrated and enhanced way.

As a member of the County Enterprise Board Cllr. J. Finucane welcomed the fact that staff are transferring to the County Council. They have shown tremendous professionalism and are always very accessible. He welcomed the proposed structure of the LEO and the inclusion of people with good business acumen. The new offices should be easily identifiable, accessible and in the County Buildings campus.

Cllr. J. Brassil welcomed the Manager's Report and said he always supported the County Enterprise Board. He hoped this would be a new enthusiastic beginning and that the work ethic of the County Enterprise Board would be taken on by the new LEO. He welcomed the inclusion of Mike Fitzgerald on the Board and said he hoped the Board would go from strength to strength.

Cllr. T. O'Brien complimented Tomás Hayes and his staff on their excellent work. He served on the County Enterprise Board for the past five years and agreed that their achievements were spectacular. He hoped the new offices would be accessible and he wished them well in the future.

Cllr. T. Ferris said the County Enterprise Board helped create more jobs than any other organisation with far greater budgets. She wished the new LEO every success and said while those on the Board are exceptional she felt it is missing a balance as no one is accountable. She asked if anything could be done to address this. Cllr. Ferris said she failed to see why it was necessary to reorganise the County Enterprise Board when it was so successful. Tomás Hayes and his predecessor Martin Collins did tremendous work even when the county was in recession.

Cllr. G. Wharton Slattery wished the new LEO every success and said she served on the County Enterprise Board and witnessed the tremendous work they do. She would like to see representation from the voluntary sector on the Board. One person from the voluntary sector served on the Board for 20 years and this was very beneficial. She welcomed the fact that the new LEO will move to new premises and said she hoped they would be more visible. The work of the County Enterprise Board has impacted on every town and villages in the county and she again emphasised the need to ensure an adequate broadband service is provided in Kerry. She thanked Tomás Hayes and his staff for their dedicated work through the years and wished them well for the future.

Cllr. M. Cahill thanked Mr. Hayes for his advice and assistance. He believed more could be done to advertise farmers markets as many tourists are very interested in them.

Cllr. S. Counihan wished Mr Hayes and his team well for the future. The LEO will be a major player and Mr. Hayes has a good affinity with people who are trying to set up in business. He wished the LEO every success in the future.

Cllr. P. McCarthy said he also served on the County Enterprise Board and he saw the excellent work they do. He wished the LEO every success. From his experience one of the inhibiting factors that prevented Mr. Hayes from offering assistance to more businesses was the fact that 75% of grants had to be paid to manufacturing with just 25% for the service industry. He asked if that will continue with the LEO.

Cllr. N. Foley thanked Mr Hayes and Mr. Collins, his predecessor for creating sustainable employment and giving such excellent guidance. She referred to a point made by previous speakers that while there is tremendous lineup in the new LEO there is a lack of local community and voluntary representation. She asked if there is an agenda to wipe out those who work for the local community.

Cllr. D. Healy Rae thanked Mr Hayes and his team for their excellent work in assisting new and existing businesses.

Cllr. R. Beasley paid tribute to the Mr. Hayes and his staff for their work in helping to create new employment and to secure existing jobs.

The Manager thanked members for their kind words for Tomás Hayes and his staff. He felt the new LEO would be more accountable to the Council than the County Enterprise Board as it was a limited company. He pointed out that as Manager he would also be accountable. The purpose of establishing the new LEO is twofold (1) to reduce the number of companies and (2) there is a cost in running a company and by abolishing it more funding should become available. The LEO will have a wider role and a larger remit. He referred to member's point that the community and voluntary sector should be represented on the LEO and he pointed out that the Board will be dealing with business propositions and they need business people to evaluate them. He hoped the LEO would be successful. He pointed out that the number of failed businesses as against the number of jobs created is very small and that is a great reflection on the County Enterprise Board.

Cllr. Ferris acknowledged the number of companies that failed was small but said community representatives had a sense of what would work rather than those with tunnel vision. She again asked that the community and voluntary sector would be represented on the LEO.

The Manager said that one member of the Board will rotate each year and following the first year this can be reviewed.

Cllr. McCarthy again asked if the 75 / 25 breakdown for grants will continue to apply.

In response the Manager said, as far as he was aware, it would but he pointed out they would have a broader remit.

14.04.14.07 Local Community Development Committee (LCDC) Structure

Cllr. B. Cronin said while he has serious concerns regarding the LCDC he sought advice from both the Director of Corporate Services and his own legal advisor. He declared that he is Chairperson of the Ballyhar Community Development Association and they have a live application with North and East Kerry Development at present and they are drawing down finance. As Chairperson of this body he sought clarification on his position and his legal advice is as follows: "Private or personal interests of this kind must not be allowed to conflict with public duty or improperly influence the decision making process. Where such interests, of which a councillor is aware, arise in relation to a matter which comes before a meeting for consideration they should be dealt with in a transparent fashion. This is necessary so that public trust and confidence in local government is upheld." On foot of that legal advice he declared that he has a direct involvement with Ballyhar Development Association and in accordance with Section 177 of the Local Government Act, 2001 he would leave the meeting while this item was being considered.

Cllr. Cronin then left the meeting.

Cllr. T. Ferris said all members are involved with community groups who are applying for funding but she would not leave the meeting.

Cllr. T. Buckley declared in accordance with Section 177 of the Local Government Act, 2001 he is a member of the Board of North & East Kerry Development and he would leave the meeting while this item was being considered.

Cllr. Buckley then left the meeting.

Cllr. M. Cahill said members are best placed to decide on the LCDC and for that reason he would remain at the meeting.

Cllr. M. O'Shea declared that he is on the Board of South Kerry Development Partnership and in the past he sought advice from Mr. J. Flynn and he subsequently left the meeting. On this occasion, however it is far too serious and he would remain at the meeting while this item is being discussed.

Cllr. J. Healy-Rae said he is a voluntary member of South Kerry Development Partnership and he has nothing to gain. These are community issues and he would remain at the meeting and vote against the proposed LCDC structure on behalf of the community he represents.

Cllr. G. Wharton Slattery declared that she is a member of the Board of North and East Kerry Development but she would remain at the meeting while this item was being considered.

Cllr. J.J. Culloty said he is on the Board of North and East Kerry Development and he is Chairperson of the Health & Safety Committee. He travels to Dingle and Listowel for meetings and is not paid for this work. He declared that he would remain at the meeting and vote against the proposed structure of the LCDC.

Cllr. S. Counihan said technically he works for a local Employment Service but he would remain at the meeting. He is opposed to privatisation of these companies and he would oppose the proposed structure of the LCDC.

Cllr. J. Sheahan declared that he is on the Board of IRD Duhallow and he would remain at the meeting and support the proposed structure for the LCDC.

Cllr. J. Brassil said in the past when a discussion took place on the Tarbert/Ballylongford landbank he remained at the meeting even though he was Chairperson of Shannon Development. Subsequently, someone made a complaint to the Ombudsman and he went through a difficult time while it was being investigated until the Ombudsman decided there was no case to answer. As a result of this he felt councillors who are members of Partnership Boards do not have an issue. He just wanted to point out to members that there are people out there who can make trouble for them.

The County Manager expressed his disappointment that a senior official was stopped on the way to the meeting and a placard pushed in their face. He took great exception to this. He read his report into the record of the meeting.

“1.0 *The Local Government Reform Act 2014 provides the legislative basis for the establishment of a Local Community Development Committee in each Local Authority Area and for the preparation and implementation of the community elements of Local Economic and Community Plans.*

The LCDC will replace the County Development Board (CDB) which will shortly be dissolved.

LCDC will be formed as a public-private partnership of socio-economic interests and will comprise of representatives of the Local Authority, other State Agencies, local and community interests, civil society and economic and social partners.

The number of LCDC members should not exceed 15, except where a strong case can be made to meet particular local circumstances. As far as possible the LCDC should aim for a minimum membership of 40% men and 40% women respectively.

Base on a 15 person LCDC:

- *The maximum number of public sector representatives will be 7*
- *The maximum number of private representatives will be 8*

2.0 *Under Section 36 of the Local Government Reform Act 2014, the principal Act, i.e. Local Government Act 2001 is amended as follows:*

128(c)

- 3(a) *Chief Executive shall, in consultation with CPG, seek and select nominees to the Committee and shall submit a list of recommended nominees to the Members of the Local Authority for their consideration.*
- 3(b) *Nominees shall be appointed to the Committee, without omissions or addition, by resolution of the Local Authority.*
- 3(c) *If the recommended nominees have not been appointed in accordance with Para (b) because:*
(i) the Local Authority did not pass the resolution concerned on any of the 2 days upon which it has met after submission of the list of recommended nominees under para (a), or;
(ii) 60 days have elapsed since the submission under para (a) of the list of nominees, then the recommended nominees shall be deemed to have been appointed on the day following the last day to which subparagraph (i) or (ii) relates, whichever first occurs.

3.0 *In accordance with Section 128(c) of the Local Government Reform Act 2014 and 3(a) above the matter of membership of the LCDC for Kerry was considered at the meeting of the CPG on 8th April, 2014 and following an in-depth review and discussion the following is the recommendation of the CPG.*

- 1. Total Membership of LCDC is 15;**
- 2. Total Public Sector Reps is 7;**
- 3. Total Private Sector Reps is 8;**

The Public and Private Sector Agencies were selected from the list of agencies outlined in Appendix 1 (attached).

4. The Public Sector Reps to be as follows:-

- a. Chair of Enterprise & Economic SPC;
- b. 2 no. Elected Members decided at AGM of Council on 6th June, 2014 with the proviso that these members be from other Municipal areas than the Chair of the Enterprise & Economic SPC.
- c. County Manager (Chief Executive) or his nominated representative;
- d. Health Services Executive (HSE)
- e. Kerry Education & Training Board (KETB)
- f. Údaras na Gaeltachta;

5. The Private Sector Reps to be as follows:-

- i. Community & Voluntary Forum/Specific Interest Groups **2 no**;
- ii. Local Development Sector - **2 no.** – (NEKD & SKDP)
- iii. Agriculture/Aquaculture - **1 no.** – IFA/ICMSA/Aquaculture;
- iv. Tourism - **1 no.** – Destination Kerry Forum
- v. Business - **1 no.** – Chambers of Commerce;
- vi. Environmental Pillar - **1 no.** – An Taisce

Subject to the approval of the Council, I will now proceed and contact all the Public/Private Bodies on the new LCDC and seek nominees which will be brought before this Council at the May Meeting for approval.

Appendix 1

State Agencies (9 No)

Health Services Executive (HSE)
An Garda Síochána
SOLAS
Education & Training Boards
Third Level Institutions
Department of Social Protection (DSP)
Teagasc
Regional Tourism Organisations
Údarás na Gaeltachta

Private Sector Agencies

South Kerry Development Partnership (SKDP)
North & East Kerry Development Partnership (NEKD)
IRD Duhallow
Community & Voluntary Sector
Environmental Interest Groups
Trade Unions
Agricultural & Farming Interests
Employers / Business Interests
Family Resource Centres
Inter-Agency Groups & Committees
Specific Interest Groups –
(those representing youth, disabilities, socially excluded or marginalised)
Community Activists”

The County Manager pointed out that the LCDC will be a very important committee going forward and it replaces the County Development Board, which had 39 members. It is important that this committee is put in place but unfortunately people believe by voting the proposed structure down this will all go away. However this is not the case. Section 36 of the Local Government Reform Act 2014 amended The Local Government Act 2001 by inserting the following in section

“128C

(3)(a) *the chief officer of the Committee shall, in consultation with the Corporate Policy Group, seek and select nominees to the Committee, from time to time, in accordance with subsection (2) and any regulations made, or general policy guidelines issued, by the Minister for that purpose, and shall submit a list of recommended nominees to the members of the local authority for consideration.*

(b) *The nominees shall be appointed to the Committee, without omission or addition, by resolution of the local authority.”*

The CPG had a good discussion on this item and the structure contained in the report was agreed by them. The role of the elected member is to adopt the structure and this is clearly set out in section 128C(3)(c) of the Local Government Reform Act 2014, which states:

“ (c) *If the recommended nominees have not been appointed in accordance with paragraph (b) either because –*

(i) the local authority did not pass the resolution concerned on any of the 2 days upon which it has met after submission of the list of recommended nominees under paragraph (a), or

(ii) 60 days have elapsed since submission under paragraph (a) of the list of nominees,

then the recommended nominees shall be deemed to have been appointed on the day following the last day to which subparagraph (i) or (ii) relates, whichever first occurs.”

Sixty days from that day even if members vote down the structure for the new LCDC as set out in the report, irrespective of the vote, he will proceed as per his legal duty to establish the LCDC. This committee is vital to set out a strategy for the community. Staff numbers in the Council were reduced and as a result millions were saved. The purpose of tendering is to ensure value for money. If the partnerships presently give value for money they have nothing to fear. The LCDC is more county orientated than the County Development Board. There is a duplication of services and a more coherent approach is desirable.

