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MIONTUAIRISCÍ NA CRUINNITHE MHIOSIÚIL DE COMHAIRLE CONTAE CHIARRAÍ A THIONÓLADH I POBAL SCOIL CHORCA DHUIBHNE DINGLE/DAINGEAN UÍ CHÚIS AR AN LUAN , 16 NOLLAIG 2013

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF KERRY COUNTY COUNCIL HELD IN POBAL SCOIL CHORCA DHUIBHNE, DINGLE/DAINGEAN UÍ CHÚIS ON MONDAY, 16TH DECEMBER, 2013

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	P. O'Donoghue
M. O'Shea	L. Purtill	J. Sheahan
G. Wharton Slattery		

APOLOGY/LEATH SCÉAL

Cllr. T O'Brien
Cllr. B O'Connell

IN ATTENDANCE/I LÁTHAIR

Mr. J.D. Flynn, Dir. of Corp. Serv.	Mr. J. Breen Dir. Hsg. & C&E
Mr. G. MacNamara, A/Dir. of Roads	Mr. O. Ring, Dir. Env. & Water Serv.
Mr. M. McMahon, Deputy Co. Mgr.	Mr. G. O'Brien, Meetings Admin.
Mr. P. Corkery, Press & Comm. Off.	Mr. R O h Eartáin Oif Gaeilge
Ms. O O'Shea CO Corp Affairs.	Ms. S Broderick SO Corp. Affairs
Ms. C Fitzgerald ASO Corp. Affairs	

Thosnaigh an cruinniú ag 11.30in.

Dhein an Méara, an Clr. S. Mac Gearailt cathaoirleacht ar an gcrúinniú.

D'fháiltigh an Méara, an Clr. S. Mac Gearailt roimh gach éinne go'n cruinniú i bPobalscoil Chorca Dhuibhne agus dúrt gur mór an onóir dó féin mar Mhéara Chiarraí, agus do phobal Chorca Dhuibhne, go raibh cruinniú Nollag Chomhairle Contae Chiarraí ar siúl sa Daingean. Ghabh sé buíochas leis an bPríomhoide,

Pádraig Firtéar as Pobalscoil Chorca Dhuibhne a chur ar fáil don gcruinniú. Dúirt sé go mbeadh cathaoirleach á dhéanamh ar an gcruinniú seo trí Ghaeilge i dteannta le seirbhís aistriúcháin comhuaineach ón Oifigeach Gaeilge, Roibeard Ó hEartáin. Sin ráite, thig le Comhaltaí cúrsaí a phlé i nGaeilge nó i mBéarla.

Dúirt an Méara Mac Gearailt gur mhaith leis fíorchaoin fáilte a chur roimhe scoláirí Phobalscoil Chorca Dhuibhne a tháinig chun féachaint ar an gcruinniú agus súil aige go bhfaighidís tuiscint níos fearr ar obair na Comhairle Contae dá bharr. Ghabh sé buíochas le na scoláirí as an bhfáilte a chuireadar rompu le Carúil na Nollag roimh an chruinniú.

Dúirt an Méara Mac Gearailt leis an gcruinniú nach mbeidh an Bainisteoir Contae Tomás Ó Curráin ná an Ceannasaí Gníomhach Airgeadais Aingil Mhic Ailín i láthair de bharr cruinnithe leis an Roinn Comhshaoil, Pobail agus Rialtais Áitiúil i mBleá Cliath.

The meeting commenced at 11.30am.

The Mayor Cllr. S. Fitzgerald took the Chair.

The Mayor, Cllr. S Fitzgerald welcomed all present to the meeting in Pobalscoil Chorca Dhuibhne and said that it was a great honour for him as Mayor of Kerry and the people of the Dingle Peninsula that the December meeting of Kerry County Council was being held in Daingean Uí Chúis. He thanked the Principal, Mr. Pádraig Firtéar for facilitating the holding of the meeting in Pobalscoil Chorca Dhuibhne. He said that on this occasion the meeting would be conducted through the medium of Irish and a simultaneous translation service will be provided by Roibeard Ó hEartáin, Oifigeach Gaeilge. However, the members were free to raise matters through either Irish or English language.

Mayor Fitzgerald said that he particularly wanted to welcome the students of Pobalscoil Chorca Dhuibhne who had come to observe the meeting and hoped it would be an opportunity for them to get an understanding of the business of Kerry County Council. He thanked the students for their welcoming rendition of Christmas carols before the meeting.

Mayor Fitzgerald advised the meeting that County Manager Mr. T Curran and A/Head of Finance Ms. A McAllen were unable to be present at the meeting due to having to attend a meeting in the Department of the Environment, Community & Local Government in Dublin.

Tuairisc an Mhéara ar chruinniú CPG ar an 10ú Nollaig 2013.

Mayor's Report on the CPG Meeting held on the 10th December, 2013.

Léigh an Méara seo leanas amach do thaifead an chruinnithe.

Mír 1: Clár do Chruinniú Comhairle na Nollag

Dhein Riarthóir na gCruinnithe, Gearóid Ó Briain, cur síos ar Chlár Chruinniú Comhairle na Nollag do na Comhaltaí.

Mír 1: Ionad do Chruinniú na Nollag 2013

Dúradh leis an CPG go mbeadh cruinniú na Nollag 2013 i bPobalscoil Chorca Dhuibhne sa Daingean ag tosnú ag 11.30rn, ag dul ar aghaidh tríd lón agus ag críochnú ag 4pm.

Mír 7: Grúpscéimeanna Uisce a thógáil ar láimh

Ag tagairt do na scéimeanna liostáilte, dúirt an Bainisteoir Contae, Tomás Ó Curráin, go raibh sé tábhachtach don gComhairle na Grúpscéimeanna a thógáil ar láimh chun a chinntiú go mbeidís aistrithe go hUisce Éireann faoi Eanáir 2014. Ghabh sé buíochas le Oilibhéar Ó Rinn, Stiúrthóir na Seirbhísí Uisce agus Comhshaoil agus a chuid foirne as an obair a dheineadar chun a chinntiú go mbeidh na scéimeanna seo ullamh le tógáil ar láimh faoin gcruinniú seo. Dúirt T. Ó Curráin go raibh tógáil ar láimh Grúpscéimeanna Uisce eile ardaíthe aige leis an Roinn Comhshaoil, Pobail agus Rialtais Áitiúil agus le hUisce Éireann. Tuigtear dúinn go rachfaí i ngleic leis an gceist seo sa reachtaíocht nua amach romhainn.

Dúirt Oilibhéar Ó Rinn gur de bharr comhaontaithe ar leibhéal seirbhíse idir na hÚdaráis Áitiúla agus Uisce Éireann mar atá sa Bhille Seirbhíse Uisce (Uimh. 2) 2013, go mbeidh Roinn na Seirbhísí Uisce gníomhach ag soláthar seirbhísí go háitiúil sa dhá bhliain déag amach romhainn, i ndiaidh don aistriú go Uisce Éireann. D'iarr an Clr. M. Ó Glíósáin an raibh na scéimeanna liostáilte ar fad ar an gcaighdeán cuí ionas nach mbeadh ualach airgeadais ar an gComhairle dá bharr.

Dúirt Oilibhéar Ó Rinn go raibh sé sásta le staid airgeadais na scéimeanna liostáilte agus go rabhadar ar an gcaighdeán cuí le tógáil ar láimh.

Mír 2: Tuairisc is déanaí ar Bhuiséad Chomhairle Contae Chiarraí do 2014

Dúirt an Ceannasaí Gníomhach Airgeadais A. Mhic Ailín go bhfuil an Buiséad idir lámhe ach nach raibh fógra faighte faoin gCiste Rialtais Áitiúil fós. Tá Cruinniú Buiséid socraithe do Luan an 6ú Eanáir.

Mír 3: Tuairisc is déanaí ar Cheisteanna Réigiúnda/Náisiúnta

(a) Tuairisc is déanaí ar Uisce Éireann

Dúirt an Bainisteoir Contae T. Ó Curráin go mbeadh an Bille Seirbhísí Uisce (Uimh. 2) 2013 ag dul os comhair tithe an Oireachtais i rith na seachtaine agus go dtiocfaidh sé i bhfeidhm faoin 19ú Nollaig 2013. Beidh dhá chuid san reachtaíocht d'Uisce Éireann agus a dhóthain cumhachta don Aire chun é a rialú amach anseo. Níl aon fhógra tugtha do na hÚdaráis Áitiúla fós ar a Sciar Chaipitil ach bhí sé sásta go leor go bhféadfadh Comhairle Contae Chiarraí an leibhéal seirbhíse go bhfuil gá leis a sholáthar de réir an sciar ioncaim a gheofar. Dúirt T. Ó Curráin go mbeadh sé féin ag freastal ar roinnt cruinnithe faoin gceist seo sna seachtainí amach romhainn.

Léirigh baill an CPG inní i dtaobh cur isteach na méadar uisce ag dul amach ar fhochonradh.

Dhein T. Ó Curráin cur síos don CPG ar ábhar litir, a scaipeadh, ó Stiúrthóir Bainistíochta Uisce Éireann Seán Ó Tiarnaigh, maidir le teagmháil idir Uisce Éireann agus Comhaltaí Tofa Áitiúla.

Dúirt T. Ó Curráin go raibh sé fíor-thábhachtach go n-aithneodh Uisce Éireann príomh ról na gcomhaltaí tofa. Mhol sé go bhfanfadh Comhairle Contae Chiarraí go mbeidís ar an eolas faoi shonraí an Bhille Seirbhísí Uisce (Uimh. 2) 2013 sara lorgófaí cur i láthair ó Uisce Éireann go 'n Comhairle.

D'iarr an Clr. Ó hÉilí-Raith an bhfreastalódh ionadaí ó Uisce Éireann ar chruinniú ceantair.

Dúirt T. Ó Curráin go mbeadh sé níos oiriúnaí go labhródh ionadaí ó Uisce Éireann leis an gComhairle ina iomláine.

Dúirt Oilibhéar Ó Rinn, Stiúrthóir na Seirbhísí Uisce agus Comhshaoil gur mheas sé go leanfadh Roinn na Seirbhísí Uisce ag freastal ar chruinnithe ceantair, mar oifigigh teagmhála, go gearr-thréimhseach.

(b) Tuairisc is déanaí ar Iniúchadh ar Dhabhcha Séarachais

Dúirt an Bainisteoir Contae, Tomás Ó Curráin, go raibh tús curtha leis an Iniúchadh ar Dhabhcha Séarachais. Tá beirt den bhfoireann ag obair go lán aimseartha ar seo agus táthar ag súil go gcríochnófaí an 57 iniúchadh faoin Aibreán 2014. Tá i gceist chomh maith go gcuirfí ball foirne ag plé le sealúchais nach bhfuil cláraithe fós sa chontae agus gníomhú dá réir.

Mír 4: Tuairisc is déanaí ar Mótarcháin

Dúirt Seán Ó Floinn, Stiúrthóir na Seirbhísí Corparáideacha go raibh méadú mínádúrtha ar ghnó na hOifige Mótarchánach de bharr athruithe don bpróiseas Dearbhuithe Easbhóthair roimh spriocdháta an 30^ú Meán Fómhair 2013. Tá foireann breise tugtha isteach go 'n Oifig Mótarchánach chun an carn 8,000 Foirm RF150 agus an 5,400 iarratais phoist a phróiseáil. Ghabh sé buíochas don bhfoireann as an sár obair a dheineadar le na riaráiste iarratas. I láthair na huaire tógann sé 48 uair a chloig déileáil le h-iarratas poist agus 24 uair a chloig le h-iarratas ó mbosca poist na hoifige. Moltar do chustaiméirí úsáid a bhaint as an tseirbhís ar-líne ar mhaithe le líon na dturasanna pearsanta go'n oifig a laghdú.

Mír 5: Leagan amach nua molta do Seomraí na Comhairle

Deineadh cur síos go 'n CPG ar an leagan amach nua atá molta do Seomraí na Comhairle don gComhairle nua i ndiaidh toghchán áitiúla 2014. Tabharfar tuairisc iomlán do na baill ag Cruinniú Eanáir na Comhairle. Táthar ag féachaint ar shlabhra nua don oifig leis.

Mír 6: Bord Forbartha Chontae Chiarraí

Dhein S. Ó Broin cur síos ar an mBFC mar seo leanas:

Thug Seán Ó Broin, Stiúrthóir Seirbhísí, an tuairisc is déanaí don nGrúpa Polasaí Chorpáraidigh ar an mBord Forbartha Contae mar seo leanas:

Coistí Forbartha Pobail Áitiúil a bhunú

Dúirt S. Ó Broin nach bhfuil Bille an Rialtais Áitiúil achaithe fós agus cé go bhfuil sonraí ann maidir le Coistí Forbartha Pobail Áitiúil a bhunú, agus nach mbeidh aon eolas breise ar fáil maidir le déanamh agus feidhmeanna na gcoistí seo go dtí go dtugtar feidhm don Acht.

