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**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE MEMBERS OF THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF KILLARNEY HELD IN THE TOWN HALL, KILLARNEY ON WEDNESDAY, 29<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2015.**

**MIONTUAIRISCÍ NA CRUINNITHE DE CHEANTAR BARDASACH CHILL ÁIRNE A THIONÓLADH IN HALLA AN BAILE CHILL ÁIRNE AR AN CHÉADAOGIN 29 IÚIL 2015.**

**PRESENT/I LÁTHAIR**

**Councillors/Comhairleoirí**

**Cllr. B. Cronin  
Cllr. J.J. Culloty  
Cllr. M. Gleeson  
Cllr. D. Grady**

**Cllr. D. Healy-Rae  
Cllr. N. Kelleher  
Cllr. B. O'Connell  
Cllr. J. Sheahan**

**In attendance/i láthair**

<b>Ms. A. McAllen</b>	<b>Delegated Executive for the MD of Killarney</b>
<b>Mr. D. Doyle</b>	<b>Senior Engineer</b>
<b>Mr. P. Neary</b>	<b>Senior Executive Engineer</b>
<b>Ms. B. Reidy</b>	<b>Meetings Administrator</b>
<b>Ms. N. O'Sullivan</b>	<b>Municipal District Officer</b>
<b>Mr. T. Hayes</b>	<b>Head of LEO</b>
<b>Mr. J. Kennelly</b>	<b>SE Water Services</b>
<b>Mr. D. Murphy</b>	<b>SEE Housing Estates Unit</b>
<b>Ms. K. Curtin</b>	<b>AO Housing</b>
<b>Ms. C. Carrigg</b>	<b>Sports Co-ordinator</b>
<b>Ms. B. Mulryan</b>	<b>EE Killarney</b>
<b>Mr. P. Bradley</b>	<b>EE Community Services &amp; Engagement</b>
<b>Mr. C. O'Leary</b>	<b>EE Water Services</b>
<b>Mr. K. O'Halloran</b>	<b>AE Killarney</b>
<b>Mr. B. Mulherne</b>	<b>AE Killarney</b>
<b>Ms. M. Galvin</b>	<b>CO Corporate Affairs</b>

The meeting commenced at 10.10am.

The Cathaoirleach, Cllr. B O'Connell took the Chair

**15.07.29.01(a) Confirmation of the Minutes**

- (a) On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. M. Gleeson, SECONDED by Cllr. B. Cronin, it was agreed that the Minutes of the Special Meeting of the

Members of the Municipal District of Killarney held in the Town Hall, Killarney on 15<sup>th</sup> May 2015 be confirmed.

- (b) On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. M. Gleeson, SECONDED by Cllr. D. Grady, it was agreed that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Municipal District of Killarney held on 27<sup>th</sup> May 2015 be confirmed.
- (c) On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. N. Kelleher, SECONDED by Cllr. J.J. Culloty, it was agreed that the Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Members of the Municipal District of Killarney held in the Council Chamber, County Buildings, Tralee on 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2015 be confirmed.

#### **15.07.29.01(b) Reception of Deputations**

##### **(a) Deputation from Residents of Ballydribeen**

Cllr. J. Sheahan welcomed the deputation from Ballydribeen, Killarney who had come to discuss the many issues pertaining to their estate.

*(Name withheld for data protection purposes. A paper copy of unedited Minutes available on request)* addressed the meeting and said he was grateful to have the opportunity to meet the Elected Members and staff of the Municipal District. Their Residents' Association has been in existence for 4 years and they are involved in activities such as Neighbourhood Watch and clean-ups. Earlier this year they had a meeting with South Kerry Development Partnership which led to the completion of a Community Survey; copies of which were circulated at the meeting. *(Name withheld for data protection purposes. A paper copy of unedited Minutes available on request)* said that there were 6 estates in Ballydribeen, with a total of 230 houses with 1,000 residents. It has the youngest population in Killarney. There are a lot of commercial vehicles in the area and a lot of speeding is taking place. *(Name withheld for data protection purposes. A paper copy of unedited Minutes available on request)* highlighted the need for speed ramps and speed control measures. He said that the Kerry Stars would pay for the ramps and asked if Kerry County Council would give permission for same. He said that a ramp was required in front of Bruach na hAbhann Estate.

*(Name withheld for data protection purposes. A paper copy of unedited Minutes available on request)* also referred to the entrance to the Estate and said it was not suitable for the volumes of traffic. Planning has been granted for further development and Kerry Stars will be locating there which will lead to buses entering the estate. The entrance is not suitable for buses and cyclists. There is a lot of speeding on the Tralee Road. There is a speed camera in place but it is not having the desired effect of slowing down traffic. He asked if a speed indicator sign could be provided further up the hill. He suggested consulting with local groups to discuss these issues.

*(Name withheld for data protection purposes. A paper copy of unedited Minutes available on request)* also said that the community was looking for a community house for the area and he hoped that Kerry County Council would

offer their continued support. He said that Mr. Sean McCarthy of Kerry County Council had offered great assistance in this regard.

*(Name withheld for data protection purposes. A paper copy of unedited Minutes available on request)* referred to Dóirín Aláinn and said that there was very little play area for the children. Space was available but it was beside a road and it would need to be made safe for the children.

A request was also made for the provision of a small gate that would allow safe access to the children to Celtic Park and Legion GAA playing fields. The children are forced to walk on the busy Tralee Road to get to the sports field. The HSE owns the land between their estate and the sports field and permission for the gate would need to be requested from the HSE. *(Name withheld for data protection purposes. A paper copy of unedited Minutes available on request)* suggested that the gate be opened during the day and it could be closed at night.

Cllr. J. Sheahan thanked *(Name withheld for data protection purposes. A paper copy of unedited Minutes available on request)* for his excellent presentation. Cllr. Sheahan agreed that the traffic on the N22 is very fast and motorists are not adhering to the 50km/h restriction. It is very dangerous trying to exit the estate. A flashing light is required to alert motorists to drive slower. Cllr. Sheahan highlighted that when the children are going to school they walk along the footpath and have to cross the road. He asked that a pedestrian crossing be provided 20 ft back from the entrance. He asked that a section of ground be acquired to facilitate this.

Cllr. Sheahan suggested replacing the yield sign at the first junction with a stop sign. He also asked that a speed ramp be provided on the straight section when turning right into Oak Hill.

Cllr. Sheahan referred to the 7ft high railing and asked that an opening in same be allowed to facilitate children who want to access Celtic and Legion playing fields.

Cllr. Sheahan said that the community feel that these issues should be addressed before Kerry Stars move in. Radio Kerry had earlier discussed that there would be a huge increase in traffic due to the proposed development being undertaken. These issues need to be dealt with quickly.

Cllr. B. Cronin welcomed *(Name withheld for data protection purposes. A paper copy of unedited Minutes available on request)* and the Residents' Association and complimented them on their research and their report in which a number of items had been identified. He said that speeding vehicles in estates were a major issue. Finance was needed along with traffic calming measures. Cllr. Cronin requested that the Operations Department would meet with the residents to discuss their concerns and he asked that the speed ramps be installed as soon as possible. Cllr. Cronin agreed that it was chaotic exiting onto the N22 and he supported the call for the installation of speed indicators. He also referred to the provision of a community house and

said he understood Kerry County Council are looking at this in a positive light. Cllr. Cronin also supported the provision of a play area in Doirin Alainn which is a basic requirement.

Cllr. M. Gleeson congratulated the Residents' Association on their report and said that it showed the depth of their commitment to their community. He referred to the survey on "The Sense of Community" contained in their report. The provision of a community house would be great for the community. He said that it was a privilege in life to have good neighbours. Cllr. Gleeson said that no estate should be given existence without a proper play area. Access to Legion and Celtic Pitches should be made readily available. He congratulated the group on their commitment to their community and the presentation of their concerns.

Cllr. D. Grady welcomed the Residents' Association. He referred to the ongoing problems with buses and trucks in the estate. He was aware that the residents in Doirin Alainn had previously complained about buses parking there. Cllr. Grady informed the Committee that if they wished to have speed ramps installed, then they would have to get agreement from 51% of the residents initially. Cllr. Grady agreed that the entrance was not adequate and said he would like to see 5ft - 6ft coming off it but that would entail acquiring extra land for the purpose. He said he would be delighted to see a community house in the estate. He also agreed that a gate to facilitate access to the sports field is badly needed but the HSE have always refused requests for it.

Cllr. D. Healy-Rae welcomed (*Name withheld for data protection purposes. A paper copy of unedited Minutes available on request*) and the deputation. He agreed that the estate entrance was not adequate for the volume of traffic that uses the estate. He requested that Management investigate this as there is not enough sight distance. Cllr. Healy-Rae agreed that speed ramps were a necessity. He called for the support of the Elected Members that the HSE be written to asking that access at certain times of the day to the playing fields be granted and that the gate would be locked at night. In relation to the provision of a community house, Cllr. Healy-Rae suggested that a community hall be built which could have several other uses. He said that for any future developments there, it should be a condition of grant of Planning Permission that the developers build a community hall. He asked that the Planning Department consider this. He thanked the deputation for coming into the meeting with a well presented document.

Cllr. J.J. Culloty welcomed the Residents' Committee and complimented them on their survey which was very direct. Cllr. Culloty noted that the report stated that 80% of residents would be willing to assist with the upkeep of the estate and that was very important. He said a community house could be made user friendly and that a hall would be a bonus. Cllr. Culloty said that the survey showed a commitment by the residents and it was incumbent on the Elected Members and Management to assist the residents as they could not be expected to carry out all the work by themselves. Cllr. Culloty also agreed that a children's play facility should be provided.

Cllr. N. Kelleher welcomed (*Name withheld for data protection purposes. A paper copy of unedited Minutes available on request*) and the Committee. He said that this was one of the best surveys he had seen. Cllr. Kelleher said that a community facility in the short-term would be welcome and perhaps a large one in time. He asked Mr. P. Neary to meet the with the residents and afford every assistance to them.

Cllr. B. O'Connell thanked the deputation for their very professional presentation. He said that the requests made were not unreasonable and he hoped that the Council Engineers would be in a position to accede to them.

Cllr. D. Grady referred to a caravan in the estate that the residents had been waiting 4 years to have removed. He asked that it be taken away.

Mr. P. Neary thanked (*Name withheld for data protection purposes. A paper copy of unedited Minutes available on request*) and the deputation. He agreed to meet with the residents and said that the issues raised are dealt with by different Departments within Kerry County Council. Mr. Neary said that housing estates are now treated differently from when Ballydribeen received planning permission. Pedestrians are now given greater consideration over vehicles. He said that the Council would draw up a design for speed ramps for the whole estate. The provision of these ramps is subject to public consultation and Section 38 of the Roads Act 1994 requires that the drawings be put on public display for a month. The funding of ramps is another matter. Mr. Neary referred to the undeveloped section of the estate and said that if a developer applied for permission within the estate, then funding for ramps could be looked at in the context of a condition of planning. He noted that access to the sports ground was an issue. In relation to the provision of community house, Mr. Neary suggested that an Official from the Housing Department would meet with the residents.

Cllr. J. Sheahan said that the Council was represented on the HSE Forum and suggested that these Councillors raise the issue in relation to gaining access to the sports field.

Cllr. J.J. Culloty agreed to raise the matter with the HSE.

Cllr. D. Healy-Rae asked that the HSE also be written to in this regard.

**(b) Gneeveguilla Community Council**

Cllr. N. Kelleher informed the meeting that the deputation from Gneeveguilla Community Council would not be attending the meeting. The Chairman of the Community Council sent his apologies as this was due to a calendar error. Cllr. Kelleher said that the deputation would attend the Municipal District meeting at a future date.

**15.07.29.01(c) Business prescribed, by Statute, Standing Orders or Resolutions of the Municipal District Members for transaction at such meeting:**

- (a) To agree a nominee to the Board of Kerry Recreation and Sports Partnership

On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. B. Cronin, SECONDED by Cllr. N. Kelleher it was unanimously agreed that Cllr. J.J. Culloty be nominated to the Board of Kerry Recreation and Sports Partnership.

- (b) In accordance with the Local Government Act 2001 (as amended) and having regard to Section 180 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 in relation to the taking in charge of estates, to consider any objections or representations received and the making of an Order declaring the following road to be a public road pursuant to Section 11 (2) (i) of the Roads Act 1993.

Cúl an Bharraigh, Firies - road from its junction with L11045 to all terminal points within the estate Cúl an Bharraigh, Firies **Map 5**

Length of road to be Taken in Charge - 113m

**MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF KILLARNEY/CHEANTAR BARDASACH CHILL  
ÁIRNE  
Report Prepared Pursuant to Section 11 of the Roads Act 1993**

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**Locations of Roads to be Taken In Charge:**

Firies, Co. Kerry - Road from its junction with L11045 to all terminal points within the estate Cul an Bharraigh, Firies, Co. Kerry **Map 5** (serving 16 houses).

Total Length of road to be Taken in Charge: - 113m

**Background:**

Pursuant to ~~the~~ Taking in Charge Policy, adopted by the Council in June 2008 and Memorandum of Understanding and Protocol agreed with Irish Water it is proposed to take this roadway in charge.

**Statutory Procedures:**

In accordance with Section 11(b)(iii) of the Roads Act 1993, a Notice of Intention to declare as a public road, the road in Cul an Bharraigh, Firies, Co. Kerry was published in The Kerryman Newspaper, issue date 29<sup>th</sup> April 2015.

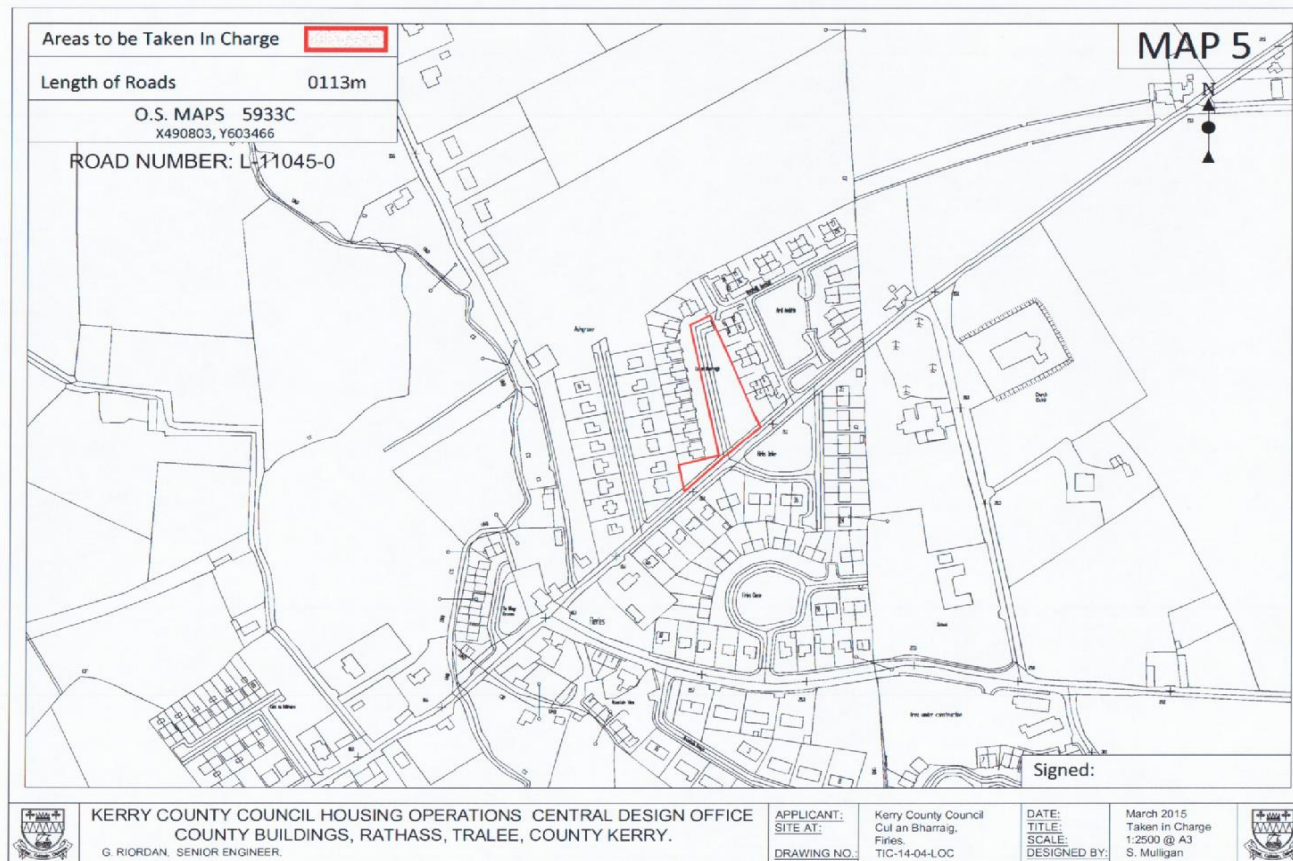
**Persons or Bodies who made objections or observations within the prescribed period:**

No objections or observations were received within the prescribed period.

I recommend that the road be taken in charge.

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David Doyle  
Acting Director of Operations Health & Safety





Mr. D. Doyle referred Members to his Report which was circulated. He briefed them in detail on the report.