In conclusion the Manager said, irrespective of one's views on the future of the partnerships, the LCDC will serve communities and it is important that it is established immediately.

The Mayor then asked members to restrict their comments to the Manager's Report.

Cllr. T. Ferris said fortunately our Constitution provides for freedom of speech, especially when there is a belief there is a move to privatisation. She informed the Manager her comments were not personal. The partnerships have been very successful because 50% of their membership comes from community groups, and this is widely recognised and acknowledged in Europe. The proposed structure is only offering two community representatives and that is not acceptable. Members are being forced by legislation, to adopt this structure. Cllr. Ferris pointed out that what is presented in the report is a suggested structure and does not include named individuals. She would argue that as a list of nominees was not presented to members the 60 days will not come into effect. However, she was sure, Management would not agree with this. She was concerned that Minister Hogan is privatising the work carried out by the partnerships heretofore. She PROPOSED that 7 of the 15 nominees would come from the Community and Voluntary Forum. She also PROPOSED that Standing Orders would be suspended to allow a community representative to address the meeting.

The Mayor ruled that this would not be permitted.

Cllr. M. Cahill said there are very genuine concerns all for Kerry regarding the LCDC and the tendering for the work programme. He had issues in relation to the make-up of the LCDC and he was very concerned for the future of the partnerships.

The Mayor asked Cllr. Cahill to restrict his comments to the proposed structure of the LCDC.

Cllr. D. Healy Rae objected to this restriction.

Cllr. J. Healy Rae asked the Mayor to allow the members 10 minutes to discuss this very important issue.

Cllr. Cahill said the partnerships have built up a wealth of experience over the past 20 years and people are very concerned for their jobs and the future of these committees. People are concerned if the Council administers this committee they will be restricted by the number of staff that can be assigned to it. All members had seen the delays at the Motor Taxation Office. There is also real concern regarding the tendering process which could see the end of the partnerships. He believes the Council and the partnerships can work together and that the partnerships should have a significant role in the awarding of grants and LEADER funding going forward. The proposed Greenway from Glenbeigh to Cahersiveen is the equivalent of an industry to South Kerry and this initiative came from the partnership. The partnerships are best placed to implement the LEADER programme. He called on the Manager to resolve this issue with Minister Hogan.

Cllr. J. Brassil said this is a very important debate and members are trying to express their opinions. If necessary the meeting should be adjourned to allow a meeting between the party whips and the Mayor to agree how this item would be dealt with.

The Mayor then adjourned the meeting for 10 minutes and said he would meet with party whips on this issue.

The meeting adjourned as 12:13pm.

The meeting resumed at 12:25pm.

The Mayor informed the meeting that it was decided that each party whip would speak for three minutes, following which members could contribute if they so wish.

Cllr. Cahill said that this is an extremely important issue and he called on the Manager to speak with Minister Hogan on it, and to outline the fears of community groups. He believed partnerships have a role to play going forward as do Kerry County Council. Experience cannot be underestimated and he believed it can be utilised for the betterment of the county going forward.

Cllr. J. Brassil referred to the proposed structure presented in the Manager's Report and said while he understood the Manager has a job to do this debate should have taken place three or four months ago. It appears that the work of the partnerships is being privatised. If private companies take over this work the motivation will be to make a profit and it is not possible to mix, private and community. This proposal is fundamentally flawed and he understood the Manager is bound by legislation. In principle, he rejected the proposal. Cllr. Ferris proposed that a minimum of seven of the representatives on the LCDCC would be from the community and voluntary sector. He pointed out that many representatives from the private sector have a dual role and could also be members of the Community and Voluntary Forum. Cllr. Brassil said in principle, he was opposed to the proposed structure and he added it is not possible to provide community services and to privatise them.

Cllr. J. Healy Rae welcomed the opportunity to air his views. He attended a series of meetings on the future of the development companies and he fully supports the partnerships. Likewise, he supports the County Manager in his job. He was behind the Manager when a person shoved a placard in front of him and while he did not like the way it was done he felt the Manager should have taken it in his stride. The reason this happened is because feelings are running high and people are concerned for their jobs. He pointed out that elected members have a job to do and they must represent rural communities. He was very familiar with the work of the partnerships but he was concerned about the tendering process. He was satisfied that the partnerships give good value for money and they give an excellent service. Dealing with companies who operate for profit would be a very different issue. He asked who will run schemes if the partnerships fall. The Manager's job is to set out in the report the bodies that will be represented on the LCDCC. However, he did not agree with all of them. Cllr. Healy Rae asked that a message would be sent to Minister Hogan that the members of Kerry County Council do not support what he is doing in legislation in relation to the partnerships. In conclusion Cllr. Healy Rae said he would not support the proposed structure of the LCDCC.

Cllr. T. O'Brien said the County Manager's job in presenting this report is not easy. All members have an involvement with the partnership companies and have seen the excellent work they do. The document is dismissive of their work and of the volunteers involved with them. There should be more involvement of community groups and on behalf of the Labour Party he said he could not support the proposed structure.

Cllr. T. Ferris said once a private company tenders their key focus is profit. They will cherry pick the most profitable projects in the towns and the more peripheral areas will suffer. Ireland has been held up by the EU as an example of excellence in delivering community projects to enable and empower communities to work for themselves. She urged councillors to exercise the same prudence as other local authorities and to reject this proposal. The Sinn Féin party will vote

against the proposed structure and she called on the Manager, if he proceeds to establish this committee, to ensure there are seven or eight representatives from the community and voluntary sector. All members have seen what happened to childcare and the elderly and we cannot let this happen to community groups.

Cllr. J. Finucane said very few of his colleagues put down more Notices of Motion than he did on job creation when he called for a co-ordinated approach to development. People coming to Kerry to establish businesses found there was a maze of organisations to be dealt with and this was off putting. He pointed out that the Local Government Reform Act has been enacted and members are talking about a strategy for community development groups. A successful battle was fought to retain the Kerry Education and Training Board in Kerry and they have 1000 employees. New courses are being offered in Monavalley and this must be welcomed. He wanted to see a spirit of co-operation and coherent policy utilising the experience we have. If we do not address the issue of job creation no one will do it for us. We will fight for additional resources if necessary. Councillors are always complaining that they do not have enough powers yet they had this power but they do not want it. He pointed out that corporate governance is an important issue also. In conclusion, Cllr. Finucane said he was in favour of utilising the people already involved to ensure there is not an overlap and he would vote in favour of the proposed structure as outlined in the Manager's Report.

Cllr. D. Healy Rae welcomed those present in the public gallery and said they are present as they are genuinely concerned for their communities. He acknowledged the excellent work done by North and East Kerry Development, South Kerry Development and IRD Duhallow. He could not understand why the structure has to be changed as it is working well. The Minister is seeking to abolish the partnerships who are trying to enhance rural areas. He was genuinely concerned that this would result in a dilution of services and a reduction in funding. The Manager said with a reduction in staff numbers savings were achieved but he pointed out that we are not giving the same level of service as before. There are pools of water on roadsides and staff are not available to open drains. He objected to the proposed structure as IRD Duhallow will not be represented. He had first-hand experience of their work and felt they should be represented yet it is proposed that An Taisce would have a representative on the LCDC despite the misery and pain they inflicted on people in rural areas who were trying to provide a home. It is not feasible that the Leader Programme would be administered by a private company as they will only be out to make profit. He called on the Fine Gael councillors to ask Minister Hogan to row back on this proposal. He called on the Manager to take members views on board and to go back to the Minister to ensure this does not proceed.

Cllr. P. Connor Scarteen said he served as a voluntary Director on a partnership for three years and his father served for many years before him. As a result he has first-hand experience of the excellent work done by South Kerry Development Partnership. He acknowledged that the Local Government Reform Act came into force on 27 January 2014 however; he believed they got it wrong. In Kerry there are three peninsulas and he believed the partnership offices in these areas should be retained. Otherwise it would be to the detriment of small rural communities. Whenever there was a vote in the past he supported the partnerships and he intended to reject the proposed structure set out in the Manager's Report.

Cllr. S. Counihan said he was concerned that the Council, as a local authority, would oversee the tendering process whereby private companies could take over community work. All councillors have made statements that rural Ireland is under attack and this is another example of that. He pointed out that Ireland does not stop at Newlands Cross. People in the public gallery are afraid they will lose their jobs. Partnerships were established when unemployment was 15%. He understood the Manager's position but said members must send a strong message to government to leave the partnerships as they are. He supported the proposal that there would be an increase in the number of community representatives on the committee.

Cllr. G. Wharton Slattery said she appreciated the Manager's position but she had seen other services privatised and it did not work. The partnerships do excellent work and established various groups i.e. the Men's Sheds, Women's Equality Groups etc and they would not have existed but for the partnerships. She acknowledged Cllr. Finucane's point in relation to overlap but said no one else does the work the partnerships do. In conclusion Cllr. Wharton Slattery said she would like to see six or seven representatives on the Committee from the Community and Voluntary Forum.

Cllr. P.J. Donovan said last week South Kerry got great news when in excess of €3m was allocated for the Greenway from Glenbeigh to Cahersiveen. This is largely due to the work of South Kerry Development Partnership. This issue was last discussed at a Council meeting a few months ago and he was one of just four councillors to vote against it. He called on the Manager to contact Minister Hogan with a view to having these proposals reversed.

Cllr. J.J. Culloty said he is on the Board of NEKD and there are no issues regarding corporate governance. A lot of members on the Board do very good work on a voluntary basis and this will not happen if private companies are successful in the tendering process. This would be a huge loss for rural communities, and he believed any overlap can be dealt with. Cllr. Culloty said he would not support the proposed structure.

Cllr. N. Foley said this is a black and white issue. Councillors recognise the years of excellent dedicated service given by the partnerships and this work is driven by the community. Private companies will be motivated by profit and communities will suffer as a result. The partnerships are working for the betterment of local communities and ensure value for money. She agreed that the service should not be privatised because if this happens the general public will be at a loss. She PROPOSED that the Minister would be called on to suspend this proposal. She also supported the proposal that seven or eight representatives from the Community and Voluntary Forum should be on the Committee. Cllr. Foley said she was appalled at this process and could not support it.

Cllr. A. McEllistrim said our communities have done marvellous work and there was huge achievement through the partnerships. The community and voluntary driver has worked so why change it. The proposal is that there would be 8 representatives from the Private Sector with 7 from the Public Sector. She pointed out the Private Sector outweighs representation of Public Sector and this is not acceptable. Private companies will be motivated by profit while the community and voluntary sector will be driven by the needs of the community.

Cllr. M. O'Shea said the document Putting People First is anti rural communities. Everyone has had a positive experience of partnerships. The IDA failed miserably in job creation as has national politics. In Kerry we depend on the partnerships to encouraging indigenous sustainable employment. When he was a member of the County Development Board he acknowledged the best intention was to create jobs but he wondered what it actually achieved. He was concerned that the new Committee would be a talking shop and he was opposed to the proposed structure. Even if 6 or 7 community and voluntary representatives are appointed to the Committee it will be a disaster for rural areas. It was a sad day when this legislation was passed by the Houses of the Oireachtas.

Cllr. R. Beasley said to ensure community buy in they must feel ownership. That is why NEKD and SKDP have been so successful. They have 50% plus representation on their Boards from the community and voluntary sector. The proposed structure gives 2 out of 15 positions to them. This is a big difference.

Cllr. Finucane is taking the power from elected councils and what is proposed will take the power from the community to give it to a subgroup of a local authority. He believed this proposal will increase the cost of community projects hugely. He called on all councillors to reject this proposal.

Cllr. P. Leahy said he was very concerned at this proposal and the partnerships have done excellent work with local organisations. It would be a sad day if members supported the proposal and to do so would result in a loss of support for community groups who fear that private companies will take over this work.

The Manager thanked members for the informed debate and their acknowledgement that he has a job to do also. He was given guidelines which he must adhere to. If members want seven representatives from the Community and Voluntary Forum they must remove representation from some of the other groups outlined in the report. He pointed out that his proposal gives 2 representatives to the Community and Voluntary Forum, 2 representatives to the local development sector and 3 elected members who are also community representatives. That gives a total of seven community representatives. Representatives from other groups, i.e. Agricultural / Aquaculture etc are also community representatives, so to say there is not adequate local representation is not accurate. The main reason he did not bring forward the names of the representatives was that he was concerned if members did not agree with the entity then it would appear as though the individual was being rejected. He would bring forward another report to the May meeting naming the people who have been nominated and it is possible members will reject that also. He said, however, that he accepted the democratic process. The whole purpose of the Committee is to evaluate the way money is spent and to ensure there is no duplication. He is committed to delivering the best service possible for the people of Kerry. He did not disagree that the partnerships have delivered good service. There will be a two phase tendering process and if the partnerships offer value for money they should have nothing to fear. There would be a co-ordinated, coherent approach to service delivery. It is very important to ensure that value for money is secured at all times. No member proposed that a body should be removed and replaced by another body on the list of representatives. He believed the Community and Voluntary Forum has adequate representation on the Committee. He informed the meeting that he has no option but to proceed unless members put forward a specific proposal. The Committee will be in place for a number of years with representation from all the sectors. Members asked him to go back to the Minister but he did not want to mislead the public as he believed nothing would be achieved by this.

