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**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE MEMBERS OF THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF LISTOWEL HELD IN , ÁRAS AN PHIARSAIGH, LISTOWEL ON THURSDAY, 9<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2014**

**MIONTUAIRISCÍ NA CRUINNITHE DE CHEANTAR BARDASACH LIOS TUATHAIL A THIONÓLADH IN ÁRAS AN PHIARSAIGH, LIOS TUATHAIL, AR AN 9<sup>Ú</sup> DEIREADH FÓMHAIR 2014**

**PRESENT/I LÁTHAIR**

**Councillors/Comhairleoirí**

**Cllr. R Beasley  
Cllr. J Brassil  
Cllr. M Kennelly  
Cllr. J Moloney  
Cllr. D Nolan  
Cllr. L Purtill  
Cllr. A Thornton**

**In attendance/i láthair**

<b>Mr. O Ring</b>	<b>Delegated Executive for the MD of Listowel</b>
<b>Mr. G O'Brien</b>	<b>Meetings Administrator</b>
<b>Mr. G Riordan</b>	<b>SE</b>
<b>Mr. J Sheahan</b>	<b>SEE</b>
<b>Mr. P Stack</b>	<b>A/DOS Planning</b>
<b>Mr. M McEnery</b>	<b>Executive Engineer</b>
<b>Mr. M Griffin</b>	<b>Area Engineer</b>
<b>Mr. C Mangan</b>	<b>SEE Water Services</b>
<b>Mr. J McEniry</b>	<b>EE Water Services</b>
<b>Ms. M Galvin</b>	<b>CO Corporate Affairs</b>

The meeting commenced at 10.00am.

**14.10.09.01 Confirmation of the Minutes**

- (a) On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. R. Beasley, SECONDED by Cllr. D. Nolan it was agreed that the Minutes of the meeting of the members of the Municipal District of Listowel held on 8<sup>th</sup> September 2014 be confirmed.

**14.10.09.02 Business prescribed, by Statute, Standing Orders or Resolutions of the Municipal District Members for transaction at such meeting.**

(a) To agree a nominee to Kerry Life Skills Ltd.

Mr. G. O'Brien referred to this item which was discussed at the September Council Meeting. Kerry Life Education have invited 4 nominees from Kerry County Council to sit on the Board comprising of one Councillor from each Municipal District.

Cllr. J. Brassil stated that he was on the Board a number of years ago. Their mobile unit visits schools around the County providing life education to children. It is a very worthwhile project.

On the PROPOSAL OF Cllr. J. Brassil, SECONDED by Cllr. L. Purtill it was agreed to nominate Cllr. Aoife Thornton to the Board.

**14.10.09.03 Reception of Deputation from the Residents of Foildarrig, Duagh**

Cllr. M. Kennelly welcomed the deputation to the Meeting.

Mr. O. Ring addressed the meeting. He stated that he had only been made aware that morning that legal proceedings were associated with this issue. He stated that a deputation would not normally be received at a meeting where legal proceedings were in train and/or threat of same. He agreed, however, to let the deputation outline their case and he would apply the Standing Orders which read "*When the members of a deputation have addressed the meeting, they shall withdraw from the meeting*".

Cllr. R. Beasley welcomed the deputation, namely *(Name withheld for data protection purposes. A paper copy of unedited Minutes available on request)* He stated that the reason he asked for the deputation to attend the meeting was due to failure of a response to this issue from the Council. He asked why would Kerry County Council carry out works on one portion of road and not include the other.

*(Name withheld for data protection purposes. A paper copy of unedited Minutes available on request)* addressed the meeting. She circulated a one page synopsis outlining the details on flooding of properties at Foildarrig, Duagh. *(Name withheld for data protection purposes. A paper copy of unedited Minutes available on request)* stated that she moved into her family home in 2008 after renovating same. The first flood occurred in January 2011 and *(Name withheld for data protection purposes. A paper copy of unedited Minutes available on request)* house was completely flooded with water coming up from underneath the house. The cost to the insurers to refurbish same was nearly €15,000. Following this flood *(Name withheld for data protection purposes. A paper copy of unedited Minutes available on request)* closed up all open drains around her house so there was no open source of water near the house. The house again flooded in November 2011 with water coming in from the public road. All interior floors and doors had to be replaced again. *(Name*

*withheld for data protection purposes. A paper copy of unedited Minutes available on request*) then put in a "French Drain" around the house to take the water from the road.