On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. B. Cronin, SECONDED by Cllr. J.J. Culloty it was unanimously agreed that Cúl an Bharraigh, Fries be taken in charge by Kerry County Council.

## **15.07.29.02 Job Creation / Sustainable Economic Development Directorate**

### **(a) Presentation by Tomás Hayes on activities of the Local Enterprise Office**

Mr. Tomas Hayes, Head of Local Enterprise circulated copies of his presentation and briefed the members on Kerry Local Enterprise Office (LEO) as follows:

Formerly known as the County Enterprise Board, the Kerry Local Enterprise Office (LEO) as part of Kerry County Council since April, 2014 supports and provides assistance to existing and potential small business promoters located in the Kerry Region. It operates on a Service Level Agreement between Enterprise Ireland and the Local Authority.

It is a local enterprise advisory and support organisation and is the primary resource for those thinking of starting a business and a source of enterprise advice and support for existing small firms. Its primary focus is small businesses which employ up to ten people.

One of the key roles of the LEO is to provide small start up businesses and small businesses looking to expand with exciting networking opportunities. Local companies can attend various local, national and international networking events each year with the objective of raising their profile and making important business contacts.

Its focus is on businesses involved in manufacturing, internationally traded services and innovative local services where no displacement occurs (retail sector is excluded, primary production is excluded). Resources are increasingly focused on training and soft supports.

#### **Types of Support**

- Business Information and Advisory Service
- Enterprise support services (financial supports, training, mentoring, microfinance)
- Entrepreneurship support services (education, seniors, awards)
- Local Enterprise Development Services . Economic Unit.

## **Financial Support**

Kerry Local Enterprise Office provides a range of financial supports to qualifying small businesses based in Kerry employing less than 10 employees. The annual Supports Budget is approximately " 450,000 and a Repayable Grants Fund of " 220,000 is also available.

### **Grants Available for Eligible Businesses**

#### ***Feasibility Studies***

- Maximum 50% of the investment or " 20,000 whichever is the lesser.

#### ***Priming Grants***

- Maximum 50% of the investment or " 150,000 whichever is the lesser. Priming grants are available to micro enterprises within the first 18 months of start up.

#### ***Business Expansion Grants***

- Maximum 50% of the investment or " 150,000 whichever is the lesser. This grant is designed to assist a business in its growth phase after the initial start up period.

#### ***Microfinance Ireland***

- Unsecured loans from " 2,000 to " 25,000 are available from 3 to 5 years for businesses that have been refused credit by a lending institution.

## **Training Supports**

To assist the small business community in meeting the challenges of the business world, Kerry LEO provides a wide range of high quality training supports which are tailored to meet specific business requirements. A confidential advisory service is open to everyone exploring self employment as an option or for those who are currently operating a business.

## **Mentoring Supports**

Mentoring supports are open to both new and existing businesses within the Kerry LEO region. Mr. Hayes said that the Training and Mentoring Supports are currently in very high demand.

## **Business Advice Clinics**

The LEO operates Business Advice Clinics which give people the opportunity to discuss a specific business idea on a one to one basis with a business mentor. One hour appointments are available every month at different locations around the county.

## **Online Trading Vouchers**

Kerry is a pilot area for the introduction of Online Trading Vouchers which are targeted at businesses that have a limited online trading presence, less than ten employees and a turnover less than " 2m.

Applicants must be registered and trading for a minimum of 12 months and the business must be located in one of the pilot areas under this phase of the scheme. Mr. Hayes said that 41 vouchers have been approved to date.

### **Student Enterprise Programme**

Kerry Local Enterprise Office runs Ireland's largest student enterprise programme and a competition called 'The Student Enterprise Awards+'. The programme aims to foster an entrepreneurial environment whereby more young people will consider self employment in the future. The Student Enterprise Awards gives students the opportunity to take a business from idea stage through to generating a profit. The LEO provides educational materials free of charge to secondary schools participating in the programme. Mr. Hayes said that there is a huge interest in the programme and over 200 students are now participating.

### **Ireland's Best Young Entrepreneur**

Any young person aged 30 and under who has a business idea can enter the IBYE Competition. There is a " 50,000 investment fund available from the LEO and an investment fund of " 100,000 nationally for Ireland's best young entrepreneurs.

### **Engagement with Local Councillors**

Mr. Hayes said that the LEO operates an open door policy and welcomes engagement with local councillors and their constituents and both he and Mr. V Sheahan and staff of the LEO are available to discuss any queries.

Cllr. M. Gleeson thanked Mr. Hayes for an excellent presentation. He said Mr. Hayes' commitment was very deep to the overall well-being of Kerry. Cllr. Gleeson referred to some of Kerry's large industries such as Liebherr and Dairymaster and said that there are other such industries out there. There are people with enormous vision, skill and commitment that call Kerry their home and Cllr. Gleeson asked that their commitment to the County would continue.

Cllr. Gleeson also referred to the development of the railway line from Caherciveen to Killorglin. He said that this development would transform the entire Peninsula and he asked that it would be extended from Killorglin to Farranfore. He said that it afforded potential to develop minor industries in conjunction with these trails. A similar project in Mayo has caused a metamorphosis in that region. Small enterprises employing 9 - 10 people are booming in various services such as bicycle shops, hotels, restaurants, etc. 144,000 people have cycled the Great Western Greenway in Mayo. There is enormous potential to develop this type of tourism in Kerry.

Cllr. Gleeson made reference to the Sara Lee building in Killarney which is lying idle and said it diminishes the approach to the town. He asked that it would be developed into units to serve the community.

Cllr. D. Grady said that Kerry County Council was lucky to have Mr. Hayes in their employ. His presentation gave a good insight into what is happening in

the County. He complimented Mr. Hayes on the wonderful work he is doing. Cllr. Grady referred to the Sara Lee building and said that it should be a priority for the new Council to look at options to develop this facility. He was encouraged to see the LEO Office providing support to people who have good ideas.

Cllr. B. Cronin welcomed Mr. Hayes and thanked him for his comprehensive presentation. Cllr. Cronin said it was clear to see Mr. Hayes had helped and assisted people in developing small businesses by providing excellent advice and guidance. He referred to the Kerry Food Hub in Fries which is a great project. He noted that 5,410 businesses employ less than 10 people in the County but more employment is needed in Kerry. In relation to the Sara Lee property, Cllr. Cronin said that it should be utilised. It would be a huge undertaking but could be a huge success.

Cllr. N. Kelleher thanked Mr. Hayes for his presentation which he said was very informative. He said this may assist the Elected Members bringing more employment opportunities to the attention of the LEO Office. Cllr. Kelleher said that he had dealings with the LEO Office through his work with companies and a lot of assistance was received for which he was grateful. Cllr. Kelleher said that the remit of the LEO Office should be broadened as their remit is to assist small businesses with up to 10 employees only and this is very restrictive. He asked Mr. Hayes to liaise with Enterprise Ireland on the matter. Cllr. Kelleher referred to Kerry Technology and Innovation Centre of which he was a previous tenant. These units that he rented are now full again which is testament to the success of the facility. However, Killarney needs more facilities like this. In relation to the Sara Lee facility, Cllr. Kelleher said that such a project requires someone to take ownership and leadership of it. He called on the Chief Executive to form a Committee to explore options to develop it and he suggested that Mr. Frank Murphy, CEO, Monex could assist. A bold move is required to develop this site. There are four roads around this building which provide excellent access.

Cllr. D. Healy-Rae referred to the LEO Office which is only permitted to assist small operators with a staff of less than 10. He pointed out that a business with just over 10 employees is still a small business and these people need assistance too. Cllr. Healy-Rae said that he supported the development of the Sara Lee facility which is in an excellent location. Cllr. Healy-Rae said more was needed to be done for villages in Kerry. Some are nearly derelict since the Post Offices and Garda Stations were closed and their identity is being lost. The Tidy Towns Committees in these places do their best to maintain the streetscapes. He said the Council should try to encourage businesses back to these villages. There are many villages in Kerry that are suffering due to emigration. Sneem, for example once had two football teams and now they are struggling to field one team. It is an indication of what is happening as people are moving abroad to get work. He thanked Mr. Hayes for his great work over the years.

Cllr. J.J. Culloty said that Mr. Hayes' commitment is well known. He said that any progress made in Kerry is as a result of doing it for ourselves. He wished Mr. Hayes continued success.

Mr. T. Hayes said that his office would be moving into County Buildings in the next couple of weeks. Everyone is an ambassador for the County and the LEO staff are willing to assist in any way they can.

Ms. A. McAllen thanked Mr. Hayes for his presentation and said that the Enterprise Department is very committed to the County as a whole.

#### **(b) Notices of Motion**

**1. Cllr. M. Gleeson:** That the Council would provide an update on the situation regarding the development of the very important Walkway cum Cycleway from Ross Road to Muckross road, partially along the banks of the River Flesk.

**Reply:** The matter is being investigated and the Elected Members will be updated in due course in this regard.

**Cllr. M. Gleeson said the provision of a walkway cum cycleway would offer huge potential and enrich the town. The Council must act promptly to bring this project to fruition or it will fall by the wayside.**

#### **(c) Questions**

**1. Cllr. J. Sheahan:** When will the downhill cycle track at Glenflesk be delivered?

**Reply:** Final legal agreements are being negotiated at present between all the parties involved in this development. The final stages of the project, changing facilities and car parks are presently at tender in anticipation of the final agreements.

**Cllr. J. Sheahan noted the reply.**

### **15.07.29.03 Sustainable Communities / Quality of Life Directorate**

#### **(a) To note update report from the Sustainable Communities / Quality of Life Directorate**

It was agreed to note the following Report from Mr. J. Breen, Director of Sustainable Communities / Quality of Life Directorate which was circulated:

### **REPORT**

## **SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES /QUALITY OF LIFE DIRECTORATE**

### **Killarney Municipal District MEETING**

**July 2015**

#### **Community Services and Engagement Report**

***Business Unit Manager – Mr. Michael Scannell, Senior Executive Officer***

#### **Kerry Public Participation Network.**

The Public Participation Network has continued to work on the public consultation surrounding the Local Economic & Community Plan and also the Library Strategy for the county. Details have emerged of funding assistance for the development of the PPN nationally.

#### **Community Support Fund.**

Letters have issued to all groups who submitted applications under the community support fund. Successful applicants have been advised of the documentation required to draw down the funding. The requirements vary in relation to the size and type of project or programme. Late applications will be examined and brought to the September meeting for consideration by the members. The available funding is very limited at this point.

#### **Local Economic & Community Plan**

The preparation of the LECP is advancing with the completion of economic profile for the county. The first phase of public consultation has concluded with public meetings being held through the PPN in each of the Municipal Districts. There has also been a series of stakeholder engagements with the various community organisations, including individual organisations and a significant gathering in the meadowlands hotel on the 17<sup>th</sup> June, where over sixty representatives of groups attended. While the public phase of the consultation has concluded the stakeholder engagement will continue with both the community and commercial groups throughout the county. The plan will be considered by each Municipal district at their September meeting.

#### **Pride of Place**

The IPB Pride of Place competition is in its 13<sup>th</sup> year. Communities are nominated by Kerry County Council in conjunction with the Kerry Community Awards to represent Co Kerry in this all island competition. The Pride of Place competition recognises the work being done to create communities that are vibrant, creative, caring and good places to live. In nominating a community an opportunity is given to Kerry County Council to recognise the good work being carried out by the community locally and the cooperation that exists.

There are various categories. Kerry Traveller Community Health Initiative is the entry under %Community Health Initiative+and the Kerry Diocesan Youth Service is the entry under %Young People in the Community Initiative.+  
Adjudication takes place on 31<sup>st</sup> August and September 1<sup>st</sup> 2015.

## **Housing/Social Services Report**

**Business Unit Manager** – Ms. Kathleen Moriarty, Senior Executive Officer

### **2015 Allocation for Housing Adaptation Grants for Older People and People with a Disability**

The Council has received notification from DOECLG of the 2015 Allocation for Housing Adaptation Grants for Older People and People with a Disability Grant Scheme of " 1,788,778 of which " 357,756 is to be provided from our own resources.

The Council is continuing to allocate grants in accordance with our Priority Scheme.

### **Tenant Purchase Scheme**

The Council has been advised by the DOECLG that in accordance with the commitment in the Social Housing Strategy 2020 that it intends to introduce in the coming months a tenant purchase scheme for existing local authority houses under Part 3 of the Housing (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 2014. This Scheme will be modelled along similar lines to the incremental tenant purchase scheme. We await commencement of this Part of the Act.

### **Energy Efficiency Insulation**

The Council has been advised of the 2015 funding allocation of " 507,374 for energy efficiency insulation works to local authority houses.

### **Returning Vacant Housing Properties to Productive Use**

The Council has received notification of " 905,230 for 53 units under the above programme for 2015. The aim of this programme is to return vacant properties to productive use and we are currently advancing works under the scheme in order to re-let houses.

## **Emergency Services Report**

**Business Unit Manager** – Mr. Vincent Hussey, A/Chief Fire Officer

### **Operation of the Fire Brigade Service:**

- There were 624 incidents up to the end of June 2015 compared to 552 incidents for the same period in 2014.
- The number of gorse fires was 209 up to the end of June 2015, compared with 75 for the same period last year. This is a significant

increase in this type of incident. This will have a consequent negative impact on the Fire Service Operations budget for 2015.

- The number of chimney fires was 89 up to the end of June 2015, compared with 72 for the same period last year.
- The number of Road traffic collisions in the county was 65 up to the end of June 2015, compared with 80 for the same period last year.
- We sent three officers on a Manual Handling Instructor Course.

### **Major Emergency Management**

- The Q2 meeting of the Regional Steering Group was held on the 30<sup>th</sup> June.

### **Fire Safety and Prevention:**

- Fire Officers continued to provide the Courts with recommendations in respect of any licencing applications notified to the Fire Service.
- Fire Officers continued with premises inspections as required.
- EVENT : The Fire Service had involvement at several meetings in connection with the Killarney Music & Food Festival Event which was subject to licence and was to be held in the National Park Killarney. The Fire department issued recommendations as part of the granted Event Licence. Subsequently the Fire Service attended a meeting held at Killarney Racecourse when the organisers attempted to move the proposed Event there. In the end the organisers did not proceed with holding this Event.

### **Building Control:**

- 181 Commencement Notices were received up to the end of June 2015.
- The number of Disability Access Certificate applications received was 43 for the same period.
- A total of 64 Fire Safety Certificate applications were received.

### **Civil Defence:**

- **Training;**
- Completed the Fire Service Re-Certification Course in Emergency First Responders . 16 x Students
- Completed Manual Handling Training for Local Authority staff.
- Emergency Medical Technician Training for CPC as required by PHECC.
- Search And Rescue Training with Exercise.
- Welfare Training in kitchen management.



- Auxiliary Fire Service training in Pontoon modular assignments.
- **Duties:**
  - Coolick NS Charity Event; 2 x Ambulances
  - Special Olympics Duty at Castleisland 1 x Ambulance
  - BOI Blue Box Challenge a 6 day Charity event; 1 x Ambulance each day
  - Currow cycling Club; 1 x Ambulance
  - County Fleadh Cheoil at Caherciveen; 1 x Ambulance & 1 x Jeep
  - Keel GAA Club; 1 x Ambulance
  - Skellig Rangers Ladies Football Teams Blitz; 1 x Ambulance

#### **Other Civil Defence**

Attended various meetings for upcoming community events; Ring of Kerry Cycle, Killarney Music & Food Festival, Fleadh Cheoils, etc. The purpose of these meetings for community events is to discuss safety plans and medical plans for a safer and documented event.

### **Environmental Protection Services Report**

**Business Unit Manager – Mr. Liam Quinlan, Senior Executive Officer**

#### **Blue Flag Awards 2015**

The international Blue Flag Award recipients were announced by the Minister Alan Kelly on 28<sup>th</sup> May on Ballinskelligs beach. With Kerry being awarded 13 Blue Flags and Béal Bán retaining its Green Coast award.

#### **New Waste Management (Regulations)**

The **Waste Management (Collection Permit) (Amendment) Regulations 2015** which came into force from 1<sup>st</sup> June 2015 imposes significant new obligations on Kerbside Waste Collectors from 1<sup>st</sup> July 2015 i.e. use of weighing mechanisms, specified reusable receptacles, provision of recyclable collection services & the preparation of a customer charter and monthly statements to customers of the weight of waste presented for disposal.

Inspections of the waste collection operators in the Municipal District have been carried out to ensure compliance with the regulations. All waste collection permits for household waste collectors are currently being reviewed and the required changes as per the new legislation are being included in reviewed permits. A requirement is also being included that on-board weighing mechanisms must meet certain specified legal metrology criteria and must be certified for use by the NSAI. Guidance on this has been provided by the DECLG.

## **Other Environmental Awareness Initiatives**

### **Green Flag Awards**

The Green Flag Awards for Kerry Schools took place in Cork on May 26<sup>th</sup>. Flag raising ceremonies took place in each of the schools before they broke up for Summer Holidays. Schools generally make a community occasion of the event and invite local representatives to attend.

A Teachers' Summer Course with An Taisce was held in Killarney from July 1<sup>st</sup> - 7<sup>th</sup>. This was by way of extra information to Teachers who may be undertaking the Green Flag Award for their school in the coming school year. The course covered Waste/Litter, Energy, Water, Biodiversity and Sustainable Travel.