Cruinniú le Coiste Feidhme Bhord Forbartha an Chontae

Dúirt S. Ó Broin go mbeadh cruinniú de Choiste Feidhme Bhord Forbartha an Chontae tráthnóna an 10ú Nollaig 2013 agus go mbeadh seo leanas ar an gclár:

- Tuairisc is déanaí ó Ionadaí Feirmeoirí Aontaithe na hÉireann
- Tuairisc is déanaí ó Aonad Forbartha Fiontraíochta Chiarraí
- Plé ar na h-aighneachtaí thar ceann Bord Forbartha an Chontae agus Fóram Pobail agus Deonach go dtí an DTTAS mar chuid den gComhairliúchán Poiblí chun Polasaí Turasóireachta nua a fhorbairt.
- Daoine deonacha a sheiceáil agus ag éirí as sin
- Tuairisc is déanaí ar an Straitéis Rannpháirtíochta Pobail atá á fhorbairt ag Comhairle Contae Chiarraí i gcomhairle go leanúnach le saoránaigh Chiarraí.
- Tuairisc is déanaí ar na struchtúir athbhreithnithe Rialtais Áitiúil de bharr Bille an Rialtais Áitiúil.
- Plé faoin gClár Píolótach do Choistí Forbartha Pobail Áitiúil.
- Tuairisc is déanaí ar Phlean Forbartha an Chontae.
- Eolas a roinnt maidir le Cistí Taighde agus Nualaíochta an Aontais Eorpaigh Horizon 2020 agus sin a phlé i dtaobh féidearthachtaí ar iarratais thionscnaimh do Chiarraí.

Feidhmiú Leanúnach Choiste Feidhme Bhord Forbartha an Chontae

Dúirt S. Ó Broin go leanadh Coiste Feidhme Bhord Forbartha an Chontae ar aghaidh le hobair an Bhoird go dtí go mbunófar na Coistí Forbartha Pobail Áitiúil.

Mír 7: Tuairisc is déanaí ó Chathaoirligh na CPS'anna

Dúirt an Clr. S. Ó Cuanacháin go mbuailfeadh an CPS Tithíochta ar Aoine an 13^ú Nollaig.

Dúirt an Clr. J. Ó hÉilí-Ráith go raibh cruinniú den CPS Turasóireachta, Cultúir agus Pobail ar an 27^ú Samhain 2013 agus go dtabharfaí tuairisc iomlán go cruinniú mí Eanáir.

Thug an Clr. P Scairtín Ó Conchúir cuntas don gcruinniú ar na míreanna a pléadh ag cruinniú an CPS Iompair ar an 20^ú Samhain 2013 mar seo leanas:

- Tuairisciú ar Úsáid Fuinnimh agus Soilsiú Poiblí
- Tuairisciú ar Straitéis Iompair Thrá Lí
- Comhairliúchán Poiblí Údarás um Sábháilteacht Bóithre ar Bhoinn Leath-Chaite
- Cearta Bealaigh ag Tigh Lios an Daill

Mír 8: Fáiltithe Méara/Sibhialta

Dúirt G. Ó Briain gur iarr an Clr. T Ní Fhearaíosa go n-eagródh Comhairle Contae Chiarraí agus Comhairle Baile Thrá Lí fáiltiú i dteannta a chéile in onóir a bhfuil bainte amach ag Ollie de Búrca, duine de bhunaitheoirí *Right of Place* agus atá ag obair go deonach agus go lán aimseartha anois le grúpa thar ceann marthanóirí mí-úsáid institiúide i gCúige Mumhan. Dúirt sí gur lua Méara Thrá Lí, an Clr. P Ó hEosa, go mbeadh sé breá sásta fáiltiú a chomh-eagrú thar ceann Comhairle Baile Thrá Lí.

D'aontaigh an CPG gur cheart do Chomhairle Baile Thrá Lí an fáiltiú a eagrú.

Dúirt an Clr. Ó hÉilí-Ráith go dtógann fáiltithe i rith an lae mórán ama agus go mbíonn siad mí-oiriúnach uaireanta. Mhol sé go n-eagrófaí fáiltithe go bliantúil ar lá nó oíche faoi leith.

D'fháiltigh Seán Ó Floinn, Stiúrthóir na Seirbhísí Corparáideacha roimh mholadh an Clr. Ó hÉilí-Ráith agus dúrt go bhféadfadh an Chomhairle nua seo a scrúdú i mBealtaine 2014.

Thagair an Bainisteoir Contae, Tomás Ó Curráin, go tábhacht Institiúid Teicneolaíochta Thrá Lí don mbaile agus don gcontae ina iomláine. Ba mhór an leas eacnamaíochta don gcontae ceangal na hInstitiúide le Coláiste Ríoga na Máinlia in Éirinn chun clár idir-institiúide a sholáthar. Dúirt sé go raibh fáiltiú Chomhairle Contae Chiarraí in onóir do Choláiste Ríoga na Máinlia in Éirinn pléite aige le hUachtarán IT Thrá Lí. Mhol sé an fáiltiú a eagrú ar an lá céanna le cruinniú iomlán na Comhairle i Feabhra 2014.

D'aontaigh an CPG go n-eagrófaí fáiltiú in onóir do Choláiste Ríoga na Máinlia in Éirinn.

Mír 9: Aon ghnó eile

Dhein Riarthóir na gCruinnithe, G. Ó Briain, an cur síos seo leanas do na baill ar chuairt ó thoscaireacht scoile ó Chúige Zhejiang na Síne ar Chiarraí:

Mar is eol do bhaill an CPG, shínigh Gobharnóir Cúige Zhejiang an tUasal Li Qiang agus Bainisteoir Contae Chiarraí Tomás Ó Curráin 'Litir Rúin' níos luaithe i

mbliana chun cairdeas a bhunú idir Chontae Chiarraí agus Cúige Zhejiang na Síne.

I dteannta síniú na Litreach, thug toscaireacht Príomhoidí Scoile agus Oifigigh Gnóthaí Eachtracha ó Chúige Zhejiang cuairt ar Chiarraí an tseachtain seo caite. B'é Comhairle Contae Chiarraí a phleanáil agus a d'eagraigh an chuairt. Réimse thábhachtach é an tOideachas gur féidir a fhorbairt leis an gCúige. Le linn na cuairte, síníodh Meabhráin Tuisceana le sé chinn de Mheánscoileanna sa Chontae, rud a chothaigh cleamhnas oifigiúil idir scoileanna an dá thír. Seo leanas na sonraí cleamhnais:

	Scoileanna Zhejiang	Scoileanna Chiarraí
1:	Meánscoil Chenfeng, Contae Xianju, Taizhou Príomhoide - An tUasal Shen Senlin	Meánscoil Naomh Bríde, Cill Áirne, Co. Chiarraí Príomhoide - Mairéad Mhic Chormaic
2:	Meánscoil Xinhe, Contae Wenling, Taizhou Príomhoide - An tUasal Shen Liping	Scoil Chuimsitheach an Tóchair, An Tóchar, Co. Chiarraí. Príomhoide - Lucille Ní Shúilleabháin
3:	Meánscoil Uimhir 6, Contae Linhai, Taizhou Príomhoide - An tUasal Bao Jianqiang	Meánscoil Naomh Bríde, Cill Áirne, Co. Chiarraí Príomhoide - Síle Pontillo
4:	Grúpa Oideachais Scoile Uimhir 11, Huzhou Príomhoide - An tUasal Fei Jianguang	Meánscoil na Toirbhirte, Lios Tuathail, Co. Chiarraí Príomhoide - An tSr. Nuala Ní Laoire
5:	Scoil Triaileach, Crios Forbartha Nanxun, Huzhou Príomhoide - An tUasal Ma Hui ren	Coláiste Pobail Oileán Chiarraí, Oileán Ciarraí, Co. Chiarraí Príomhoide - Áine Ní Shúilleabháin
6:	Meánscoil Lianshi, Huzhou Príomhoide - An tUasal Cai Xiaosheng	Coláiste Bhréanainn, Cill Áirne, Co. Chiarraí Príomhoide - Seán Ó Cofaigh

Cothóidh an comhaontú deis chun tabhairt faoi thionscnamh le chéile, ábhar acadúil, múinteoirí/scoláirí agus taithí oideachais a mhalartú i bhfad i gcéin. Tá na scoileanna atá luaite ag soláthar ranganna Sínise dá gcuid scoláirí Idirbhliana

le tacaíocht Chomhairle Contae Chiarraí agus Institiúid Confucius in Ollscoil na hÉireann, Corcaigh. Tiocfaidh mórán forbairtí maithe chun cinn ó shíniú na Meabhrán seo do na scoileanna amach anseo mar aon le deiseanna a chothú do scoláirí agus múinteoirí araon.

Dúirt Seán Ó Floinn gur síníodh Meabhráin Tuisceana le IT Thrá Lí chomh maith. Bhí an toscaireacht ana-bhuíoch as na teastais sínithe ag Méara Chiarraí a bhronnadh orthu agus a bheidh ar taispeáint ina gcuid scoileanna i Cúige Zhejiang na Síne.

Item 1 Agenda for the December Council Meeting

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

Item 1 Venue for December 2013 meeting

The CPG were advised that the December 2013 meeting would be held in Pobalscoil Chorca Dhuibhne, Dingle/Daingean Ui Chuis, commencing at 11.30am and continuing through lunchtime to conclude at approximately 4.00pm.

Item 7: Take over of Group Water Schemes

County Manager, Mr. T Curran referred to the schemes listed and said that it was important that Group Water Schemes are taken over by the Council to ensure that they transfer automatically to Irish Water in January 2014. He thanked Mr. O Ring Director of Environment & Water Services and staff for their work in ensuring these schemes are ready to be taken over at this meeting. Mr. Curran said that he had raised the issue of the take over of other Group Water Schemes with the Department of the Environment, Community & Local Government and Irish Water. It is our belief that the matter will be dealt with in the forthcoming legislation.

Mr. O Ring said that following the transfer to Irish Water, the provision for service level agreements between Local Authorities and Irish Water, contained in the Water Services Bill (No. 2) 2013, will see the continued involvement of the Water Services Department in service delivery at a local level for the next 12 years.

Cllr. M Gleeson asked if all the schemes listed were of the required standard and would not be a financial burden to the Council.

Mr. Ring said that he was happy with the financial situation of the schemes listed and that they were up to the required standard for taking over.

Item 2 Update on Kerry County Council Budget 2014

Ms. A. McAllen A/Head of Finance said work is progressing on the Budget and notification of the Local Government Fund allocation had not yet been received. The Budget Meeting is scheduled to take place on Monday 6th January.

Item 3 Update on National/Regional Issues

(a) Update on Irish Water

County Manager Mr. T Curran said that the Water Services Bill (No. 2) 2013 would be going before the houses of the Oireachtas this week and will be enacted by 19th December 2013. The legislation for Irish Water would be in two phases and there would be adequate power for the Minister to control it into the future. Local Authorities had not yet been notified of their Capital Allocation but he was reasonably satisfied that Kerry County Council would be in a position to deliver the level of service required based on the revenue allocation received. Mr. Curran said that he would be attending a number of meetings in the coming week regarding this matter.

Members of the CPG raised concerns regarding the subcontracting of work on the installation of water meters.

Mr. Curran briefed the CPG on the content of a letter, which was circulated, from Mr. John Tierney, MD of Irish Water, concerning engagement by Irish Water with Local Elected Representatives.

Mr. Curran said that it was very important that Irish Water recognize the primary representational role of the elected members. He recommended that Kerry County Council would wait until detail of the Water Services Bill (No. 2) 2013 is known before requesting a presentation to the Council, by Irish Water.

Cllr. J Healy Rae asked if a representative of Irish Water would attend area meetings.

Mr. Curran said that it would be more appropriate for a representative of Irish Water to address the members at a meeting of the Full Council.

Mr. O Ring Director of Environment & Water Services said that it was anticipated that the Water Services Department would continue to be represented at area meetings, as liaison officers, in the short term.

(b) Update on septic tank inspections.

County Manager, Mr. T Curran said that the inspection of septic tanks had commenced. Two staff members are working full time on the project and it was

expected that the required 57 inspections would be completed by April 2014. It was also intended that a staff member would be assigned to the identification of properties in the county which had not been registered and appropriate follow up action would ensue.

Item 4 Update on Motor Tax

Mr. J D Flynn Director of Corporate Services said that there had been an unprecedented increase in business at the motor tax office due to changes to the process of off the road declarations in the run up to the deadline of 30th September 2013. Additional staff had been allocated to motor tax as 8,000 RF150 forms and 5,400 postal applications had accumulated for processing. He paid tribute to the staff for the exceptional volume of work carried out in dealing with the backlog. Currently the turn around on postal applications is 48 hours and 24 hours on applications deposited in the post box in the office. Customers are also being encouraged to use the on-line service with a view to reducing the need for personal visits to the office.

Item 5 Proposed new Council Chamber layout

Members of the CPG were briefed on a proposed new layout for the Council Chamber to facilitate the new Council following the 2014 local elections. A full report will be presented to the members at the January Council meeting. The design of a new chain of office was also being considered.

Item 6 County Development Board

Mr. J. Breen briefed the meeting on the CDB as follows:

Establishment of Local Community Development Committees

Mr. Breen outlined that the Local Government Bill had still not been enacted and accordingly, whilst it contained details with regard to the establishment of the Local Community Development Committees (LCDC), that no further detail in respect of the composition and functions of these committees would be available until the Act was enacted.

Meeting of the Executive of the County Development Board

Mr. Breen outlined that a meeting of the Executive of the County Development Board would be taking place on the afternoon of the 10th December, 2013, and that the agenda for same included the following items:-

- Agriculture Update from the IFA Rep
- Update from the Kerry Enterprise Development Unit
- Discussion on the Tourism Policy Submissions which have been made on behalf of the County Development Board and the Community and

Voluntary Forum to the DTTAS in Public Consultation Process on the development of a new Tourism Policy

- The vetting of Volunteers and issues therein
- An Update on the development by Kerry County Council of a Community Engagement Strategy for ongoing consultation with citizens of Kerry
- Update on the revised structures in Local Government being brought about in the Local Government Bill
- Discussion on the Local Community Development Committees Pilot Programme
- Update on the County Development Plan Process
- Discussion and dissemination of information with regard to the Horizon 2020 Research and Innovation EU Funds and their possible application to projects in Kerry

Continued Operation of the Executive of the County Development Board

Mr. Breen outlined that until the establishment of the Local Community Development Committees, that the Executive of the County Development Board would continue to meet and to carry on the work of the County Development Board.