On 14 May 2014 the house flooded for the third time. *(Name withheld for data protection purposes. A paper copy of unedited Minutes available on request)* did not have any insurance to cover the cost of refurbishment works as her insurers would no longer cover her for flood insurance.

*(Name withheld for data protection purposes. A paper copy of unedited Minutes available on request)* stated that her neighbours' properties started to flood also. Roadworks were completed by Kerry County Council in 2010 and the road level was raised and an open drain closed. 2 ft pipes were laid next to existing 1 ft pipe which were originally laid when the three bungalows were built.

*(Name withheld for data protection purposes. A paper copy of unedited Minutes available on request)* addressed the meeting. He stated that his house suffered a knock-on effect from *(Name withheld for data protection purposes. A paper copy of unedited Minutes available on request)* flooding. If he attempts to block the water it continues on to the next house.

*(Name withheld for data protection purposes. A paper copy of unedited Minutes available on request)* stated that her house is now uninsurable for flood damage. No company will quote her for insurance and her house is now unsaleable. The insurance on her other property in Limerick has had a knock-on effect as a result. €50,000 worth of renovations has been carried out to date. *(Name withheld for data protection purposes. A paper copy of unedited Minutes available on request)* aunt who grew up in the house never witnessed flooding in that house. What changed to cause these three houses to flood at the same time?

*(Name withheld for data protection purposes. A paper copy of unedited Minutes available on request)* addressed the meeting. He stated he could put in a ramp at a cost of €1,000 on his property but that would cause flooding to the neighbours. Something needs to be done immediately.

*(Name withheld for data protection purposes. A paper copy of unedited Minutes available on request)* stated that they only approached a Solicitor as Kerry County Council did not resolve the issue. The Solicitor asked for a reply within 10 days. No reply from the Council has been received to date.

Cllr. M. Kennelly stated that this issue should not have occurred. He hoped the matter could be progressed immediately and a solution sought.

Mr. O. Ring gave an assurance that the matter would be looked into immediately.

Cllr. R. Beasley stated the matter should remain on the Agenda until the issue is addressed. The deputation would return at a later stage if the flooding has not been resolved.

Cllr. J. Brassil stated that it was the responsibility of Kerry County Council and the Councillors to carry out analysis of what is/is not an issue. The Engineers of Kerry County Council need to immediately address what works need to be carried out and

report back to the landowners in question. This work needs to be done on a Local Authority and/or landowner side.

Mr. O. Ring gave an assurance that a report will be prepared for the next meeting of the Municipal District and the matter would be kept on the Agenda.

Cllr. M. Kennelly referred to the Flood Risk Assessment for Listowel which was on the Agenda previously. This needs to be carried out as soon as possible. It is important that the Emergency Response Unit is in place immediately.

Mr. O. Ring stated that the Catchment Flood Risk Assessment (CFRAM) Project is addressing the major issues in the County at present. The Roads Department and Civil Defence are all involved. Most flooding occurs when there is a high intensity rainfall of short duration. Ballylongford has specific problems. Work is ongoing with the OPW through the CFRAM Project.

Cllr. A. Thornton referred to a visit to Ballylongford on Monday by Minister Simon Harris. The Council Engineers have carried out great work there. The people of Ballylongford were greatly relieved to know that funding is available. This should have been applied for months ago.

Cllr. L. Purtill complimented Mr. J. Sheehan on the work carried out in Ballylongford. He stated that the people of Ballylongford were relieved to hear that funding would be available.

Cllr. R. Beasley referred to the flooding in The Cashen and Ballylongford. He stated that after the floods in January and February, there was a quick response from Kerry County Council. All that was required was to contact Tom Dunne and he responded immediately by providing sand bags where needed. Now all incidences have to go through the Area Office. Minister Hayes visited the affected areas in February and nothing has been done since. He informed the meeting that a 20ft embankment that the OPW had been repairing in The Cashen had burst earlier that week due to high tides.

Mr. J. Sheehan gave Cllr. Beasley his contact details to report all emergencies. Mr. Sheehan stated that he was contactable at this number any time of the day or night. Mr. Sheehan stated that they hope to start preparing an Emergency Plan for Adverse Weather for the Council at large.

Cllr. J. Brassil referred to the Emergency Funding which is available. In theory funding is available within 24 hours but it is an entirely different matter when applied for. He referred to the Ballyheigue Minor Works Programme. Cllr. Brassil stated that applying for same is a bureaucratic nightmare. A substantial body of work is involved in preparing the application for the Department. Is there a way to receive this money quickly?

Mr. J. Sheehan said he will revert on this matter.