### **Tidy Towns Groups**

We have worked with Tidy Town groups in the last few months to help them submit their applications. There is ongoing contact with Tidy Town Group in the Killarney with many clean ups been undertaken in the district this year.

### **Other initiatives**

The Anti-Gum Litter campaign, nationally coordinated by IBEC and implemented on the ground by Kerry County Council took place in Tralee on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> July. Monitoring will take place until end of September.

We are currently working with a number of caravan, holiday home centres and camping sites in Kerry, including one in Killarney, with a view to reducing their waste and increase recycling figures. This is an EPA funded project under the Local Authority Prevention Network (LAPN). A number of initiatives which will hopefully reduce food waste and increase recycling will be put in place.

## **Library Service Report**

***Business Unit Manager – Mr. Tommy O'Connor, Co. Librarian***

***Business Unit Manager – Tommy O'Connor, Co. Librarian***

### ***Library service:***

" Public consultations have been completed with regard to the Library Development Plan which will cover the years 2015 - 2019. Draft Plan currently in preparation.

" Each year Kerry Library runs summer reading programmes for primary school children to promote literacy development when schools are closed and

to encourage non readers to engage with books. This year, Kerry is participating in a new national pilot initiative, supported by the LGMA (Libraries Development) with 13 other local authority libraries.

The Reading Challenge will run during the summer from 20 June . 22 August. Each child will receive a challenge card and will be encouraged to read 6 books from the available selection (fiction and non-fiction). All libraries, including Castleisland & Killarney are participating. On completion each child will be presented with a reading certificate and library bag at a local library awards ceremony in September. The challenge will also include an interactive website where participants can play related themed games, review books, communicate with selected authors at: <http://www.librariesireland.ie/summer-reading-adventure/>

~ Forthcoming events at Killarney & Castleisland Libraries:

1. Mentoring for writers with Máire Holmes, Kerry County Council Writer in Residence, Castleisland Library, Friday, 24 July 2015, 10.00 am - 5.00 pm. Contact (066) 7183782 for an appointment.

**2. National Learning Network Advice Clinic**

Killarney Library Tuesday, 18 August, 11.00am . 1.00pm Contact: Killarney Library (064) 6632655 E-mail: [killarney@kerrylibrary.ie](mailto:killarney@kerrylibrary.ie)

**3. Heritage Week historical lectures**

Killarney Library, Tuesday, 25 August, 7.00p.m. (i) Introduction to the local industry and trades of Killarney (ii) The tourism industry in Killarney.

**John Breen**  
**Director of Services**  
**Sustainable Communities /Quality of Life**

## Social Housing Activity Report as at July 2015 Killarney Municipal Area (K.M.A.)

### Social Housing Applicants (Year to Date Position)

Accommodation offers made for property located within Municipal Area	10
New Tenancies Commenced	6
Accommodation refusals	1

### Social Houses

#### **Vacant properties within Municipal Area**

Under Repair (Excl those awaiting major refurbishment)	9
Awaiting Allocation	3

#### **Construction Programme**

Single Rural Dwellings - under construction	1
Single Rural Dwellings -Tender Stage	0
Extensions - applications on hands	7
Extensions - under construction	0

### Rental Accommodation Scheme

	<u>County</u>	<u>K.M.A.</u>
Total Active Tenancies	853	200
New tenancies in 2015	74	25
Tenancies terminated in 2015	28	4

### Leasing

	<u>County</u>	<u>K.M.A.</u>
Leased Properties	88	20
Leases under negotiation	11	2

### Housing Adaptation Grants (County Wide)

	<u>No.</u>	<u>"</u>
2015 Allocation		1.789m
New Grants Allocated 2015	159	0.915m
Total 2015 Commitment	177	1.085m
Grants Paid	33	0.410m

**(b) Presentation by Cora Carrigg on the Kerry Recreation and Sports Partnership**

Ms. C. Carrigg, Sports Co-ordinator thanked the members for their time and said the purpose of the presentation was to seek a nominee from the members of the Municipal District of Killarney to represent the Municipal District on the Board of Kerry Recreation and Sports Partnership.

The Irish Sports Council is a network developed to create a national structure to co-ordinate and promote the development of sport at local level. The National Network of Local Sports Partnerships is made up of 30 Partnerships nationally, 20 of which are situated within the Local Authority sector.

A Local Sports Partnership is a strategic collaboration among parties from various sectors with a view to combining resources and competencies, sharing responsibilities, benefits and risks in working towards the increased participation in sport and physical activity in the Local Authority area/County.

The Kerry Recreation and Sports Partnership was established in 2001. It is a sub committee under the auspices of Kerry County Development Board/LCDC and is funded by the Irish Sports Council and partner agencies.

**Local** . All of Kerry  
**Sports** . All forms/levels of physical activity & recreation.  
**Partnership** - Consultation & shared delivery

The three main objectives of the KRSP Strategic Plan are PARTICIPATION, PARTNERSHIP & PROFILE.

**PARTICIPATION:** facilitate increased opportunities for participation in sport and participation in our county as per our target groups . e.g. Swim for all and parkrun.

**PARTNERSHIP:** build on and create new and strong partnerships. e.g. Scoil Ghníomhach.

**PROFILE:** raise the profile of sport and participation in the county and workings of the Partnership. e.g. education and training, participation events - lets get Kerry Walking

**Strength & Growth**

- Board/Agency Expansion
  - Target Group Representation
  - Programme Roll Out Assistance
- Meet Frequency
  - Board 1 per Q = 4(max 6 total)
  - Executive 1 per Q = 4
- Councillor Representation
  - Municipal Districts

- Community Needs
- Skills & Knowledge & Action v Voice
- Acknowledge Council Support.

Exercise is the best preventative drug we have . and everybody ought to consider taking that medicine

The presentation included a short video reflecting sports related activities facilitated by Kerry Recreation and Sports Partnership.

On behalf of the members Cathaoirleach B. O'Connell thanked Ms. Carrigg for attending the meeting and for her very informative presentation.

### **(c) Notices of Motion**

**1. Cllr. B. Cronin:** What is the current situation with the acquisition of lands for a new public cemetery for Killarney.

**Reply:** The Council are presently investigating the purchase of lands for a graveyard subject to the appropriate technical surveys. Suitable lands have been identified proximate to the town and technical assessments have been carried out. We have identified a preferred option which meets this criteria. We will advise members at the September meeting or earlier if discussions are concluded.

**Cllr. B. Cronin said that he has had this Notice of Motion on the Agenda for 16 years. Last November he requested an emergency meeting to discuss the issue. A number of options had been identified and Kerry County Council gave a commitment to try to secure a suitable site for a burial ground. Cllr. Cronin had given the name of a landowner who would be willing to talk to the Council. The Council had given a commitment that action would be taken as soon as possible to examine all options. Members were informed that discussions were taking place. Cllr. Cronin said that by chance he met the landowner in question who informed him that on 31<sup>st</sup> March trial holes were bored on his land. However the Council had not contacted him in the intervening months. Cllr. Cronin said that negotiations were between the landowner and the Local Authority but he wanted to ensure it was brought to a successful conclusion.**

**On 27<sup>th</sup> May, Cllr. Cronin said that he was informed in a reply to his Notice of Motion that: *"Negotiations are ongoing regarding the acquisition of a new cemetery for Killarney and we expect to be in a position to conclude the negotiations shortly."***

**Cllr. Cronin said that no official from the Local Authority made any contact with the landowner in the intervening period and there is now an urgent need to provide additional grave spaces in Killarney. Cllr. Cronin said that he had been misled in May by the Council's response and he**

passed that information onto the public. However the Local Authority has not progressed this matter in the past 4 months and that is not good enough.

On 20<sup>th</sup> July, a local undertaker sent another letter to the Chief Executive where they again highlighted the crisis situation. They claimed there are now 5 double plots remaining and they will have to move to the left hand side of the boundary. Cllr. Cronin said that from the undertakers' experience, the whole area is pencil stone and this was a major issue from a health and safety and environmental point of view. Council officials must realise that people have to walk and carry coffins between headstones causing huge concern for undertakers and families. Also elderly people need to access family graves. Nothing has been done and the matter has not progressed with any element of urgency. O'Shea's Undertakers have said there are cost implications involved in excavating graves through the pencil stone. This rock has to be broken up with a rock breaker which has the potential to cause damage to adjacent headstones and concrete surrounds. O'Shea's claim *"Kerry County Council do not seem to grasp the enormity of the problem and seem to be lacking greatly in empathy for the bereaved people of Killarney"*. Cllr. Cronin said the Council were not taking their concerns seriously. He again asked why nothing was done in the past 4 months and he asked that the matter would be resolved immediately. He referred to the proposal to carry out rock excavation and recommended that all 8 Councillors in the Killarney MD be informed of what is being proposed and that a guarantee would be given by the Council that if any cracks are caused to adjoining headstones the Council would take full responsibility for same. He said that the space available would be very tight for heavy machinery to work.

**Cllr. J.J. Culloty then moved Question No. 4.**

**Q4. Cllr. J.J. Culloty:** What is the current situation regarding the purchase of land for a burial ground in Killarney?

**Reply:** The Council are presently investigating the purchase of lands for a graveyard subject to the appropriate technical surveys. Suitable lands have been identified proximate to the town and technical assessments have been carried out. We have identified a preferred option which meets this criteria. We will advise members at the September meeting or earlier if discussions are concluded.

**Cllr. J.J. Culloty said that the people of Killarney are very frustrated and they should be informed of the current position.**

**Cllr. N. Kelleher then moved Question No. 7.**

**Q7. Cllr. N. Kelleher:** What is the position with acquiring a graveyard for Killarney.

**Reply:** The Council are presently investigating the purchase of lands for a graveyard subject to the appropriate technical surveys. Suitable lands have been identified proximate to the town and technical assessments have been carried out. We have identified a preferred option which meets this criteria. We will advise members at the September meeting or earlier if discussions are concluded.

**Cllr. N. Kelleher said that as Elected Members, they wanted to see this matter brought to a successful conclusion. There are options on the table and he asked if the Council were in a position to finalise matters. He said that there are willing vendors and the Council is a willing purchaser.**

**Cllr. J. Sheahan then moved Question No. 2 at this stage.**

**Q2. Cllr. J. Sheahan:** That Kerry County Council give an update regarding the purchase of grounds for a graveyard in Killarney.

**Reply:** The Council are presently investigating the purchase of lands for a graveyard subject to the appropriate technical surveys. Suitable lands have been identified proximate to the town and technical assessments have been carried out. We have identified a preferred option which meets this criteria. We will advise members at the September meeting or earlier if discussions are concluded.

**Cllr. J. Sheahan said that he wanted this matter sorted sooner rather than later.**

**Cllr. D. Healy-Rae said that it will take 2 years before a new burial ground is ready as planning and other matters would have to be addressed. Burial spaces are needed in the interim. He requested the previous Town Manager, Mr. John Breen to provide funding to Mr. P. Bradley to ensure grave spaces are provided in the interim and he asked if this would happen. There is ample space available on HSE lands at St. Finan's.**

**Cllr. D. Grady said this matter has been ongoing for years. Funding for the provision of a new burial ground was ringfenced in 2014 by Killarney Town Council. He was very concerned to hear that rock would have to be broken to provide extra space in Aghadoe. Cllr. Grady stated he would be contacting the Ombudsman in the next 2 months to establish what is happening in Aghadoe.**

**Cllr. M. Gleeson said this was a "grave crisis". He proposed a Notice of Motion regarding a land exchange with the National Parks and Wildlife Service to which no reply was received. People deserve respect in life and death. He asked Officials to sort out the matter forthwith or they would be dealing with pickets and marches. Cllr. Gleeson expressed concern at this total impasse.**



**Mr. P. Bradley** said the pencil stone would be very easy to excavate and he confirmed that individuals would not have to employ rock breakers. The area would be bulk excavated prior to any burials by the Council. **Mr. Bradley** confirmed there are 20 plots still available at the top of the graveyard.

**Mr. P. Neary** confirmed that the excavation would take place in the next 4 - 6 weeks. The Council were awaiting a track machine to carry out the work and confirmed that the works would be carried out sensitively.

**Cllr. N. Kelleher** said members were informed at the November Meeting that there were 100 available spaces and he asked how many graves remain now.

**Mr. P. Bradley** confirmed that 54 of those 100 spaces had now been used.

**Ms. A. McAllen** acknowledged the frustration of the Members and the public. The provision of a burial ground in Killarney has been an issue for a long time. She agreed that prompt decisions would have to be made. She said that progress was made on the site acquisition. Site maps were compiled and trial holes had been dug. She confirmed that this was an immediate priority for the Chief Executive and Senior Management Team of Kerry County Council who had discussed the issue. Various options regarding design and layout and also the adjoining properties were considered. **Ms. McAllen** stated that she took this matter very seriously and she had great empathy for the people of Killarney. She gave her personal assurance that she would give the matter priority.

**Cllr. D. Healy-Rae** asked if the HSE had been approached in relation to the lands at St. Finans.

**Mr. D. Doyle** said that an approach had been made to the HSE a number of years ago. The HSE should now be contacted to again establish if they are willing to sell a portion of this land for a burial ground.

It was agreed to write to the HSE again on this matter.

**Cllr. M. Gleeson** asked that the Members receive progress updates so that they are kept informed on any progress.

**2. Cllr. B. Cronin:** To ask Kerry County Council to construct new public toilets adjacent to Fair Hill Carpark and when will the public toilets at High Street be upgraded for disabled access.

**Reply:** The toilets at Fair Hill were removed due to the fact that they were beyond repair and were a safety hazard to the public.

Killarney has a number of public toilets located at the Ha Ha ,New Street Car Park and High Street Car Park and the Town Park. This compares very favourably with other towns.

The toilets at the Ha Ha are located close to the Fair Hill Car Park site. Kerry County Council will provide increased signage at this location directing people to the public convenience at the Ha Ha.

A design and cost estimate will be prepared for the provision of disabled access to the toilets at High Street. These works will be considered for inclusion in the 2016 budget / works programme.

**Cllr. B. Cronin said that in Killarney that day there were 20,000 - 25,000 people. The nearest toilet for a person with a disability would be at the Outlet Centre which would entail the person having to manoeuvre across the road, go to the rear of the premises and take a lift upstairs. Alternatively, the person would have to access toilets in a hotel or restaurant. He asked that this matter be revisited. Killarney is a major tourist town with buses dropping people off at this location. Cllr. Cronin welcomed the response in relation to the proposed upgrading of the facilities at High Street.**

**Cllr. D. Healy-Rae Seconded the Motion. He sought approval for the reception of a deputation at the next meeting in relation to this matter. The reply was not the same as the one he received at a previous meeting.**

**3. Cllr. J. Sheahan:** To ask Kerry County Council when works are to commence on the new boundary wall at the Old Kilcummin Burial Ground.

**Reply:** Kerry County Council expects to commence work on the new boundary wall in the first quarter of 2016.

**Cllr. J. Sheahan said the Council faces a continual issue trying to acquire land for burial grounds and we now have a situation where a man is donating land but it is being delayed. This person was extremely generous to donate his land to the Council and there should be no further delays. Cllr. Sheahan asked that this work would commence in 2015.**

**Cllr. B. Cronin Seconded the Motion and said huge generosity was afforded to the Council by this person who was donating his land.**

**Mr. P. Bradley confirmed that once the legalities were completed with the land purchase, the work would be completed as soon as possible.**

**4. Cllr. D. Healy-Rae:** To ask the Burial Grounds Section for funding to surface the road to Kilquane Burial Ground.

**Reply:** The road to Kilquane Burial Ground is currently surface dressed and is mostly in good condition. Kerry County Council will carry out some minor improvement works to this road.

**Cllr. D. Healy-Rae asked that the Burial Ground Department look at this matter again. He received numerous calls from the public about the state of this road.**

**Mr. P. Bradley undertook to meet with Cllr. Healy-Rae at this location.**

**5. Cllr. J.J. Culloty:** As there are almost 2,000 qualified housing applicants seeking social housing in the Killarney Municipal District, I call on this Council to urgently begin the construction of the 20 houses proposed at Park, Killarney. It has previously been indicated by this Council that the construction of these houses will commence in the third quarter of this year. Please confirm that this starting time remains.

**Reply:** All new publicly funded construction projects must follow the Capital Works Management Framework (CWMF) as required by the Department of Finance. There are 4 stages which must be submitted to the DoECLG for evaluation and approval. Stage 1 for 20 houses at Park, Killarney was approved in May 2015. The Council applied and received approval to complete detail design (stage 2) for this scheme in June 2015. We have now applied to the DoECLG to proceed to stage 3 . approval of detail design, pre-tender cost check and approval to proceed to tender. We are ready to tender on receipt of DoECLG stage 3 approval. If stage 3 is approved immediately we estimate tenders will be returned by end of August, 2015 at the earliest. Stage 4 involves a review of the tender returns by the DoECLG in advance of us awarding the contract. The construction commencement date is therefore dependent on DoECLG stage 4 approval and the Contractor's compliance on pre-contract requirements . tax clearance, necessary insurances, H & S, Construction Bond etc.

**Cllr. J.J. Culloty said that the reply was very vague. He asked when would Stage 3 commence.**

**Ms. K. Curtin said that it was anticipated that the work will commence at the end of October / start of November and it was hoped the work would completed in 18 months.**

**6. Cllr. D. Grady:** That this Council would look at rent arrears in respect of local authority tenants in Killarney, who were formerly Killarney Town Council tenants and now Kerry County Council tenants, as an additional week's rent is being sought from them which they have already paid when taking up tenancy of the house.