Item 7 Update from Chairs of SPCs

Cllr. S Counihan said that the Housing SPC would meet on Friday December 13th

Cllr. J Healy Rae said that a meeting of the Community, Culture & Tourism SPC had been held on 27th November 2013. and a full report will be brought to the January meeting.

Cllr. P Connor Scarteen briefed the meeting on the items considered at a Transport SPC Meeting held on 20th November 2013, under the following headings:

- Briefing on Public Lighting and Energy Consumption
- Briefing on Tralee Transport Strategy
- Road Safety Authority (RSA): Part-Worn Tyres Public Consultation
- Lissadell House Rights-of-Way.

Item 8 Civic/Mayoral Receptions

Mr. G O'Brien said that Cllr. T Ferris had requested that Kerry County Council and Tralee Town Council jointly host a reception to honour the achievements of *((Name withheld for data protection purposes. A paper copy of unedited Minutes available on request))* who now works full time on a voluntary capacity for a group

representing Munster survivors of institutional abuse. She had advised that Cllr. P Hussey Mayor of Tralee had indicated that he would be happy to host a reception on behalf of Tralee Town Council.

The CPG agreed that this reception should be hosted by Tralee Town Council.

Cllr. J Healy Rae said that the holding of receptions during the day was time consuming and sometimes inconvenient. He suggested that receptions should be held annually on a specific day or night.

Mr. J D Flynn Director of Corporate Services welcomed Cllr. Healy Rae's suggestion and said that this matter could be examined following the election of the new Council in May 2014.

County Manager, Mr. T Curran referred to the importance of the Institute of Technology Tralee to the town and the whole county. Its association with the Royal College of Surgeons in providing an inter-institutional programme was a huge benefit economically to the county. He said that he had discussed the hosting of a reception by Kerry County Council to honour the Royal College of Surgeons with the President of IT Tralee. Mr. Curran suggested that this reception would be considered for the day of the February 2014 meeting of the full Council.

The CPG agreed that a reception would be held to honour the Royal College of Surgeons.

Item 9 Any other business

Mr. G. O'Brien, Meetings Administrator, briefed members on the recent visit of a schools delegation from Zhejiang Province, China to Kerry as follows:

As Members of the CPG will be aware, a Letter of Intent on the establishment of friendship relations between County Kerry and Zhejiang Province, China was signed earlier this year between Mr. Li Qiang, Governor of Zhejiang Province and Mr. Tom Curran, Kerry County Manager.

Further to the signing of this Letter of Intent, a delegation of School Principals from the Province visited Kerry last week accompanied by Officials from Zhejiang Foreign Affairs Department. The delegation visit was planned and organised by Kerry County Council. Education is a key area where links with the Province can be developed. During the visit, Memorandums of Understanding were signed with six Secondary Schools in the County, creating a formal twinning agreement between the schools. The twinning details are as follows:

	School in Zhejianj	School in Kerry
1	Chenfeng Middle School, Xianju	St. Brigid's Secondary School,

	County, Taizhou Headmaster - Mr. Shen Senlin	Killarney, Co. Kerry Principal - Ms Margaret McCormack
2	Xinhe Middle School, Wenling County, Taizhou Headmaster - Mr. Shen Liping	Causeway Comprehensive School, Causeway, Co. Kerry Principal - Ms. Lucille O'Sullivan
3	No.6 Middle School of Linhai County, Taizhou Headmaster - Mr. Bao Jianqiang	Presentation Secondary School, Tralee, Co. Kerry Principal - Ms. Sheila Pontillo
4	No.11 School Education Group, Huzhou Headmaster - Mr. Fei Jianguang	Presentation Secondary School, Listowel, Co. Kerry Principal - Sr. Nuala O'Leary
5	Experimental School, Nanxun Development Zone, Huzhou Headmaster - Mr. Ma Huiren	Castleisland Community College, Castleisland, Co. Kerry Principal - Ms. Anne O'Sullivan
6	Lianshi Middle School, Huzhou Headmaster - Mr. Cai Xiaosheng	St. Brendan's College, Killarney, Co. Kerry Principal - Mr. Sean Coffey

The Agreement will allow for teacher/student exchanges, exchange of academic materials, conducting joint projects and long-distance exchanges of education experiences. The schools in question are providing Chinese language classes for their Transition Year students with the assistance of Kerry County Council and the Confucius Institute in UCC. The signing of these MOUs will lead to many worthwhile developments into the future for the schools along with providing opportunities for teachers and students.

Mr. J D Flynn said that a Memorandum of Understanding had also been signed by IT Tralee. The delegation was very appreciative of the scrolls signed by the Mayor of Kerry which were presented to them and which will be on display in their schools in Zhejiang Province, China.

Mr. G O'Brien, Meetings Administrator, said that as the allocation from the Local Government Fund had not yet been finalised, it was proposed that the Budget meeting would be deferred to 13th January 2014 which was the date agreed for the Special Planning meeting and that the Special Planning meeting would be brought forward to the 6th January 2014.

Mr. M McMahon Deputy County Manager said consideration of the Draft County Development Plan is unlikely to conclude on the 6th January and it is likely that a brief Special Planning Meeting would be required in advance of the Budget Meeting on the 13th January.

On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. M Gleeson SECONDED by Cllr. J Finucane it was agreed that the Special Planning meeting would be held on 6th January 2014 and Budget meeting would be held on the 13th January 2014.

Cllr. PJ Donovan said that he had attended a meeting in Caherciveen on 10th December 2013 regarding the withdrawal of services at Saidhbhín Care, Caherciveen and the proposed moving of the Brothers of Charity Early Intervention Services from Caherciveen. Parents, Guardians and Community members expressed anger and concern at the removal of the services from the South Kerry area. The structures and buildings are in place in Caherciveen. It is a backward step to have these services withdrawn from the community. These services are vital to children and young adults with special needs in Iveragh and are a lifeline to the parents of children with special needs. He PROPOSED that a letter on behalf of the members would issue to the Minister for Health requesting that this service would be retained in Caherciveen

Cllr. P O'Donoghue supported the proposal and suggested that a meeting with the Minister for Health, to discuss this matter, should be requested.

Cllr. D Healy Rae thanked the Water Services Department for facilitating the take over of the Group Water Schemes listed in Item 7 of the agenda and asked that everything possible be done to ensure the take over of the outstanding schemes.

Cllr. D Healy Rae referred to the transfer of the delivery of the driving licence service to the Roads Safety Authority (RSA) and commented that the National Driver Licence Service (NDLS) centre in Manor West Shopping Centre, Tralee was very poorly signposted. He also felt that it was unfair that people who wished to renew a driving licence must now visit the centre in person, requiring them to travel long distances in many cases, when previously an application could be made through the post.

Cllr. D Healy Rae said that he did not agree with Cllr. J Healy Rae's suggestion in the Mayors Report on the CPG meeting that receptions should be held annually or on a specific day or night.

Cllr. S Counhhan referred to Item 7 of the Mayors Report on the CPG meeting and said that the Housing SPC Meeting had been held in the Town Hall, Killarney on 17th December 2013.

13.12.16.02 Deimhniú Miontuairiscí/Confirmation of the Minutes

On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. J Finucane, SECONDED by Cllr. P Leahy it was agreed that the Minutes of the November Ordinary Meeting of Kerry County Council held on the 18th November, 2013 be confirmed.

**13.12.16.03 Cuid VIII de Rialacháin (Pleanáil agus Forbairt
Part VIII (Planning & Development))**

On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. M Cahill, SECONDED by Cllr. J. Healy Rae it was agreed to note the Manager's Report in respect of the construction of a Water Treatment Plant, associated site works and access road in the townland of Letter West, Co. Kerry 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.

13.12.16. 04 Talún a dhíol/Disposal of Land

On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. B Cronin, SECONDED by Cllr. M O'Shea it was agreed to approve the disposal of a plot of land measuring 0.75 acres situated in the Townland of Dromore in the DED of Mollahiffe (adjacent to the town of Farranfore) to *(Name withheld for data protection purposes. A paper copy of unedited Minutes available on request)* in accordance with the terms of notice issued 5th December, 2013 pursuant to Section 183 of the Local Government Act 2001.

13.12.16.05 Ordú a dhéanamh a dheimhníonn go mbeidh na boithre seo ina bhóithre poiblí/Declaring roads to be public roads.

(a) On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. Danny Healy Rae, SECONDED by Cllr. M Gleeson it was agreed to make an Order declaring the road from its junction with the L3015 and terminates with the junction of the L3017 (known locally as the Black Road) to all terminal points within the estate Church Close, Gortagullane, Muckross, Killarney, Co. Kerry, to be a public road pursuant to Section 11 of the Roads Act, 1993.

(b) On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. T Ferris, SECONDED by Cllr. A McEllistrim it was agreed to make an Order declaring the road from its junction with L-2034 to all terminal points within the estate Shannow Banks, Aulaneduff, Abbeydorney, Co. Kerry, to be a public road pursuant to Section 11 of the Roads Act, 1993.

(c) On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. N Foley, SECONDED by Cllr. T Ferris it was agreed to make an Order declaring the road from its junction with L653-6 to all terminal points within the estate Cois Clydagah, Brosna West, Brosna Co Kerry, to be a public road pursuant to Section 11 of the Roads Act, 1993.

(d) On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. T Ferris, SECONDED by Cllr. G Wharton Slattery it was agreed to make an Order declaring the road from its junction with R551 to all terminal points within the estate Radharc Na hEaglaise, North Commons, Ardfer, Co. Kerry, to be a public road pursuant to Section 11 of the Roads Act, 1993.

(e) On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. T Ferris, SECONDED by Cllr. J Finucane it was agreed to make an Order declaring the road from its junction with N69 to all terminal points within the estate Beech Grove, Cahirdown, Listowel, Co. Kerry, to be a public road pursuant to Section 11 of the Roads Act, 1993.

13.12.16.06 `Chun Dréacht Scéim Gaeilge d'Udaráis Áitiúla Chiarraí (2014-2017)

Threoraigh an tUasal Seán Ó Floinn Stiúrthóir na Seirbhísí Corparáideacha na Comhaltaí go dtí a thuairisc ón 9ú Nollaig 2013 a scaipeadh ar an mír seo. Léigh sé amach a thuairisc do thaifead an chruinnithe.

“D'ullmhaigh Údaráis Áitiúla Chiarraí Dréacht-Scéim Gaeilge 2014-2017, iniata, de réir Alt 11 d'Acht na dTeangacha Oifigiúla 2003. Deineadh comhairliúchán poiblí mar chuid den bpróiseas chun an Dréacht-Scéim a ullmhú. Fuarthas 6 aighneacht ar fad do Dhréacht-Scéim 2014-2017, cinn ó Chomhdháil Náisiúnta na Gaeilge, Údarás na Gaeltachta agus ó Fhóram Gaeilge Chiarraí agus 3 chinn ó dhaoine aonair. I dteannta sin eagraíodh Cruinniú Poiblí le pobal na Gaeilge sa Ghaeltacht, comhairliúchán a spreag ionadaithe ó 17 eagraíocht Gaeilge i gCiarraí chun moltaí a chur chun cinn i leith na Gaeilge don Scéim Gaeilge nua agus do Phlean Forbartha Chontae Chiarraí 2015-2021 araon. Pléadh an Dréacht-Scéim leis CPS Turasóireachta, Cultúir agus Pobail chomh maith.

Tógann Dréacht-Scéim 2014-2017 ar Scéimeanna Gaeilge eile de chuid na Comhairle agus ana-chuid seirbhísí Gaeilge curtha ar fáil ag Comhairle Contae Chiarraí ó shin. Is í aidhm na scéime seo ná úsáid ár gcuid seirbhísí trí Ghaeilge a spreagadh i measc pobal na Gaeilge, laistigh agus lasmuigh den nGaeltacht, agus go háirithe chun ‘Oidhreacht Theangeolaíoch agus Chultúrtha na Gaeltachta agus an Ghaeilge a chosaint mar theanga an phobail’ (Plean Forbartha Chontae Chiarraí 2009-2015).

Is é príomh aidhm Scéim Gaeilge 2014-2017 ná Seirbhísí Gaeilge don bPobal a bhuanú agus a dhaingniú. Tá ár gceangaltas leagtha amach i gCaibidil 3 den Dréacht-Scéim.

Iarraim oraibh glacadh go foirmeálta leis an Scéim”.

Dúirt an Clr. Ó Glíosáin gur cúis áthais dó go raibh an chruinniú ar siúl sa Daingean, baile ina bhfuair sé féin a chuid oideachais. D'fháiltigh sé roimh an Dréacht-Scéim Gaeilge agus mhol sé gach éinne a bhí páirteach á ullmhú.

D'fháiltigh an Clr. T Ní Fhearaíosa leis an scéim ag tagairt do leathanach 8 den tuairisc a deir go bhfuil "teorainn leis an méid gur féidir le Údarás Áitiúil a bhaint amach gan timpeallacht dhearfach d'fhás agus d'fhorbairt na Gaeilge á gcothú go leanúnach ag an Rialtas lárnach" agus dúirt sí go raibh fógartha ag an gCoimisinéir Teanga go mbeidh sé ag éirí as de bharr easpa tacaíochta ón Rialtas.

Dúirt an Méara, an Clr. S. Mac Gearailt go bhfuil sé i gceist ag an Rialtas coimisinéir nua a ainmniú go luath i 2014.

Ar MHOLADH an Clr. Ó Glíósáin, CUIDITHE ag Clr. T. Ní Fhearaíosa, glacadh le Dréacht-Scéim Údarás Áitiúil Chiarraí (2014-2017) de réir Alt 11 d'Acht na dTeangacha Oifigiúla 2003.