Mr. G. Riordan agreed that the guidelines were quite restrictive. Funding is for capital works, not maintenance works. The application can be quite challenging.

Cllr. R. Beasley asked if the moratorium on employing staff was resulting in less personnel on the ground and more in the offices.

Mr. O. Ring replied that this was not the case. Kerry County Council have enough people employed. We are working very efficiently but unfortunately, with less money.

Cllr. J. Moloney stated that funding is needed. He asked if the Council had a priority list of who should receive funding. Is there a long-term plan in place?

Mr. O. Ring stated that the CFRAM Project will identify priority areas in the country. Flood maps and design works will be published/finished by the OPW shortly.

Cllr. A. Thornton stated that The Cashen and Ballylongford have been identified in the CFRAM Project. We need to identify what works need to be done. What funding is available?

Cllr. M. Kennelly thanked Mr. J. Sheehan for the work done during the recent visit with Minister Harris.

#### **14.10.09.04 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 which was circulated:

### **Library Service Report for October 2014**

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

#### **Library service:**

- Kerry Library has published 2 guides to support the recently expanded Classroom Novels Collection – (i) a 36 page catalogue listing each book in the collection, organised alphabetically and coded using 11 different subject icons which will allow teachers to choose titles based on subject as well as age appropriate material. (ii) a short guide simply listing each book in the collection.

Copies of the guides will be issued to all primary schools in the county, both electronically & in hard copy.

Primary school teachers may borrow a set of each title free of charge for a 1 month period.

## **Community Services and Engagement**

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

### **Local Community Development Committee**

The inaugural meeting of the LCDC was held on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> September in Aras an Chontae. This meeting outlined the various responsibilities of the Committee including its role in the preparation of the community elements of the Local Economic & Community Plan and also in relation to the procurement process for the Social Inclusion Community Activation Programme (SICAP).

The Committee agreed the number of LOTS into which the county will be divided for the delivery of SICAP and the related procurement process. The agreed number of areas is three described as follows;

- Lot 1 – North, East and West Kerry
- Lot 2 – Rathmore Gneeveguilla Area
- Lot 3 – South Kerry and Killarney.

The tender process will commence in October and be finalised in early 2015.

### **Public Participation Network**

Preparations for the establishment of the PPN continued with registration up to 30<sup>th</sup> September. A number of information meetings were held throughout the county including Tralee detailing the role of the PPN and particularly its functions in relation to the selection of community members for the SPCs, JPC and ultimately for the permanent membership of the LCDC.

## **Emergency Services Report**

**Business Unit Manager: Mr Michael Hession CFO**

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

- July and August have been moderately active, with a typical Summer months pattern for Kerry. Road Traffic Accidents have been the notable feature.

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

- The annual licensing season is well under way without outstanding issues to date.
- The busy Summer schedule of crowd events has passed off without serious adversity to date.

### **Building Control:**

- The first completions of building projects taking place under the new Building Control Regulations of 2014 are beginning to come through. The national Building Control Management System (an online system) has just completed the development of the software to manage the processes associated with the certification and registration of compliant project completions.

### **Civil Defence:**

- Kerry Civil Defence was widely perceived to have led the VES sector excellently for the Ring of Kerry Cycle. Favourable comment included correspondence from the Director-General of the CD Organisation
- The usual provision of leadership and resources, particularly with the implementation of Event Medical Plans, continued with the major Summer crowd events in Killorglin and Tralee
- Recruitment, progression and the training of new and existing volunteer members is ongoing along with participation in Regional CD activities

### **Major Emergency Management:**

- Regional participation has been ongoing in Steering and Working Groups and in various sub-groups.

## **Environmental Protection Services**

**Business Unit Manager** – Mr Michael O Leary, Senior Executive Officer

## **Housing/Social Services Report**

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

# **Social Housing Activity Report at 30th September 2014 Listowel Municipal Area (L.M.A.)**

### **Social Housing Applicants**

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

Accommodation offers made for property located within Municipal Area	28
New Tenancies Commenced	22
Accommodation refusals	8

### Social Houses

#### **Vacant Group scheme properties within Municipal Area**

Under Repair (Excl those awaiting major refurbishment) 10

Awaiting Allocation 3

#### **Construction Programme**

Single Rural Dwellings - Site Transfer Stage 1

Single Rural Dwellings - under construction 1

Extensions - applications on hands 3

Extensions - Tender Stage 0

Extensions - under construction 0

### Rental Accommodation Scheme

	<u>County</u>	<u>L.M.A.</u>
	795 (incl. 94 Voluntary)	109 (incl. 37 Voluntary)
Total Active Tenancies		
New tenancies in 2014	84	9
Tenancies terminated in 2014	26	2