**Reply:** In accordance with the Tenancy Agreement that was signed by each tenant at the commencement of their tenancy and which is in place throughout the entire County, rent must be paid, weekly, in advance. Tenants who have paid this week in advance at the commencement of their tenancy

are not being asked to pay an additional week. Only those tenants who have fallen into arrears are being followed up for payment. The Housing Department is always available to meet with tenants who are experiencing difficulties with paying their current rent or have fallen into arrears.

**Cllr. D. Grady said that people had started their tenancy 20 years ago. He asked how any Council would allow tenants into a house if their rent was not paid in advance. He knew one lady who has been threatened with eviction over the non-payment of €200. He said that it was not acceptable for the Council to threaten eviction. He was not happy with the Council's response and he believed these tenants had paid the rent that was due.**

**Ms. K. Curtin said that all tenants are asked to pay rent a week in advance. If tenants have arrears of more than 3 weeks, the Council writes to them. She confirmed that under no circumstances would letters issue to tenants threatening to evict them for non payment of €200. Ms. Curtin said she would be willing to talk to any tenant in arrears.**

**Cllr. Grady said he would discuss the issue with Ms. Curtin and would show her the letter that the tenant received.**

**7. Cllr. N. Kelleher:** What is the up to date position with acquiring the much needed extension to the graveyard in Gneeveguilla together with parking around or near the church.

**Reply:** The Council has been in communication recently at a local level on the acquisition of a suitable site for the provision of a new cemetery for Gneeveguilla. Discussion is ongoing. Kerry County Council estimate that based on current usage, that this Cemetery will have grave spaces remaining for at least 6 more years.

Kerry County Council has met the new Parish Priest for Gneeveguilla and will be liaising closely with him regarding parking and extending the existing graveyard, which is the property of the Catholic Church.

**Cllr. N. Kelleher thanked the Council for their efforts in progressing this matter. The deputation that was due to attend that meeting would attend at a later date. He did not agree that there were grave spaces for a further 6 years still available but said that the matter needs to be progressed to the next level to ensure a successful outcome. There are two adjoining landowners and if that is not successful the only option will be to acquire a green field site. In relation to the parking issue, Cllr. Kelleher said that coming from the Knocknagree side, it was impossible to get to the Church.**

**Cllr. J. Sheahan then moved Question No 3.**

**Q3. Cllr. J. Sheahan:** That Kerry County Council give an update regarding the purchase of a burial ground in Gneeveguilla.

**Reply:** The Council has been in communication recently at a local level on the acquisition of a suitable site for the provision of a new cemetery for Gneeveguilla. Discussion is ongoing. Kerry County Council estimate that based on current usage, that this Cemetery will have grave spaces remaining for at least 6 more years.

Kerry County Council has met the new Parish Priest for Gneeveguilla and will be liaising closely with him regarding parking and extending the existing graveyard, which is the property of the Catholic Church.

**Cllr. J. Sheahan hoped for a positive outcome in relation to the matter. He said it was incumbent on Kerry County Council to pursue the issue.**

**Cllr. D. Healy-Rae then moved Question No 5.**

**5. Cllr. D. Healy-Rae:** To ask has any progress been made with the acquisition of extra graveyard space and car parking space for the people of Gneeveguilla?

**Reply:** The Council has been in communication recently at a local level on the acquisition of a suitable site for the provision of a new cemetery for Gneeveguilla. Discussion is ongoing. Kerry County Council estimate that based on current usage, that this Cemetery will have grave spaces remaining for at least 6 more years.

Kerry County Council has met the new parish priest for Gneeveguilla and will be liaising closely with him regarding parking and extending the existing graveyard, which is the property of the Catholic Church.

**Cllr. D. Healy-Rae said that this was going on for a long time. In relation to the parking issue, Cllr. Healy-Rae hoped that a resolution could be found as soon as possible.**

### **(c) Questions**

**1. Cllr. M. Gleeson:** To ask if some houses in Council ownership have asbestos flue liners in either the house chimneys or in the central heating chimney, where such exists, and if so does its/their presence pose any health threat to residents?

**Reply:** Material containing asbestos was used in construction products from the 1960s to the mid 1980s. The most common use of asbestos material was in boilers and ducts. Kerry County Council did not receive Department funding for central heating until the mid 1990s, therefore all Kerry County Council central heating pipework and boilers would not have used material containing asbestos. All older chimney flues installed would have had heat resistant liners with no asbestos particles.

Where tenants installed central heating systems, up to the mid 1980s, there maybe the possibility that asbestos material was used.

However it should be noted that the risk associated with exposure to asbestos relates to the possibility that the fibers within the containing asbestos material can become released into the air and are then inhaled. Therefore, unless the material is in poor condition or has been disturbed or damaged, the risk of exposure is minimal.

**Cllr. M. Gleeson thanked the Council for the reply. He asked if there are houses that have asbestos flue liners, was there some place in the Council or public ownership to which a person could bring this material for collection.**

**Mr. D. Doyle said that a person would have to engage a private contractor who specialises in the removal of asbestos. The asbestos is taken down, bagged and taken away for disposal. He would pass on the details of a collector in Tralee to Cllr. Gleeson.**

**2. Cllr. J. Sheahan:** Q2 was moved in conjunction with Notice of Motion 1.

**3. Cllr. J. Sheahan:** Q3 was moved in conjunction with Notice of Motion 7.

**4. Cllr. J.J. Culloty:** Q4 was moved in conjunction with Notice of Motion 1.

**5. Cllr. D. Healy-Rae:** Q5 was moved in conjunction with Notice of Motion 7.

**6. Cllr. N. Kelleher:** Can this authority set up a working group to report back with possible solutions to the unsightly bins being put out in the evening while this town is at its peak with tourists. This group to include representatives of all affected.

**Reply:** Bin storage is available in a number of locations throughout the town of Killarney including two areas at the Glebe Car Park. The Killarney Municipal District has already engaged with the Killarney Chamber of Commerce & Tourism, the Killarney Looking Good Committee and the Killarney Retail Group in regard to the issue of bin storage in the town of Killarney. Furthermore a number of meetings with businesses in Plunkett Street have taken place with regard to bin storage at College Square. However a more formalised approach will be set up after the tourist season to ascertain what further solutions for bin storage can be found.

**Mr. P. Neary confirmed that numerous meetings had been held on this matter.**

**Cllr. N. Kelleher said the issue should be emphasised to those involved.**

**Cllr. M. Gleeson Seconded the Motion and said that the bins are unsightly and degrading to businesses trying to function nearby.**

**7. Cllr. N. Kelleher** - Q7 was moved in conjunction with Notice of Motion No 1.

**8. Cllr. N. Kelleher:** In accordance with the provisions of Section 136 of the Local Government Act 2001, can Kerry County Council provide a waiting list of people approved and waiting for social housing in the Municipal District?

**Reply:** Section 136 of the Local Government Act 2014 provides that information shall be given if requested by:

- The members of a Local Authority
- The members of a Municipal District
- The members of a Strategic Policy committee
- The members of a Joint Body
- The members of a Local Community Development Committee

Allied to this the Council has data protection obligations as set down in statute. The Data Protection Commissioner has explicitly issued guidance on the matter of Councillor entitlements to lists containing personal data. They do not believe that the Councillors oversight role merits the erosion of privacy and that aggregated data should suffice. However, under the Data Protection Acts, disclosure is permitted where there is a legal basis for same.

Accordingly given this anomaly which faces the Council and to ensure the Council is at all times acting in accordance with its legal obligations and for the avoidance of present and future doubt in requests of this nature which may arise from any of the groupings listed above, the Head of Information Systems has been requested by Senior Management of Kerry County Council to engage with the Data Protection Commissioner in relation to seeking clarification, given the broadening of Section 136 powers and obligations under the Local Government Reform Act 2014.

Attached is an extract from an Annual Report of the Data Protection Commissioner which sets out their position in a similar request. We will revert to Council with the outcome of this engagement.

**Cllr. N. Kelleher expressed his disappointment that he had to put down this Notice of Motion. He would await the reply from the Data Protection Commissioner and he agreed that the law had to be upheld. Cllr. Kelleher asked that he would be provided with a copy of the letter that will issue to the Data Protection Commissioner and also that he would receive the Commissioner's reply.**

## 15.07.29.04 Water Services Directorate

### (a) To note update report from the Water Services Directorate

It was agreed to note the following Report from Mr. C. Mangan, SEE which was circulated:

**Clár Infheistíochta na Seirbhísi Uisce Comhairle Contae Chiarraí**  
**Kerry County Council Water Services Investment Programme**  
**KILLARNEY MUNICIPAL DISTRICT MEETING**

Achoimre Stádais ar an 21<sup>st</sup> July 2015  
Status Summary at 21ú Iúil 2015

### **Funding Priorities for Capital Projects**

Irish Water has indicated that it will prioritize funding for capital projects based on the key issues to be addressed.

In Water, priority will be given to any Scheme to which a Boil Water Notice (BWN) applies, and any Scheme on the EPA Remedial Action List (RAL) and/or on a legal Direction from the EPA.

In Wastewater, priority will be given to towns (agglomerations) to which ECJ Ruling apply, and on meeting the requirements of the EPA Discharge Licenses.

### **IRISH WATER CAPITAL INVESTMENT PROGRAMME 2014-2016**

The Irish Water **Capital Investment Programme 2014-2016** was launched in May 2014. A total of 8 wastewater Schemes (total value of " 10.7 million) and 7 Water schemes (total value of " 22.5 million) in Kerry are included in the IW Capital Investment Programme. The Schemes listed in the **CIP** which affect the Killarney Municipal District are outlined in the following tables.

<b><u>CIP TIONSCNAIMH SHOLÁTHAIR UISCE</u></b> <b><u>CIP WATER SUPPLY PROJECTS</u></b>			
<b><i>Tionscnamh</i></b> <b>Project</b>	<b><i>Stádas</i></b> <b>Status</b>		
<b>Mains Rehabilitation Project</b>	Description	Value	Status
	County Direct Labour	" 2.65M	Pipelaying ongoing by Direct Labour - substantially complete.



<b>Central Regional Water Supply Scheme</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Value</b>	<b>Status</b>
	Scart Reservoir	" 2.92M	Construction of this project is complete.
	Water Treatment Plant - DBO	" 22.5M	Tenders received May 2015 . being assessed

<b><u>CIP TIONSCNAMH FUÍOLLUISCE</u></b> <b><u>CIP WASTEWATER PROJECT</u></b>	
<b><i>Tionscnamh Project</i></b>	<b><i>Stádas Status</i></b>
<b>Kilcummin Sewerage Scheme</b>	The Scheme is included in the Irish Water CIP 2014-2016 Irish Water has informed Kerry County Council that the Scheme will go ahead. The detailed design and contract documents will now be prepared to enable the project to go Tender.

#### **IRISH WATER CAPITAL INVESTMENT PROGRAMME 2017-2016**

Irish Water has also launched a **Minor Capital Works Programme**. This is a rolling programme of **minor improvement works** which can be added to as the need arises. The list of schemes that Kerry County Council has applied for under the Minor Capital Works Programme in the Killarney Area is outlined in the table below.

<b><u>MINOR CAPITAL WORKS PROGRAMME, KILLARNEY DISTRICT</u></b>			
<b>Project</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Estimate</b>	<b>Status</b>
Castleisland SS - Church St Sewer	Replace collapsed length of sewer	" 3,500	Completed
Castleisland SS - Limerick Rd. Sewer	Replace collapsed length of sewer	" 4,500	Completed
Castleisland SS - Barrack St Bridge	Sewer encroaching Archway of Bridge causing river to back up and flooding upstream	" 45,000	Refused
Castleisland SS - Church Street bridge	Sewer pipe fixed below soffit / eave of Bridge - may cause river to back up and flood	" 45,000	Refused
CRWSS Brewsterfield Mains Replacement	Replace defective mains Knockanes, Headford etc	" 570,000	Requested
Brosna Knocknagoshel WSS . Meenleirim Pumphouse	Provide sump to improve operation of pumps	" 10,000	Approved
Dromultan Scartaglin Pumpstation	Lay pipe to eliminate old	" 35,000	Approved

	pump station		
Dooneen Reservoir Castleisland	Fencing works	" 8,000	Approved
Dromhall Pk Killarney	Replace Cast Iron mains	" 64,000	<b>Approved</b>
Mid Kerry Mains Replacement - Coolbane Aglish	Replace 1.5Km of the 200mm diameter PVC Trunk Main	" 300,000	Approved
Mid Kerry Mains Replacement - Bushmount Raffeens Clounlara	Replace 2.2Km of the 50mm diameter PVC watermain with a 100mm PVC pipe.	" 200,000	<b>Approved</b>
Milltown Watermains Rehab.	Bridge St to Castlemaine Road . replace Cast Iron pipe	" 125,000	Completed
Shrone WSS . RawqWater Main	Lay main from Lake to WTP	" 160,000	Requested
Water Bulk Meters Upgrade	<u>Countywide</u> project to upgrade bulk meters to provide more information on water flows	" 123,000	Substantially complete
<b>Total Approved</b>		" 873,000	

## THE RURAL WATER PROGRAMME

The administration and development of the Group Scheme sector continues to be a function of the Local Authorities under the guidance and supervision of the DoEC&LG and Irish Water has no authority, responsibility or involvement.

**A total Block Grant Allocation of €780,100 has been allocated to Kerry County Council for the various measures under the Rural Water Programme in 2015.**

### Takeover of Group Schemes

Since 1 January 2014, responsibility for the Takeover of Group Schemes has transferred to Irish Water.

Nationally, discussions are ongoing between the DoEC&LG, the County and City Managers Association and Irish Water to develop a protocol to facilitate the Takeover of Group Schemes.

### **(b) Notices of Motion**

**1. Cllr. M. Gleeson:** That the Council would state if the watermain has been put in place from Muckross Church to Barry's Cross and if so, when will the road rehabilitation commence.

**Reply:** Work commenced on 13<sup>th</sup> July 2015 on this 2km long 150mm diameter new watermain from Muckross Church to the Burma Road. It is planned that the pipe-laying will be completed in September. The trench will be temporarily restored with a blacktop finish as the job progresses and there is funding available for the permanent road restoration, the date for which will be decided in the coming weeks by the Council's Roads / Operations Department.

**Cllr. M. Gleeson welcomed the reply and said there was a need for broadband ducting along this road. He asked if this could be provided in conjunction with this work as it would save the embarrassment of having the road dug up again to install the necessary ducting.**

**Mr. C. O'Leary said he had been in contact with Eircom. It appears that Eircom can accommodate this as ducting is already in place.**

**2. Cllr. N. Kelleher:** There is a blockage in the sewage system in Sliabh Luachra Estate in Gneeveguilla which is leading to an unbearable smell in the estate. Can this be rectified.

**Reply:** The Council's Water Services staff has not been aware of any problems with the sewer line which serves this 30 house public development and connects it to the nearby waste water treatment plant in Gneeveguilla.

**Cllr. N. Kelleher said that the Housing Department had already dealt with this matter.**

### **(c) Questions**

**1. Cllr. M. Gleeson:** Is the Council still actively considering the development of the reed bed sewage treatment facility in the western Demesne?

**Reply:** Irish Water, in preparation of its next Capital Investment Programme 2017 - 2021, is currently assessing all water and wastewater facilities, including the associated environmental standards, throughout the country. The Killarney WWTP, including the proposed reed bed treatment, will be considered in this assessment.

**Cllr. M. Gleeson said that a number of years ago reed beds were actively pursued and funded. They were reactivated 3 years ago and more refined technology is coming on stream. They have the potential to work very well and there is much greater support for these facilities now.**

**Mr. J. Kennelly said he met with Irish Water and discussed this issue with them. There is a requirement to meet the many onerous conditions of the Discharge Licence set by the EPA; of which there are many. Mr. Kennelly said that Irish Water is not looking at integrated solutions at present.**

**2. Cllr. B. Cronin:** To again ask for funding to replace the watermain at Bushmount-Cloonlara, Furies?

**Reply:** Funding of " 200,000 has been approved by Irish Water for the replacement of 2.2km of the 50mm diameter watermain with a 100mm uPVC pipe at Bushmount . Clounlara. It is planned that the work may be done in early 2016.

**Cllr. B. Cronin said he was delighted Irish Water recognised the predicament of the people living in this area on a daily basis. He expressed his disappointment that the work is planned for 2016 and he asked if this would commence early in the year.**

**Cllr. Cronin Proposed that all 8 Elected Members be sent a text message when staff are notified that approval to commence certain works is received. This was particularly important where a Member has been involved on the issue.**

**Cllr. J.J. Culloty Seconded the Motion.**

**Cllr. D. Healy-Rae asked that a letter issue to him instead of a text message.**

**Mr. J. Kennelly agreed that he would discuss the matter with the IT Department to see how best this could be facilitated.**

**3. Cllr. B. Cronin:** When will the route for the Kilcummin sewer be decided and made public?

**Reply:** The detailed design and contract documents for the Kilcummin Sewerage Scheme are currently being prepared by a Consulting Engineer, on behalf of Irish Water, to enable the project to go Tender. It is the understanding of the Council that the proposed Scheme will consist of a sewer pipeline, the route and details of which have not yet been finalised, to connect to the existing network in Killarney. The route of the pipe will be made known to the Councillors as soon as the Consultant makes a decision on this aspect. It is anticipated that the project may go to Tender in 2016.