Cllr. D. Healy Rae said he was opposed to the LCDC but if it must proceed he PROPOSED that An Taisce would be removed and would be replaced by IRD Duhallow.

Cllr. J. Healy Rae SECONDED this proposal.

The Manager said if members make changes to the proposed structure he will have to go back to the drawing board. He pointed out that Kerry is a strong tourism county and the environment is critical. He believed An Taisce is the best environmental group and it is important that the environmental pillar would be represented on the Committee.

Cllr. J. Brassil said the Manager indicated if members make one change to the proposed structure he would have to go back to the drawing board. He supported Cllr. Ferris's proposal that there would be additional representation from the community and voluntary sector. He agreed that agricultural representatives will be community activists also. The Healy Rae's had an issue with An Taisce being given representation on the Committee but he pointed out that An Taisce is responsible for the Blue Flag Beaches Awards. The Blue Flag is the single most important thing in his town of Ballyheigue. An Taisce is also responsible for the National Spring Clean Campaign and they are a hugely important body in the county. He pointed out that elements of An Taisce do very good work and he would not agree to remove them from the proposed structure. He made a specific request that representatives would have a double qualification and he was standing by this proposal. He also asked that a message would be conveyed to central government that this structure is not acceptable to members.

Cllr. Ferris said members were told they had to adopt the proposed structure or they had to make alternative proposals. The Manager then said if members reject the proposed structure he will go ahead to establish the Committee anyway. He just said if there are any changes to the proposed structure he would scrap it. It is sad, that in 2014, elected members have no say or power in something that is so important for their communities.

Cllr. S. Counihan supported the views expressed by Cllr. Brassil in relation to An Taisce. Kerry is dependent on tourism and it is important that the environmental pillar is represented on the Committee. He asked if the number on the Committee could be increased.

Cllr. O'Shea said he understood members were totally opposed to the LCDC and if so why were they proposing amendments.

Cllr. R. Beasley supported the views expressed by Cllrs. Brassil and Counihan in relation to An Taisce and said it is important to have them on the Committee. He pointed out that Kerry has 13 Blue Flag Beaches and it is important to retain them.

Mr. G. O'Brien informed the meeting that a vote would be taken on the following proposal by Cllr. J. Finucane, which was seconded by Cllr. J. Sheahan.

That we the Members of Kerry County Council hereby resolve to adopt the LCDC Structure as agreed by the CPG and set out in the County Manager's Report to Council in accordance with Section 36 of the Local Government Reform Act 2014 which inserted Section 128(c) into the Local Government Act 2001 in respect of the membership of the LCDC's.

The vote resulted as follows:

For: Cllrs. Finucane, Griffin, McCarthy, O'Connell, Sheahan, Fitzgerald **(6)**

Against: Cllrs. Beasley, Brassil, Cahill, Connor-Scarteen, Counihan, Culloty, Donovan, Ferris, Foley, D. Healy-Rae, J. Healy-Rae, Leahy, McEllistram, O'Brien, O'Shea, Wharton-Slattery **(16)**

Not Voting: None **(0)**

The Mayor declared the proposal DEFEATED.

Cllr. J. Healy-Rae PROPOSED that the LCDC's would be scrapped.

Cllr. D. Healy-Rae SECONDED this proposal.

The Mayor ruled that this was not a valid proposal as it contravened the provisions of the Local Government Reform Act 2014.

Cllrs. Cronin and Buckley then returned to the meeting.

14.4.14.8 Annual Financial Statement for the year ended 31st December, 2013

Ms. A. McAllen said she was presenting the finalised figures for 2013. The Annual Financial Statement is subject to external audit by the Local Government Audit Service whose purpose is to form an independent opinion of the accounts following a comprehensive review of the Council's accounting records and management practices, to certify the correctness of the Annual Financial Statement and to submit an Audit Opinion and an Audit Report, if appropriate, to the Local Authority, to the Director of Audit and to the Minister for the Environment, Community and Local Government, in accordance with Sec. 120 of the Local Government Act 2001 and as provided for in the Local Government Reform Act, 2014.

The Overall Financial Activity of the Council for 2013 was €172,052,416. This level of expenditure indicates the ongoing extent of day-to-day service delivery, infrastructural development undertaken by the Council across the county during 2013. It also indicates the significance of operations of the County Council on the local economy.

Over the course of 2013, Kerry County Council has managed the resource base effectively despite the challenges faced. The Council has put in place prudent expenditure controls in Revenue and Capital and strengthened debt management measures to maximise income where possible. This effective resource management and income buoyancy has limited the impact of the economic downturn on the delivery of local services by this Council. This has enabled the Council to carry forward provisions for a number of ongoing specific projects following review of the financial accounts and identifying anticipated future activities requiring funding within the Council's Work Programme.

The main provisions carried forward include in particular:-

- €300,000 Emergency Structural Repair Fund in support of grant-aid following the severe weather earlier this year.
- €275,000 contribution towards contingency superannuation fund to avoid exceptional pension payments liability in any given year.
- €100,000 towards future purchase of Fire Services Equipment and support for Retained Fire Fighters gratuities fund.
- €75,000 as a provision towards Elected Members gratuities.
- €150,000 towards the Landfill Aftercare Fund.
- €50,000 towards supporting Corporate Projects for Sustainable Energy Projects.
- €75,000 support for start-up costs of the Kerry Local Enterprise Office to promote and foster economic and enterprise development in the County.
- €150,000 in support of grant-aid funding for improvement works on Piers and Harbours and Coastal Improvement.
- €100,000 in support of Corporate Amalgamation Costs in 2014.
- €30,000 as a provision for Public Lighting Upgrade Capital Refurbishment Programme.
- €50,000 as a provision for a Burial Ground Development Programme.
- €15,000 provision towards Library Archival Services.
- €50,000 towards Corners and Inquests costs to avoid future exceptional liability payments.

Expenditure variances to the allocations approved in the Adopted Budget were incurred in:-

- Division A – Housing and Building

Adopted Allocation €17,805,662
Out-Turn €16,214,031

- Division B – Road Transportation and Safety

Adopted Allocation €30,144,188
Out-Turn €33,008,784

Ms. McAllen said the additional expenditure in this Division is partially offset by an increase in grant funding of €2.1m.

- Division C – Water Services

Adopted Allocation €24,540,153
Out-Turn €23,562,823

- Division E – Environmental Services

Adopted Allocation €16,648,689
Out-Turn €17,697,516

The additional expenditure relates to higher than anticipated activity levels at Muingnaminnane as waste tonnage actually received in 2013 was 55,276 tonnes against a budgeted 48,000 tonnage. The increased tonnage also resulted in some additional operating costs on the site, additional plant hire, materials, leachate and energy costs were incurred. The overall increase in landfill operations includes €0.301m in landfill levy received and paid to DoECLG. The landfill levy is a contra item. Due to the increased tonnage/income in 2013, an additional €150,000 was set aside to provide for the Muingnaminnane Aftercare Fund.

- Division F – Recreation and Amenity

Adopted Allocation €4,606,558
Out-Turn €4,722,677

The additional expenditure in this Division is due to support provided to SEAI Energy Efficiency Grants received in the Library Services.

- Division H – Miscellaneous Services

Adopted Allocation €8,839,254
Out-Turn €9,454,951

The additional expenditure was due mainly to write-off of irrecoverable rates of €3.48m and additional costs in respect of inquests/post mortems in coroner fees/expenses of €0.09m. An additional provision of €75,000 has also been provided for payment of gratuities to Elected Members.

The charge out of central management costs to divisions includes €1.077m for amounts paid and accrued as a result of the Voluntary redundancy scheme announced by the Government in 2013.

Local Income

Our reliance on locally sourced income is increasing and will gain greater significance into the future. We will continue to maintain and strengthen our focus on debt collection. A Summary of Major Collections – Appendix 7 is attached which illustrates the percentage collections for 2013, and the level of debtors associated with each of these income streams. The percentage collections across the major income streams have been broadly maintained compared to 2012. Our collection staff continue to work through satisfactory payment plans with all our debtors where necessary and Ms. McAllen emphasised the need to engage fully and constructively with our collection staff. Unfortunately, where no reasonable means is taken to pay outstanding debts we have no choice but to take appropriate court or other recovery measures. During 2013 we issued 470 registered 6-day notices with 340 by way of ordinary post in respect of outstanding rates. A total of 76 rate summonses were subsequently issued afterwards. In addition, a total of 37 water supply disconnections were carried out during the year.

Charges on Non-Principal Private Residences:- This charge, introduced in July 2009 yielded a gross income to Kerry County Council of €3.293m for 2013 and, which, after the NPPR National Office and local costs are deducted added to our income by approx. €3.183m. In addition, the Town Council's benefited by approx. €1.338m nett. The Council has strengthened debt collection measures in this area. Defaulters continue to be targeted in 2013 with legal proceedings initiated in a number of cases. Some €838,840 was collected in late fees for Kerry County Council in 2013 and €1.1m countywide. The Local Government Reform Act, 2014, has now repeated this charge for 2014. From 1st March 2014 no additionally late payment fees will apply to any outstanding arrears if amounts owing are paid by 31st August 2014, thereafter considerable extra penalties will apply. Arrears will continue to be pursued by the Council in 2014.

Ms. McAllen informed members that details of the Capital Account are set out on Pages vi and vii of the AFS.

Ms. McAllen said the Revenue Surplus for 2013 is €82,533; as a result the accumulated surplus at the end of 2013 is €3,035,261. The retention of a cumulative surplus is a very positive reflection on both the elected members and the continuous efforts of staff of Kerry County Council in maximising resources, achieving better value for money, maximising revenue and increasing overall efficiencies during these ongoing challenging economic times. However, it must be noted that this is based on accrual accounting and not all of the funds will have been realised at the end of 2013. The balance in the account is considered prudent and satisfactory.

In conclusion Ms. McAllen said she would like to take the opportunity to thank the members for their support for the Budget, Budget holders, Revenue Collectors, their supporting clerical staff and the staff of her Department for their consistent diligence and hard work in helping her carry out her role efficiently and effectively.

Cllr. J. Brassil said the surplus for 2013 must be welcomed. He also welcomed the provision of €300,000 made to assist storm damage repair work. We are now into the summer season and he asked Mr. MacNamara, Director of Roads to ensure the Pier at Dromatoor in Ballyheigue, is dredged in the next few days. This pier cannot be used since the storm because of rubble and as a result fishermen must operate from Fenit. This is very inconvenient for them. Cllr. Brassil also requested that the storm wall at the beach in Ballyheigue, which was knocked by the storm, would be replaced as an amount of debris is washed in with every high tide. If it cannot be replaced before the tourism season he asked that the 1 m² blocks would be put in place as a temporary measure or that large sandbag would be used instead. He asked why the housing budget was underspent.

Ms. McAllen said the reduction in the outturn for Housing and Building was attributable primarily to a reduced DoECLG allocation on the Housing Support Grants Schemes resulting in an under-spend of €1.4m and a reduction in land loan and mortgage repayments due to interest only payable on land loans matured in 2013.

Cllr. T. Ferris said she understood the housing grants allocated were less than that budgeted for but when the SPC asked that this money would be used for grants they were told that this would effectively be a new scheme and could not be allowed. She asked, in future, if there is a surplus in the housing budget that it would be used for repairs to tenant's houses.

Ms. McAllen said this would be considered while also taking the Capital Account into consideration.

Cllr. J. Finucane thanked Ms. McAllen and the staff of the Finance Department for their excellent management of the Budget. He welcomed the provision of €75,000 for the new Local Enterprise Office. The design of this office is very important as it should be a focal point for business. He referred to the 1916 Commemorations and said the Ashe Memorial Hall needs to be completely refurbished. He asked that provision would be made in the 2015 Budget for this work. This is a magnificent building and it is long overdue a major overhaul.

Cllr. D. Healy Rae thanked Ms. McAllen and the finance staff for their excellent work with limited finance. He said an application for funding was to be submitted to the OPW for the carrying out of works in Castleisland to ensure that the river would not continue to flow into Cragg Cave as it would result in further flooding of the town. He was aware that matching funding may be required and he asked if provision was made for it. He asked if this application was made to the OPW. The provision of €50,000 for Burial Grounds is not adequate and he referred to Kilgarvan Burial Ground and said unless work is carried out to remove the rock the number of available grave spaces would run out quickly.