### Availability Agreements

	<u>County</u>	<u>L.M.A.</u>
Leased Properties	40	4
Leases under negotiation	4	0

### Social Housing Leasing

	<u>County</u>	<u>L.M.A.</u>
Leased Properties	18	2
Leases under negotiation	4	1

### Housing Adaptation Grants (County Wide)

		<u>No.</u>	<u>€</u>
Allocation 2014 (DOE + ICRs)			€1,788,778.00
Opening Commitments			€338,455.58
Allocated to date	316 Applications		€1,877,561.00
Total			€2,216,016.58
Grants Paid	202 Applications		€1,134,518.25

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

**1. Cllr. D. Nolan:** That Kerry County Council provide plastics and paper recycling facilities in Listowel Town.

**Reply:** Kerry County Council will not be providing plastics and paper recycling facilities in Listowel Town as the costs involved are too great. There is, however, a commercially operated facility in the town.

**Cllr. Nolan stated that Kerry County Council have withdrawn from providing a waste collection service and the North Kerry Landfill had**



recently closed. The cost of not providing facilities can sometimes be an issue. This matter needs to be considered on an ongoing basis.

**Cllr. J. Brassil** asked about the proposal to provide a recycling facility at Tanavalla. He stated that he was the only Councillor to support the venture at the time.

**Cllr. M. Kennelly** stated that 1 or 2 areas have been identified as potential facilities.

**2. Cllr. J. Moloney:** Is the Listowel Municipal Authority in a position to support the establishment of Allotments in the area?

**Reply:** We will examine the demand locally for allotments and report back to the next Municipal Meeting on the feasibility of establishing municipal allotments in Listowel.

**Cllr. Moloney** asked if people should write in and express their interest in the provision of allotments.

**Mr. O. Ring** stated that he will speak to the Sustainable Communities/Quality of Life Directorate. If Councillors had any information pertaining to interest in same, it would be appreciated.

**Cllr. J. Brassil** stated that there were 4 allotments in Tralee. We need to look at what worked in Tralee.

**Mr. J. Sheehan** stated that one of the allotments was working excellently, two were operating reasonably well and the remaining one was not working well.

**Mr. G. Riordan** stated that the good effort could not be sustained. Regeneration is keeping that going. Someone looking after such allotments makes it a success.

**Mr. J. Sheehan** stated that the design of same needed to be user friendly. An umbrella group was needed to steer them on.

**Mr. O. Ring** stated that Kerry County Council supports allotments in principle and are open to proposals.

**Mr. G. Riordan** stated that there was a social element to having a garden. In rural Ireland the question of owning some land is not usually a problem.

On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. M. Kennelly, SECONDED by Cllr. R. Beasley it was agreed to take a 10 minute recess to read over the Notices of Motions from the

Operations, Health & Safety Directorate in an effort to advance the discussion of same at the meeting.

**14.10.09.05 To note update report from the Operations, Health & Safety Directorate**

It was agreed to note the following Report from Mr. G Riordan Senior Engineer:

1. Programme of Works

Listowel Town	<p><b>Roads</b></p> <p>Roads Programme – Overlays on Ballybunion Road &amp; William Street Laneway complete;</p> <p>Footpaths to be renewed at: Ballygologue Park – to commence by mid October.</p> <p>Junction Improvement works at Convent Cross commenced 1<sup>st</sup> July and are complete for 2014.</p> <p><b>Housing</b></p> <p>Refurbishment works are complete at: 1 Convent View and 6 Courthouse Lawn, Listowel</p> <p>Refurbishment works are ongoing at: 101 Feale Drive, Listowel (completion early November)</p>
Listowel Municipal District (Rural)	<p><b>Roads</b></p> <p>Restoration Improvement:</p> <p>R551 Ballyduff Village: Works on the watermain replacement will be complete by mid October. Pavement restoration will commence upon completion of watermain restoration.</p> <p><b>Housing</b></p> <p>One single rural house is currently under construction in Clashmealcon, Causeway.</p> <p>No 8 Rusheen, Ballylongford is completed.</p> <p>A single rural cottage at Ballydonoghue is currently being refurbished and will be due for completion by early November.</p> <p>103 houses within the Listowel Municipal District are awaiting insulation works. A contractor has been appointed and works are expected to commence within a fortnight.</p> <p>There are no further major works planned for Housing at present, however, the maintenance programme is ongoing.</p>

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

1. **Cllr. R. Beasley:** That Kerry County Council take immediate action on the Ballinclogher to Abbeydorney Road which has become dangerous with many bumps and hollows which will eventually lead to accidents approaching the winter months.