**Cllr. B. Cronin asked what was the position regarding Irish Water. He asked would funding for Kilcummin now be lost.**

**Mr. J. Kennelly said the work was on the current Programme for 2014 - 2016. He said that Irish Water is reviewed most of the projects in Kerry. It is likely this work will be completed before the end of 2016.**

**4. Cllr. J. Sheahan:** To ask Kerry County Council for an update on the Kilcummin Sewerage Scheme.

**Reply:** The detailed design and contract documents for the Kilcummin Sewerage Scheme are currently being prepared by a Consulting Engineer, on behalf of Irish Water, to enable the project to go Tender. It is the understanding of the Council that the proposed Scheme will consist of a sewer pipeline, the route and details of which have not yet been finalised, to connect to the existing network in Killarney. It is anticipated that the project may go to Tender in 2016.

**Cllr. J. Sheahan noted the reply.**

**5. Cllr. J.J. Culloty:** Has Irish Water indicated to this Council the route that the pipeline from Kilcummin to Killarney will take and if so, when can we expect the commencement of this project? Also, once this route is presented, will this Council give a commitment to immediately commence the long overdue resurfacing works on the road between Kilcummin and Killarney.

**Reply:** The detailed design and contract documents for the Kilcummin Sewerage Scheme are currently being prepared by a Consulting Engineer, on behalf of Irish Water, to enable the project to go Tender. It is the understanding of the Council that the proposed Scheme will consist of a sewer pipeline, the route and details of which have not yet been finalised, to connect to the existing network in Killarney. It is anticipated that the project may go to Tender in 2016.

The issue of road resurfacing is a matter for the Operations / Roads Department of Kerry County Council.

**Cllr. J.J. Culloty noted the reply.**

**6. Cllr. D. Grady:** That this Council would be provided with an update regarding Kilcummin sewer.

**Reply:** The detailed design and contract documents for the Kilcummin Sewerage Scheme are currently being prepared by a Consulting Engineer, on behalf of Irish Water, to enable the project to go Tender. It is the understanding of the Council that the proposed Scheme will consist of a sewer pipeline, the route and details of which have not yet been finalised, to connect to the existing network in Killarney. It is anticipated that the project may go to Tender in 2016.

**Cllr. D. Grady noted the reply.**

**7. Cllr. N. Kelleher:** Has a route been identified for the Sewage Scheme in Kilcummin?

**Reply:** The detailed design and contract documents for the Kilcummin Sewerage Scheme are currently being prepared by a Consulting Engineer, on behalf of Irish Water, to enable the project to go Tender. It is the understanding of the Council that the proposed Scheme will consist of a sewer pipeline, the route and details of which have not yet been finalised, to connect to the existing network in Killarney. It is anticipated that the project may go to Tender in 2016.

**Cllr. N. Kelleher noted the reply.**

## 15.07.29.05 Operations, Health & Safety Directorate

### (a) To note update report from the Operations, Health & Safety Directorate

It was agreed to note the following Report from Mr. D. Doyle, SE which was circulated:

## Killarney Municipal District Meeting – 29<sup>th</sup> July, 2015

### Report from the Director of Operations, Health & Safety

#### 1. High Street Junction – Proposal to Revise Movement of Traffic

Proposal will be circulated at the Municipal District meeting.

#### 2. Additional funding under the Restoration Improvement Programme

Kerry County Council has received additional funding totalling " 1,125,450 from the DTTaS.

The following works will be carried out in Killarney Municipal District as part of this extra funding.

Road Class	Road Number	Road Name and/or Townland Name	Engineering Area	Estimated Cost of work (EURO)
LP	L-3018	Kilcummin Village	Killarney	156,000
LT	L-11078	Gortdromakerrie Muckross CIS	Killarney	" 160,781.00

#### 3. Road Works Programme – Works planned / carried out in July / August / Sept 2015

<u>Roads / Estates / Amenity</u>		
Location	Works Description	Status
Muckross Road	Traffic calming, widening of footpaths, cycle paths and undergrounding of services	Ongoing
Refurbishment of Toilets at New Street	Complete Refurbishment of existing works	To commence in September
Killarney Municipal District	General road maintenance and repair	Ongoing
Killarney	Municipal district works programme	Ongoing

Municipal District	2015 adopted.	
Killarney Town	Street Cleaning	ongoing
Killarney Town	Gardening	ongoing

### ***Killarney Municipal District 2015 - Restoration Maintenance Grant***

Road Number	Road Description	Length (m)	Est. Cost €	Works over next two months
L-3009	Scrahanfadda - Coopers X	1,500	40,500	Ongoing; Skirting / preparation works complete, surfacing works to be carried out in July / August
-3006	Scartaglin - John Richards X	1,500	40,500	
L-3013	Banard - Gullane	1,100	24,750	
L-7030	Annaghilymore X - Meennagishagh	1,400	28,350	
L-7028	Lissyconnor-Scrahanagullaun	1,100	17,325	
L-2033	Camp - Knockeen X	1,200	24,300	Complete by end August
R-570	Headfort - Dromcarban	1,300	50,050	Completed by 31 <sup>st</sup> July
L-7009	Scart X - Rossanean	1,800	40,500	Completed by 31 <sup>st</sup> July
L-7037	Barleymount X - Aghacurreen	1,300	26,325	Complete end August
L-2033	Finnegans X - Doneen	700	15,750	
	<b>Total</b>	<b>12,900</b>	<b>308,350</b>	

### ***Killarney Municipal District 2015 - Restoration Improvement Grant***

Road Number	Road Description	Length (m)	Est. Cost €	Works over next two months
L-3018	Coolgarriv X to Coolcorcoran X	900	94,500	Completed by 31st July
L-70 9	Scart X to Rossanean	1,200	113,400	Completed by 31st July
L-8003	Laharn X to Rockfield Middle	700	66,150	Skirting works complete. All works complete by end August

				Water Main being laid at present. Expected completion by end September
L-3015	Gortahoonig to Dromickbane	1,100	127,050	
L-7037	Aghacurreen to Barleymount X	1,000	94,500	Completed by 31st July
L-7027	Lisheen to Blackwater Bridge	800	92,400	Ongoing;  Strengthening works almost complete, surfacing works to be completed July / August
L-7046	Bounard to Freemount	800	66,100	
L-2025	Powells X to Caheragh X.	1,000	49,000	
L-3007	Brehig to Ballynahalla X.	1,000	56,000	
R-570	Barraduff - Shronedarragh	800	140,000	
L-7013	Annablaha X to Ballahantouragh X	1,200	129,300	
<b>Total</b>		<b>10,500</b>	<b>1,028,400</b>	

**Killarney Municipal District 2015 - Restoration Improvement / Maintenance Town Grant**

Road Number	Road Description	Length (m)	Est. Cost	Works over next two months
L-3900	New Road	245	66,799	Complete by Mid August
L-3907	Ballycasheen Road	272	68,713	Complete by Mid August
	Roundabout at Ballyspillane	110	25,750	Complete by end August
<b>Total</b>		<b>627</b>	<b>161,262</b>	

<b>Housing Operations</b>	
<b>Vacant House Upgrades</b>	
72 Pinewood, Killarney	
8 Cahereens, Castleisland	
Apartment at 4 Chapel Court, Castleisland	
25 Arbutus Grove, Killarney	
6 Bellville Grove, Killarney	
<b>Bedroom Extensions</b>	
None	
<b>Routine Maintenance</b>	
Local Authority houses and Demountables.	Responsive maintenance as required

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**Mr. D. Doyle** referred to Item No. 1 in the report, "High Street Junction – Proposal to Revise Movement of Traffic" and the proposal was circulated to the Members.

**Mr. D. Doyle** said that this proposal will prohibit vehicles entering High Street from Anne's Road and Rock Road. The existing Stop sign on High Street at the junction of High Street and Monsignor O'Flaherty Road will be removed which will give full right of way to traffic on High Street.

**Cllr. D. Grady** said that the existing design at the top of High Street was wrong and it had to be corrected. He asked why there had to be traffic lights entering and exiting the car park.

**Cllr. B. Cronin** welcomed the new proposal. He had been contacted by people on Monsignor O'Flaherty Road who were totally objecting to the present layout. He said it was important to remove the Stop sign at High Street. He referred to a section of kerbing which was causing traffic to veer into the next lane and asked if this could be curtailed.

**Cllr. D. Healy-Rae** then moved Notice of Motion No. 18.

**18. Cllr. D. Healy-Rae:** That we the Members ask Kerry County Council to close the access from St. Anne's Road going down the Monsignor O'Flaherty and High Street Road as the traffic flow up High Street is completely held up.

**Reply:** A draft proposal to alter the traffic movements at this junction has been developed and it is intended to put this proposal on public display in accordance with statutory procedures.

**Cllr. D. Healy-Rae** said that the town is blocked up with traffic. The NRA has said that there is a requirement for 4 pedestrian crossings and Cllr. Healy-Rae said that he could not understand why the NRA insisted on that. Cars come down the Monsignor O'Flaherty Road and had to turn around as they were then unable to access the town centre. He said businesses there were concerned and asked that something be done with the signage. These businesses can only be accessed by going up High Street. Something needs to be done to assist them urgently.

**Mr. D. Doyle** said that the proposal would be put out for public consultation for 4 weeks.

**Cllr. N. Kelleher** welcomed the proposal. He referred to previous discussions that had been held with the landowner in relation to acquiring land to provide a road that would link Monsignor O'Flaherty Road and Bohreen na Goun.

**Mr. P. Neary** agreed to follow up on this matter as part of the Killarney Traffic management Plan.

**Cllr. J.J. Culloty referred to the extended kerbing and welcomed the proposed change.**

**Cllr. J. Sheahan welcomed the proposal and he commiserated with the hotel owner. He asked that contact be made with the Satellite Navigation company as their product is misleading. Schools will be returning in a couple of weeks and an adjustment needs to be made to the lights as they are causing an obstruction.**

**Mr. D. Doyle said the High Street to New Street Road was still in the Town Development Plan. No progress had been made with the landowner for the last 12 months. Mr. P. Neary will try to meet the landowner in due course to attempt to acquire the required lands.**

**Cllr. M. Gleeson said it was vital that appropriate signage is put in place for these businesses.**

**Cllr. J.J. Culloty asked that the Council meet up with the hotel owner to discuss the signage issue with him.**

**Mr. K. O'Halloran stated that permission was granted for a sign for this hotel. A sign has been erected following approval from Kerry County Council.**

**(b) To consider the Draft Policy on Traffic Calming in Residential Estates Mr. D. Doyle**

Mr. D. Doyle referred members to his report on this item which was circulated and he briefed members in detail on it. If Members were in agreement, it would be brought to full Council for adoption.

Cllr. M. Gleeson said there was a contradiction as large amounts of money have been spent to improve the road network but this results in increased speeding. He said that repeat offending motorists should have their cars taken off them for a period of time. In new developments, cameras should help to slow down traffic. Cllr. Gleeson said we should appreciate the level of inconvenience that ramps can cause to the disabled and people with permanent disabilities have to endure enormous discomfort as a result of them. Ramps also degrade estates. He said that cameras in his own locality cover three different speed zones and he had an issue with that.

**It was unanimously agreed that the Draft Policy on Traffic Calming Residential Estates would be referred to full Council for adoption.**

**(c) Notices of Motion**

**1. Cllr. D. Healy-Rae:** Following a request from the Principal teacher of St. Oliver's National School, Ballycasheen and for the protection of the pupils and

parents going to that school, to ask Kerry County Council to make the pedestrian crossing on the Countess Road safe for these children.

**Reply:** A meeting has taken place with the School Principal, and a number of options were discussed. These included changing the current zebra crossing to a controlled pedestrian crossing at a cost of approximately " 16,000 plus VAT or providing a table top ramp adjacent to the existing uncontrolled crossing at a cost of approximately " 6,000 plus VAT. Mr. Darcy is to discuss these options with the Parents Council and revert back. These works would be eligible for funding through the Councillor Specific Municipal District Operations Fund.

**Cllr. D. Healy-Rae asked if the Council had the funding to carry out these works as they are required urgently to ensure the safety of the children. He asked how this work could be funded.**

**Cllr. M. Gleeson said that pedestrian crossings have helped enormously in encouraging children to walk to school. He would favour a push button system.**

**2. Cllr. M. Gleeson:** That the Council would provide an update on the situation vis-à-vis the Bond payment for Mountain View Estate, Kilcummin and of its proposals thereafter for the carrying out of the necessary remedial works.

**Reply:** The receiver forwarded a Draft Legal Agreement in order to facilitate the payment of the agreed monetary sum on the bond for Mountain View on 16<sup>th</sup> June 2015. Kerry County Council has advised the receiver of minor changes to the Draft Agreement following legal advice, and, subject to the receiver's consent to same, it is intended to have agreement executed in order for the bond monies to be paid and for the remedial works including works to associated services to be carried out thereafter.

**Cllr. M. Gleeson welcomed the reply.**

**Mr. D. Murphy said there are two Bonds in place. An offer was made and the Council accepted it. The Water Services Department subsequently wished to receive the monetary value in lieu of the WWTP portion of the offer. The Bondsman is to pay over the money but a Legal Agreement must first be put in place. The Council's Legal Department were unhappy with the Draft Agreement and returned it back with minor amendments and that is the current position. Mr. Murphy stated that he believed the matter was reaching a conclusion.**

**Cllr. B. Cronin stated he hoped it would be resolved soon.**

**3. Cllr. M. Gleeson:** That the Council would provide an update on the provision of the long awaited footpath from Páirc Chuimín to the Kilcummin Village.

**Reply:** A meeting has been arranged with the adjacent landowner to attempt to secure the necessary lands.

**Cllr. M. Gleeson said that he hoped this would come to fruition as it would be of huge benefit to the local community.**

**Mr. P. Neary said he would have a decision on this in the next couple of weeks.**

**Cllr. D. Healy-Rae said there was a landowner on the other side of the road and this may be an option.**

**Mr. P. Neary said they would see how current negotiations develop but agreed that it was an option.**

**4. Cllr. M. Gleeson:** As the magnificent development that will be Killarney House and attached 10 Hectares of superb gardens will soon be open to the public and attracting many thousands of visitors that this Council would take a very serious and in depth look at the urgent need for car parking facilities to accommodate those many extra visitors.

**Reply:** Kerry County Council are tendering for Consultants to carry out a Traffic Management Study for Killarney Town. As part of this study the consultant will carry out a parking strategy. The Parking Strategy will require the full understanding of the existing and future parking demands in Killarney, as well as a thorough analysis of the mix and range of different users who require parking in the town. The objectives of the Strategy are to:

- quantify the existing parking supply and demand;
- recommend parking standards for the study area;
- develop options for parking management in the study area and arrive at the optimum.

For all parking spaces in the study area, the Consultant is to:

- quantify the number of spaces available, both public and private parking facilities associated with commercial/retail developments;
- undertake an hourly parking beat surveys of the study area, as appropriate;
- identify patterns and levels of parking space usage and availability;
- analyse operation of current parking bye-laws.

Subsequent to the completion of the study, Kerry County Council will be able to analyse the parking required to be provided in the town in the future.

This study will provide the detail required to calculate the cost benefit of providing a multi-storey car park solution.

**Cllr. M. Gleeson said that on a number of occasions various options were examined. A high rise car park was considered at Glebe but the**

residents of Mangerton objected to it. An underground car park could be problematic as Killarney is low lying and there maybe potential for flooding. When Killarney House opens up it will be Killarney's crowning glory and large numbers of visitors will come to see this attraction. Parking needs to be provided in reasonable proximity to it. He asked that this matter would be progressed as soon as possible as Killarney House will open up to the public this time next year.

**Cllr. N. Kelleher then moved Notice of Motion No. 36.**

**36. Cllr. N. Kelleher:** Parking is still an issue in the town of Killarney. Are we any closer to a solution to the crisis facing us this busy tourist season. I would suggest that we look at a public private partnership to deal with this matter and possibly construct a high rise in one of our car parks.

**Reply:** Kerry County Council are tendering for Consultants to carry out a Traffic Management Study for Killarney Town. As part of this study the consultant will carry out a parking strategy. The Parking Strategy will require the full understanding of the existing and future parking demands in Killarney, as well as a thorough analysis of the mix and range of different users who require parking in the town.

The objectives of the Strategy are to:

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- undertake an hourly parking beat surveys of the study area, as appropriate;
- identify patterns and levels of parking space usage and availability;
- analyse operation of current parking bye-laws.

Subsequent to the completion of the study Kerry County Council will be able to analyse the parking required to be provided in the town in the future.

This study will provide the detail required to calculate the cost benefit of providing a multi-storey car park solution.