13.12.16.07 Grúpscéimeanna Soláthair Uisce a thógaint ar láimh/Takeover of Group Water Schemes

(a) On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. M Cahill, SECONDED by Cllr. J Healy Rae it was agreed to approve the takeover of the Beaufort Group Water Supply Scheme in accordance with Section 95 of the Water Services Act 2007.

(b) On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. B Cronin, SECONDED by Cllr. M Gleeson it was agreed to approve the takeover of the Coolick Group Water Supply Scheme in accordance with Section 95 of the Water Services Act 2007.

(c) On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. M O'Shea, SECONDED by Cllr. M Griffin it was agreed to approve the takeover of the Inch Group Water Supply Scheme in accordance with Section 95 of the Water Services Act 2007.

(d) On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. JJ Culloty, SECONDED by Cllr. B Cronin it was agreed to approve the takeover of the Annablaha/Toureenamilt Group Water Supply Scheme in accordance with Section 95 of the Water Services Act 2007.

(e) On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. JJ Culloty, SECONDED by Cllr. D Healy Rae it was agreed to approve the takeover of the Ballahantourig Group Water Supply Scheme in accordance with Section 95 of the Water Services Act 2007.

(f) On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. R Beasley, SECONDED by Cllr. T Buckley it was agreed to approve the takeover of the Ballyline Group Water Supply Scheme in accordance with Section 95 of the Water Services Act 2007.

(g) On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. D Healy Rae, SECONDED by Cllr. JJ Culloty it was agreed to approve the takeover of the Dooneen (Castleisland) Water Supply Scheme in accordance with Section 95 of the Water Services Act 2007.

(h) On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. R Beasley, SECONDED by Cllr. P Leahy it was agreed to approve the takeover of the Dooncaha Group Water Supply Scheme in accordance with Section 95 of the Water Services Act 2007.

(i) On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. A McEllistrim, SECONDED by Cllr. P McCarthy it was agreed to approve the takeover of the Gortshanavalla Group Water Supply Scheme in accordance with Section 95 of the Water Services Act 2007.

(j) On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. T Ferris, SECONDED by Cllr. S Fitzgerald it was agreed to approve the takeover of the Cinn Aird Group Water Supply Scheme in accordance with Section 95 of the Water Services Act 2007.

(k) On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. T Ferris, SECONDED by Cllr. JJ Culloty it was agreed to approve the takeover of the Leamydoody Group Water Supply Scheme in accordance with Section 95 of the Water Services Act 2007.

(l) On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. N Foley, SECONDED by Cllr. G Wharton Slattery it was agreed to approve the takeover of the Glenlarhan Group Water Supply Scheme in accordance with Section 95 of the Water Services Act 2007.

(m) On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. J Finucane, SECONDED by Cllr. T Ferris it was agreed to approve the takeover of the Leith Group Water Supply Scheme in accordance with Section 95 of the Water Services Act 2007.

(n) On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. D Healy Rae, SECONDED by Cllr. B Cronin it was agreed to approve the takeover of the Lower Coom Group Water Supply Scheme in accordance with Section 95 of the Water Services Act 2007.

(o) On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. M Griffin, SECONDED by Cllr. R Beasley it was agreed to approve the takeover of the Toormore No. 3 Group Water Supply Scheme in accordance with Section 95 of the Water Services Act 2007.

(p) On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. J Sheahan , SECONDED by Cllr. M O'Shea it was agreed to approve the takeover of the Rathbeg Group Water Supply Scheme in accordance with Section 95 of the Water Services Act 2007.

(q) On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. T Ferris, SECONDED by Cllr. JJ Culloty it was agreed to approve the takeover of the Ballintarmon Group Water Supply Scheme in accordance with Section 95 of the Water Services Act 2007.

(r) On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. J Healy Rae, SECONDED by Cllr. M Cahill it was agreed to approve the takeover of the Lyranes Group Water Supply Scheme in accordance with Section 95 of the Water Services Act 2007.

(s) On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. T Buckley, SECONDED by Cllr. P Leahy it was agreed to approve the takeover of the Knockaburrane Group Water Supply Scheme in accordance with Section 95 of the Water Services Act 2007.

(t) On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. B Cronin, SECONDED by Cllr. M Gleeson it was agreed to approve the takeover of the Boolteens Group Water Supply Scheme in accordance with Section 95 of the Water Services Act 2007.

- (u) On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. M O'Shea, SECONDED by Cllr. M Griffin it was agreed to approve the takeover of the Coolcorcoran Group Water Supply Scheme in accordance with Section 95 of the Water Services Act 2007.
- (v) On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. D Healy Rae, SECONDED by Cllr. PJ Donovan it was agreed to approve the takeover of the Goulane No. 1 Group Water Supply Scheme in accordance with Section 95 of the Water Services Act 2007.
- (w) On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. J Sheahan, SECONDED by Cllr. D Healy Rae it was agreed to approve the takeover of the Rathbeg No. 4 Group Water Supply Scheme in accordance with Section 95 of the Water Services Act 2007.
- (x) On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. D Healy Rae, SECONDED by Cllr. B Cronin it was agreed to approve the takeover of the Bawnard No. 2 Group Water Supply Scheme in accordance with Section 95 of the Water Services Act 2007.
- (y) On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. T Ferris, SECONDED by Cllr. N Foley it was agreed to approve the takeover of the Tonreigh Group Water Supply Scheme in accordance with Section 95 of the Water Services Act 2007.
- (z) On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. R Beasley, SECONDED by Cllr. J Finucane it was agreed to approve the takeover of the Leath East No. 2 Group Water Supply Scheme in accordance with Section 95 of the Water Services Act 2007.
- (aa) On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. D Healy Rae, SECONDED by Cllr. it was agreed to approve the takeover of the Shrrone No. 2 Group Water Supply Scheme in accordance with Section 95 of the Water Services Act 2007.
- (bb) On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. P Leahy, SECONDED by Cllr. JJ Culloty it was agreed to approve the takeover of the Shrone East Group Water Supply Scheme in accordance with Section 95 of the Water Services Act 2007.
- (cc) On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. B Cronin, SECONDED by Cllr. JJ Culloty it was agreed to approve the takeover of the Gortgloss Group Water Supply Scheme in accordance with Section 95 of the Water Services Act 2007.
- (dd) On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. A McEllistrim, SECONDED by Cllr. T Ferris it was agreed to approve the takeover of the Muingarvanig Group Water Supply Scheme in accordance with Section 95 of the Water Services Act 2007.
- (ee) On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. PJ Donovan, SECONDED by Cllr. P O'Donoghue it was agreed to approve the takeover of the Carhan Group Water Supply Scheme in accordance with Section 95 of the Water Services Act 2007.

(ff) On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. A McEllistrim, SECONDED by Cllr. P McCarthy it was agreed to approve the takeover of the Maugha Group Water Supply Scheme in accordance with Section 95 of the Water Services Act 2007.

(gg) On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. N Foley, SECONDED by Cllr. T Ferris it was agreed to approve the takeover of the Glashanoone Group Water Supply Scheme in accordance with Section 95 of the Water Services Act 2007.

(hh) On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. T Buckley, SECONDED by Cllr. P Leahy it was agreed to approve the takeover of the Bedford Upper Water Supply Scheme in accordance with Section 95 of the Water Services Act 2007.

(ii) On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. P Leahy, SECONDED by Cllr. P O'Donoghue it was agreed to approve the takeover of the Ballyduhig Group Water Supply Scheme in accordance with Section 95 of the Water Services Act 2007.

(jj) On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. J Sheahan, SECONDED by Cllr. JJ Culloty it was agreed to approve the takeover of the Renasup Group Water Supply Scheme in accordance with Section 95 of the Water Services Act 2007.

(kk) On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. B Cronin, SECONDED by Cllr. M Gleeson it was agreed to approve the takeover of the Meanus Gortnascarry Group Water Supply Scheme in accordance with Section 95 of the Water Services Act 2007.

(ll) On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. D Healy Rae, SECONDED by Cllr. B Cronin it was agreed to approve the takeover of the Ballinahulla No. 5 Water Supply Scheme in accordance with Section 95 of the Water Services Act 2007.

Cllr. B Cronin welcomed the take over of the Group Water Schemes listed above and requested that Notice of Motion No. 5 be moved at this stage.

5. Ask Kerry County Council to take over all outstanding group schemes. prior to the transfer to Irish Water.

Pursuant to notice duly given Cllr. B Cronin PROPOSED

To request that Kerry County Council take over all outstanding group schemes immediately to ensure that there will be clarity for the committee members and the customer prior to the take over by Irish Water. The group schemes in the Killarney area are Coolick, Anablaha - Toorenamult, Ballahantourig - Scartaglin, Toormore, Lower Coom, Rathbeg.

The following report issued:

There are a number of key considerations which must be addressed prior to the take-over of a Group Water Supply Scheme by the Council i.e. the Group must apply for take-over, the Scheme must be in good engineering /

operational condition and there must be no legal or financial burdens attached to the Scheme.

The Council has identified a number of Schemes which currently meet these criteria and their proposed take-over is included on today's Agenda.

Cllr. B Cronin said that he understood that if a Group Water Scheme has not been taken over by the Council prior to the transfer to Irish Water on 1st January 2014 that a flat rate charge would be levied on the group. He asked if the trustees of the group would be required to collect the charges from the customers. He PROPOSED that the schemes listed in his notice of motion be taken over and that clarification with regard to payment of charges be provided.

Mr. O Ring Director of Environment & Water Services said that as from 1st January 2014, Irish Water will have responsibility for all public water supplies and sewerage schemes. Kerry County Council will have a Service Level Agreement (SLA) with Irish Water for 12 years. The Council will continue to act as the regulatory authority for private supplies, including group schemes. The Water Services Bill 2013 which is currently going through the Oireachtas does make provision for the taking over by Irish Water of Group Schemes but it is as yet unclear how the process will be carried out under the new utility. A total of 108 Group Schemes have applied to Kerry County Council for takeover but a number of them are not up to the required standard.

Cllr. B Cronin asked that schemes that needed a little work to bring them up to the required standard would be taken over by the Council.

Cllr. M Gleeson welcomed the take over by the Council of the Group Water Schemes listed, in particular the scheme at Coolick.

Cllr. D Healy Rae asked that schemes which were not included in the list above and where improvement work was being carried would be taken over as soon as possible.

Mr. Ring said that Kerry County Council would continue to work with the trustees of these schemes.

Cllr. P O'Donoghue requested that Notice of Motion No. 2 be moved at this stage.

2. Group water schemes.

Pursuant to notice duly given Cllr. P O'Donoghue PROPOSED

That Kerry County Council furnish a report as to how many group water schemes are presently operational in the County and to advise as to what procedures are

being put in place by Irish Water for dealing with such group water schemes in relation to the administration and the taking over of such schemes where same is appropriate.

The following report issued:

There are currently 313 Group Schemes operational in Kerry, of which 170 are supplied from the Council's public mains and 143 are privately sourced. The vast majority of the privately sourced group schemes serve less than 50 persons and are exempt from the Drinking Water Regulations – most of these relate to bored well schemes serving 2 or 3 houses. Only 7 of the 143 privately sourced Group Schemes serve more than 50 persons and/or commercial premises and therefore are subject to the Drinking Water Regulations. A total of 108 Group Schemes have applied to Kerry County Council for takeover.

On the 1st January 2014 Irish Water will take over responsibility for all aspects of the public water supply and waste water systems. The administration and delivery of Group Schemes will remain with the Local Authorities, as agents for the DECLG, as has been the case since 1997. Kerry County Council will continue as a Water Services Authority for the purpose of supervising Group Schemes in relation to their compliance with the Drinking Water Regulation.

Irish Water will charge customers on GWSSs which are served by the public mains for the water used. The remaining private GWSSs which are served by their own sources of water will not come under the control of Irish Water.

The Water Services Bill 2013 which is currently going through the Oireachtas does make provision for the taking over by Irish Water of Group Schemes but it is as yet unclear how the process will be carried out under the new utility.

Cllr. P O'Donoghue said that the reason he had submitted this notice of motion was that he had been contacted by a considerable number of people who were concerned that from 1st January 2014 Irish Water will take over responsibility for public water supplies and no clarity had been received with regard to group water schemes. It was bizarre to suggest that a flat charge would apply to the group and that it would be the responsibility of the trustees to collect it.

Cllr. M Cahill **SECONDED** the motion and said that people were very concerned about the situation regarding water charges for members of group schemes following the take over by Irish Water. He acknowledged the role of the secretaries and trustees of group water schemes throughout the county who work on a voluntary basis.

Cllr. T Ferris said that it was no coincidence that there were so many group water schemes in the country due to the fluoridation of public water.¹

Mr. O Ring Director of Environment & Water Services said that all of the schemes on the list were taking water from public supplies. Kerry County Council has responsibility for monitoring group water schemes that are using private water supplies. The Health Service Executive (HSE) requires Local Authorities to fluoridate all the large public water supplies.

Cllr. P O'Donoghue asked if the trustees of group schemes will be forced to become tax collectors.

Mr. Ring said it appeared that bulk meters would be required in the absence of individual meters and that it seemed to be the responsibility of the trustees to charge the members of the group scheme. This would affect only domestic customers on group schemes supplied by the public water supply, as farmers and businesses are already metered and paying water charges. Group Water Schemes which are served by their own sources of water will not be liable for Irish Water charges.

Cllr. D Healy Rae said that if a bulk meter was installed, it would appear that the charges for individual properties would have to be collected by the trustees of the scheme.

Cllr. B Cronin PROPOSED that a letter on behalf of the members would issue to the Minister for the Environment, Community & Local Government to request that the trustees of group water schemes are not put in the position of having to collect water charges from the members of the group

Cllr. P O'Donoghue SECONDED the proposal.