**Reply:** The severe depressions along this stretch of road have been repaired. Reconstruction of roadways in areas with a peat subsurface is extremely expensive and Kerry County Council does not currently have the financial resources to undertake such works. Listowel Area Operations will monitor the roadway and any failures or potholes will be repaired.

**Cllr. R. Beasley expressed satisfaction with this response. He stated that he was still waiting for Phase 2, Ballinclogher to Abbeydorney. He asked the Council to obtain finance to carry out that work. The road causes a major hindrance to the locals.**

2. **Cllr. R. Beasley:** What is the up-to-date position with the proposed Church Yard for Lixnaw.

**Reply:** The Part 8 planning process for a new burial ground in Lixnaw is currently at internal consultation stage. It is anticipated that this proposed new burial ground will go forward for public consultation in November 2014.

**Cllr. R. Beasley was pleased with the response. He stated that no public representative had objected to this process.**

3. **Cllr. R. Beasley:** That a new barrier be erected at the entrance to the Carpark in Ballyeigh.

**Reply:** The barrier at the entrance to the car park is functional, albeit in need of a coat of paint. We will cost a replacement unit and revert to you.

**Cllr. R. Beasley acknowledged this reply.**

4. **Cllr. R. Beasley:** That Kerry County Council take immediate action to fix the wall at the Killeen Churchyard at Kilmore which was badly damaged during the storms of January and February of this year.

**Reply:** Funding is being made available to Listowel Municipal District Operations and works have commenced on this project. It should be finalised within the month.

**Cllr. R. Beasley expressed satisfaction with this response. The wall was damaged during the storms. Unbaptised babies are buried here.**

5. **Cllr. R. Beasley:** Will there be any work carried out to help the people from the Cashen Estuary where so many homes were damaged during the storms of early 2014.

**Reply:** The Cashen Estuary and its associated drainage channel networks are in the care of the Office of Public Works and consequently Kerry County Council does not have a direct involvement in the maintenance of embankments, sluices, channels of other defensive mechanisms.

**Cllr. R. Beasley acknowledged the reply.**

6. **Cllr. R. Beasley:** What is the up-to-date position with the serious flooding that has occurred in Ballylongford over many years.

**Reply:** The OPW commenced the CFRAM (Catchment Flood Risk Assessment and Management) Programme in 2011. Ballylongford is included in the Shannon River Basin District CFRAM Study. Currently the Consultants retained by the OPW are preparing detailed Flood Maps, which are expected to be published later this year. The final output from the study will define the current and future flood risk in Ballylongford and how this risk can be managed. The Council has been working in close liaison with the OPW and their Consultants to ensure the completion of this study as speedily as possible and to identify what measures are necessary to mitigate against the risk of flooding. This will allow the Council to make any application for any funding necessary for works identified.

The carrying out of Flood Risk Assessments is quite complex and detailed modeling is required. The difficulty in providing any mitigating measures is in assessing the implications such measures could have on other properties.

With reference to interim measures to alleviate flooding in the village, an on-site meeting took place between Ballylongford Flood Action Committee and Kerry County Council on Thursday 11/09/2014.

The scope of this meeting sought to determine what the residents determined to be the main causes of flooding and to examine the defensive weaknesses which allowed inundation.

Listowel Municipal Operations technical staff are currently outlining and costing general mitigation works and finalising proposals which may provide a temporary respite to flooding in specific areas of the Village.

A further meeting will take place with the Ballylongford Flood Action Committee prior to the finalisation of this report.

**Cllr. Beasley stated that major works need to be carried out here.**

7. **Cllr. L. Purtill:** That Kerry County Council would put in place a stop sign on the Coast Road in Tarbert where it meets the R551 (on the Tarbert side of the Comprehensive School). This has been requested by the teachers in the Comprehensive School.

**Reply:** This stop sign has been put in place.

**Cllr. Purtill was pleased with this response.**

8. **Cllr. L. Purtill:** Are there any further developments preventing flooding in Ballylongford since our last meeting?