**Cllr. N. Kelleher asked when the tender for the Study would be published. There was no point carrying out a Traffic Management Study in October as it needs to be carried out in peak season. Cllr. Kelleher referred to the Lewis Road Car Park and said that 20 cars were parked in an area not for parking as there was nowhere else to park. He referred to An Bord Pleanála's decision to grant permission for a private**

**development of 120 car parking spaces in Muckcross Road and said that it will not solve the parking problem.**

**Cllr. J.J. Culloty stated if a multi-storey car park was provided it should be possible to have one level underground.**

**Cllr. Kelleher asked why Kerry County Council had to employ a consultant to prepare the report.**

**Mr. P. Neary said that traffic modelling was a specialised topic and it was standard procedure to employ a specialist. He was confident that they would get a true and accurate report. Traffic counts have been carried out over the summer months to capture peak flows.**

**5. Cllr. M. Gleeson:** As the Japanese Knotweed continues to spread throughout the Municipal area, that the Council would [a] state if it has familiarised all of its outdoor staff with the appearance of this unwelcome invader and [b] has undertaken eradication measures during 2015.

**Reply:** The Environment Department in collaboration with the Biodiversity Office and the Operations and Safety Department have and continue to be actively involved in both raising awareness within the community on invasive species and carrying out pilot eradication schemes on our own lands.

Recently a workshop was held in Tralee attended by 50 members of the community and our own staff. The workshop aimed to raise awareness around a range of invasive species, including Japanese Knotweed. As part of the seminar recently designed signage and a bi-lingual leaflet on JK was provided to attendees. Since then additional signage and leaflets have been sent to all the local libraries and Area Engineers Offices to be issued to members of the public. Our own staff will continue to place signs along stretches of the road where JK is found asking landowners not to cut the plant.

All three Departments will continue to work on such projects with the aim of raising awareness about Japanese Knotweed and other invasive species. However, again it should be noted that many other statutory bodies ultimately have a role to play in a National response to the threat of invasive species. The sole responsibility of managing invasive species does not rest with Kerry County Council. Like any other land owner, Kerry County Council aims to apply best practices to its own activities when it comes to invasive species and where possible educate and raise awareness amongst the broader community. When Kerry County Council proposes to carry out works along any public road where Japanese Knotweed is present, it will ensure the Japanese Knotweed is eliminated before carrying out the works. Kerry County Council Staff have been trained in identifying invasive species and the treatment of same.

The Department of Transport Tourism and Sport will shortly be issuing further guidelines on the control of invasive species. We are also in negotiations with

the NRA in relation to potential funding for the treatment of Japanese Knotweed on the national road network.

**Cllr. M. Gleeson said that Japanese Knotweed was very evident at many locations in Killarney. It is also rampant in the great Furies area. He asked that a dedicated crew be employed to deal with this invasive species. If the Council spend €70,000 now, then this will result in a saving of €7m in 10 years. Cllr. Gleeson stated €100,000 was spent in Kenmare Hospital to eradicate this weed. If the problem is not tackled now, it will damage footpaths and streams which will put bird and fish life in danger. There is a huge lack of public awareness about Japanese Knotweed. Last year Japanese Knotweed was cut in error by a plant hire contractor hired by Kerry County Council. All staff should be trained to recognise this weed.**

**Cllr. B. Cronin Seconded this Motion.**

**Mr. D. Doyle said that the Council can only treat Japanese Knotweed in public areas.**

**6. Cllr. D. Healy-Rae:** That we the Members of the Killarney Municipal District ask Kerry County Council to underground the cables in Gneeveguilla Village and improve the public lighting as IRD Duhallow are prepared to help with this proposal.

**Reply:** Works of this nature have a high construction cost and a high ESB Network capital cost. Funding for such works is not readily available. The estimated cost of completing the undergrounding and upgrading the existing public lighting is " 170,000. There is no funding available in the 2015 Killarney Municipal District Works Plan for these works; however Kerry County Council will examine funding possibilities in conjunction with IRD Duhallow.

**Cllr. D. Healy-Rae said that previous replies he had received on this Motion had indicated that this work would happen in 2015. This reply states that there is no funding available for these works and he asked if funding would be allocated for it in 2016.**

**Cllr. N. Kelleher said that it is foresight to put down the piping. He questioned the cost of €170,000 because he said the pipes were already there. This work would enhance the appearance of Gneeveguilla.**

**Mr. D. Doyle said that it was hoped that An Esco project would be carried out which would involve upgrading all public lights in the County. However, difficulties arose in relation to this and it looks like this project is unlikely to proceed in the near future.**

**Cllr. N. Kelleher said that the pipes were undergrounded when previous works were carried out in the village.**

**Ms. B. Mulryan referred to the project works undertaken circa 10 years ago and confirmed that the pipes were not underground in that part of the village.**

**7. Cllr. B. Cronin:** To request that the current pedestrian crossing at Countess Road be upgraded to a push button traffic light system for the safety of parents and children attending Ballycasheen National School.

**Reply:** A meeting has taken place with the School Principal and a number of options were discussed. These included changing the current zebra crossing to a controlled pedestrian crossing at a cost of approximately " 16,000 plus VAT or providing a table top ramp adjacent to the existing uncontrolled crossing at a cost of approximately " 6,000 plus VAT. Mr. Darcy is to discuss these options with the ParentsqCouncil, and revert back. These works would be eligible for funding through the Councillor Specific Municipal District Operations fund.

**Cllr. B. Cronin noted the reply.**

**8. Cllr. B. Cronin:** To request a review of traffic management and pedestrian safety at all national schools located on high volume traffic roads, in particular Fossa NS on N72, Faha NS on R563 and Lissivigeen NS on N22.

**Reply:** Kerry County Council does not have the resources to carry out a detailed traffic management review at all National Schools on high volume traffic roads. However Kerry County Council will examine the three schools mentioned above with the NRA Safety Officer.

**Cllr. B. Cronin asked that a review would be carried out in Fossa, Faha and Lissivigeen, all of which have large student numbers. From a health and safety point of view it is important to carry out this review. He asked if the Council had any recommendations following the review, that the respective Boards of Management at the schools be notified.**

**9. Cllr. B. Cronin:** Have Kerry County Council finalised discussions with the bondsman regarding Greenfields Estate, Firies so that outstanding problems with the sewer systems, lack of lighting etc can be rectified.

**Reply:** The Bondsman has made an offer on the claim on this bond which is less than the sum sought by Kerry County Council, having regard to the scale of outstanding works. Discussions are ongoing with the Bondsman regarding this claim.

**Cllr. B. Cronin acknowledged that the Water Services Department had responded to two serious incidents where the sewer was blocked in this estate and the drainage company rectified the problem. He pointed out that the sewer blocks up every 6 - 8 weeks.**

**10. Cllr. B. Cronin:** That the Council would replace any disability parking spaces in Killarney Town that may be temporarily unavailable due to



developments/festivals etc as these spaces are critically important for people with disabilities.

**Reply:** The current requirements are for 1% of car park spaces to be allocated to disabled drivers. Killarney Town provides well over and above this quantity. Alternative spaces have been provided at Glebe Car Park while the adjacent works are ongoing.

**Cllr. B. Cronin asked that these spaces be protected during any upcoming roadworks.**

**11. Cllr. B. Cronin:** To request that proper bus shelters be constructed at the bus stops located in Fossa and Farranfore.

**Reply:** Bus shelters are a matter for the National Transport Authority. Kerry County Council will write to the National Transport Authority in relation to providing bus shelters in Fossa and Farranfore.

**Cllr. B. Cronin requested that a letter would issue to the National Transport Authority on this issue. People, in particular the elderly, are getting wet while waiting for the bus. Cllr. Cronin noted that a very good job was done outside St. Columbanus' Home.**

**12. Cllr. B. Cronin:** To ask for a realignment of the junction layout and examination of nearby roadside parking which is obstructing driver visibility exiting from Hillview, Ballycasheen Terrace and Woodlawn Terrace onto Woodlawn Road.

**Reply:** This has been investigated and double yellow lines will be provided to prevent parking adjacent to the Woodlawn Road, and improve sightlines at this location.

**Cllr. B. Cronin welcomed the reply and asked when the work would commence.**

**Mr. K. O'Halloran stated he hoped that the work would commence in the next 2 weeks.**

**13. Cllr. J.J. Culloty:** To call on this Council to begin the process of constructing a roundabout at the junction where the Woodlawn Road joins the Muckross Road.

**Reply:** Kerry County Council are tendering for Consultants to carry out a Traffic Management Study for Killarney Town. The Study shall analyse junction capacity and make preliminary design recommendations in relation to junction improvements that would maximise junction capacity whilst maintaining or improving road safety for all road users. Recommendations shall include proposed junction layout showing details of traffic lanes, traffic islands and any other provision required for the safe and efficient operation of the junction.

**Cllr. J.J. Culloty asked if the provision of a roundabout at this location would be favourably considered.**

**Mr. P. Neary said if a roundabout was located here the traffic at Woodlawn would find it difficult to exit onto the Muckcross Road.**

**Cllr. Culloty said that he was surprised that it would not work. He asked that the Council keep an open mind on it.**

**14. Cllr. J.J. Culloty:** To again call on this Council to erect a sound reduction barrier on the N22, adjacent to Whitebridge Manor, as this would reduce the noise levels emanating from traffic on this very busy road.

**Reply:** This is a National Primary Road and is in the charge of the National Roads Authority. This proposal has been discussed with the NRA, however they are not in a position to fund it at present.

**Cllr. J.J. Culloty asked why a sound barrier was not provided at this location. There was a special fund in the Town Council Budget for other locations and it is very unfair to the residents.**

**Mr. D. Doyle agreed to prepare an estimate for this work.**

**15. Cllr. J.J. Culloty:** To ask this Council to enquire from Eircom, the usage made of the telephone kiosk adjacent to the Town Hall in Killarney. If negligible use is made of this kiosk, it should be removed, as it is unsightly.

**Reply:** Kerry County Council has enquired from Eircom regarding the usage made of this telephone kiosk, and they have reported that there are two lines here, with an average of 25 calls per month made over the previous three months.

**Cllr. J.J. Culloty said there were still a small number of these kiosks which are unsightly.**

**Ms. A. McAllen agreed that the Council would liaise with Eircom on the matter.**

**Cllr. D. Grady urged caution in removing these kiosks as one emergency call could potentially save a life.**

**16. Cllr. J.J. Culloty:** That this Council remove the earth bank, opposite the Church in Scartaglen, to improve safety for motorists and pedestrians at this busy junction.

**Reply:** This work would require acquisition of land and the approval of the adjacent landowner. Kerry County Council will investigate this proposal and will contact the relevant landowner with regard to the feasibility of the works. Kerry County Council currently has no funding to carry out these works.

However, if land owner approval is forthcoming, these works would be suitable for funding through Councillor Specific Municipal District Fund.

**Cllr. J.J. Culloty said he understood the Council acquired this land.**

**Ms. B. Mulryan said the landowner allowed the Council to erect a fence and reduce the height of the ditch to improve sight distance.**

**17. Cllr. J.J. Culloty:** As St John's Cemetery in Castleisland is very untidy, I call on this Council, to lay additional footpaths, and do a general clean-up, as soon as possible.

**Reply:** Kerry County Council will lay additional footpaths, re-seed the grassed areas and do a general clean-up at St. John's Burial Ground, Castleisland in 2015.

**Cllr. J.J. Culloty welcomed the reply.**

**18. Cllr. D. Healy-Rae:** That we the Members ask Kerry County Council to close the access from St. Anne's Road going down the Monsignor O'Flaherty and High Street Road as the traffic flow up High Street is completely held up.

**Reply:** A draft proposal to alter the traffic movements at this junction has been developed and it is intended to put this proposal on public display in accordance with statutory procedures.

**This Motion was discussed in connection with the Operations Directorate Report and the item on "High Street Junction – Proposal to Revise Movement of Traffic".**

**19. Cllr. D. Healy-Rae:** To ask Kerry County Council to repair and replace the footpath and to resurface the area between the road and footpath on the Main Street in Rathmore - details already with Kerry County Council.

**Reply:** At present there is no funding stream available for these works. However, maintenance works will be carried out here in the next two weeks.

A preliminary speed survey was carried out in the village recently which indicated instance of speeding infringements in the village. A full speed survey is to be carried out here in the next two weeks to ascertain whether a traffic calming scheme would be suitable for the village. When the results of the speed survey are known, this matter will be discussed with the NRA Safety Officer and we will revert to the Members.

**Cllr. D. Healy-Rae asked what had the preliminary speed survey results to do with the issue.**

**Mr. P. Neary said they were speed reduction measures.**

**Cllr. N. Kelleher** said that progress was slow but he welcomed the carrying out of speed surveys. He undertook to submit data he gathered on Rathmore to the Operations Department. He said Rathmore was a gateway to Kerry and there is no place to park a car.

**Mr. P. Neary** said the Council has a big workload with limited resources.

**Cllr. Kelleher** acknowledged that the Council were working on this issue.

**20. Cllr. D. Healy-Rae:** To ask that all the villages - Currow, Farranfore, Furies, Gneeveguilla, Scartaglin and the towns - Killarney, Castleisland and Rathmore be swept with the mechanical sweeper on a regular basis as the people paying rates and taxes deserve this service.

**Reply:** The villages of Currow, Gneeveguilla, Scartaglin, and the town of Rathmore will be swept quarterly with the mechanical road sweeper. Castleisland town is already swept daily.

**Cllr. D. Healy-Rae** said that the Council asks business owners to pay rates and they see very little for the rates paid. The mechanical sweeper did not clean these villages for the past 12 months up until recently. He received regular requests for Currow to be swept. This should be carried out every 2 months and perhaps more regularly in the summer. **Cllr. Healy-Rae** complimented the work being done in Castleisland and Killarney.

**Cllr. N. Kelleher** said that in March the Members adopted the Municipal District Plan. The previous plan did not include street cleaning in the villages and on **Cllr. Kelleher's** suggestion, this was included for the first time.

**Cllr. D. Grady** Seconded the Motion.

**21. Cllr. J. Sheahan:** That an electronic speed sign flashing 50 km to motorists be installed on the N22 at Cleeny entering a speed restriction zone.

**Reply:** The N22 is a National Primary route and the provision of a speed flashing sign is a matter for the National Roads Authority. This will be discussed with the NRA Safety Officer in due course. Please note that this section of road will now be monitored by the manual speed camera.

**Cllr. J. Sheahan** said that a flashing speed sign is badly needed near Ballydribeen Estate and he hoped that this would be provided.

**Cllr. D. Grady** supported this Motion.

**22. Cllr. J. Sheahan:** To ask Kerry County Council to resolve the issues in relation to traffic flow at High Street, Killarney. This needs to be resolved urgently as it contributing to congestion in the town.

**Reply:** A draft proposal to alter the traffic movements at this junction has been developed and it is intended to put this proposal on public display in accordance with statutory procedures.

**Cllr. J. Sheahan acknowledged that this matter was discussed earlier.**

**23. Cllr. J. Sheahan:** That Kerry County Council install traffic calming measures at Ballydowney, Killarney. There have been a number of fatalities at this location.

**Reply:** Further to discussions with the National Roads Authority, the Garda Síochána and the National Parks and Wildlife, a series of safety measures have been agreed for this location. As this road is a National Secondary Road, funding for these works is a matter for the National Roads Authority. An application for funding is currently being prepared. Please note that this section of road will now be monitored by the manual speed camera.

**Cllr. J. Sheahan said that 5 people lost their lives on this section of road. He was aware that recently, a car went off the road and had ended up in a neighbouring property and the residents are very concerned.**

**Cllr. B. Cronin Seconded the Motion.**

**24. Cllr. J. Sheahan:** That Kerry County Council install a pedestrian crossing adjacent to the Killarney Athletic Football Club on the Woodlawn road.

**Reply:** The provision of a pedestrian crossing at this location would be subject to the results of a speed and pedestrian survey. These surveys will be carried out in Quarter 4 of 2015. Killarney Town Council carried out a Section 38 process for traffic calming measures including a speed ramp at this location. The proposal was approved by the Members. However there is currently no funding available for these works. The cost of providing a speed ramp in this location would be in the region of " 2,000 and would be suitable for funding through the Councillor Specific Municipal District Operations Fund.

**Cllr. J. Sheahan said that Killarney Athletic FC was located in a busy area. Every year they hold a '7 a side' competition which results in a lot of cars parking on the road. He referred to the 3 tonne weight restriction that is being ignored and asked that speed ramps and a pedestrian crossing would be provided.**

**Cllr. D. Grady said that the residents of Woodlawn were opposed to speed ramps.**

**Cllr. J. Sheahan said that he thought speed cushions were a good alternative.**

**25. Cllr. J. Sheahan:** To ask Kerry County Council when the NRA are to commence resurfacing works on the N72 at Mossys Turn, Rathmore.

**Reply:** The scope of works to be carried out at this location is currently being considered by the NRA. The matter is being continually raised with the NRA and it is anticipated that the most appropriate intervention works will be agreed in the coming weeks with a view to carrying out the works later this year, subject to the availability of the necessary funding.

**Cllr. J. Sheahan said that during the May Bank Holiday weekend, a car with 4 passengers went off the road at this location and they were extremely lucky to come out of the car without injury. There is a problem with the road surface and, in particular, when the road is wet it is very slippery. Reen's Garage is very close by and they often come and take away the cars and no reports are logged with the Gardaí. The NRA look for accident statistics which aren't available in all cases. Cllr. Sheahan requested that the road be overlaid.**

**26. Cllr. J. Sheahan:** To ask Kerry County Council when the speed limit review for Killarney is to commence.

**Reply:** The speed limit review has commenced and a member of Kerry County Council Road Design Team has been assigned to the project. He is currently surveying all existing speed limits in the County. The Elected Members can now forward sections of road which they wish to be considered for the speed limit review.