Mr. Ring said that at the moment he was just giving his opinion as domestic water charges would not apply until January 2015. The Water Services Bill 2013 is currently going through the Oireachtas but it is as yet unclear how the process with regard to charges to members of Group Schemes will be carried out under the new utility. He said that he was confident that a reasonable solution would be achieved.

¹ Please refer to January 2014 minutes for amendment.

13.12.16.08 Dátaí a aontú don chéad bhabhta eile Cruinnithe na gCoistí Ceantair
Agree dates for next round of Area Committee Meetings

(a) On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. J.J. Culloty, SECONDED by Cllr. M Gleeson it was agreed that the next meeting of the Killarney Electoral Area Committee would be held on Wednesday 5th February 2014, in the Town Hall, Killarney, commencing at 10:00am.

(b) On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. A McEllistrim, SECONDED by Cllr. N Foley it was agreed that the next meeting of the Tralee Electoral Area Committee would be held on, Monday 10th February 2014, in the Council Chamber commencing at 10.40am.

(c) On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. P Leahy, SECONDED by Cllr. R Beasley it was agreed that the next meeting of the Listowel Electoral Area Committee would be held on, Monday 24th February 2014, in Áras an Phiarsaigh, Listowel commencing at 10am.

(d) On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. P O'Donoghue, SECONDED by Cllr. M Griffin it was agreed that the next meeting of the South and West Kerry Area Committee would be held on Friday 28th February 2014 in Killorglin Area Services Centre commencing at 9.30am.

Cllr. T Ferris referred to the Special Planning meeting on 6th January 2014 and asked if it would be possible to make submissions on the Renewable Energy Policy in the context of the review of the County Development Plan.

Mr. M McMahon Deputy County Manager said that the Renewable Energy Strategy (RES) was adopted in 2012 and incorporated into the County Development Plan 2009 – 2015. The Minister for the Environment Community & Local Government has indicated his intention to publish new draft guidelines for Planning Authorities for public consultation with a view to having revised guidelines adopted by the end of 2014. Any review of the Renewable Energy Strategy (RES) should take place after that.

Mr. McMahon said that any submissions made in connection with renewable energy will be considered by the Council and will be reported on in the Managers Report on submissions, following public consultation.

13.12.16.09 Tuairisc ón CPS Iompair/Report from Transport SPC

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

13.12.16.10 Achoimre imeachtaí ag Comhdhálacha
Summary of proceedings at Conferences/Seminars

(a) It was unanimously agreed to note Cllr. M Cahill's written report on the Seminar on the theme "The Electoral, Local Government & Planning & Development Act 2013" held on the 1st and 2nd November which was circulated.

(b) It was unanimously agreed to note Cllr. JJ Culloty's written report on the Conference on the theme "Rebuilding Our Rural Communities" held on the 25th November which was circulated.

13.12.16.11 Tairiscintí a cheadú/Approval for opening of tenders

(a) On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. M Griffin, SECONDED by Mayor S Fitzgerald, it was agreed to approve the opening of tenders for Wild Atlantic Way Signage Supply Kerry North - Closing date Monday 16th December 2013 at 3pm.

(b) On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. M Griffin, SECONDED by Cllr. Mayor S Fitzgerald, it was agreed to approve the opening of tenders for Cash in Transit Services - Closing date: Friday 3rd January, 2014 at 3pm

13.12.16.12 Fógrai Rún/Notices of Motion

1. Ionaid páirceála d'ard caighdeán do rothair ins na bailte móra agus 'sna sráidbhailte.

Provision of aesthetically pleasing Bicycle Parking Bays

Pursuant to notice duly given Cllr. M. Gleeson PROPOSED

Go gcuirfeadh An Chomhairle le chéile plan dírithe ar ionaid páirceála d'ard caighdeán do rothair ins na bailte móra agus 'sna sráidbhailte.

That Kerry County Council would formulate a policy focused on the progressive provision of aesthetically pleasing Bicycle Parking Bays in towns, villages and other appropriate locations.

The following report issued:

Tá an polasaí le haghaidh soláthar páirceála rothar clúdaithe go leordhóthanach i ndoiciméid beartais atá ann cheana féin. Tá sé mar chuspóir ag an bPlean Forbartha Contae, agus na Pleananna Baile Thrá Lí, Cill Airne agus Lios Tuathail, agus Pleananna Ceantair Áitiúil go "Beidh áiseanna páirceála rothar a chur ar fáil laistigh den láithreán chuirtealáiste na bhforbairtí árasán ionchorprú, scoileanna, oifigí, siopaí miondíola, leabharlanna, an tionscal déantúsaíochta, ollstóráil agus faichí spóirt ". Chomh maith leis sin beidh gach dearadh agus trácht ar bhóithre

uirbeacha pleananna atá á dhéanamh ag na hÚdaráis Áitiúla Chiarraí a dhéanamh i gcomhréir leis an doiciméad "Lámhleabhar Dearaidh do Bhóithre Uirbeacha agus Sráideanna", a foilsíodh le déanaí ag an Roinne, agus dhéanann soláthar do choisithe agus rothaithe. Molann an t-iarratas le déanaí ag an gComhairle faoin Scéim Smarter Travel ar mhaoiniú a Straitéis Iompair Trá Lí a chur i bhfeidhm páirceála go maith agus oiriúnach a chur ar fáil do rothaithe ag suímh straitéiseacha ar fud an Bhaile.

The policy for the provision of bicycle parking is adequately covered in existing policy documents. It is an objective of the County Development Plan, and the Town Plans for Tralee, Killarney and Listowel as well as Local Area Plans that "secure bicycle parking facilities shall be provided within the site curtilage of developments incorporating apartments, schools, offices, retail stores, libraries, manufacturing industry, warehousing and sports grounds". Also all urban road design and traffic plans being undertaken by the Kerry Local Authorities will be undertaken in accordance with the recently published Departmental document "Design Manual for Urban Roads and Streets" which makes provision for both pedestrians and cyclists.

The recent application by this Council under the Smarter Travel Scheme for funding to implement Tralee Transport Strategy proposes that good and appropriate parking be provided for cyclists at strategic locations around the Town.

Léigh an Clr. Ó Glíosáin seo leanas amach do thaifead an chruinnithe.

"Blianta ó shin bhí sé inghlactha rothar a fhágaint nó a chaitheamh in áit ar bith. Is minic a d'fhágamar rothar i gcoinne leach na fuinneoige fad a bhíomar ag dul isteach sa siopa, nó b'fhéidir caite i gcoinne binn an tí, nó páirceáilte ar thaobh chosán.

Nuair a bhíomar óg b'fhéidir go raibh na nósanna san beagnach ceart go leor mar is beag siopa nó tigh a bhí péinteáilte agus is beag ghluaisteán a bhí le feiscint. Ach anois tá athrú oll-mhór tagtha ar an saol. Tá gach tigh agus gach siopa péinteáilte go h-álainn agus tá gluaisteáin i ngach áit.

Tá gá le cleachtaí nua a thabhairt isteach. D'fhéadfá a rá go bhfuil díon-ghá le athrú níos mar tá fás ollmhór tagtha ar líon na ndaoine atá ag rothaíocht - ag rothaíocht ar scoil, go dtí an siopa agus mar chaitheamh aimsire.

Go deimhin tá fás ana-mhór go deo tagtha ar líon na gcuairteoirí a théann timpeall ár gcontae agus timpeall na leithinse seo ar rothair.

Is gá ionaid pháirceála a chur ar fáil dóibh. Agus ní h-amháin san ach ba chóir gach iarracht a dhéanamh chun na h-ionaid seo a dhéanamh tarraingteach. Má thógtar iad go healaíonta cuirfidh said le h-áilleacht an bhaile agus áilleacht na

dúthaigh. Sa tslí san feabhsóidh said céad amharc ar na háiteanna ina mbeidh said agus cuirfidh said leis na marcanna i gcomórtas na mBailte Slachtmhaire.

Má bhíonn said leagtha amach go deas cuirfidh said le líon na ndaoine a bheidh toilteanach dul ag spaisteoireacht nó ag siopadóireacht.

Más mian linn airgead a tharraingt isteach in ár gcontae is gá dúinn airgead a chaitheamh chun ár dtimpeallacht a fheabhsú.

Cllr. T Ferris referred to recent burglaries in particular to a victim who is a tenant of the Local Authority where an attempt was made to open a window with a crowbar and asked that this matter be investigated.

14. Minimum voting turnout of 50% of the total electorate for any proposed amendment to Bunreacht na h-Éireann to be deemed valid.

Pursuant to notice duly given Cllr. M Gleeson PROPOSED

As Bunreacht na h-Éireann was adopted by the Irish people in 1937 as the document that gives expression to the legitimate hopes and expectations of the Nation, that for any proposed amendment to that document to be deemed valid would require a minimum voting turnout of 50% of the total electorate.

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

Cllr. M Gleeson said that Bunreacht na h-Éireann was passed in 1937 by the people of Ireland and has been amended 33 times in the interim. The Constitution of the United States came into effect in 1789 and has been amended only 27 times. An amendment to a constitution should be approved by the majority of the voting community.

The notice of motion was **SECONDED** by Cllr. B Cronin who said that it was vitally important that people should exercise their right to vote.

Cllr. T Ferris said that she could not support the proposal as we do not live in e.g. Australia where a system of compulsory voting is in place. We should accept the choice of the majority of the people who vote. If people choose not to vote there is nothing in the law of this country to force them to do so.

Cllr. J Brassil said that he did not support Cllr. Gleeson's proposal.

Cllr. N Foley said that this was a significant issue and asked if some level of compromise could be reached.

Cllr. T Ferris said that she would have an issue with ignoring the will of the people who cast their votes.

Cllr. P McCarthy said that if the law was changed it would have to apply to everyone who is eligible to vote. Many people have emigrated in recent times and would not be available on the day of a referendum.

Cllr. M O'Shea said that he supported Cllr. Gleeson's proposal and said that a full debate on this matter should take place at the next meeting of the full Council.

Cllr. M Gleeson said that his proposal would give credibility to Bunreacht na hÉireann and its importance.

A vote was taken on Cllr. Gleeson's proposal which resulted as follows:

For: Cllrs. Buckley, Connor Scarteen, Counihan, Cronin, Culloty, Donovan, Finucane, Foley, Gleeson, Griffin, Leahy, McCarthy, O'Donoghue, O'Shea, Purtill, Sheahan, (Mayor) Fitzgerald **(17)**

Against: Cllrs. Brassil, Cahill, Ferris, J Healy Rae, McEllistrim, Wharton – Slattery. **(6)**

Absent: Cllrs. Beasley, D Healy Rae, O'Brien, O'Connell **(4)**

The Mayor declared the proposal CARRIED.

3. Legislation to address human trafficking.

Pursuant to notice duly given Cllr. S Counihan PROPOSED

That this Council recognise that the trafficking, exploitation and abuse of women and girls is taking place in Kerry and throughout out the country as a direct result of prostitution. That this human rights abuse can be ended by targeting the demand for prostitution by introducing legislation which would make it an offence to pay for sex. I am seeking the introduction of such a law. This Council notes similar laws in other European countries and that this Council in supporting this motion would convey it's views to the Minister for Justice.

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

Cllr. S Counihan said that level of human trafficking taking place was unacceptable and called on the other members for their support.

Cllr. J Finucane **SECONDED** the notice of motion and said that he was very concerned about the exploitation of people for the benefit of others and the legislation with regard to this crime must be updated.

4. Initiate a scheme for cutting hedges similar to Clare County Council.

Pursuant to notice duly given Cllr. J Healy Rae PROPOSED

That Kerry County Council would initiate a scheme for cutting hedges similar to Clare County Council have done with communities in the last month.

The following report issued:

Clare County Council has initiated a pilot scheme called Community Hedge Cutting Grant Scheme whereby landowners can apply for assistance to carry out hedge cutting on their property. The details that we are aware of from looking at the application form are as follows;

A group of people along a road must come together and agree to cut a minimum continuous length of 5 kilometres, Applications have to be received before the 31st December, approval for the scheme must be received from the Council, the community group must employ the contractor and pay the contractor, the community group must be satisfied that the contractor is compliant with all Health and Safety regulations, no payment will be made to the group until an inspection and remeasure is carried out. The cutting has to be completed between September 1st and the last day of February. The grant amount being paid to the group is €25 per kilometre of roadside attended to.

Kerry County Council has no funding available in our Roads Budget to initiate any such scheme and at this stage we feel the operation of such a scheme may well be inoperable. As this is a pilot scheme, I would suggest that we wait until Clare County Council has operated the scheme for a season and with that experience, this proposal could then be discussed at the Strategic Policy Committee.

Cllr. J Healy Rae said that he and other members had raised this issue on several previous occasions. He said that overgrown hedges along the Ring of Kerry road were a health and safety issue and some of the landowners on this road may be living abroad. He hoped that Kerry County Council would consider a similar scheme to the pilot scheme initiated by Clare County Council.

Cllr. D Healy Rae said that it is important that hedge cutting is carried out annually as overgrown hedges can cause damage to vehicles and machinery. Cllr. P Connor Scarteen said that the pilot scheme initiated by Clare County Council should be considered.

Cllr. B Cronin said that there was a certain level of validity in examining the pilot scheme initiated by Clare County Council but queried how it would be viewed by landowners who cut their hedges annually at their own expense.

He asked that Cllrs. D Healy Rae & J Healy Rae would clarify for the meeting that their plant hire company had not tendered for hedge cutting work and asked "Are we going to say to the ratepayers of the county that the hedges will be cut by Healy Rae Plant Hire?"