**Reply:** The OPW commenced the CFRAM (Catchment Flood Risk Assessment and Management) Programme in 2011. Ballylongford is included in the Shannon River Basin District CFRAM study. Currently the Consultants retained by the OPW are preparing detailed Flood Maps, which are expected to be published later this year. The final output from the study will define the current and future flood risk in Ballylongford and how this risk can be managed. The Council has been working in close liaison with the OPW and their Consultants to ensure the completion of this study as speedily as possible and to identify what measures are necessary to mitigate against the risk of flooding. This will allow the Council to make any application for any funding necessary for works identified.

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A further meeting will take place with the Ballylongford Flood Action Committee prior to the finalisation of this report.

**Cllr. Purtill stated that he is delighted that something is going to happen. A positive meeting was held with Kerry County Council and the residents. He expressed his thanks to Mr. J. Sheehan for being present at same meeting.**

9. **Cllr. L. Purtill:** Has Kerry County Council reached a decision regarding the Japanese Knotweed and when will it commence?

**Reply:** On the specific area to which the Councillor referred in a Notice of Motion at the September 2014 meeting, Listowel District Operations have liaised with a specialist contractor who has recommended a course of treatment. We have engaged a contractor to complete these works and to monitor the situation and advise if further treatment is warranted. Works have commenced.

Japanese Knotweed is an invasive and pervasive species and over the winter period we will attempt to log all known instances of growth in the Listowel Municipal District. In general terms, dealing with the problem on an ongoing basis will not be easy and will require a major financial input, which is currently unavailable to Listowel Municipal District Operations.

**Cllr. Purtill asked if a house in Ballylongford had been treated.**

**Mr. J. Sheehan replied that a contractor had commenced works there. All incidences of Japanese Knotweed are to be logged in North Kerry. They will revert to the Senior Management Team with incidences and seek funding. The cost of same is extremely prohibitive.**

**Mr. G. Riordan stated that the Knotweed has to be sprayed 3 - 4 times a year with Roundup. Preferably Roundup should be injected into the root with a needle as it will penetrate to the root system. The main issue is that people do not recognise the weed.**

**Cllr. J. Brassil stated it was a national problem. A programme on television highlighting this matter would get people's attention. It won't register with people otherwise.**

**Mr. O. Ring replied that it was a matter for the Department of the Environment and Heritage to pursue this matter.**

**Cllr. J. Moloney stated that anyone contracted by Kerry County Council to carry out works should be advised not to cut it as it will spread.**

**Mr. O. Ring agreed that this was a good idea and would follow this up.**

- 10. Cllr. L. Purtill:** That Kerry County Council would insulate the attic and the walls of a Local Authority rural cottage (details with Operations, Health & Safety Directorate).

**Reply:** 103 houses within the Listowel Municipal District are currently earmarked for insulation upgrade works. A contractor has been appointed and works are expected to commence within a fortnight. The named tenant is not on the current list for works, however we will forward her details for the next tranche of upgrades.

**Cllr. Purtill acknowledged this reply.**

- 11. Cllr. J. Brassil:** That Kerry County Council repair the road at Tarmons, Tarbert outside the property of (details with Operations, Health & Safety Directorate).

**Reply:** No complaint has been received in relation to this issue.

Road and Lighting faults can be reported to Listowel Municipal district Operations at Áras Phádraigh, Listowel - Tel: 068 / 21004.

*The following protocol in relation to reported road faults will be established within the Listowel Municipal Area.*

- *A logging system of received complaints is kept at the Listowel Municipal District Office.*
- *All lighting defects, for which Kerry County Council has responsibility, will be notified to our service provider immediately.*
- *Any reported road defect will be examined within 1 week, emergencies within 1 day and a course of action determined.*
- *All minor road restoration works, which are deemed necessary, will be undertaken within 2 working weeks of the initial report.*

We will now log this complaint and undertake to carry out remedial works within a fortnight.

**As a follow on to this reply, Mr. J. Sheehan stated that a procedure for reporting incidences was in place. Replying to Notices of Motion takes up a lot of time. He stated he would prefer if people would contact the office instead of reporting the problem through a Notice of Motion. Anyone can log a complaint. This is the easiest manner in which to deal with issues. He agreed that he would set up a specific email address for this purpose.**



**Cllr. Brassil stated that he spoke with the individual in question. This is not just a pothole. The road itself needs to be addressed.**

- 12. Cllr. R. Beasley:** That Kerry County Council would put up a sign indicating shop and toilets at East End, Ballybunion in Buckley's Petrol and Deli which would be beneficial to tourists.