Cllr. J.J. Culloty also referred to the remedial works to be carried out to the culvert in Castleisland and asked if a request for funding was submitted to the OPW.

Cllr. M. Cahill complemented Ms. McAllen and her staff on the management of the Council finances. He asked that consideration would be given to providing public lighting on a section of road from Rossbeigh Cross in Glenbeigh Village to Falvey's Caravan Park. There are a number of smaller estates and a caravan park on this road and it is very dangerous and is a health and safety issue.

Cllr. J. Healy Rae said the number of grave spaces left in a number of graveyards around the county is small and additional land needs to be acquired. He requested that a report would be presented to Council on the number of spaces left in each burial ground and that any action taken to acquire additional land would also be included. He thanked Kerry County Council and Irish Water for providing water at the graveyard in Sneem. He asked that, where possible, water would be provided at all burial grounds.

Cllr. B. Cronin thanked Ms. McAllen and her staff for their management of the Budget. At the last Killarney Electoral Area Meeting he understood there was an acceptance that there is a need for 3 additional street lights from Furies to the Church and Hall. He asked that this work would be costed and he asked if the ducting is in place. He also requested an update on the acquisition of land in Killarney for a burial ground. How many grave spaces remain in public burial grounds in Killarney? In the past he suggested that the Council would contact the HSE, with a view to purchasing land at St Finian's for a burial ground. He asked if a meeting has taken place with the HSE to discuss this issue.

Cllr. M. O'Shea referred to the storm damage at Maherabeg, Fahamore, Cromane Lower and Kilshannig and asked when work will commence in these areas.

In response Mr. MacNamara said the government allocated funding to various agencies i.e. Department of Transport for roads etc. The Department of Transport gave the go ahead to spend the funding but to-date the OPW have not approved the spending of the funding. They want certain design work done before they will give approval. A complete solution is required for Tullig in Castleisland and a plan will be submitted to the OPW in the near future.

Mr. O. Ring undertook to present a report to Council on burial grounds and said Kerry County Council has an excellent reputation for providing burial grounds. There are approx. 850 to 900 grave spaces available in the Killarney area. Mr. Ring undertook to consult with Mr. C. Mangan on the issue raised by Cllr. Healy Rae in relation to Kilgarvan burial ground.

On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. J. Finucane, SECONDED by Cllr. J. Sheahan it was unanimously agreed to note the AFS for year ended 31 December 2013 and to approve additional expenditure as outline in the financial review including the provision for the additional measures mentioned in that review.

14.04.14.08 Kerry Local Authorities Draft Annual Report 2013

Mr. J.D. Flynn referred members to the Kerry Local Authorities Draft Annual Report for 2013 which was circulated.

On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. J. Finucane, SECONDED by Cllr. J. Sheahan it was unanimously agreed to note the Kerry Local Authorities Draft Annual Report for 2013.

The meeting adjourned for lunch at 1.45pm.

The meeting resumed at 2.25pm.

14.04.14.10 Report on the Community, Culture & Tourism SPC

It was unanimously agreed to note Cllr. J. Healy Rae's written report on the recent meeting of the Community, Culture & Tourism SPC which was circulated.

14.04.14.11 Report on the Transport SPC

It was unanimously agreed to note Cllr. P. Connor Scarteen's written report on the recent meeting of the Transport SPC which was circulated.

14.04.14.12 Report on Mayor Fitzgerald's visit to New York

It was unanimously agreed to note Mayor S. Fitzgerald's written report on his visit to New York from 14th to 20th March 2014, which was circulated.

14.04.14.13 Reports on the operations and activities of outside Bodies

(a) Report on the Governing Body of NUI Cork

It was unanimously agreed to note Cllr. J. Finucane's written report on the operations and activities of the Governing Body of NUI Cork.

(b) Report on Kerry Recreation & Sports Partnership

It was unanimously agreed to note Cllr. M. Griffin's written report on the operations and activities of Kerry Recreation & Sports Partnership.

14.04.14.14 Summary of proceedings at Conferences/Seminars

(a) Geothermal Association of Ireland Conference

It was unanimously agreed to note Cllr. J. Finucane's written report on the Geothermal Association of Ireland Conference held on the 15th November, 2013 which was circulated.

(b) Conference on the theme "The Effects of Budget 2014"

It was unanimously agreed to note Cllr. M. O'Shea's written report on the Conference on the theme "The Effects of Budget 2014" held from 15th to 17th November, 2013 which was circulated.

(c) Conference on the theme "Local Government Bill 2013"

It was unanimously agreed to note Cllr. M. O'Shea's written report on the Conference on the theme "Local Government Bill 2013" held on the 29th & 30th November, 2013 which was circulated.

(d) Seminar on the theme "An Inconvenient Reality"

It was unanimously agreed to note Cllr. M. Griffin's written report on the Seminar on the theme "An Inconvenient Reality" held from 31st January to 2nd February, 2014 which was circulated.

(e) Conference on the theme “Keeping Communities Safe”

It was unanimously agreed to note Cllr. M. O’Shea’s written report on the Conference on the theme "Keeping Communities Safe" held on the 7th & 8th February, 2014 which was circulated.

(f) AMAI Spring Seminar

It was unanimously agreed to note Cllr. P. Connor-Scarteen’s written report on the AMAI Spring Seminar held on the 14th & 15th February, 2014 which was circulated.

(g) 25th Annual Clare Tourism Conference

It was unanimously agreed to note Cllr. P. O’Donoghue’s written report on the 25th Annual Clare Tourism Conference held on the 21st and 22nd February, 2014 which was circulated.

(h) 25th Colmcille Winter School

It was unanimously agreed to note Cllr. J. Sheahan’s written report on the 25th Colmcille Winter School on the theme "The Irish Economy - Post Bailout" held from 21st to 23rd February, 2014 which was circulated.

(i) ACCC Annual Conference

It was unanimously agreed to note Cllr. M. O’Shea’s written report on the ACCC Annual Conference held on the 6th & 7th March which was circulated.

(j) Conference on the theme "Rural Development Programme (RDP) 2014"

It was unanimously agreed to note Cllr. M. Cahill’s written report on the conference on the theme "Rural Development Programme (RDP) 2014" held on the 14th & 15th March, 2014 which was circulated.

(k) Seminar on the theme "The Councillor Post 2014"

It was unanimously agreed to note Cllr. M. Griffin’s written report on the Seminar on the theme "The Councillor Post 2014" held from 14th to 16th March, 2014 which was circulated.

14.04.14.15 Opening of Tenders

- (a) On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. B. Cronin, SECONDED by Cllr. M. Gleeson it was agreed to approve the opening of tenders for the 2014 Non National Bituminous Overlay Requirements – Closing date: Thursday 17th April, 2014 at 4pm.
- (b) On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. M. O'Shea, SECONDED by Cllr. S. Counihan it was agreed to approve the opening of tenders for the N70 Milltown Village Pavement Overlay – Closing date: Friday 25th April, 2014 at 4pm.
- (c) On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. B. Cronin, SECONDED by Cllr. M. O'Shea it was agreed to approve the opening of tenders for the N70 Coad to Nedanone Castlecove Pavement Overlay – Closing date: Friday 25th April, 2014 at 4pm.
- (d) On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. B. Cronin, SECONDED by Cllr. S. Counihan it was agreed to approve the opening of tenders for the N70 Sneem to Drimnabeg Pavement Overlay – Closing date: Friday 25th April, 2014 at 4pm.
- (e) On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. B. Cronin, SECONDED by Cllr. M. O'Shea it was agreed to approve the opening of tenders for the N71 Looscaunagh Lough Pavement Overlay – Closing date: Friday 25th April, 2014 at 4pm.
- (f) On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. M. O'Shea, SECONDED by Cllr. B. Cronin it was agreed to approve the opening of tenders for Property Valuation and Agronomy Services for N70 Kilderry Bends Improvement Scheme – Closing date: Wednesday 30th April, 2014 at 4pm.
- (g) On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. J. Finucane, SECONDED by Cllr. J. Sheahan it was agreed to approve the opening of tenders for Framework Agreement for Energy Efficiency Retrofitting Works to Local Authority Dwellings – Closing date: Friday 2nd May, 2014 at 11am.

14.04.14.16 Notices of Motion

1. Rapidly deteriorating quality of the surface of the N22 from Killarney to the County Bounds

Pursuant to notice duly given Cllr. M. Gleeson PROPOSED:

In view of the rapidly deteriorating quality of the surface of the N22 from Killarney to the County Bounds, that this Council calls on the NRA to undertake the work necessary to ensure that this vital road into our County returns to the required standard for National Primary Roads.

The following report issued:

This Notice of Motion was discussed at the November Meeting of the Killarney Electoral Area Committee where the following reply was given:

"The National Roads Authority is currently prioritising pavement and minor improvement schemes on a national basis, based on physical test results carried out on the existing pavement. The condition of this section of the N22 National Primary Route has been brought to the attention of the NRA previously and the Roads Department will do so again on the next appropriate occasion. During previous discussions we have been informed that the funding available to the NRA for pavement schemes will be limited in 2014 due to financial constraints and it is unlikely on this basis that a significant scheme on the N22 will progress next year. However, targeted repairs may be possible through maintenance funding".

The allocations announced recently by the NRA reflect the above.

Cllr. M. Gleeson said we hear a great deal about living on the periphery but this will be accentuated by isolation if the roads leading into the county are allowed to disintegrate. There are an every increasing number of potholes on Pike Hill and it is dangerous for 200m. If a vehicle travels at speed on this section of road the driver will lose control and it could have very serious consequences. An engineer from another jurisdiction said this road is delaminating and it is well past the time this was addressed.

Cllr. J. Sheahan **SECONDED** the motion and said there are dangerous lags on a section of the N22 at Freemount. He asked that 30km ph signs would be erected at this location to warn motorists to slow down.

2. Extension of Inch Graveyard

Pursuant to notice duly given Cllr. M. O'Shea PROPOSED:

That Kerry County Council would speed up the legal process for the extension of Inch Graveyard and that works commence urgently. There is widespread concern within the Inch community as there are only 4 to 5 graves left.

The following report issued:

The transfer documents for completion of the transfer of the site at Inch to the Council are now with Kerry County Council's Legal Department. Water Services are now in the process of arranging the payment of the land compensation monies to the Vendor. The contract for the development has been awarded and it is planned that works will commence on the site when the sale is finalised.

Cllr. M. O'Shea asked when work would commence on the extension to the Inch graveyard as there are no grave spaces remaining in the present graveyard.

Cllr. M. Griffin **SECONDED** the motion and asked that the plan for the new burial ground would be given to councillors so that the public can see it.

Mr. Ring said he could not give a commencement date as the legal process must be finalised. He undertook to send a copy of the plan for the burial ground to councillors.

3. Support for the traditional rights of the local families to cut turf at Moanvenlagh Bog in North Kerry

Pursuant to notice duly given Cllr. R. Beasley PROPOSED:

That Kerry County Council support the traditional rights of the local families to cut turf at Moanvenlagh Bog in North Kerry and forward a letter to the Minister indicating our support for the turf cutters.

Mr. G O'Brien said this is a matter for consideration by the members.

Cllr. R. Beasley said in the case of Moanvenlagh Bog, the identification of alternative bogs has not proved successful. The proposed alternatives were time limited in that they only granted rights for fixed, short periods. This obviously raises issues for turf cutters who presently enjoy perceptual, legal rights and for whom this arrangement is inadequate. In addition, the proposed alternative bogs were highly dispersed thus leading to practical difficulties regarding cutting and increasing costs, as economies of scale would be lost.

In relation to compensation, the cutters who wished to avail of this option, have already done so, thereby still leaving the region of 40 turf cutters who continue to rely on cutting this fuel source.

Given that relocation and compensation does not address these remaining turf cutters needs, we welcome the reports position in relation to considering the SAC/NHA status of Moanvelagh. Given that, in the region of 90% of Moanvelagh Bog is already owned by the State, it is our position that the remaining 10%, in which the turf cutters have legal interests, can accommodate the small scale turf cutting that is being carried on.

Cllr. J. Brassil **SECONDED** the motion.

Mr. G. O'Brien informed the meeting that Notices of Motion Nos. 4, 22, 23 and 29 would be taken together as they relate to the Mid Kerry Water Supply Scheme.