**Cllr. J. Sheahan stated he hoped the Speed Limit Review would proceed very soon.**

**Mr. D. Doyle said that the process had commenced and he would revert to Councillors with the findings in September.**

**Cllr. B. Cronin asked would the Council take account of the roads already highlighted by Councillors.**

**Mr. Doyle confirmed that they would.**

**27. Cllr. J.J. Culloty:** That this Council would change the position or layout of the disabled parking space in the Lewis Road Car Park. In its current position in the top corner of the Car Park, it is not possible for a person with a disability to use this space if the spaces adjacent to it are taken.

**Reply:** Kerry County Council will contract a road lining crew to carry out these works within the next few weeks.

**Cllr. J.J. Culloty welcomed the reply.**

**28. Cllr. J.J. Culloty:** To ask this Council to ascertain if any measures can be taken to protect pedestrians at the roundabout on the Park Road (opposite Hegarty's Supermarket) which was recently the scene of an accident, at which a car crashed into a commercial property.

**Reply:** Bollards have been provided at this location. It is not possible or practical to erect a sufficient number of barriers to prevent cars mounting the footpath.

**Cllr. J.J. Culloty asked if a steel fence could be erected at the location.**

**Mr. D. Doyle said that would not be possible at this location.**

**29. Cllr. D. Grady:** That this Council would address the strong smell of urine which is present at the Jarvey Stand, which is affecting businesses in the area, i.e. Cinema, Killarney Towers, Plaza Hotel, Ross Hotel and International Hotel. Also it is not very pleasant for visitors and locals alike. The Jarvey Stand should be flushed out with water by a member of staff of Kerry County Council every evening at 7pm.

**Reply:** Up to 30 horses can be located at the Jarvey stand at any one time. This will inevitably lead to smells of an equine nature in this location. Kerry County Council provides water and disinfectant for the jarveys to keep this area clean. The jarveys clean the area regularly. Kerry County Council sweep the area in the mornings. Kerry County Council do not have sufficient resources to facilitate cleaning of this area in the evenings.

**Cllr. D. Grady said that the smell is affecting local businesses and the jarveys only wash the area with a hose. Cllr. Grady stated when he flushed the area with a jet hose for 3 minutes each evening the smell vanished.**

**Mr. D. Doyle said that he would look at this issue again.**

**30. Cllr. D. Grady:** That this Council would request that the traffic lights at Woodlawn Cross and at the top of Ross Road would not be switched to flashing unless there is a Garda presence under Health and Safety.

**Reply:** For some festivals and events, the Gardaí request that the lights at Woodlawn Road and Ross Road are switched to flashing amber in order to ease the traffic flow on the main route. For future requests from the Gardaí, the Council will request that there is a Garda presence at these locations when the lights are on flashing amber.

**Cllr. D. Grady said he had been approached by residents in Woodlawn who cannot exit their estate. The traffic lights were put there to assist the residents but it is now a health and safety issue. People are putting their lives in danger. Cllr. Grady welcomed the reply.**

**Cllr. B. Cronin referred to the professional being engaged to carry out the Traffic Management Plan and he asked if work on the Plan had commenced.**

**Mr. P. Neary** said that the Traffic Management Plan would go to tender shortly and he would request the Gardaí to man the junction.

**Cllr. D. Healy-Rae** asked that the lights be put on amber until the traffic lights are synchronised properly.

**Cllr. M. Gleeson** said he was speaking with a resident of Muckross Road who said the core of the problem is Mission Road and delays in Muckross Road are caused by the traffic lights at the top of Ross Road.

**Cllr. Cronin** said that if the lights are put on flashing mode on Muckross Road, then pedestrians would be in danger.

**Cllr. J.J. Culloty** said the lights should be put on flashing mode on Bank Holiday weekends.

**Mr. P. Neary** said the traffic in Killarney was a symptom of the town's success and there will be problems during the summer months.

**31. Cllr. N. Kelleher:** Thanks to the foresight of this Council, when the village road in Gneeveguilla was being overlaid the pipes were laid for the completion of the under grounding of lighting. Can this be completed as well as the footpaths in the rest of the village so that it is brought to a standard as has already been provided.

**Reply:** Works of this nature have a high construction cost and a high ESB Network capital cost. Funding for such works is not readily available. The estimated cost of completing the undergrounding and upgrading the existing public lighting is " 170,000. There is no funding available in the 2015 Killarney Municipal District Works Plan for these works, however we can discuss funding possibilities in conjunction with IRD Duhallow.

**Cllr. N. Kelleher** noted that this item was dealt with earlier.

**32. Cllr. N. Kelleher:** There are two manholes at Ballagh, however when there is severe rain there is excess water on the main road. Can this be rectified as it's very dangerous?

**Reply:** Drainage works will be carried out adjacent to the manholes at Ballagh on the N72 this week.

**Cllr. N. Kelleher** welcomed the reply.

**33. Cllr. N. Kelleher:** What is the current position with regards to the upgrading of the Main Street in Rathmore, what were the results of the surveys? Have plans seeking funding been submitted to the NRA to include the two pedestrian crossings (Dennehy's Corner and Donagh Hickey Motors), footpaths, traffic calming and under grounding of lighting?



**Reply:** The Main Street was overlaid in recent times through funding from the NRA. It would be desirable to carry out a plan for the upgrading of footpaths, public lighting and the general amenities of the town. However, this would require substantial funding and at present there is no funding stream available for these works. A preliminary speed survey was carried out in the village recently which indicated instances of speeding infringements in the village. A full speed survey is to be carried out here in the next two weeks to ascertain whether a traffic calming scheme would be suitable for the village. When the results of the speed survey are known, this matter will be discussed with the NRA Safety Officer, and we will revert to the Members.

**Cllr. N. Kelleher welcomed the reply.**

**34. Cllr. N. Kelleher:** What is the position with the bridge at Knocknaboul? It was planned to be completed by now.

**Reply:** Kerry County Council have selected a contractor to carry out repairs to this bridge. Contractor is currently carrying out some design work, and the contractor is expected to be on site the first week of September.

**Cllr. N. Kelleher asked that a contractor would be appointed before the end of the summer.**

**35. Cllr. N. Kelleher:** The Bridge in Lower Shinnagh is very dangerous as the wall height of the bridge is only a foot above the footpath. A lot of young kids are resident in the area. On health and safety grounds, work needs to be done to this bridge urgently.

**Reply:** The estimated cost of these bridge works is " 20,000. Kerry County Council is investigating a source of funding for these works.

**Cllr. N. Kelleher said it was very important that work at the bridge commence as soon as possible and he asked Mr. D. Doyle to source funding before the year end.**

**Cllr. M. Gleeson Seconded the Motion.**

**36. Cllr. N. Kelleher:** NoM 36 was moved in conjunction with Notice of Motion No. 4.

### **(c) Questions**

**1. Cllr. D. Healy-Rae:** To ask Kerry County Council again to provide a safety barrier across the road from Skahies Junction to protect the family living in that house.

**Reply:** In regard to providing a safety barrier across the road from Skahies Junction, the NRA is currently carrying out a Road Safety Inspection (HD17 Road Safety Inspection) on the entire N22.

The NRA HD17 Road Safety Inspection (RSI) is a new safety procedure that was introduced by the NRA. RSI is a proactive approach to improving the safety of the existing national road network.

RSI teams examine the collision trends for each route before the inspection takes place to establish if there are any particular collision patterns associated with a route.

The RSI team drives the whole length of the route in both directions, in daylight and darkness, and also in particular weather conditions if required. The RSI teams inspect all other road elements and junctions and 200m of all side roads leading up to the main route. Video data of the route is collected during the RSI.

The RSI team identifies any safety related items that require further review. The RSI findings are then compiled into the RSI report. The RSI team carry out an informal risk assessment of each identified hazard, which is provided in the report. The final report is submitted to the NRA.

The Road Safety Inspection Team has completed all inspections on the N22 and is currently preparing a report for the NRA. Once the NRA receives this report, they will prioritise any safety works that are required and fund them as they see fit. If there is a safety issue at this location it will be identified in the safety inspection.

**Cllr. D. Healy-Rae asked if it was likely that the NRA would give approval for this barrier.**

**Mr. P. Neary said that the NRA Consultant was preparing a Safety Report for that section of road. Mr. Neary was not confident that a barrier would be provided.**

**2. Cllr. M. Gleeson:** As exiting from both the R 570 and the L 3012 onto the N.72 in the village of Barraduff can be quite challenging particularly if one is seeking to cross the N72, could the Council examine some means of ensuring greater safety for road users attempting those manoeuvres?

**Reply:** This junction is located on the N72 National Secondary Road. Any improvements or funding for this junction will be subject to NRA approval. A speed and pedestrian survey will be carried out at this location in Quarter 4 of 2015. Following the completion and analysis of these surveys, the National Road Safety Officer will be met to discuss the results. An update will be given to the Members at this juncture.

**Cllr. M. Gleeson said that he had spoken with the Head of Traffic in An Garda Síochána who had drawn up a list of recommendations in relation to the junction at Barraduff Village and Cllr. Gleeson asked that they be minuted and implemented over a period of time. Cllr. Gleeson thought that the recommendations were reasonable and fair and asked that No. 1 be dealt with as soon as possible.**

Excerpt from letter to Cllr. M. Gleeson from A. Sugrue, Inspector, An Garda Síochána dated 11<sup>th</sup> July 2015:

- "1. I would strongly suggest that the embankment on the right hand side of the junction on the Mallow side of the village, be cut and a portion of the bank taken away, with a dust free surface replacing same. The trees currently growing there, which are young, will pose a serious sight risk in the future due to their fast growing nature. This change will assist in improving the line of sight for drivers entering the Village and for any drivers attempting to enter onto the N.72 at the junction concerned.**
- 2. I would also suggest that an additional speed limit of 60 kph be erected in the proximity of the L7052 junction, between the current 100 kph and 50 kph zones.**
- 3. I also recommend additional traffic calming measures on the Cork side approaching the village. Traffic calming measures should also be deployed in the village on the approach from Killarney.**
- 4. I recommend that an electronic speed indicator sign be installed on both approaches to Barraduff Village.**
- 5. I would also suggest that the stop line on both approaches to the junction be repainted as a matter of priority.**
- 6. I would suggest that feasibility of reducing the gradient on the approach from the Lisbabe side should be evaluated with a view to reducing the severe incline."**

**Cllr. J.J. Culloty Seconded the Motion.**

**3. Cllr. M. Gleeson:** Would the Council deem it appropriate, in the interest of safety of all road users, to erect suitable warning signs, advising of Sports Field ahead, on both approaches to the Spa G.A.A. Field?

**Reply:** The cost of providing two warning signs on Spa Road adjacent to the entrance to Spa GAA Field would be " 750 and would be suitable for funding through the Councillor Specific Municipal District Operations Fund.

**Cllr. M. Gleeson noted the reply.**

**4. Cllr. M. Gleeson:** To what degree has the Council progressed the request that Traffic Calming measures would be considered (provided) on the Loreto Road?

**Reply:** A speed and pedestrian survey has been carried out at this location. The results are currently being analysed and will be available within the next week.

**Cllr. M. Gleeson asked that the findings be assessed very quickly.**

**Mr. K. O'Halloran confirmed that the data would be circulated during the week.**

**5. Cllr. M. Gleeson:** As the safety of pedestrians attempting to cross roadways must be an absolute priority, has the Council determined how best to ensure safety on the extremely busy stretch of roadway from the College Street/Lewis Road roundabout to the entrance to the bus station at Fair Hill?

**Reply:** There is currently " 40,000 available for funding for a pedestrian facility at Fair Hill Killarney. The Council will carry out pedestrian surveys along the stretch of roadway, from the College Street / Lewis Road roundabout to the entrance to the bus station at Fair Hill, to determine the most suitable location for the pedestrian facility.

**Cllr. M. Gleeson said that the existing pedestrian crossing on the town side of Fair Hill is the most ignored crossing in town. People do not avail of it and they try to cross at the other end of the road. He asked that serious consideration be given to the provision of a properly controlled crossing.**

**6. Cllr. M. Gleeson:** Would the Council pay due heed to the concern of teachers and parents of Saint Oliver's National School and give a favourable response to their request for a Push Button dimension to be added to the pedestrian crossing on Countess Road?

**Reply:** A meeting has taken place with the School Principal and a number of options were discussed. These included changing the current zebra crossing to a controlled pedestrian crossing at a cost of approximately " 16,000 plus VAT or providing a table top ramp adjacent to the existing uncontrolled crossing at a cost of approximately " 6,000 plus VAT. Mr. Darcy is to discuss these options with the Parents Council, and revert back. These works would be eligible for funding through the Councillor Specific Municipal District Operations fund.

**Cllr. M. Gleeson noted that this issue was dealt with earlier.**

**7. Cllr. M. Gleeson:** Would the Council favourably consider, when suitable material becomes available, filling in the roadside Dyke on the L7047 at Upper Lissivigeen as it has become a repository for the large scale illegal disposal of domestic waste of all sorts and is therefore a health hazard for residents of the immediate area?

**Reply:** Piping of the roadside dyke on the L-7047 would have to be considered prior to backfilling to allow for any surface water runoff. There is no funding currently available to carry out this work, however it would be suitable for funding through the Councillor Specific Municipal District Operations Fund.

**Cllr. M. Gleeson** said he was part of a clean up operation in this area when they found nappies and other waste along a 60 metre stretch. He requested that it be filled in if there is spare material available and that a pipe would be installed there also. He would assist with the funding of these works from his Councillor Specific Municipal District Operations Fund.

**8. Cllr. B. Cronin:** Have the two disabled parking spaces been painted at Listry Church?

**Reply:** The two disabled parking spaces outside Listry Church are to be lined this week (weather permitting).

**Cllr. B. Cronin welcomed the reply.**

**9. Cllr. B. Cronin:** Will Kerry County Council cut back all hedges at road junctions for public safety for all road users?

**Reply:** The hedges at roadside junctions are currently being cut.

**Cllr. B. Cronin referred to the hedges on the road to the Old Kilcummin Cemetery that had not been cut. The Annual Mass was due to be held on 5<sup>th</sup> August and he asked that the hedges would be cut prior to it.**

**10. Cllr. B. Cronin:** To repaint all pedestrian crossings from the Plaza Hotel around to the Cinema in Killarney?

**Reply:** This work will be completed by the end of the week.

**Cllr. B. Cronin welcomed the reply.**

**11. Cllr. B. Cronin:** Can the Council consider, on a trial basis, totally pedestrianising Main Street, Killarney having a 'left only' turn at the Plunkett Street junction?

**Reply:** Kerry County Council are tendering for consultants to complete a traffic management plan for Killarney town. The successful consultant will be requested to examine this proposal and any impacts on traffic it may have. Please note that access to the car park of a New Street hotel is via Main Street and this hotel will have to be accommodated if Main Street is to be pedestrianised.

**Cllr. B. Cronin said there is nowhere to park from Plunkett Street Junction to New Street Junction and it is not possible to stop along there. There is a huge focus on the centre of the town but shoppers must be able to park at a convenient location. Cllr. Cronin state a great atmosphere is created when streets are pedestrianised.**

**12. Cllr. B. Cronin:** When will the promised improvement works be undertaken to the Dromkerry junction with R563 which is very dangerous?

**Reply:** Improvement works will take place at the Dromkerry Junction with the R563 in August.

**Cllr. B. Cronin welcomed the reply.**

**13. Cllr. B. Cronin:** Can a slip lane be provided on the Cork Road coming from Glenflesk at the Gortahoosh Junction?

**Reply:** The provision of a slip lane /diverge lane at this location is not in accordance with NRA Standards so is unlikely to be provided. Generally, this requirement is for minor roads where there is a high traffic volume or a high percentage of HGVs. The rationale behind this is that such slip lanes / diverge lanes have an adverse effect on road safety, as traffic on the slip lane / diverge lane blocks visibility for drivers emerging from the minor road.

**Cllr. B. Cronin said there was adequate room at this location for a slip lane which is urgently required.**

**14. Cllr. D. Healy-Rae:** To ask Kerry County Council to carry out necessary maintenance works in Farranfore Village - lift manhole covers and clean out gullies - repair lags and depressions and to sweep the village regularly with mechanical sweeper.

**Reply:** Farranfore Village will be swept on a two monthly basis and the gullies will be cleaned as necessary at these times. Permanent repair work will be carried out on the lags and depression within the village in early October, meanwhile these locations will be maintained. The manholes that require raising will be done at this time also.

**Cllr. D. Healy-Rae welcomed the reply.**

**15. Cllr. D. Healy-Rae:** To ask Kerry County Council what is going to be done about the reduction of men and crews in the Killarney Area as it is now very clear that the works and maintenance programme cannot be done without sufficient manpower.

**Reply:** There are a number of factors that impact on the recruitment of staff within the current manpower planning activities of the Council. For a considerable time now there has been a Moratorium in place on the recruitment of staff. This Moratorium provides for detailed technical arrangements in respect of the identification of and the approval to filling of vacancies. The circumstances under which this is allowable are limited in scope. The process provides for detailed engagement with the Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government. In addition there exists a statutory framework under which the Chief Executive is empowered to make and implement decisions in respect of staffing. As part of the Public Service Agreement (Croke Park) there was an absolute commitment that compulsory

redundancies would not be implemented in the Public Service. These constraints and considerations are additional to the normal Employment Law framework that all employers, public or private, operate within. This essentially means that from a staff numbers management perspective, we operate in an extremely complex operating environment. In summary the moratorium is still in place but where certain conditions are met, recruitment is allowable.