**Reply:** Two large directional signs indicating public conveniences are situated at the junction of East End and Church Road. These signs are positioned approximately 70m from Buckley's Store. Listowel Municipal District Operations does not operate a policy of providing signage for private stores or conveniences. Finger post signage is regulated by Section 254 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended) and application forms are available online or from Kerry County Council Planning Department.

**Cllr. Beasley stated that a standard sign was all that was required here. Public toilets were never opened at this location for people exiting Ballybunion.**

**Mr. G. Riordan stated that the erection of signage required planning. Due to cluttering/safety issues, a licensing process is in place and was an option available to pursue.**

- 13. Cllr. D. Nolan:** That all future road projects involving Kerry County Council, both new and improvement works, take note of national travel hierarchy guidelines, and factor usage by cyclists and pedestrians as a priority to ensure the safety of all road users.

**Reply:** All National Guidelines are taken into account at the planning stage of any proposed road-works.

**Cllr. Nolan stated that a lot of new roads projects have cycling and walkways using the same lane. These should be separate as it is not safe to have people walking on the same road utilised by cyclists. We do not have a proper infrastructure for cyclists in place at a time when cycling is becoming increasingly popular.**

**Cllr. R. Beasley supported the Motion. He stated that Kerry County Council should consider providing 2 separate lanes from a tourism and health and safety point of view. Listowel is a poor relation to South Kerry and Tralee when it comes to these facilities.**

**Mr. J. Sheehan said he would bear this in mind.**

**Cllr. J. Brassil stated that he had already asked that a travel study being undertaken by the Council be extended to include North Kerry.**

- 14. Cllr. D. Nolan:** That Kerry County Council carry out energy efficiency and insulation upgrade to the house of tenant (details with Operations, Health & Safety Directorate).

**Reply:** 103 houses within the Listowel Municipal District are currently earmarked for insulation upgrade works. A contractor has been appointed and works are expected to commence within a fortnight. The named tenant is not on the current list for works, however we will forward her details for the next tranche of upgrades.

**Cllr. Nolan asked if the insulation upgrade works were provided on a rolling basis.**

**Mr. J. Sheehan replied that there was no guarantee going forward.**

**Mr. G. Riordan stated that there was no cost to Kerry County Council as they were tied into the carbon credits. The ESB have to buy carbon credits so it results in a win/win for the Council.**

**Cllr. J. Brassil referred to Marian Park, Ballyheigue. He was promised following a Notice of Motion raised by him previously that works would be carried out.**

**Mr. J. Sheehan replied that Ballyheigue would be their main focus for the next work programme.**

- 15. Cllr. D. Nolan:** That Kerry County Council replace the range/stove at the home of (details with Operations, Health & Safety Directorate) as the current heating system is inefficient and unable to adequately heat the property.

**Reply:** Repairs to the range will be undertaken within a fortnight.

**Cllr. Nolan welcomed the reply.**

**Cllr. M. Kennelly raised his concerns regarding a sick child whose family are tenants in Listowel. The child's parents wish to convert the stove and are willing to pay €10 per week onto their rent to pay for same. The child needs to be kept warm and the cost of the oil is prohibitive.**

**Mr. G. Riordan stated that if they received the money for this they would carry out the works. Mr. John Breen or Mr. Liam Quinlan, Housing would need to be contacted in regard to this matter.**

**Mr. O. Ring said that the SPC will look at these issues and formulate a policy. A general policy would be formulated through the SPC and more specific matters through Mr. J. Breen and Mr. L. Quinlan.**

- 16. Cllr. J. Moloney:** That it is insured that all gullies and drains along public roads are maintained and free from any debris causing blockage.

**Reply:** Listowel Municipal District Area has 890km of roadway and 17 no. towns and villages, all of which have some form of drainage system.

Given our available resources, this proposition is a physical impossibility, however we will endeavour to clean any non-functioning gully or drain to minimise the risk of localised flooding.

**Cllr. Moloney acknowledged the reply. He asked that drains be kept free from blockage.**

- 17. Cllr. A. Thornton:** Kerry County Council provide an update in relation to the issues with the door and stove of (details with Operations, Health & Safety Directorate) The New Houses, Duagh Village. Queries raised with the Clerk.

**Reply:** The stove could not be inspected upon our first visit, however the Clerk of Works will arrange for a time when the unit can be assessed and arrange for any repairs for which the Council is responsible.

**Cllr. Thornton acknowledged the reply.**

- 18. Cllr. A. Thornton:** Kerry County Council to consider a Pedestrian Crossing at the new playground in Moyvane.