4. Total number of breaks to the entire County's pipe network in 2013

Pursuant to notice duly given Cllr. M. Cahill PROPOSED:

That Kerry County Council give a detailed report on the total number of breaks to the entire County's pipe network in 2013 and to date this year. What was the cost of repairing these breaks in 2013 and to date this year with specific reference to the Mid Kerry Regional Water Supply Network. That this Council be informed of the funding requirements for 2014 submitted to Irish Water and the projects to benefit from this funding. When is it envisaged that a major programme of pipe replacement works in the County will take place and will Kerry County Council request the Minister for the Environment, Community and Local Government, Mr. Phil Hogan, T.D to direct Irish Water to defer the introduction of water meters and water charges to all houses in Mid Kerry until such time as these ongoing problems are addressed and the entire pipe network is replaced.

The following report issued:

The following tables show the extent of mains repairs carried out to the public water supply network in Co. Kerry and on the Mid-Kerry Scheme for 2013 and to date in 2014.

County	All repairs	Mains only
Jan-Dec 2013	915	369
Jan 2014 to present	228	121

Mid Kerry	All repairs	Mains only
Jan-Dec 2013	170	105
Jan 2014 to present	45	29

In relation to the repairs on the Mid-Kerry Scheme, there were 15 breaks that affected major trunk mains in 2013. So far in 2014, there have been 14 major breaks on Mid-Kerry trunk mains.

Each repair to a major trunk main costs between €2,000 and €3,000.

Kerry County Council had a significant mains replacement project underway at the end of 2013, approved under the DECLG Mains Rehabilitation Programme and comprising 20.35km of new mains under the County Direct Labour Proposal No. 7 with a total approved budget of €2.649m. Irish Water has committed to funding these works to completion in 2014. These works include:

Work Element	Length (m)
Oolagh	1,050
Baile an Chnocain	350
Minish	250
Curraduff	650
Baile an Buaile Thuaidh	950
Leataoibh Mor	650
Douglas	300
Ard na Bothair	300
Old Forge	200
Teer	550
Cill Chuain	1,700
Cahertrant	1,950
Gallarus	2,050
Muckross Road CI	800
Tir Abhain	1,000
Cahersiveen Main St	400
Tarbert Listowel Rd	1,050
Duagh Foildarrig	1,450
Brandon	1,550
Coolies	1,200
Cloghaneanua	1,250
Duagh Islandboy	700
	20,350
	(€2,491,275)

In addition, a tender report on the Mains Rehabilitation Contract for Tralee (including St. Brendan's Park) will be submitted to Irish Water this week. The following works are included in this tender:

Work Element	Length (m)
St. Brendan's Park	2,500
Connolly Park	1,650
Old Marian Park	750
Lohercannon	1,100
Kerins Park	600
Riverside	200
Total Length	6,800

Since 1st January 2014, Kerry County Council has made a number of formal submissions to Irish Water for funding for mains replacement works, details of these funding requests are outlined in the following table:

Project	Description	Estimate
Dromultan Scartaglin Pumpstation	400m of 100mm	€ 35,000
Imileá, Baile an Fheirtéaraigh Mains Replacement	450m of 80mm	€ 20,000
Mid Kerry Mains Replacement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kilgobnet to Brookhill Cross Brookhill Cross to Meanus Cross Meanus Cross to the Laune basin Gearha Cross to Gearha Stream 	4,750m of 200mm/250mm/300mm	€ 855,000
Mid Kerry Coolbane Mains Replacement	1,500m of 200mm	€ 300,000
Poulgorm	350m of 80mm	€ 25,000
Shrone Raw Water Main	2,000m of 150mm	€ 160,000
Ballyduff CI Mains Replacement	2,900m of 100mm	€ 277,500
Totals	12.35km	€1,672,500

The 2014 projects submitted to Irish Water (and those included in the Tralee Estates Tender) require the approval of the Water Infrastructure Approval Committee (WIAC) of Irish Water in order to get approval for funding and to proceed to construction. All of the above submissions are currently awaiting WIAC funding approval.

The request to the minister to defer water charges in the Mid-Kerry area is a matter for resolution by the members.

Cllr. M. Cahill said he raised this matter on numerous occasions. The people of Mid Kerry are without water every second day. €1.2m was made available to replace some pipes last year but the Council must now apply to Irish Water for further funding. The lack of a reliable water supply is causing major problems for households, businesses and farmers on a daily basis. He was aware there was a meeting on this issue between Irish Water and Council officials the previous Friday. There are ongoing problems in the Coolbane area also. He called for a deferral of water charges until this issue is resolved. He was concerned if there was an attempt made to instal water meters in this area there could be problems. The water pipes in this area are over 40 years old and the people of this area have suffered for too long. He called for funding to replace the pipe network and he asked that the work would commence as soon as possible. Cllr. Cahill PROPOSED the motion.

Cllr. B. Cronin SECONDED the motion and moved Notice of Motion No. 22.

22. Funding to replace the old water pipes on the Mid Kerry Water Supply Scheme

Pursuant to notice duly given Cllr. B. Cronin PROPOSED:

That this Council immediately call on Minister Fergus O'Dowd and Irish Water to provide adequate funding to replace the old water pipes on the Mid Kerry Water Supply Scheme which are constantly bursting leaving families and businesses in vast areas of our County without water on a regular basis and to again request that all water charges be postponed in the Mid Kerry Scheme until a proper service is provided.

Mr. G. O'Brien said this is a matter for consideration by the members.

Cllr. B. Cronin said this is a most frustrating problem for the people of Mid Kerry. The interruption to their water supply is ongoing for the past few years. He was aware of problems in a number of areas including Fossa, Aghadoe, Barleymount, Aglish, Ballymalis, Bushmount, Rockfield and Firies yet they are not included in the list of areas where works will be carried out in 2014. There were 3 or 4 occasions in quick succession when the water main between Barleymount and Milltown burst. This pipe is 9 inches in diameter and it is now bursting in 30ft. lengths and this is a nightmare for residents. It was reported in the press that the proposed standing charge would be €100 which is excessive. If Murphy's try to install water meters in his area they could run into serious difficulty. On the 3rd or 4th March there was a burst in Graffees and without Freddie Bartlett and his crew his area would have been without water. They repaired the break and when they turned on the water there was another break just 100 yds further on. The next morning there was another break 300 yds down the road. The people of this area say they will not pay water charges as they do not have a reliable water supply. He was tired of addressing the Council on this water supply. There is one section of pipe from Aglish Cemetery to Flynn's Cross that had to be repaired on many occasions. He pointed out that farmers, including all his neighbours and business people are already paying a €105 standing charge. It is completely unacceptable that this area is without water so often and it cannot be allowed to continue.

Cllr. M. O'Shea then moved Notice of Motion No. 29.

29. Resolution of the ongoing serious problems with the Mid Kerry Water Supply

Pursuant to notice duly given Cllrs. P. O'Donoghue & M. O'Shea PROPOSED:

That Kerry County Council ask for immediate action by Irish Water to resolve the ongoing serious problems with the Mid Kerry Water Service and to inform Chief Executive, Mr. John Tierney that residents, farmers and businesses in Mid Kerry are experiencing almost daily interruptions of water supply.

Mr. G. O'Brien said this is a matter for consideration by the members.

Cllr. M. O'Shea supported the previous motions and the views expressed by Cllrs. Cahill and Cronin. This is a most serious issue and people in Mid Kerry listen to Radio Kerry each morning to find out where the water will be off that day. In some areas the pressure is so bad it is difficult to fill a kettle. These pipes are 40 years old and should be replaced. He asked the engineer when the asbestos pipes burst if there is a health risk for consumers. He noted that the allocation for the Rural Water Programme for 2014 is just €906,000 and said this is inadequate. Following a break in the pipe network customers must allow the water to run for up to 15 minutes until the water is clear. This is a waste of water. Cllr. O'Shea called on the Minister for Environment to extend the well grant to allow people who do not have an adequate supply to apply for a grant to sink a well.

Cllr. J. Healy-Rae then moved Notice of Motion No. 23.

23. Condemnation of the unfairness of the collection of Property Tax

Pursuant to notice duly given Cllr. J. Healy Rae PROPOSED:

That this Council would condemn the unfairness of the collection of Property Tax which has been by and large spent to set up Irish Water to tax people again and yet no pipe laid in the ground in Mid Kerry and people without water every second day.

Mr. G O'Brien said this is a matter for consideration by the members.

Cllr. J. Healy-Rae said the people of Mid Kerry are asking why they are paying Property Tax and other taxes when they do not have a reliable water supply. The government promised that 80% of the Property Tax would be retained by the local authority but that did not happen as the proceeds went to Irish Water. It is ridiculous to install water meters in Mid Kerry when they do not have water most of the time. This area was without water for three out of four days recently. He asked management how long more the people of Mid Kerry must wait for a reliable water supply. The pipes are asbestos and were laid in the '70's and this type of pipe is redundant in many countries for years. Cllr. Healy-Rae called on management to take action immediately to help customers in this area.

Cllr. D. Healy-Rae said he submitted a similar motion in relation to Barleymount, Aglish, Rockfield and Ballinacarriga when he asked management to relay a section of the pipe. At that time management said they fitted a pressure reducing valve which would work but it appears that the pipes should be replaced. A deputation from the residents of Clounlara and Bushmount were received at a recent Killarney Electoral Area Meeting and following this he requested Deputy Michael Healy-Rae to raise this issue in the Dáil. In the reply he was informed that Kerry County Council has not applied for funding for this area. This is unfair on members who are constantly making representations on behalf of these areas. Cllr. Healy-Rae asked that the water pipe from Gerah Cross to Meanus Cross would be replaced immediately.

Cllr. J.J. Culloty requested clarification in relation to Tullig, Castleisland.

Mr. O. Ring said he fully appreciated that the water supply in Mid Kerry is problematic for the past 3 years. Numerous applications for funding were submitted to the Department for areas all over the county in accordance with their criteria. In excess of €1m was spent in Mid Kerry on pipe replacement and the values fitted did help the situation. He accepted that a lot more of the pipes in this area need to be replaced. He assured members that there is no health risk from water flowing through asbestos cement pipes. The problem arises when it is particularised. Generally speaking the first flush through the system following a break is adequate. Any application for funding must now be made to Irish Water and their justification requirements for applications are different to the Department. He expected to receive notification of funding for capital works shortly. Works to the value of €1.1m were carried out in 2013 and every effort will be made to refine our operations in the Mid Kerry area. When there is one break it appears to result in further breaks. There were breaks in the Mid Kerry Scheme on the 21st, 24th, 26th and 28th March and another on the 4th April. There were no breaks since then.

Cllr. Cahill said he believed the Council should demand funding for this scheme and that the introduction of water charges in this area should be deferred until a reliable water supply is provided.

Cllr. M. O'Shea said this matter is so serious Mr. John Tierney, CEO of Irish Water should be invited down to discuss it.

Mr. Ring said notification of the 2014 allocation under the Rural Water Programme was received and Tullig is included.

Mr. J.D. Flynn said the motions can be referred to Irish Water.

Cllr. Cahill requested that this would be done.

Mr. Ring said the motion in relation to water charges could also be sent to the Commissioner for Energy Regulation.

Cllr. D. Healy-Rae said he did not get a reply in relation to the area from Bushmount to Cloonlara and he asked if an application for funding was submitted.

Mr. Ring said he was not sure about that particular area.

Cllr. B. Cronin said the deputation was informed an application for funding was submitted but it was down the priority list.

Mr. Ring said there are many roads in this area which are being dealt with at present and he was not familiar with every single one.

5. Kerry County Council to host a meeting of the American – Ireland Chamber of Commerce

Pursuant to notice duly given Cllr. J. Finucane PROPOSED:

That this Council host a meeting of the American – Ireland Chamber of Commerce and use this opportunity to promote the region from a job creation point of view.

Mr. G. O'Brien said this is a matter for consideration by the members.

Cllr. J. Finucane said the Council hosted a Reception recently for the Royal College of Surgeons and it was important to do so. Major companies are attracted to the level of activity in Dublin but we must get over this barrier. When Intel located in Leixlip it was hugely beneficial for the county. He asked that the American – Ireland Chamber of Commerce would be invited to Kerry so we can show them what Kerry has to offer.

Mayor Fitzgerald SECONDED the motion.

6. Location for new National Diaspora Centre in the County

Pursuant to notice duly given Cllr. N. Foley PROPOSED:

That Kerry County Council would investigate the potential for locating the new National Diaspora Centre in the County and make the appropriate application for same.

Mr. G. O'Brien said this is a matter for consideration by the members.

Cllr. N. Foley said Fáilte Ireland indicated this is a viable proposal. Kerry relies on tourism and this gives an opportunity to add to the tourism products in the county. There is growing recognition of the Irish Diaspora and many return on cultural tours. This is an important niche sector and Kerry is well placed to become home to a Diaspora Centre. We already have Siamsa Tire in Tralee and a ready network of diaspora centres through the Rose of Tralee Festival. Cllr. Foley called on management to apply to have the Diaspora Centre located in Kerry and to ask the Minister for Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht for support for this proposal.