Cllr. J Healy Rae said that this remark had cast a slur on the Healy Rae's. He said that he found it incredible to suggest that because Healy Rae Plant Hire is involved in hedgecutting that he was not entitled to submit a notice of motion concerning the need for hedge cutting in the county. He suggested that Cllr. Cronin should familiarise himself with the tendering process of Kerry County Council.

Cllr. J Brassil said that this was a very important issue as the condition of roadsides in the county had deteriorated significantly as all hedges were now overgrown with Blackthorn and Japanese Knotweed. He said that the current system was not working and recommended that this matter would be considered by the Transport SPC in the first quarter of 2014.

6. Counties on Wild Atlantic Way formulate a common economic policy and strategy going forward.

Pursuant to notice duly given Cllr. J Finucane PROPOSED

That the counties involved in the Wild Atlantic Way would come together and formulate a common economic policy and strategy going forward.

The following report issued:

The Wild Atlantic Way (W.A.W) extends from North Donegal to Kinsale along the West Coast of Ireland. It is approximately 2,500km in length, of which 550km (22%) is in Kerry. Kerry has the longest length of W.A.W.

The route will be formally launched by the Minister in January 2014 and a number of trade and community roadshows, organised by Fáilte Ireland, will take place thereafter to raise awareness locally.

A sum of €8m has been set aside nationally for signage, interpretive boards along the route, to upgrade the discovery points and to commence the identification and provision of 15 no iconic discovery points, two of which are in Kerry.

It would be important if Kerry first developed its own economic policy for the route to maximise the return from visitors. Thereafter, a meeting of officials from counties on the route could take place later in 2014. Managers for the counties, through which the route traverses, have already met collectively with Fáilte Ireland and it is envisaged that further meetings of this group will occur in 2014.

Cllr. J Finucane said that he had raised this issue at previous meetings. Kerry would be responsible for 22% of the Wild Atlantic Way tourism route and as there was a considerable amount of grant aid and other assistance available, he said that he would like to see Kerry County Council taking a lead role in formulating an economic strategy to fund the development. He suggested that the Council would sponsor a local fund raising initiative in January 2014. He also asked that a meeting be arranged in January 2014 to discuss the development of an economic policy at local level with a view to ensuring that the county would be in a better position to access the grant aid available.

Cllr. Finucane called on the Government, in particular An Taoiseach to do everything possible and rectify and resolve the debacle concerning the Shannon LNG development at Ballylongford.

Cllr. P McCarthy **SECONDED** this proposal and said that it was vital that Cllr. Finucane's proposal is followed through and the support of the six Oireachtas Members should also be sought.

Cllr. P O'Donoghue said the 2014 Tourism Capital Investment includes an allocation of €8m, targeted at the development of Wild Atlantic Way. An office will be set up to assist the counties on the route with the preparation of applications for funding. He agreed with Cllr. Finucane that Kerry County Council should move forward with the preparation of an economic policy in conjunction with the other counties on the route.

Cllr. N Foley agreed with the previous speakers and added that some initiative should be put in place to promote the Kerry brand.

7. Report on Kenmare Fire Station

Pursuant to notice duly given Cllr. P Connor Scarteen PROPOSED

Kenmare is in need of a new fully functional Fire Station. I call upon Kerry County Council to progress this as soon as possible. Please give a report in relation to same.

The following report issued:

The Kenmare Fire Station moved to a rented premises at Gortamullen in 2004 when the site of the former very unsatisfactory building was required for the redevelopment of the Carnegie Library. The current premises has been well adapted for use as a fire station and is fully functional.

The Council has been pursuing the provision of a new Fire Station for Kenmare since the 1980s but it proved difficult to find a suitable site. Two sites which were identified in the 1990s had to be abandoned due to local

opposition although Department approval in principle to funding was obtained. Finally, a suitable site was secured in Gortamullen in 2003 but the grant sanction from the Department was not sufficient to cover the estimated costs. The project was redesigned to reduce costs and a revised submission was made in 2007. Part 8 planning for the project was obtained in March 2008. The Council requested approval to proceed to tender stage in 2009 without success. Further approaches were made to the Department and we were informed in 2012 that the project would again be considered for funding in 2013 but it was stressed that the Department's capital funding was under severe strain.

The Council intends to review our current submission early in 2014 and that, or a revised submission, will be pursued until a successful outcome emerges.

Cllr. P Connor Scarteen acknowledged the reply and said that Kenmare Fire Station covered a huge catchment area therefore a modern facility was urgently required.

8. Amount of revenue collected from Property Tax and % for services in this county.

Pursuant to notice duly given Cllr. J Sheahan PROPOSED

That Kerry County Council clarify as to what amount of the collected Property Tax will be retained for services in this County and what amounts are expected to be collected?

The following report issued:

Revenue is responsible for the collection of the Property Tax. We do not have collection figures to date. The DoECLG have also indicated that retention of a proportion of local property tax receipts at source will now commence from 2015 onwards. It is anticipated that the Local property Tax will replace the Local Government Fund into the future. Calculations based on 75,000 properties in the county approximates collection yields in the region of €18,168,750, retention of 100% of this sum versus the Local Government Fund received in 2013 leads to a overall shortfall of €4,070,000 for the county as a whole.

Cllr. J Sheahan acknowledged the reply and said that a shortfall would have a serious impact on the provision of services in the county.

Mr. Michael McMahon Deputy County Manager said that as outlined in the response, the retention of a 100% of the local property tax receipts locally would not benefit the county.

9. Bus Shelter for Killorglin

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 this year (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:

- (a) The application is currently being prepared for submission to the National Transport Authority.**
- (b) The works will hopefully commence in the 1st quarter 2014 subject to funding being received.**
- (c) 2 weeks approximately**
- (d) A public consultation under Section 38 of the Road Traffic Act, 1994 as amended will be carried out in the New Year.**
- (e) Quotations are currently being sought and an estimate will form part of the application.**
- (f) Kerry County Council has met with CIE and agreed a location and it is also in contact with the NTA in relation to the application.**

Cllr. M Cahill said that he was very disappointed with the reply. He had raised this matter on several previous occasions. There were indications earlier this year that funding would be made available for the project and a site was identified but the provision of a bus stop was still awaited. Commuters were obliged to wait for a bus in all weather conditions and this was not acceptable. This matter should be dealt with as a high priority.

Cllr. J Healy Rae **SECONDED** the notice of motion and asked that the construction of a bus stop would be progressed in the first quarter of 2014.

Mr. G MacNamara A/Director of Roads & Transportation said that the completion of the Roads Programme had been a priority for the Roads Department over the past few months and it was intended that the application would be submitted to the National Transport Authority early in 2014.

10. Distress caused by the reduction in home help and carers' hours.

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

That Kerry County Council write to the Minister for Health to give serious consideration to alleviating the distress caused by the reduction in home help and carers' hours, which is putting incredible strain not only on the person in need of the care but on the person who is attempting to provide the care under seriously unworkable conditions.

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

Cllr. M O'Shea asked that the Minister be requested to show some compassion to very vulnerable people. He was aware of a person with no immediate family whose home help had been reduced to 25 minutes, three times per week, this was causing great distress to both the person being cared for and the carer.

Cllr. J Finucane SECONDED the notice of motion.

11. High parking charges at Kerry General Hospital

Pursuant to notice duly given Cllr. D Healy Rae PROPOSED

Can we the members of Kerry County Council highlight to the Minister for Health and the HSE the extremely high parking charges at Kerry General Hospital. Also to ask for details as to how the money being accrued is being spent.

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

Cllr. D Healy Rae said that he was very concerned about the high level of parking charges at Kerry General Hospital particularly for people who had to travel long distances and who had to spend considerable lengths of time with patients in the hospital. He was aware of a visitor who, having paid the very high parking charge, did not have enough money to buy food. He also asked that the HSE be requested to advise as to how the money collected in parking charges at the hospital, is spent.

Cllr. J Healy Rae SECONDED the notice of motion.

12. Increase the grant aid for group sewerage schemes.

Pursuant to notice duly given Cllr. JJ Culloty PROPOSED

That this Council call on the Department of the Environment, Community & Local Government to increase the grant aid for group sewerage schemes from €6,500.00 to a minimum of €12,000.00.

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

Cllr. N Foley SECONDED the notice of motion.

Cllr. M Cahill said that no funding had been available in the county, this year, for Group Sewerage Schemes.

13. Review of school transport catchment boundaries for the Annascaul School Catchment Area.

Pursuant to notice duly given Cllr. M Griffin PROPOSED

That Kerry County Council write to the Minister for Education and Skills if he will review school transport catchment boundaries for the Annascaul School Catchment Area, Co. Kerry. An open area for school transport would be a practical solution to allow those who wish to go to Tralee to do so.

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

Cllr. M Griffin said that currently Annascaul was divided between the Dingle and Tralee catchment areas. School transport catchment area policy should reflect a child's right to education.

Cllr. A McEllistrim agreed and said that a review of the policy should be carried out.

15. Local Property Tax on Council houses.

Pursuant to notice duly given Cllr. P O'Donoghue PROPOSED

That Kerry County Council would call on the Government not to impose Local Property Tax on Council Houses but if the decision of the Government is otherwise then the Council might outline as to what the implications of this are for Council Tenants.

The following report issued:

The Finance (Local Property Tax) (Amendment) Act 2013, at section 7(6) states

"Where – (a) A local authority is a liable person in relation to a relevant residential property, the chargeable value of the property shall be deemed to fall into the first valuation band in column (1) of the table to this section in relation to the valuation date of 1 May 2013"

Accordingly, in accordance with the statute, Kerry County Council is now liable for the payment of the property tax on our social housing properties as owners of these properties. The properties are liable for declaration and payment at the minimum charge of €90 per unit this equates to a charge of €201,510 (2239 units) for this local authority for 2014. Given the scale of this charge being imposed on the budget of Kerry County Council the options available are to seek to recover this cost from the tenants deriving

the benefit from the housing units or to meet the cost from the general housing budget with its consequential impact on the ability to maintain properties to an acceptable standard and thus avoid having properties returned to the council which cannot be repaired and thus must remain vacant. The LPT is a statutory payment which must be discharged by this council in accordance with the law, as property owners of 2239 liable properties.

The equivalent figures for the Town Councils are Tralee, €106,920 (1183 units) Killarney €28,620 (318 units) and Listowel €8,000 (200 units). In accordance with the proposed changes contained in the Local Government Bill 2013 this combined €355,050 annual recurring cost will become the responsibility of Kerry County Council into the future.

Cllr. P O'Donoghue said that he was very concerned that 3,940 tenants would have the additional burden of payment of the property tax passed on to them. This could be easily resolved by the deletion of Section 7(6) of Finance (Local Property Tax) (Amendment) Act 2013. The County and City Managers' Association (CCMA) and the Association of County & City Councils (ACCC) should be asked to take this matter on board.

Cllr. T Ferris referred to a proposal which she had made at a previous meeting and said that in her opinion this charge should not be passed on to people who were only tenants and had no interest in the property. She said that such a requirement would be discriminatory against Tenants of the Council and no member would stand over that.

16. Development Bonds.

Pursuant to notice duly given Cllr. J Healy Rae PROPOSED

Bonds that Kerry County Council have called in, in relation to housing estates, how long does it take the financial institutions to pay the bonds, in turn how long does it take Kerry County Council to use and spend the bond. What lengths have Kerry County Council gone to get banks to pay out on these bonds.

The following report issued:

As stated in our reply to the previous notice of motion at the November meeting there are generally two types of bonds:-

- **Cash Bonds**
- **Bonds provided by a bank or an Insurance Company**

Where infrastructural works required to service the development are not carried out or fully completed in accordance with the conditions of the

permission and where the Planning Authority has not witnessed any progress on the ground, the question of calling in the bond then arises. In some cases where the Local Authority indicates that a bond will be drawn down, the bondsmen may arrange for the works to be carried out by a new contractor. This is the preferred solution from the Local Authority's point of view as it achieves the completion of the development in the shortest time-frame. The alternative solution is for the Financial Institution to make payment of the amount of the bond claimed to the Local Authority and for Kerry County Council to arrange to have the works carried out.

This can result in long and protracted negotiations with agents for the bondsman, arising from:-

- seeking agreement regarding the nature and extent of the works required
- the question of the costs of carrying out the works
- the standards required, and the
- the prioritisation of the works where funds are not sufficient to carry out all outstanding works

Hence it is not possible to give a definitive time-scale for the draw-down of the bond, but it is not unusual that this process would be on-going for a considerable period.

Where a bond is paid to Kerry County Council, the works to be carried out are agreed between the Housing Estates Unit and the Roads Department who manage the carrying out of the works. The length of time to be taken will depend on the complexity of the works to be completed and whether or not it is necessary to involve one or more departments of the Council. The scheduling of the works depends very much on the roads programme.

Cllr. J Healy Rae said that he was concerned about situations where a Bond has been called in by Kerry County Council and there is a long delay in payment by the financial institution which results in estates being left unfinished and in many instances without any public lighting.

Cllr. B Cronin **SECONDED** the notice of motion and said that he was aware of a situation where a Bond in the value of e.g. €200,000 was held by a financial institution and following protracted negotiations with the Local Authority, the bondsman invited ttenders for the work and following the receipt of a quotation for €1000,000, offered to pay this reduced amount to the Local Authority. He said that he was totally opposed to this type of financial trickery.