However in the context of the Motion and of much more relevant consideration at present is the fact that a significant portion of our activities and service delivery levels are determined by external funding. Recent years have seen significant reductions across all funding sources. This has resulted in a reduction in services being provided in these areas. Despite these reductions, the Council is constrained in the response it can implement from a staff numbers perspective.

It is also worth reflecting on the Road Grant funding position in the Operations Area.

The following are the recent Grant Allocations:

Year	Restoration Improvement Grant	Restoration Maintenance Grant	Specific Improvement Grant	Former Town Council Block Grant	Discretionary Grant	Total Non-National Road Grant	National Road Maintenance
2011	7,290,450	2,848,000	1,860,000	798,415	2,619,650	16,185,945	1,665,525
2012	8,102,118	2,848,000	1,660,000	800,000	2,619,650	16,158,344	1,295,275
2013	8,836,523	2,420,800	1,500,000	643,865	2,619,650	15,771,637	1,355,704
2014	6,559,000	1,809,000	640,000	661,800	3,264,800	13,406,771	1,258,451
2015	6,940,339	1,953,557	21,000	0	3,343,504	12,774,206	1,401,782

For the current year we are down " 632,565 from last year. Since 2008, the level of funding provided by the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport for the maintenance and improvement of the regional and local road network has reduced by 54%.

A limited number of seasonal staff will be retained as normal to ensure the delivery of the programme. It will however be a challenge to manage the current staffing levels within this financial position.

Having regard to the Budgetary position outlined, the Council simply does not have the funding or resources to recruit additional outdoor staff.

**Cllr. D. Healy-Rae said last year the crews were very busy and some of the work under the Councillors Allocations was not carried out. The crews have been reduced from 6 to 3.5 in Killarney and this now includes Castleisland which wasn't previously included in the area.**

**As Cllr. J. Sheahan was absent from the meeting at that time his Motions No's 16 - 19 were moved on his behalf by Cllr. N. Kelleher.**

**16. Cllr. J. Sheahan:** That Kerry County Council give an update regarding the rebuilding of an unsafe wall at Bridgefield, Killarney.

**Reply:** There is no funding currently available to rebuild the wall at Bridgefield, Killarney, however the issue of funding for this location will be reviewed toward the end of the year.

**17. Cllr. J. Sheahan:** To ask Kerry County Council to install speed ramps on Woodlawn Road adjacent to Ferndale Avenue.

**Reply:** Killarney Town Council carried out a Section 38 process for traffic calming measures at this location. The proposal was approved by the Members. However there is currently no funding available for these works. The cost of providing a speed ramp at this location would be in the region of " 2,000 and would be suitable for funding through the Councillor Specific Municipal District Operations Fund.

**18. Cllr. J. Sheahan:** That Kerry County Council erect signs on the Woodlawn Road informing drivers of heavy goods vehicles of the 3 ton weight restriction on this road.

**Reply:** The Council will erect two 3 ton weight restriction repeater signs on the Woodlawn Road advising of the weight restriction on the route within the next two weeks.

**19. Cllr. J. Sheahan:** To ask Kerry County Council to upgrade the traffic lights on the Muckcross Road to enable a better traffic flow.

**Reply:** Kerry County Council are tendering for Consultants to carry out a Traffic Management Study for Killarney Town. As part of this study, the consultant will carry out a parking strategy. The Parking Strategy will require the full understanding of the existing and future parking demands in Killarney, as well as a thorough analysis of the mix and range of different users who require parking in the town.

The objectives of the Strategy are to:

- quantify the existing parking supply and demand;
- recommend parking standards for the study area;
- develop options for parking management in the Study area and arrive at the optimum;

For all parking spaces in the study area, the Consultant is to:

- quantify the number of spaces available, both public and private parking facilities associated with commercial/retail developments;
- undertake an hourly parking beat surveys of the Study area, as appropriate;
- identify patterns and levels of parking space usage and availability;



- analyse operation of current parking bye-laws.

Subsequent to the completion of the study, Kerry County Council will be able to analyse the parking required to be provided in the town in the future. This study will provide the detail required to calculate the cost benefit of providing a multi-storey car park solution.

**20. Cllr. D. Healy-Rae:** To ask Kerry County Council what progress has been made with the provision of a safety barrier on the left hand side of the road to the Airport.

**Reply:** An application has been made to the National Roads Authority for funding to carry out safety barrier installation at this location, however there is no funding available in 2015 to carry out these works.

**Cllr. D. Healy-Rae noted the reply.**

**21. Cllr. D. Healy-Rae:** To ask Kerry County Council, further to my previous Motion, what progress has been made with the provision of a pedestrian crossing for Barraduff Village.

**Reply:** This village is located on the N72 National Secondary Road. The provision of a pedestrian crossing will be subject to NRA approval and funding. A speed and pedestrian survey will be carried out at this location in Quarter 4 of 2015. Following the completion and analysis of these surveys, the National Road Safety Officer will be met to discuss the results. An update will be given to the Members at this juncture.

**Cllr. D. Healy-Rae noted the reply.**

**22. Cllr. D. Healy-Rae:** To ask has the Japanese Knotweed at The Park in Farranfore and in the river above Buckley's Shop, Conguilla, Scartaglin been sprayed.

**Reply:** The Japanese Knotweed at the entrance to the Park in Farranfore will be sprayed in the autumn along with the other locations in the area. The Roads Enforcement Officer of Kerry County Council shall issue a notice on the landowner at Canguilla to treat this Japanese Knotweed on his land.

**Cllr. D. Healy-Rae noted the reply.**

**Cllr. M. Gleeson said if the Knotweed is anywhere near water, it needs to be treated by injection.**

**23. Cllr. J.J. Culloty:** When will the safety barrier be erected at Spa GAA football field?

**Reply:** The safety barrier at Spa GAA field was erected 2 weeks ago.

**Cllr. J.J. Culloty welcomed the reply.**

**24. Cllr. D. Healy-Rae:** When will the drainage works in Cragg, Castleisland and the culvert work in Tullig begin?

**Reply:** The flood works at Tullig will proceed as follows:

- River bed works at Glanshearoon . July 2015
- Culvert at Tullig . Aug / Sept 2015
- Drainage Works at Kilbanivane . Sept 2015

**Cllr. D. Healy Rae welcomed the reply.**

**25. Cllr. D. Grady:** That this Council would be provided with an update regarding Clover~~g~~ Lane, Killarney.

**Reply:** Kerry County Council met with the Gardaí at this location. It was agreed that enhanced public lighting would be a deterrent to anti-social behaviour at this location. These upgrade works will be completed in the next four weeks.

**Cllr. D. Grady acknowledged that the Engineers were trying their best in relation to this location. He asked if it would be appropriate to provide a CCTV camera there.**

**Mr. P. Neary said he would prepare an estimate for the camera.**

**Cllr. Grady said that the anti-social behaviour has not stopped and he asked that it be looked at.**

**26. Cllr. N. Kelleher:** To ask Kerry County Council to replace the broken bulbs in the By-Pass in Killarney.

**Reply:** These lights have been reported to the maintenance contractor. The lights are scheduled for repair this week.

**Cllr. N. Kelleher welcomed the reply.**

**27. Cllr. N. Kelleher:** As the former school in Tureencahill is now a community centre, can a second light be erected on the north side of the centre as it will mostly be used at night.

**Reply:** As stated previously, Kerry County Council has inspected this location. Currently due to the constraints on maintaining the existing public lighting network, including increasing energy costs, the Council has not been in a position to fund the provision of additional lighting to the public network, except in exceptional circumstances. In recent years the taking in charge of housing estates has increased our public lighting costs and there will be additional costs with the proposed taking in charge of other estates in the coming years.

Under the provisions of EU Directive 2006/32/EC and S.I. No. 542/2009 - European Communities (Energy End-use Efficiency and Energy Services) Regulations 2009, Kerry County Council is also required to make substantial reductions in energy consumption, including on public lighting. This will necessitate substantial investment in either retrofitting our existing public lighting network with more efficient lighting equipment and/or restricting the provision of new lights on the existing network.

This is an issue that needs to be further examined in the context of the limited funding available for the provision of all services, and the needs of the community.

Any request to provide additional public lighting at Tureencahill National School will need to be assessed as part of a Public Lighting Policy, which will be developed through the Operations SPC, given the existing demands on the Council to maintain existing public lighting infrastructure throughout the County.

**Cllr. N. Kelleher asked that a quotation would be prepared for the provision of this light and he said he would be willing to look at contributing to this work from his Councillor Specific Municipal District Operations Fund. He said the community centre would pay the electricity costs in this instance.**

**Cllr. J.J. Culloty Seconded the Motion.**

#### **15.07.29.06 Motions / Questions relevant to other Directorates or issues not relevant to Kerry County Council business**

##### **(a) Notices of Motion**

**1. Cllr. M. Gleeson:** That the Council would give a commencement date for the construction of the disability access path from Rock Road to Killarney Library.

**Reply:** Construction is scheduled to commence during the first two weeks of September.

**Cllr. M. Gleeson welcomed the reply.**

**2. Cllr. M. Gleeson:** That the Council would state if the transfer of Áras Phádraig to the Council has been completed and if sources of funding for the upgrading of the building have been identified.

**Reply:** There are still a number of legal matters to be completed in relation to this transfer. Members will be kept updated on progress.

**Cllr. M. Gleeson said that he has received this reply for the last 6 years. He asked that the matter be brought to fruition otherwise this building will be in the same state as the Sara Lee property.**

**3. Cllr. J. Sheahan:** That Kerry County Council contact the National Park to cut down the tall trees at the road edge at Ballydowney, Killarney.

**Reply:** This is a matter for resolution by the members.

**Cllr. B. O'Connell moved this Motion as Cllr. J. Sheahan was not present at the time.**

**4. Cllr. D. Healy-Rae:** Following my motion at the last meeting to have St. Finan's lands transferred from the HSE, what progress has been made on this as these lands are vital for the future of Killarney and should remain in public ownership.

**Reply:** This matter is still being investigated. The Elected Members will be updated in due course in this regard.

**Cllr. D. Healy-Rae said that acquiring these lands could have a lot of bearing on several projects in Killarney, especially the provision of a burial ground. This land was previously in Kerry County Council's ownership. The HSE could sell this land into private ownership. This land could also facilitate the improvement of the junction at the top of Lewis Road. Cllr. Healy-Rae asked that the Council explore every avenue to bring this land back into the ownership of the Council. He asked that the HSE be requested to transfer a few acres to the Council in order to provide a burial ground.**

**Ms. A. McAllen said that the HSE is not going to give the land to the Council free of charge but said that the Council could approach them.**

**Cllr. D. Healy-Rae said that the land was given to the HSE for nothing.**

**Cllr. B. Cronin said that the HSE would not give the land back for free. Some time ago, he asked the then HSE Service Manager, Mr. Gerry O'Dwyer to attend a meeting with John Breen. At that time, they said that they would be willing to negotiate. However, Mr. O'Dwyer is no longer in that position.**

**Cllr. M. Gleeson said the matter had been on the Town Council Agenda for years. Kerry County Council sought Senior Counsel advice regarding Edenburn and the advice was clear that Kerry County Council had no automatic right to that land.**

**5. Cllr. D. Healy-Rae:** To ask why Kerry County Council have not made Áras Phádraig available to the local community and to unlock the barrier and make this valuable carpark in the centre of the town available to the public.

**Reply:** The car park in question is not owned by Kerry County Council.

**Cllr. D. Healy-Rae asked why the car park could not be utilised.**

**Cllr. M. Gleeson said that it was not owned by Kerry County Council.**

**6. Cllr. D. Grady:** That this Council would continue with a Drugs Liaison Committee for the Killarney Municipal District Area.

**Reply:** This issue is more appropriate for the Kerry JPC and the Quality of Life SPC who will take their direction from the JPC.

**Cllr. D. Grady said that he was still active on the Drugs Liaison Committee in Killarney and there was no reason why Killarney Municipal District couldn't continue with it. This is very important and should be outside of the JPC.**

**7. Cllr. D. Grady:** That this Council would write to the appropriate authority to ascertain why the National Park was offered to accommodate the Killarney Music and Food Festival whilst the people of Killarney are unable to access the National Park via the Golden Gates.

**Reply:** This is a matter for resolution by the members.

**Cllr. D. Grady said that the Trustees of Muckross House are doing a wonderful job. He understood the Regional Manager gave permission to use the National Park for this Festival. He asked that a letter would issue to the Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht querying the decision to give permission to use the National Park for this purpose.**

**Cllr. M. Gleeson said that the Trustees of Muckross House had nothing to do with the Music and Food Festival.**

**8. Cllr. D. Grady:** That this Council would write to the relevant Government Minister and to the Trustees of Muckross House requesting that they would hire night staff to patrol Muckross and the National Park every night because of the danger of fire. This is one of our crown jewels.

**Reply:** This is a matter for resolution by the members.

**Cllr. D. Grady said that his Motion should have read that a nightwatch person should be employed in Muckross House to patrol it in the event of a fire starting.**

**Cllr. M. Gleeson suggested that a letter issue to Mr. Pat Dawson in this regard.**

**Cllr. B. Cronin Seconded this Proposal.**

## **(b) Questions**

**1. Cllr. J.J. Culloty:** At what stage is the transfer of Áras Phádraig to this Council and when is it envisaged that this process will be completed?

**Reply:** There are still a number of legal matters to be completed in relation to this transfer. Members will be kept updated on progress.

**Cllr. J.J. Culloty acknowledged that this matter was discussed earlier.**

**2. Cllr. N. Kelleher:** To ask the members to call on the HSE to reinstate the second emergency ambulance which serves the Killarney Municipal District and if not, to explain to us why not?

**Reply:** This is a matter for resolution by the members.

**Cllr. N. Kelleher Proposed that a letter issue to the HSE on the matter.**

**Cllr. J.J. Culloty Seconded the Proposal.**

**3. Cllr. N. Kelleher:** That this authority liaise with the NPWS with regard to securing the access to Tomies Woods that was always available to those that wanted to access the woodlands.

**Reply:** This is a matter for consideration by the members.

**Cllr. N. Kelleher requested that a letter issue to Mr. Pat Dawson, NPWS for an update on the matter.**

#### **15.07.29.07 Reception of Deputation**

On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. D. Healy-Rae, SECONDED by Cllr. J.J. Culloty it was agreed that a deputation from the public and business people of Fair Hill, Killarney would be received at the next meeting of the Municipal District of Killarney.

#### **15.07.29.08 Date of Next Meeting**

It was agreed the next meeting of the members of the Municipal District of Killarney will be held on Wednesday, 7<sup>th</sup> October 2015.

#### **15.07.29.09 Correspondence**

Cllr. N. Kelleher referred to the correspondence received from Minister Heather Humphries in relation to the gorse fires in Killarney National Park. There were 75 fires in 2014 but this increased to 200 fires this year to-date. Cllr. Kelleher said that the Minister was not adequately addressing this issue. A letter was sent to the Minister on behalf of the Members but their concerns were being ignored.

### **15.07.29.10 Any Other Business**

Mr. D. Doyle referred to the proposed Kilcummin Sewerage Scheme and said that the road would not be overlaid until such time as all the works had been completed. Funding will still be available for these roadworks.

Mr. Doyle said that the Council intended to carry out roadworks at Farrankeel instead of Kilcummin totalling " 94,000. Mr. Doyle hoped that this work would commence this year. The balance of funding will have to go to the next road on the 2013 - 2016 Roadworks Programme which has already been adopted by Full Council.

Cllr. B. O'Connell referred to the Agenda and asked the Members for their approval not to have presentations on the days that deputations come to the meetings.

Ms. McAllen suggested that it might be more appropriate to hold only one presentation at each meeting.

Cllr. B. Cronin said it was important to give time to the deputations.

#### **Páirc Chuimin**

Cllr. N. Kelleher referred to Páirc Chuimin and said there were still outstanding issues there and the clean-up was not finalised. He asked was there money left over in the Bond as the fence has almost completely collapsed.

Mr. D. Doyle said that it is unlikely that there is any money left.

Cllr. Kelleher asked that he be kept updated on this issue

#### **Coolcorcoran Bridge / Deerpark By-Pass**

Cllr. D. Healy-Rae referred to the footpath for the residents near Deerpark Bypass up to Coolcorcoran Bridge. He asked could speed ramps or signage be installed indicating the presence of children and pedestrians.

Ms. B. Mulryan agreed that she would look at this.

#### **Listry Bridge**

Cllr. B. Cronin referred to the wall repairs at Listry Bridge and asked when they would commence.

Ms. B. Mulryan stated she hoped the work would commence in the next 2 - 3 weeks.

#### **Hardship Scheme**

On the Proposal of Cllr. D. Healy-Rae, Seconded by Cllr. B. Cronin, it was agreed to recommend to full Council that the Hardship Scheme would operate on a countywide basis in 2016 rather than on a Municipal District basis.

**15.07.29.11 Conference report on the Cathaoirleach's visit to Kendal, England - Cllr. J.J. Culloty.**

Cllr. J.J. Culloty's report was noted.

The Meeting concluded at 15.30.

Cathaoirleach of Killarney M.D.

Ms. B. Reidy  
A/Meetings Administrator