Cllr. G. Wharton Slattery **SECONDED** the motion.

7. 100th Anniversary of the foundation of Cumann na mBan

Pursuant to notice duly given Cllr. T. Ferris PROPOSED:

That Kerry County Council notes: That this April marks the 100th Anniversary of the foundation of Cumann na mBan which took place on the 2nd April 1914 in Wynns Hotel, Dublin. That the women of Cumann na mBan played a significant role in the struggle for national liberation. That the role of women in Irish history is too often overlooked.

Accordingly, this Council calls for:

Kerry County Council to mark the Centenary of the foundation of Cumann na mBan in a manner that is educational, inclusive and encapsulates the historical significance of the women involved down through the century.

The following report issued:

Given the request, Kerry County Council can facilitate this through the Annual Exhibitions and Events Programme of Kerry Library.

Kerry Library has an ongoing programme and plans to hold a public lecture on the history of Cumann na mBan in Kerry as part of this Programme during 2014. This lecture will take place at Tralee Library on Thursday, 15 May, 2014.

Attached is the current Library Programme for the Decade of Commemorations 2013 – 2022.

Programme

Kerry Library: Decade of Commemoration Events 2013 -2022

Lectures/Exhibitions

2013

26 February: Killarney Library

Lecture

The founding of the Volunteers in Killarney, 1913.
by Rev. Canon Tom Looney.

4 - 29 June: Caherciveen Library

Exhibition

Gallant sons: Irishmen and the First World War.

21 Oct. – 9 Nov.: Tralee Library

Exhibitions

Roger Casement Exhibitions

(1) The Global Empire

(2) Casement Memorials in North Kerry

Official opening Thursday, 24 October.

2014

Monday, 31 March – Monday, 14 April: Listowel Library

Exhibition

Irish historical letters and posters

15 May: Tralee Library

Lecture:

Cumann na mBan in Kerry
by Dr. Mary McAuliffe

23 May – 27 May: Tralee Library

Exhibition

History of the Royal Munster Fusiliers & their Kerry connections

4 November: Listowel Seanchaí Centre

Lecture:

The O'Rahilly

by Pádraig Ó Conchubhair

[in association with the Kerry Archaeological & Historical Society]

18 November: Tralee Library

Lecture:

Tomás Ághas – the patriot's Dublin days
by Mícheál Ó Móráin.

2015

In preparation

2016

Exhibition

1 April – 30 May: Tralee Library

'1916 from the Press' – a display of published material from the holdings of Kerry Library relating to the events of 1916

Publications programme

- purchase of general material as published
- support, research facilitation and guidance to local groups and individuals on the publication of Kerry 1913 - 22 related material.
- Kerry Library to contribute to Kerry Archaeological and Historical Society publications over the period.
- Themed book displays / promotions at various libraries.

Archives

- Pro-active donations programme.
- Revise the display and arrangement of the Tomás Ághas material at Dingle Library, subject to available funding.
- Cataloguing and listing of currently held archives material (initial work was done on the An Seabhac manuscripts in 2013 and further work commenced on other collections in January 2014).
- Digitise above, exhibit and make available for public research.

Cllr. T. Ferris welcomed the reply. She said there are 3 or 4 skiploads of rubbish in Banna and she asked that it would be picked up.

8. Retention of services and commercial rates in Killarney town to maintain the services

Pursuant to notice duly given Cllr. D. Healy Rae PROPOSED:

That we the members of Kerry County Council ask that the people of Killarney Town and the adjacent hinterland continue to be facilitated by retaining all the services they have had available to them in the town and the local Area Offices and do not relocate staff from Killarney as this would disenfranchise all the people of the town and the entire area and to ask that the commercial rates collected in Killarney Town be left in Killarney to maintain the services.

The following report issued:

There is an extensive programme of Local Government Reform being pursued by Government. The reform Programme has been provided for within a Statutory Framework including the Local Government Reform Act 2014. The Programme provides for the dissolution of the existing Town Councils following the upcoming Local Elections.

Clearly this Programme will impact on the service delivery model for Local Government Services within Kerry. For example in an area such as Planning up to now we have had four separate Planning Authorities each with independent statutory responsibilities in this area. Going forward Kerry County Council will be the sole statutory body and will be the only authority for the acceptance and assessment of Planning Applications for example. Clearly this is a change in how services will be delivered.

It is the clear intent of the reform Programme that service delivery methods will change and that will be the case in Kerry.

Members have been provided with extensive presentations on the reform Programme and the implications and plans locally. Members have agreed the plans and approaches outlined to date. Members will be aware also that extensive work is on-going in respect of the Programme.

As previously outlined to Members staffing arrangements are a matter for the Executive – there are well established IR approaches which deal with staffing matters and they are in hand.

In respect of the future regime in respect of rates an up to date briefing has been provided to Members. The future Budgetary Processes are fluid at the present and some final details remain to be addressed nationally but what is clear is that it will be wholly a matter for the new Council to address the complex question of Rates as part of the Budgetary Process for 2015. No such decision can be taken at this time.

As further details of the local implementation of the reform Programme become available Members will be briefed through the established and agreed processes.

Over the coming weeks we will also be engaging directly with tenants, customers, suppliers and the public generally on aspects of the Programme that directly affect them.

Cllr. D. Healy Rae said the people of Killarney town are very concerned about the level of service they will have following the abolition of the Town Council. If staff numbers in the Killarney office are reduced, services will automatically be reduced. If staff are moved to Tralee this will impact on services in Killarney. On behalf of the people of Killarney he asked that services would be allowed to continue at the current level. He asked if commercial rates collected in Killarney would be used for services in Killarney town.

Cllr. J. Healy Rae **SECONDED** the motion and said Killarney town was well served by the Town Council. He asked at a minimum that charges and rates collected in Killarney would be spent on services there.

Mr. J.D. Flynn said the way services are delivered will be changed. It is not intended to run four sets of Payroll etc and all these issues will be resolved through the IR process.

Cllr. D. Healy Rae said Tralee town is in a different position. He was representing the views of the people of Killarney.

9. Provision of traffic lights at the Currow/Firies Junction on the N22 in Farranfore Village

Pursuant to notice duly given Cllr. B. Cronin PROPOSED:

To call on the NRA on the grounds of the health and safety of all road users, to reconsider my previous proposal for the provision of traffic lights at the Currow/Firies Junction on the N22 in Farranfore Village. This Junction on a National Primary route is a serious traffic hazard which must be addressed.

The following report issued:

This motion has been raised by different Councillors on numerous occasions at the Killarney Electoral Area meetings. The following is the position at this time. The feasibility of various options for improvement of this junction on the N22 National Primary Route including the installation of traffic signals has been examined by the Road Design Office in consultation with the NRA. The study confirmed that improvements were not feasible without significant property acquisition which would fall outside the scope of a standard Safety Measures Scheme. We have been informed that the N22 will be examined as part of a Safety Inspection

regime that the NRA will be proceeding with later this year. As this route is part of the Trans-European Road Network, it will be one of the first routes assessed. It is hoped that subject to the availability of funding a priority programme of works will be drawn up by the NRA following the inspections and it is likely that this junction will again be reviewed by the NRA for an appropriate improvement scheme.

Cllr. B. Cronin said this is the most serious traffic issue in the Killarney Electoral Area. Since he was first elected in 1999 he was trying to find a solution to the traffic issues at this junction. A traffic count was carried out which indicated that in excess of 10,000 vehicles per day travel through Farranfore. This junction, which is located in the middle of the village has not altered for 50 years yet traffic increased by 100%. Motorists exiting from the Currow road find it extremely difficult to do so and it is a serious traffic hazard and health and safety issue. Motorists from the Currow road who want to cross the road to the Firies Road are taking their life in their hands. He asked that traffic lights would be installed on a temporary basis to give motorists one or two minutes to exit safely. The bus stops traffic further down the village and traffic is also stopped at the railway crossing. A pedestrian crossing was provided from the national school which works very well and is essential. He accepted if a roundabout was provided it would impact on 4 properties and this is not possible. He **PROPOSED** that the NRA would be contacted with a view to erecting temporary traffic lights at this junction on a trial basis.

Cllr. D. Healy Rae **SECONDED** the motion and said the four adjoining property owners were approached and they offered a small bit of ground which would facilitate a mini roundabout.

In response Mr. G. MacNamara said this issue was discussed with the NRA Safety Officer. This junction is located on a national route and any alterations must be done properly. He pointed out that there are occasions when there are breaks in the traffic but he pointed out that priority must be given to traffic on the national route.

Cllr. B. Cronin said the NRA should be held legally responsible and liable for their neglect in ensuring this junction is made safe for motorists.

10. Funding for repair of vacant properties owned by Kerry County Council.

Pursuant to notice duly given Cllr. J. Brassil PROPOSED:

That Kerry County Council would provide a list of all the vacant properties in their ownership in the County both in estates and single rural cottages and the estimated money needed to get these houses to a lettable condition and to make an application to the Department to make this funding available immediately.

The following report issued:

Out of a net housing stock of 2331 properties, 29 properties in total (or 1.25% of the net stock) are presently vacant and are either under repair or awaiting repair. These include 10 single rural dwellings in various locations throughout the county which are deemed long term voids and pre-letting repairs would not commence until a prospective tenant is identified and the necessary funding sourced.

The DoECLG has recently advised that in 2014, it will allocate €15m nationally towards a target-driven and cost effective Voids Retrofitting Programme. The key objective of this revised programme is to return targeted vacant stock to a lettable, energy efficient condition at reasonable cost. The measure will be subject to the conditions set out by this Circular. These measures are to apply to both casual vacancies and long-term voids. We have recently made a county wide submission inclusive of vacancies in the Town Councils in response to this circular seeking funding from this national allocation. Included in the submission are mainly vacant single rural dwellings in less isolated locations in the county area which require significant funding to make them available for re-letting and a response is currently awaited.

Cllr. J. Brassil said when he was canvassing recently he noticed a number of vacant Council properties. The report indicates there are 10 in the county but he said four of these are in his area. 29 properties are currently vacant. If a new scheme of 30 houses was provided it would cost €6m but for €1.5m all the current housing stock could be made available for letting. It makes sense that all existing stock would be repaired and available for letting. He called on the Department to make funding available for the repair of vacant houses and said this will contribute to resolving housing issues for the hundreds of people on the housing waiting list.

Cllr. R. Beasley **SECONDED** the motion and said he raised this issue with staff in the Housing Department and they advised him that finance was the problem. He expressed his disappointment with this and said it is very difficult to explain to housing applicants why local authority houses are lying idle.

11. Extension of the burning season

Pursuant to notice duly given Cllr. J. Healy Rae PROPOSED:

That Kerry County Council would write to the Minister for the Environment, Community and Local Government and the Minister for Agriculture regarding their ridiculous decision not to extend the burning season, to give farmers a chance to clean out scrub and bushes that have been unfairly cut from their payments for last year.

Mr. G. O'Brien said this is a matter for consideration by the members.

Cllr. J. Healy Rae said he put down this motion on behalf of all the farmers who were unfairly cut in their Single Farm payments last autumn due to the digitising of maps which showed furze bushes on land. As a result of this their payments were reduced. When the burning season was not extended farmers did not have the opportunity to burn scrub due to the weather until the very end of March, and this was too late. Last week it was dry and it would have been possible to burn scrub but farmers would have broken the law to do what they always did. It is ridiculous that on the one hand payments are reduced yet the Department will not give farmers the opportunity to burn scrub. Regulations governing the spreading of slurry are also ridiculous as farmers are not allowed to spread slurry in the month of December, despite the fact that the weather could be very dry yet they can spread it from January even the weather could be very wet.

Cllr. D. Healy Rae **SECONDED** the motion and said farmers only want to protect their payments and there should be some discretion in bad years.

12. Septic tank inspections

Pursuant to notice duly given Cllr. J.J. Culloty PROPOSED:

To ask this Council:

- (a) How many septic tank inspections have been carried out in each of the electoral areas?
- (b) How many of these inspections have failed in each area and
- (c) What are the main causes for these septic tank inspections to fail?

The following report issued:

As of the 8th April 2014, a total of 55 Domestic Waste Water Treatment Systems (DWWTs) have been inspected by Kerry County Council under the National Inspection Regime. A further 2 inspections have been scheduled for mid-April and, once these have been carried out, the full complement of inspections required under the first phase (June 2013 – June 2014) of the EPA's National Inspection Plan will have been completed.

Thirty four or 62% of the 55 inspections to date have been found to be non-compliant.