27. Report on Development Bonds.

Pursuant to notice duly given Cllrs. M Cahill & PJ Donovan PROPOSED

Further to Notice of Motion No. 3 at the November meeting of the Full Council as follows: "That Kerry County Council give a detailed report in relation to: (a) The number of planning development bonds sitting in bank accounts. (b) The value of these bonds (c) The amount of interest that these bonds have generated, with many being invested for more than 10 years. (d) The reason that all of these monies have not been used to date, to complete unfinished estates". (a) How many of these bonds have been called in (b) What is the value of the bonds that have been called in (c) How many of these bonds have been paid by the banks and what is the value of these

The following report issued:

Further to the November Notice of Motion, it is necessary to reiterate that an Insurance Bond is similar to an insurance policy and like an insurance policy is in place to deal with contingencies which are covered by the bond, i.e. the non-completion of services. Like insurance policies the question of interest does not arise.

- (i) Number of cash and insurance bonds currently paid up – 31.**
- (ii) Value of Bonds transferred to Roads - €773,879.**
- (iii) Value of Bonds spent by Roads - €136,600**
- (iv) Number of Bonds currently claimed and not paid up - 134.**
- (v) Value of Bonds claimed and not paid up - €10,013,122.**

Cllr. M Cahill acknowledged the response and queried the details as follows:

- (i) How come only 31 cash and insurance bonds are currently paid up?
- (ii) How come only €136,600 has been spent by Roads when the value of the Bonds claimed is in excess of €10m.

Cllr. PJ Donovan asked why only €136,600 had been spent by Roads while €773,879 had been transferred to Roads.

Cllr. J Finucane said that a special unit should be set up by Kerry County Council to focus on the administration of bonds.

Mr. M McMahon Deputy County Manager said that a special unit had been set up in the Planning Department to deal with the taking in charge of estates. He referred to Item 5 on the agenda for this meeting where the roads in five estates had been taken in charge by the Council.

With regard to Cllr. Cronin's comments, Mr. McMahon said that the preferred solution from the Local Authority's point of view was that the bondsman would arrange for the works to be carried out by a new contractor. If the work is carried out by Kerry County Council, it is entitled only to cost of completing the work and not the value of the bond.

Mr. McMahon said that the money is transferred to the Roads Department where it is managed on behalf of the Planning Department. The works to be carried out are agreed between the Housing Estates Unit and the Roads Department. The length of time it takes to carry out the works depends on the complexity of the works to be completed and whether or not it is necessary to involve one or more departments of the Council. The scheduling of the works depends very much on the roads programme. The Council's priority is always the undergrounding of services and access roads. In recent times engineers have been appointed by financial institutions to liaise with the Local Authority in determining the works required. Mr. McMahon said that a portion of the €10,013,122 of Bonds claimed and not paid up refer to *(Name withheld for data protection purposes. A paper copy of unedited Minutes available on request)* He said that he was hopeful that some mechanism would be put in place by the Government in 2014 to address this matter as the Council has been asked to submit details of the properties concerned.

Cllr. J Healy Rae asked are old housing estates taken in charge by the Council. Mr. McMahon said that the property owners in any estate may request that the development to be taken in charge and the Council has taken legacy estates in charge in the past.

Cllr. P O'Donoghue asked what was the potential exposure of Kerry County Council with regard to bonds lodged with *(Name withheld for data protection purposes. A paper copy of unedited Minutes available on request)*

Mr. McMahon said that he did not have specific details at the meeting but there was a considerable sum involved.

17. Replace the sections of the Mid Kerry Water Scheme from levies currently held by Kerry County Council.

Pursuant to notice duly given Cllr. B Cronin PROPOSED

To request that this Council replace the sections of the Mid Kerry Water Scheme that are breaking on a regular basis from levies currently held by Kerry County Council.

The following report issued:

The impending legislation will mean that Development Levies will transfer to Irish Water from 1st January 2014. It is therefore not possible at this stage to expend Development Levies on any further projects.

In recent years over €800,000 has been spent on the Mid-Kerry Water Supply Scheme through development levies. A mains replacement from Meanus to Killorglin was completed at a cost of €400,000 which was 100%

funded by development levies. The current Mains Rehabilitation Programme is delivering approximately €1.1million of replacement mains to the Mid-Kerry Scheme and this is 10% funded by Development Levies. Similarly, as part of the RAL programme, the Mid-Kerry Water Treatment Plant was upgraded in 2012 at a total cost of €1m, which was 25% funded through Development Levies. A further €100,000 of Development Levies is being expended on the Mid-Kerry Scheme including improvements to the intake works (€40k), reservoir upgrades (€10k) and weatherproof enclosures to the treatment plant (€50k).

Cllr. B Cronin acknowledged the detail in the 2nd paragraph of the reply and said that there had been continuous breaks in the water mains on the Mid – Kerry Scheme over the past few years. Deputations from groups representing the residents of various areas serviced by this scheme had been received at meetings of the Killarney Electoral Area Committee.

He asked for clarification with regard to the ownership of development levies following the transfer of water services to Irish Water.

Cllr. J Healy Rae **SECONDED** the notice of motion and said that the regular breaks in the pipe network of the Mid Kerry Water Scheme were unacceptable.

Cllr. M Cahill said that the entire water main was in need off replacement and asked that users would not be metered or charged until this work had been carried out.

Mr. O Ring Director of Environment & Water Services referred to paragraph one of the reply above and reiterated that Development Levies will transfer to Irish Water from 1st January 2014. As far as he was aware Development Levies will be ring fenced for spending on projects within the county. Mr. Ring said that a considerable amount of work had been carried out on the management of the Mid Kerry Scheme and only one break had occurred since August 2013. A proposal for water main replacement in 2014 was currently being prepared.

Cllr. M O'Shea said that there had been a reoccurring break in the main at Rockfield within the past two months and a break had also occurred in the pipe network at Rusheen.

Mr. Ring said that he was referring to breaks in the water main which requires the entire Mid Kerry Scheme to be shut down and addressing such breaks is a priority for the Water Services Department.

Mr. Ring undertook to revert to Cllr. Cronin with regard to the amount of money in Development Levies currently held by Kerry County Council.

18. Direct representative dealing with all EU funding for Local Authorities.

Pursuant to notice duly given Cllr. J Finucane PROPOSED

That this Council, in conjunction with other local authorities, would have a direct representative dealing with all EU funding.

The following report issued:

As the members are aware the County Enterprise Boards (CEB's) are to be disbanded in early 2014 and replaced by Local Enterprise Offices (LEO's), once the necessary legislation is passed by the Houses of the Oireachtas.

The new LEO's will be managed by the Council with funding provided by Enterprise Ireland to support micro and small enterprises.

The LEO will serve as a first stop shop to provide support and service to applicants. This office will, hopefully, deliver quality access to a number of national and local programmes focused on new business start ups and mirco business in a pro-business environment.

Kerry County Council has and is taking a very proactive role in supporting economic development in this County. The establishment of the LEO within the Council structure will strengthen our economic development role. To this end and to develop the one-stop shop approach it is proposed to strengthen the staffing levels in the new LEO with existing Council staff.

The sourcing of funding supports from EU frameworks and National frameworks will be a focus of the new LEO and these duties are likely to be assigned to one of the new staff members to be allocated to the LEO.

Cllr. J Finucane acknowledged the reply and said that he hoped that the ethos of the County Development Board would be maintained.

Cllr. Finucane referred to the development of the Wild Atlantic Way and PROPOSED that the notice of motion would be forwarded to the other counties included on the Wild Atlantic Way.

Cllr. P O'Donoghue SECONDED the proposal.

Cllr. J Finucane said that he had not been in receipt of any report with regard to funding for the development of the Wild Atlantic Way and felt that each county on the western seaboard should have a dedicated officer whose remit would be to pursue funding options for the project.

Cllr. P O'Donoghue said that in Northern Ireland government, a dedicated officer, whose sole function is to identify funding options, is in place. This has huge benefits when applying for EU funding.

Cllr. T Ferris said that a project group had been set up headed by staff members of Tralee IT to examine the the Wild Atlantic Way and St. Brendan's story as a tourism experience in Kerry and suggested that Kerry County Council would work with them.

19. Kerry County Council and National Roads Authority policies on signage.

Pursuant to notice duly given Cllr. P Connor Scarteen PROPOSED

Many communities in Kerry feel signage is inadequate in their locality. Would Kerry County Council please outline what their policy is in relation to signage for various roads and villages and arrange for the National Roads Authority to do likewise.

The following report issued:

The provision of road signage on the network is provided in accordance with the provisions of the Traffic Signs Manual. This primarily covers traffic signs, directional and information signs, regulatory signs such as keep left, stop, yield, no right turn etc. It also covers warning signs, roadworks signs and overhead gantry signs. Signage on the National Routes is also provided in accordance with the NRA guidance document, " Policy on the Provision of Tourist & Leisure Signage on National Roads" which was published in March 2011. Within a diminishing maintenance budget for roads, the first priority is to ensure that the regulatory signs are in place and are replaced when damaged or removed. Every effort is also made to replace directional signs but this can be draining on scarce resources. The Council is aware that a group of communities in South Kerry has expressed concerns about the apparent lack of directional and informational signage in their communities. It would be wonderful if our budget stretched to the erection of all required signage in all communities around the County. In this instance it is felt that if this matter was directed by the communities to the Local Community Development Company, some funding might be available through them for informational signage. We could then also quantify the extent of directional signage required.

Cllr. P Connor Scarteen acknowledged the reply and said that he had recently attended a meeting in Killorglin concerning the promotion of tourism in the county. Eleven groups were represented at the meeting and the issue of inadequate signage was raised by eight of the groups

Cllr. N Foley supported the notice of motion and commented that the National Roads Authority (NRA) should consult with the Local Authority with regard to the erection of signage on national routes.

Cllr. J Healy Rae said that in his opinion there was excess signage in Sneem village which can be confusing for visitors.

Cllr. B Cronin said that he was aware that three directional signs had been removed from posts at Laharn, Faha, Killarney.

Mr. G MacNamara A/Director of Roads & Transportation said that directional signs in some areas were continuously being stolen.

Cllr. A McEllistrim said that while she acknowledged that signage was inadequate in some areas, national guidelines should be adhered to as it was important that regulatory signs are in place and are replaced when damaged or removed.

20. Replacement of Bus Shelters.

Pursuant to notice duly given Cllr. J Sheahan PROPOSED

That Kerry County Council write to Bus Eireann to replace the bus shelters in the village & adjacent to the Church in Rathmore without delay.

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

Cllr. J Sheahan said that people waiting for a bus were regularly exposed to inclement weather conditions.

Cllr. JJ Culloty SECONDED the notice of motion.

21. Review of Social Housing Assessment Regulations 2011 in relation to separated persons who are the joint owners of properties.

Pursuant to notice duly given Cllr. M Cahill PROPOSED

That Kerry County Council immediately request the Department of the Environment, Community & Local Government to review the Social Housing Assessment Regulations 2011 whereby separated persons who are the joint owners of properties are currently deemed ineligible for social housing support unless they are separated under an order of a Court of competent jurisdiction or by a Deed of Separation. This regulation discriminates against separated persons, is too restrictive and makes it impossible for separated persons with a housing need to access social housing supports.

The following report issued:

As members were previously advised in correspondence from the private secretary to the Minister for Housing and Planning: "Decisions on eligibility of households for social housing support and the allocation of that support

are solely a matter for housing authorities. Paragraph (1) of Regulation 22 of the Social Housing Assessment Regulations, 2011, provides that a household with alternative accommodation that would meet its housing need is ineligible for social housing support. Paragraph (2) of the Regulation effectively ensures that paragraph (1) does not operate to exclude from eligibility for social housing support an applicant who owns accommodation that is occupied by his or her spouse, from whom he or she is separated or divorced. The Regulation is worded in such a way that once there is a Deed of Separation in place, this aspect of eligibility for social housing support can be determined. There is no need therefore to await judicial separation or divorce to get a decision on social housing support in these cases. It is considered that this provision is reasonable in most cases. It is acknowledged, however, that situations may exceptionally arise that may not easily be dealt with under the current Regulations. The Department is keeping the social housing assessment provisions under review and in this context will consider what wider discretion might be given to housing authorities to address the individually difficult and complex cases which may present to them”.

We have enquired recently if there is any update on this advice from the Department of Environment, Community and Local Government and have been advised that there has, to date, been no advancement of any proposed changes.

Cllr. M Cahill said that he was very concerned about this matter as regulation discriminates against separated persons with a housing need in accessing social housing supports. In his opinion the Council should use its own discretion in cases where this is an issue.

Cllr. D Healy Rae commented that this was a very important matter as many separated people can only afford a one bed room apartment which does not allow them adequate space to keep their children.

Cllr. P O'Donoghue acknowledged that the requirement that a Deed of Separation be in place in order to determine eligibility for social housing regularly leaves people in a very difficult situation, as it can take a considerable length of time for the Deed of Separation to be processed. A provision in the regulation that a person in need of social housing would be granted rent allowance would help in such cases.

Cllr. T Ferris acknowledged the work of the Housing Department in liaising with Community Welfare Officers.

22. Ask Minister of Social Protection to justify decision to close 11 Community Welfare Clinics in the County.

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

That Kerry County Council write to the Minister for Social Protection to justify her decision to again discriminate against the disadvantaged, particularly in rural Ireland, by closing the 11 Community Welfare Clinics in the County. This action calls into question the use of the term 'clients' when this action will force people often in need of financial assistance to travel long distances to seek help and support.

The following report issued:

Similar motions were moved at the July and October 2013 Council meetings and a reply dated 9th December, from the Department of Social Protection, is included in Correspondence General for December. This reply reads as follows:

"The Department has committed under the government's Pathways to Work Program to providing opportunities, support and assistance to unemployed people by intensifying the Department's level of engagement with them, in particular, those who are, or become, long term unemployed. The new Intreo service offers practical, tailored employment services and supports for jobseekers and this new service model is currently being rolled out across the county.