The break-down of inspections per electoral area is as follows:

- **Tralee Electoral Area : 10 inspections (8 completed to date and 2 scheduled for Mid-April), of which 5 have failed;**
- **Listowel Electoral Area : 11 inspections completed, of which 7 have failed;**
- **Killarney Electoral Area : 10 inspections completed, of which 6 have failed;**

- **South & West Electoral Area: 26 inspections completed, of which 16 have failed.**

All inspections were carried out fully in accordance with the inspection process developed by the EPA.

The principal reasons for failure are set out in the following table:

De-Sludging only (ie. DWWTS passed all other inspection criteria)	7
Clean-Water entry to treatment plant**	10
Grey-water discharge direct to surface waters**	6
Black-water discharge direct to surface waters**	7
Ponding of effluent**	2
Other	2

**** *Principal reason for failure of system, but DWWTS may also have failed on other criteria.***

Cllr. J.J. Culloty said a number of septic tanks failed because they were not desludged and many people are not aware that this is an issue. He asked that people would be advised in advance of inspection that the septic tank should be desludged. A number of reasons for failure are easily rectified i.e. desludging and ensuring roof water does not go into the septic tank. He asked that the reasons for refusal as outlined in the report would be clearly set out in the notification of inspection for households, as this would save time for staff.

Cllr. B. Cronin **SECONDED** the motion and said is important to get the message out to the public that septic tanks must be desludged. He asked how the failure rates are viewed i.e. mild, moderate, or serious. The current grant scheme is confined to those who were inspected and failed. A lot of people need to do minor works to their septic tank and he asked that the grant scheme would be opened up to them to ensure a clean environment and to generate additional work.

Cllr. J.J. Culloty asked for a breakdown between the number of septic tanks and treatment systems inspected so far.

Mr Ring said most of the inspections were on septic tanks. A septic tank is adequate once there is good percolation on the site. This is in accordance with EPA Guidelines. Anything that can be remedied easily is deemed to be minor. He undertook to take on board members views in relation to a publicity campaign for the general public. He added however, that there is already a lot of useful information available in a number of good brochures.

13. Automatic entitlement of children with Down Syndrome to a Medical Card

Pursuant to notice duly given Cllr. J. Sheahan PROPOSED:

To write to Minister for Health, Mr. James Reilly, T.D, to ensure that children with Down Syndrome be automatically entitled to a Medical Card.

Mr. G O'Brien said this is a matter for consideration by the members.

Cllr. J. Sheahan requested that the motion would also be referred to the Minister for Children, Frances Fitzgerald TD for consideration. He was aware of a number of families going through a very difficult time as a Medical Card was withdrawn and this resulted in a substantial financial burden on the family. He called on the Minister to restore Medical Cards to all children with Down Syndrome with immediate effect.

Cllr. M. Cahill SECONDED the motion and said it was a disgrace that Medical Cards were withdrawn from children with Down Syndrome. Traditionally they were entitled to discretionary Medical Cards. However, there was a major change to this in recent times. He asked that children with Cystic Fibrosis would also be included in the motion.

Cllr. Sheahan agreed to this.

15. Funding for a proper playground at Gneeveguilla NS

Pursuant to notice duly given Cllr. M. Gleeson PROPOSED:

That this Council calls on the Department of Education and Skills to make available to the Board of Management of Gneeveguilla National School the money necessary for the development of a proper and urgently needed playground.

Mr. G O'Brien said this is a matter for consideration by the members.

Cllr. M. Gleeson said it is most important that children would have a playground at school and he requested that a letter would issue to the Building Section of the Department of Education calling for the funding to be allocated immediately.

Cllr. R. Beasley SECONDED the motion.

16. Suitability of the new burial ground at Lios Póil

Pursuant to notice duly given Cllr. M. O'Shea PROPOSED:

That Kerry County Council provide an explanation on the suitability of the new burial ground at Lios Póil, Trá Lí and how detailed was the engineer's report provided.

The following report issued:

The Lios Póil graveyard was developed in the mid 2000's. Trial holes were dug as part of the Site Investigation which included the public Planning process, prior to the Council's purchase of the site. These trial holes, excavated in 2004, indicated that the earth consists of a shale soil with some small boulders through it, and was extremely dry and self draining. The site was deemed suitable for use as a graveyard.

The majority of the excavated soil is suitable for backfilling of graves. The Council does ensure that there is a small stockpile of soil (generated from local road-works etc) available at the cemetery in the event that a deficit occurs in the backfilling of any grave.

The ground conditions in Lios Póil Cemetery are typical of the ground in the greater area of Lios Póil. The cemetery, which is located on a scenic hillside with a panoramic view of Dingle Bay, has been developed to a good standard, and indeed has received much favourable comment.

Cllr. M. O'Shea said the northern side of this graveyard is a quarry of stone. He asked if trial holes were dug at that side of the graveyard before the land was purchased. If a grave is dug on the northern side it can result in an additional cost of €300 to remove the boulders and this, on top of the cost of a grave of €700 is a substantial additional cost. The difficulty is that the grave cannot be backfilled with the material that was excavated and topsoil must be brought in. He asked who surveyed this burial ground originally and what are the Council now doing to resolve this problem. He suggested that there would be no charge for plots on the northern side of the graveyard.

Mr Ring said Cllr. O'Shea's concerns are exaggerated. The graveyard was surveyed by Council staff and it is not necessary to bring in topsoil as the Council provides it. Mr. Ring pointed out that the cost of graves in Kerry is one of the cheapest in the country.

Cllr. O'Shea said Mr. Ring was badly briefed on this issue. One family dug a grave and the adjoining grave caved in on it. He asked that officials would meet with the undertakers using this graveyard in an effort to resolve this problem.

17. Bus shelter for Killorglin town

Pursuant to notice duly given Cllr. M. Cahill PROPOSED:

That Kerry County Council give a detailed report in relation to the long awaited bus shelter for Killorglin town. (a) Has an application for funding been submitted to the National Transport Authority (b) When will works commence (c) How long will these works take to complete (d) Will a public consultation process have to be carried out on the site that was identified in Killorglin in early 2013 (e) What are the total costs involved (f) Will Kerry County Council make every effort to provide this long awaited bus shelter as a matter of urgency in Killorglin as members of the public, tourists, persons attending Kerry General Hospital for appointments, the elderly and mothers with young children continue to be subjected to extreme weather conditions while waiting for a bus.

The following report issued:

This Notice of Motion was discussed at the December Ordinary Meeting where an undertaking was given to progress this scheme.

An application was prepared and submitted to the National Transport Authority. Kerry County Council has met with Bus Éireann and agreed a location. A public consultation under Section 38 of the Road Traffic Act, 1994 as amended was to be carried out. Unfortunately the Design Engineer allocated to progress this scheme at the beginning of the year suffered a fracture to his leg and we did not have any spare resources available to assign to this project. The Engineer has just returned to work and he will now progressing this project. The Council received notification on the 7th April from the NTA of funding approval to the value of €28,000.

Cllr. M. Cahill welcomed the positive reply and the €28,000 allocated for this project recently. He asked when the bus shelter will be erected.

Mr. G. MacNamara said it would be erected in the near future.

18. Wind Turbine developments

Pursuant to notice duly given Cllr. T. Ferris PROPOSED:

That Kerry County Council considers wind turbines of a size that exceeds 25 metres to be industrial type wind turbines that will be subject to the following regulations:

A minimum set back distance of each wind turbine of ten times the height of the turbine from any dwelling for industrial wind turbines.

An ordinance survey map marked with the exact location of all proposed wind turbines to be published in the local press and displayed in the lobby of the County Council building and public libraries within the County boundaries of the proposed development.

That companies wishing to develop industrial wind farms must consult with host communities living within a 3 mile radius of proposed developments, inform them of their proposals at planning and construction stage and provide detailed information on the number of wind turbines to be erected and their precise location.

That Kerry County Council enter into a legally binding agreement with companies/individual planning applications to erect industrial size wind turbines to ensure they meet the cost of repairing or upgrading local infrastructure during the construction of industrial wind farms; and are responsible for recycling when they have to be decommissioned.

Wind turbine developments shall be consistent with the County Development Plan and will only be erected in areas zoned.

The following report issued:

Draft National Guidelines on Wind Energy went on public display earlier this year seeking submissions by February 24th.

On the basis of these submissions new National Guidelines will be issued later this year which will give further direction to Local Authorities in relation to the assessment of wind farm applications and which may require changes to existing wind farm policies.

In that context, it is proposed to review the existing RES in Kerry when the guidelines are issued and the proposals outlined here may be considered during the review process.

It should be noted that the content and process associated with a planning application is strictly defined in legislation and a Planning Authority cannot alter this.

However, a Planning Authority can apply conditions for example relating to “repair or upgrading of local infrastructure” and to the decommissioning process associated with a wind farm.

Cllr. T. Ferris said this motion is taken from a summary of a Bill put forward by Sinn Fein before the Dáil. The government support much of it and they are progressing it as a Bill themselves. She understood the motion was premature but she PROPOSED that this would be the position taken by this local authority in future. It sets out a minimum set back distance from nearby houses and it also introduces more community consultation.

Cllr. R. Beasley **SECONDED** the motion.

19. Route of the Wild Atlantic Way along the R551

Pursuant to notice duly given Cllr. R. Beasley PROPOSED:

That the correct route for the Wild Atlantic Way is to turn right along the R551 coming out of Tarbert and travel along the route to Ballylongford Asdee onto Ballybunion and not to turn left along the N69 as is directed by Tarbert Car Ferry in their brochure which is very confusing for tourists as the season approaches.

The following report issued:

As stated the correct route for the Wild Atlantic Way from the ferry at Tarbert is to turn right onto the R551 towards Ballylongford. This is clearly signposted twice on the ground as one approaches the village from the ferry. The signs also indicate the direction for Foynes Island Viewing Point which is to the left at the village.

The brochure of Shannon Ferries indicates these routes clearly, as well as other useful tourist information. The Foynes Island Viewing Point terminates at a dead end. There will be no confusion for drivers travelling on the Wild Atlantic Way, who follow the signs or who use the map provided by Shannon Ferries.

Cllr. Beasley welcomed the reply. He asked how long the viewing point in Foynes is in place.

Mr. MacNamara said he was not familiar with that viewing point but said that sign was erected as part of the Wild Atlantic Way signage.

The Manager said there will be further clarity on some of these signs in the near future and some changes to the signage have been agreed with Failte Ireland.

Cllr. Ferris said most of the signage looks very well and complements existing signage.

20. Provision of a pedestrian crossing in Rathmore

Pursuant to notice duly given Cllr. D. Healy Rae PROPOSED:

To ask Kerry County Council and the NRA to provide a pedestrian crossing in Rathmore adjacent to the Post Office and Dennehy's Bar to facilitate train passengers, people coming and going from the playground and Post Office and many other interests.

The following report issued:

This motion has been raised by different Councillors on numerous occasions at the Killarney Electoral Area Meetings. Most recently it was discussed at the April 2014 Meeting where the following reply was given:

"The Council will request the National Roads Authority to provide funding in 2015 for pedestrian crossings on the N72 National Secondary Road in Rathmore. This request will be made later in the year when the Authority seeks submissions".

Cllr. D. Healy Rae said the Community Council and those living in this area have requested that a pedestrian crossing would be provided at this location. This is a very busy location with the Post Office, Dennehy's Bar and a train station all located nearby. He asked that a pedestrian crossing would be progressed at this location as soon as possible.

Cllr. J. Sheahan SECONDED the motion and said he moved a similar motion at a recent Killarney Electoral Area Meeting. This is a very busy centre with the train station, community centre, bars etc and a pedestrian crossing would make it much safer. He also requested that a pedestrian crossing would be provided at Donagh Hickey's at the East End as this location is also very busy.

24. Erection of a Crucifix on the wall of the new Council Chamber

Pursuant to notice duly given Cllr. J.J. Culloty PROPOSED:

In light of our Christian Faith and the strong Christian values contained within our Constitution, that Kerry County Council erect a Crucifix on the wall of the new Council Chamber.

The following report issued:

The old Council Chamber did not have any religious symbols displayed in it.

The design and layout of the new Council Chamber was agreed by the Members at the January 2014 Council Meeting and no provision has been made for any religious symbols.

Cllr. J.J. Culloty asked that a crucifix would be erected in the new Council Chamber. He was raising this issue now as he may not be re-elected. There are almost 4m people of the Christian faith in Ireland, and it is part of our history. He could not understand why there would be a problem with placing a crucifix in the new Council Chamber.

Cllr. J. Sheahan SECONDED the motion and said it is our heritage and our religion and we should be proud of it.

Cllr. G. Wharton Slattery opposed the motion and said members represent everyone in the community regardless of religion. Politics and religion should not be mixed.

Cllr. T. Ferris supported the views expressed by Cllr. Wharton Slattery and said it is not appropriate to mix politics and religion in a multi denominational society.

Cllr. Beasley supported the motion.

Cllr. J.J. Culloty pointed out there is a crucifix in the Council Chamber in Cork County Council.

Mr. J.D. Flynn said, as an organisation, Kerry County Council is bound by Equal Status and Equality legislation and religion is one of the nine grounds listed as discriminatory. He pointed out that there was no crucifix or any other religious symbol in the old Chamber.

Cllr. J.J. Culloty PROPOSED that a crucifix would be erected in the new Council Chamber.

Cllr. Ferris asked where religion comes into politics.

The Mayor suggested that this issue should be decided by the new Council.

Cllr. Culloty said he wanted a vote to be taken as he submitted the motion for that meeting, and this may be his only opportunity to move the motion.

Cllr. Wharton Slattery requested that a vote would not be taken on this issue.

Mr. J.D. Flynn said when he gets a direction from the majority of Council he would comply with it.

Cllr. Wharton Slattery suggested if a crucifix is erected then an artefact for every religion should be erected in the Council Chamber also.

Cllr. Ferris said the motto of the Council is 'Comhar, Cabhair agus Cairdeas' and that should be adequate.

Cllr. N. Foley pointed out that there were just eight members present at the meeting and the motion and vote should be deferred and dealt with at the start of Notices of Motion at the May Meeting when more members are present.

Mr. G. O'Brien said a vote would then be taken on the motion proposed by Cllr. Culloty and seconded by Cllr. Sheahan.

The vote resulted as follows:

For: Cllrs. Beasley, Cahill, Culloty. Foley, D. Healy Rae. Sheahan **(6)**

Against: Cllrs. Ferris, Wharton Slattery, Fitzgerald **(3)**

Not Voting: None **(0)**

The Mayor declared the proposal CARRIED.

25. Stricter conditions to regulate and control the setting up of “Headshops”

Pursuant to notice duly given Cllr. J. Sheahan PROPOSED:

That Kerry County Council would implement stricter conditions to regulate and control the setting up of “Headshops” who are selling highly addictive substances that are not regulated.

The following report issued:

This issue has been raised in this forum on a number of occasions and the reply indicated that this is a National issue which is still the situation.

Any premises which has planning permission to operate as a ‘shop’ or were last used as a ‘shop’ can operate as a ‘headshop’ and it is a matter for the Gardai to police compliance with the legislation (Criminal Justice (Psychoactive Substances) Act 2010 – prohibiting the sale of prescribed substances.

This Act provides full search and seizure powers to the Gardai and the Revenue Customs Service and accordingly the control of such substances and outlets is a matter for these State Agencies.

Cllr. J Sheahan said this is a very serious issue as Head Shops sell dangerous substances. Young people are duped into buying them and he wanted to warn parents and young people about these dangerous substances.

26. Resurfacing of the Iveragh Road, Killorglin

Pursuant to notice duly given Cllrs. M. Cahill & L. Purtill PROPOSED:

That Kerry County Council request the National Roads Authority to immediately resurface the Iveragh Road, Killorglin that is currently in an appalling condition and has resulted in a number of vehicles being damaged and is now a health and safety matter. Will the Council request the NRA to take into consideration that one of the worlds leading financial services headquarters (FEXCO) is located adjacent to this road and the fact that this section of road on the Ring of Kerry is the Gateway to the Iveragh Peninsula.

The following report issued:

This motion was discussed at the November 2013 South and West Electoral Area Meeting where the following reply was given:

"The National Roads Authority is currently prioritising pavement and minor improvement schemes on a national basis based on physical test results carried out on the existing pavement. The condition of the N70 Ring of Kerry route is the subject of continuing discussion between the Council and the NRA. The Authority is aware of the condition of these sections of road and the provision of funding for pavement rehabilitation schemes at these locations are being considered. During previous discussions we have been informed that the funding available to the NRA for pavement schemes will be limited in 2014 due to financial constraints nationally and it is not known what level of funding will be received by the Council when the grants are announced early next year".

As the Members are aware, with the recent announcement of the grant allocations, the Ring of Kerry received €2.3 million for pavement improvements this year, but this location did not receive any funding.

Cllr. Cahill expressed his disappointment with the response and said this stretch of road is in a dreadful condition. It is the road to the Iveragh Peninsula and is part of the Wild Atlantic Way. It is adjacent to a major financial company where business people visit daily. This road should be a top priority for Kerry County Council and the street should be done with blacktop. This work cannot wait until 2015 and he asked that a letter would issue to the NRA and Minister Varadkar calling on them to provide funding to allow this work to be carried out in the current year and prior to the tourism season.

27. Maintenance of beaches

Pursuant to notice duly given Cllrs. R. Beasley & T. Ferris PROPOSED:

That Kerry County Council would confirm that the staff who have been used in the past for maintaining our beaches will continue to be used into the future.

The following report issued:

Kerry County Council will continue to use the staff that historically maintained our beaches into the future, within the budget that has been adopted by the Council.

Under National Policy there is an obligation on this Council to take people on from the Gateway Labour Activation Scheme. Those that will be taken on will be involved in activities that our limited resources do not allow us to carry out. As the members are aware there are areas not only of our beaches, but also other areas that are inadequately maintained due to funding restrictions. Using people from the Gateway Scheme will improve this situation and be of benefit to our County at large.

Cllr. R. Beasley said he wanted to ensure that when beaches are busy staff who are familiar with them are available to ensure they are cleaned. At 8pm work commences on the beach and staff ask the public to move to another part of the beach while that part is being cleaned. He had no difficulty with Gateway staff but he wanted to ensure that at least one person who is familiar with this work would accompany Gateway staff.

Cllr. Ferris said we are replacing existing jobs with poorly paid labour. Existing staff will continue to be used but within budget. All budgets were reduced and the number of hours allocated to beach cleaning will be restricted. She accepted there is a national obligation on the Council to use the Gateway Scheme. She expressed her disappointment that more councillors did not support her motion calling on the Council not to use this Scheme the previous month. She would prefer that the Budget would break even and not have a surplus and give real work for real pay to people. She urged Ms. McAllen not to return in 2015 with a surplus but rather to use surplus money to provide meaningful employment.

The Manager said he did not anticipate any change in the maintenance of beaches other than a slight reduction in the number of hours allocated.

28. Condemnation of the unfairness of a Carbon Tax

Pursuant to notice duly given Cllrs. J. Healy Rae & D. Healy Rae PROPOSED:

That this Council would condemn the unfairness of a Carbon Tax and the effect this has on families, people working, businesses and elderly people.

Mr. G. O'Brien said this is a matter for consideration by the members.

Cllr. D. Healy Rae said carbon tax will affect everyone. The cost of a small bag of coal will increase by €2 and this will result in financial hardship for the elderly. He asked how the income from this tax will be used and he expressed concern that it would do nothing for the environment. There have been different patterns of climate change down through the centuries even prior to the combustible engine.

14.04.14.17 Correspondence - Conferences and Seminars

- (a) No councillor expressed an interest in attending the Seminar on the theme "Crime and its Impact on Quality of Life" to be held in Killarney on the 18th & 19th April, 2014.

- (b) On the PROPOSAL of Mayor S. Fitzgerald, SECONDED by Cllr. J. Sheahan it was agreed to authorise the attendance of Cllr. P. O'Donoghue at the Seminar on the theme "Social Clauses in Public Procurement" to be held in Westport on the 25th & 26th April, 2014.

Cllr. O'Donoghue was nominated to report back to Council on this event.

- (c) No councillor expressed an interest in attending the Seminar on the theme "Know Your Rights – 2014 Social Welfare – Health and Taxation" to be held in Rosscarbery, Cork from the 25th to 27th April, 2014.

- (d) On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. J. Sheahan, SECONDED by Mayor S. Fitzgerald it was agreed to authorise the attendance of Cllr. P. O'Donoghue at the Seminar on the theme "Reformed Local Government and the Councillor" to be held in Bunclody, Co. Wexford on the 9th & 10th May, 2014.

Cllr. O'Donoghue was nominated to report back to Council on this event.

- (e) On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. J. Sheahan, SECONDED by Cllr. G. Wharton Slattery it was agreed to authorise the attendance of Mayor Fitzgerald at the London Rose Selection on the 3rd May, 2014.

- (f) On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. M. Cahill, SECONDED by Cllr. J. Sheahan it was agreed to authorise the attendance of Mayor Fitzgerald at a number of tourism publicity events in New York from the 26th to 29th May, 2014.

14.04.14.18 Correspondence General

It was agreed to note the following items of correspondence which were circulated.

1.	Letter dated 28 th February, 2014 from the Office of the Minister for Health in relation to the Nursing Homes Support Scheme.
2.	Letter dated 11 th March, 2014 from Kerry Airport in relation to additional flights into Kerry from Germany.
3.	Letter dated 13 th March, 2014 from the Office of the Minister of State at the Department of Justice and Equality in relation to the Bethany Home in Rathgar.
4.	Letter dated 27 th March, 2014 from the Office of Minister of State for Housing and Planning in relation to funding for housing adaptation grants.
5.	Letter dated 1 st April, 2014 from the NRA in relation to a series of bends on the N71 at Bonane.

6.	Email dated 3 rd April, 2014 from Deputy Tom Fleming in relation to the Mid Kerry Water Supply Scheme.
7.	Email dated 4 th April, 2014 from Deputy Michael Healy-Rae in relation to the Mid Kerry Water Supply Scheme.
8.	E-mail dated 7 th April, 2014 from the Office of the Minister for Justice in relation to Gaming Legislation.
9.	E-mail dated 10 th April, 2014 from the Office of the Minister for Environment, Community & Local Government in relation to councillor representation on the selecting committee of the LEO.
10.	E-mail dated 2 nd April, 2014 from Irish Water with contact details for councillors for Irish Water.
11.	E-mail dated 13 th March, 2014 from North Tipperary County Council in relation to a resolution adopted by that authority calling on the Minister for Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation to introduce legislation on low cost selling.
12.	Letter dated 18 th March, 2014 from Listowel Town Council in relation to a resolution adopted by that authority calling for a Traffic and Safety review of the entire Bridge Road area.
10.	Letter dated 18 th March, 2014 from Limerick City & County Council in relation to a resolution adopted by that authority calling on the Government to introduce the legislation to ensure the retention of the Post Office network throughout Ireland.
11.	Letter of thanks dated 24 th March, 2014 from Dr. Eamon Shanahan, Farranfore Medical Centre.
12.	Letter of thanks dated 27 th March, 2014 from Seamus McCarthy, Gneeveguilla.

Votes of Sympathy

The following Votes of Sympathy were noted from the Vote of Sympathy book.

- (a) Cllrs. D. Healy-Rae and J. Healy-Rae proposed that a vote of sympathy be extended to the family of the late Brendan O'Leary.
- (b) Cllrs. D. Healy-Rae and J. Healy-Rae proposed that a vote of sympathy be extended to the family of the late Michael Nagle.
- (c) Cllrs. D. Healy-Rae and J. Healy-Rae proposed that a vote of sympathy be extended to the family of the late Abina Galvin.
- (d) Cllrs. D. Healy-Rae and J. Healy-Rae proposed that a vote of sympathy be extended to the family of the late David O'Connor.

- (e) Cllrs. D. Healy-Rae and J. Healy-Rae proposed that a vote of sympathy be extended to the family of the late Kathleen Palmer.
- (f) Cllrs. D. Healy-Rae and J. Healy-Rae proposed that a vote of sympathy be extended to the family of the late Sean Foley.
- (g) Cllrs. D. Healy-Rae and J. Healy-Rae proposed that a vote of sympathy be extended to the family of the late Mary Herlihy.
- (h) Cllrs. D. Healy-Rae and J. Healy-Rae proposed that a vote of sympathy be extended to the family of the late Joan O'Sullivan.
- (i) Cllrs. D. Healy-Rae and J. Healy-Rae proposed that a vote of sympathy be extended to the family of the late Seamus Finnegan.
- (j) Cllrs. D. Healy-Rae and J. Healy-Rae proposed that a vote of sympathy be extended to the family of the late Brendan Walsh.
- (k) Cllrs. D. Healy-Rae and J. Healy-Rae proposed that a vote of sympathy be extended to the family of the late Brendan Casey.
- (l) Cllrs. D. Healy-Rae and J. Healy-Rae proposed that a vote of sympathy be extended to the family of the late Bill Tangney.
- (m) Cllrs. D. Healy-Rae and J. Healy-Rae proposed that a vote of sympathy be extended to the family of the late Mary Looney.
- (n) Cllrs. D. Healy-Rae and J. Healy-Rae proposed that a vote of sympathy be extended to the family of the late Michael Brosnan.
- (o) Cllrs. T. Ferris and R. Beasley proposed that a vote of sympathy be extended to the family of the late Jerry Savage.

The meeting concluded at 4.15pm.

Gerard O'Brien
Meetings Administrator

Mayor of Kerry