As part of this process, it has been necessary to review the administration of the community welfare service with the result that a number of clinics have been re-structured. Where the service has been re-structured, alternative arrangements have been put in place to ensure that customers are provided with on-going access to the supports provided by the community welfare service.

The staffing needs for all areas within the department are continuously reviewed, to ensure that the best use is made of all available resources with a view to providing an efficient service to those who rely on the schemes operated by the Department and that the services provided are reconstituted, where necessary, to meet the changing needs of Irish society."

Cllr. M O'Shea acknowledged the Minister's response and said that the recent closure of offices in Milltown & Castlemaine had put huge stress on people living in this catchment area. The Minister should be advised that this system was not working and should be reviewed.

Cllr. J Healy Rae **SECONDED** the notice of motion and said that the most vulnerable people were being effected by the closure of the local offices.

23. New L.E.D. lighting system be fitted in all villages and towns in the county.

Pursuant to notice duly given Cllr. D Healy Rae PROPOSED

To ask that the new L.E.D. lighting system be fitted in all villages and towns in the county beginning with Rathmore and Gneeveguilla.

The following report issued:

The provisions of the EU Directive 2006/32/EC, in particular Part 4, together with the enabling Irish Statutory Instrument S.I. No 542 of 2009 obliges Kerry County Council to reduce its energy consumption by 33% by the year 2020. There are approximately 11,500 public lights across the 4 Local Authorities and to reduce the energy consumption of these lights the Roads Section is actively progressing an ESCO (Energy Services Company) tender which will allow for the complete replacement of our lighting stock with a high energy efficient alternative, and also the maintenance and the energy provision of this lighting stock. This tender process if successful, will allow the replacement of all the public lighting with energy efficient lighting across the entire County to commence in the beginning of 2015.

Cllr. D Healy Rae welcomed this reply and complimented Mr. E Scanlan SEE on his proactive approach to this project. It was a very exciting development for the county and would be cost effective in the long term.

Cllr. J Sheahan welcomed this initiative and asked that the project would commence in rural areas where it is most needed.

Cllr. J Brassil PROPOSED that details of the company which is awarded the tender be forwarded to the members.

The Mayor Cllr. S Fitzgerald SECONDED this proposal.

24. Acquire land for a burial ground in Gneeveguilla Village

Pursuant to notice duly given Cllr. JJ Culloty PROPOSED

That this Council seek to acquire land for a burial ground in Gneeveguilla Village, as the number of remaining spaces, in the existing Graveyard will be used within a short period of time.

The following report issued:

The Council has been in communication at local level in 2013 on the acquisition of a suitable site for the provision of a new cemetery for Gneeveguilla. Discussions are ongoing.

There is ample space for the coming years in the existing cemetery, which is located in the Church grounds and is owned by the Diocese of St Brendan / Kerry.

Cllr. JJ Culloty welcomed the response.

Cllr. D Healy Rae **SECONDED** the notice of motion.

25. Ask Minister for Agriculture, Simon Coveney, TD, to immediately intervene concerning unprecedented penalising of farmers in the Single Farm Payment Scheme,

Pursuant to notice duly given Cllrs. B Cronin & JJ Culloty PROPOSED

To request the Minister for Agriculture, Simon Coveney, TD, to immediately intervene in the unprecedented penalising of farmers in the Single Farm Payment Scheme, this is resulting in severe financial cuts to farm families incomes at a time when they are trying to repay huge bills incurred on their farms last winter.

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

29. Ask the Minister of Agriculture to review the penalty system being used for payments to farmers.

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

To ask the Minister of Agriculture to review the penalty system being used by the Department as many farmers are being penalised 100% and will get no payments for this year. This is leaving many farming families in desperation facing Christmas.

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

Cllr. B Cronin said that in excess of 42,000 letters had been issued to farmers from the Department of Agriculture in connection with penalties with regard to their Single Farm Payment. Land where trees or rushes were growing and where drainage had been carried out was being deducted from the eligible acreage of farms. This was a ridiculous situation given that the country had been submerged in water for most of 2012 and early 2013 which resulted in an unprecedented growth of rushes. Many farmers were suffering severe cuts to their income while trying to repay huge bills incurred on their farms last winter.

Cllr. JJ Culloty supported Cllr. Cronin's views regarding this matter.

Cllr. D Healy Rae said that he was concerned that many farmers would not receive their Single Farm Payment before Christmas. The Minister for Agriculture must acknowledge that the current system is very unfair and must be reviewed.

Cllr. J Healy Rae agreed that a letter on behalf of the members should issue to the Minister for Agriculture regarding this matter as Kerry was one of the counties worst effected by the adverse weather conditions of 2012/2013.

26. Continue same level of support for Kerry Life Skills.

**Pursuant to notice duly given Cllrs. P Connor Scarteen & M Gleeson
PROPOSED**

That Kerry County Council please do not cut their support to Kerry Life Skills so that they can continue to help young people with social, personal and health issues.

The following report issued:

The submission made by Kerry LIFE project will be considered in the context of the preparation of Budget 2014, currently underway.

Cllrs. P Connor Scarteen and M Gleeson asked that the level of support to the Kerry Life Project would be continued.

All the members supported the notice of motion.

28. Funding to improve the road surface on the N 70 from Milltown graveyard to Kennedy's Cross

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

That Kerry County Council ask the NRA to seek funding to improve the road surface on the N 70 particularly from Milltown graveyard to Kennedy's Cross as parts of the road are unraveling.

The following report issued:

The National Roads Authority (NRA) implemented a new system of assessing pavement and minor improvement schemes last year. Schemes are now prioritised nationally by the NRA based on physical test results carried out on the pavement. The section from Milltown graveyard to Kennedy's Cross did not show up as an immediate priority in terms of the test results. In our 2013 Pavement and Minor Works programme we received a design allocation for 5 locations on the National Secondary

Routes. Design work has been carried out on these locations and it is felt that these are the areas that might receive funding for pavement improvements next year. The location between Milltown and Kennedy's Cross is not included in this list and as the National Road Design Office has progress a re-alignment scheme through PART VIII planning for this section of the Ring of Kerry. It is expected that road surfacing funding will not be forthcoming. The Roads Department will endeavour to maintain this section within the maintenance funding received.

Cllr. M O'Shea said that he was very disappointed with this reply as approximately 7,000 vehicles use this road daily which he said was in urgent need of repair. He said that funding should be made available to address the poor quality of the surface of this stretch of road.

Cllr. P O'Donoghue agreed with Cllr. O'Shea and said that serious accidents had occurred on this stretch of road. He asked that the NRA be requested to provide funding for urgent improvements to be carried out.

30. Approval for a deputation from the members and executive of Kerry County Council to the National Roads Authority.

Pursuant to notice duly given the members of the South & West Kerry Area Committee PROPOSED

The members of the South & West Area Committee seek the approval of the Council that the NRA be requested to receive a deputation from the members and executive of Kerry County Council to discuss the improvement works required at a number of locations on the N70, Ring of Kerry road.

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

Mr. J D Flynn Director of Corporate Services/South & West Kerry Area Manager said that this matter had been raised at the last meeting and an invitation to attend a meeting of the South & West Kerry had issued to the NRA. A response received on 31st October 2013 which was circulated to the members at the meeting of the South & West Kerry Area Committee on 22nd November 2013 had advised that the NRA does not, as a matter of policy, attend area meetings in counties. However, they would consider facilitating a deputation from the Local Authority and suggested that this would be organised through the executive which would also be represented in the deputation.

Cllr. PJ Donovan said that this matter had been raised on foot of a notice of motion submitted by him for a previous meeting of the Killorglin Electoral Area Committee concerning the allocation of funding for improvements to a section of the N70 Carhan, Caherciveen which was in very bad condition.

Cllr. P O'Donoghue said that as the request referred to the Ring of Kerry road the delegation should be selected from the members of the South & West Area Committee.

Cllr. P Connor Scarteen said that there were a number of sections of road on the Ring of Kerry which he was concerned about, i.e. the road through Sneem village, a section of road at Tahilla and the road from Castlecove to Caherdaniel.

Cllr. D Healy Rae said that he was disappointed that a representative of the NRA would not attend an area meeting.

It was agreed that the NRA would be asked to receive a delegation from the members and executive of Kerry County Council to discuss this matter.

13.12.16.13 Comhfhreagras – Seimineáir agus Comhdhálachta
Correspondence - Conferences and Seminars

(a) On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. G Wharton Slattery, SECONDED by Cllr. J. Finucane it was agreed to authorise the attendance of Cllrs. B O'Connell, M O'Shea, P O'Donoghue, M Cahill, P Connor Scarteen, D Healy Rae, J Healy Rae, Cronin, Sheahan, & Culloty at the Developing and Supporting Enterprises Locally Esperanza Enterprises to be held in The Connacht Hotel, Dublin Road, Galway, from 10/01/2014 -- 11/01/2014.

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

(b) On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. M Griffin, SECONDED by Cllr. P O'Donoghue it was agreed to authorise the attendance of Cllrs. B O'Connell, R Beasley, P McCarthy, T Buckley, L Purtill, P Leahy, J Brassil, Mayor S Fitzgerald, D Healy Rae, J Healy Rae, & J Finucane at The Building Control Amendment Regulations 2013 Ace Training to be held in Four Seasons Hotel, Carlingford, Louth from 10/01/2014 -- 12/01/2014.

Cllr. R Beasley was nominated to report back to Council on this Conference.

(c) On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. B Cronin, SECONDED by Cllr. P Leahy it was agreed to authorise the attendance of Cllrs. B O'Connell, R Beasley, J Finucane, Mayor S Fitzgerald, T Buckley, B Cronin, L Purtill, P Leahy, J Brassil, PJ Donovan, & J Sheahan at the Councillor and Irish Water - Water Services Bill No 2 2013 Kadenza Consultancies to be held in Mount Errigal Hotel, Letterkenny, Donegal from 17/01/2014 -- 19/01/2014:

Cllr. T Buckley was nominated to report back to Council on this Conference.

(d) On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. J Finucane, SECONDED by Cllr. N Foley it was agreed to authorise the attendance of Cllrs. D Healy Rae & J Healy Rae at the

Valuation Process for Rating Properties - Seminar for Councillors TJK Conferences Ltd to be held in Scotts Limerick, Ashbourne Avenue, South Circular Road, Limerick from 17/01/2014 – 19/01/2014

Cllr. D Healy Rae was nominated to report back to Council on this Conference.

(e) On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. J Finucane, SECONDED by Cllr. N Foley it was agreed to authorise the attendance of Cllrs. R Beasley, P McCarthy, J Finucane, T Buckley, L Purtill, P Leahy, J Brassil, M O'Shea, P O'Donoghue, M Cahill, B Cronin, P Connor Scarteen, PJ Donovan, J Sheahan, G Wharton Slattery, N Foley & Mayor S Fitzgerald, at the LAMA Spring Seminar 2014 to be held in Four Seasons Hotel, Monaghan, Monaghan from 31/01/2014 -- 01/02/2014:

Cllr. P Leahy was nominated to report back to Council on this Conference.

13.12.16.14 Comhfhreagras Ginearálta
Correspondence General

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

1.	Letter dated 19 th November, 2013 from the NRA in relation to the repair of school flashing lights.
2.	Letter dated 20 th November, 2013 from the Department of Social Protection in relation to the closure of local offices for Community Welfare Officers.
3.	Letter dated 22 nd November, 2013 from Irish Water in relation to their engagement with Local Elected Representatives.
4.	Letter dated 3 rd December, 2013 from the Pensions Policy Unit at the Department of Social Protection in relation to State pension provisions.
5.	Letter dated 4 th December, 2013 from the Office of the Minister for Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht in relation to hedge cutting.
6.	Letter dated 9 th December, 2013 from the Office of the Minister for Education & Skills in relation to the provision of resource hours in primary schools for children who have conditions such as Triple A Syndrome.
7.	Letter dated 9 th December, 2013 from the Department of Social Protection in relation to the closure of local offices for Community Welfare Officers.
8.	Letter dated 9 th December, 2013 from the RSA in relation to the standardisation of lanes accessing and exiting all roundabouts in the country.
9.	Letter dated 13 th November, 2013 from Clare County Council in relation to a resolution adopted by that authority calling on the Minister for Transport to extend the derogation period to allow adequate time to resolve the height restriction of 4.65 meters for vehicles using the country's road network.

10.	Letter dated 21 st November, 2013 from Waterford City Council in relation to a resolution adopted by that authority requesting the Government to have a total review of legislation in the area of Anti-Social Behaviour.
11.	Letter dated 27 th November, 2013 from Offaly County Council in relation to a resolution adopted by that authority requesting the Minister for Health to lift the ban on Nurse recruitment.
12.	Letter dated 2 nd December, 2013 from Donegal County Council in relation to a resolution adopted by that authority calling for the Motor Tax Offices to be left with local authorities.
13.	Letter dated 2 nd December, 2013 from Donegal County Council in relation to a resolution adopted by that authority in support of Credit Unions.

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 Frank O'Doherty
- (b) Cllrs. D. Healy-Rae and J. Healy-Rae proposed that a vote of sympathy be extended to the family of the late John O'Shea.
- (c) Cllrs. D. Healy-Rae and J. Healy-Rae proposed that a vote of sympathy be extended to the family of the late Paddy Daly.
- (d) Cllrs. D. Healy-Rae and J. Healy-Rae proposed that a vote of sympathy be extended to the family of the late Liz Riordan.
- (e) Cllrs. D. Healy-Rae and J. Healy-Rae proposed that a vote of sympathy be extended to the family of the late Margaret Carroll.
- (f) Cllrs. M Gleeson and S Counihan proposed that a vote of sympathy be extended to the family of the late Denny A Moynihan.

The meeting concluded at 3.30pm.

Gerard O'Brien
Meetings Administrator

Mayor of Kerry