**Reply:** The request has been forwarded to the Road Design Office of Kerry County Council for examination and determination. Refer to the reply to a similar motion of the July Listowel Municipal District Meeting.

*"This location has been referred to the Road Design Office for assessment in accordance with the current guidelines as to the suitability and justification for a pedestrian crossing. Parking has been provided along the front of the playground to alleviate the need to cross the road".*

We have, as yet, not received a determination from the Road Design Office on the matter. We undertake to revert to the Listowel Municipal District meeting when a report is received.

**Cllr. Thornton acknowledged the reply.**

**Cllr. M Kennelly supported the Motion.**

- 19. Cllr. A. Thornton:** That Kerry County Council send notice to the landowners in relation to dangerous and overgrown hedges on the main Duagh / Listowel Road, but more particularly, when driving down Lisroe towards Hayes' Cross. The overgrown hedges are causing a serious obstruction to traffic.

**Reply:** The request has been forwarded to the Road Enforcement Officer of Kerry County Council for action.

**Cllr. Thornton referred to this matter which was discussed at the previous Municipal Meeting. She stated the need for efficiency going forward. She asked if an update on same could be provided to the Members.**

**Mr. G. Riordan stated that a problem arose issuing the hedgecutting notices to landowners and as a result the letters issued 2 weeks later than anticipated. He agreed that he would have information for the next meeting from Sean Barry. He wished to thank the landowners who are maintaining their hedges. He will put the item on the next Agenda and look at the procedures.**

- 20. Cllr. A. Thornton:** That Kerry County Council send notice to the landowners in relation to dangerous and overgrown hedges between Duagh Village and the Cork Line but more particularly, when driving towards Larkin's Cross. The overgrown hedges are causing a serious obstruction to traffic for about a quarter of a mile on this road and are stretching approx. 6 feet onto the road.

**Reply:** The request has been forwarded to the Road Enforcement Officer of Kerry County Council for action.

**Cllr. Thornton dealt with this Motion in conjunction with Notice of Motion No 19 above.**

- 21. Cllr. A. Thornton:** Kerry County Council provide an update in relation to the Pedestrian Crossing proposed between the Duagh Sports Centre and the Duagh National School.

**Reply:** The request has been forwarded to the Road Design Office of Kerry County Council for examination and determination.

Refer to the reply to a similar motion of the July Listowel Municipal District Meeting:

*"----- a pedestrian crossing, alone, at this location, would not alone be appropriate to facilitate the safe crossing of school children in large numbers.*

*The school authorities should be encouraged to develop procedures and a safety protocol for the times when the children will be crossing the road.*

*This location is situated within a 50kmph speed limit and any concerns regarding the speed of traffic should be referred to the Gardaí".*

We have, as yet, not received a determination from the Road Design Office on the matter. We undertake to revert to the Listowel Municipal District meeting when a report is received.

**Cllr. Thornton acknowledged this reply.**

**Mr. J. Sheehan informed the meeting that funding for "a" pedestrian crossing in Duagh had been submitted to the Department the day before. He was not sure of the exact location. He will revert with the details of same.**

- 22. Cllr. A. Thornton:** That Kerry County Council to finish the footpath in Duagh Village which would end at Foildarrig Cross as there is a small part of the footpath unfinished.

**Reply:** Surfacing the footpath to where the current kerb-line ends from the existing sealed section of pavement will cost approximately €4,000. Listowel Municipal District Operations does not currently have a budget to undertake these works, however, this project would be suitable for County Councillors' Allocations.

If the proposition is to extend the footpath beyond the current end of kerb-line, this would involve the acquisition of land to undertake works and we would require to undertake a more in-depth analysis of costs.

**Cllr. Thornton stated that it was unfortunate for locals that the work had not finished.**

**Mr. J. Sheehan replied that there were budgetary issues for project. The works were costed very tightly.**

- 23. Cllr. A. Thornton:** That Kerry County Council consider a bus shelter in Duagh Village for users of the bus.

**Reply:** The responsibility for the provision of bus shelters for school children lies with the Department of Transport, Tourism & Sport. The National Transport Authority is the body vested in the provision of Rural Bus and associated services.

We have contacted the Department without success so far. We have also been in touch with the newly formed Kerry Transport Co-ordination Unit (TCU) who forwarded our request to the NTA. Our request has gone to their Planning and Investment Unit. We undertake to revert to you on receipt of a reply.

**Cllr. Thornton acknowledged the reply.**

**Mr. J. Sheehan stated that a number of emails relating to this matter had been received.**

**Kerry Community Transport Ltd currently has no funding for the provision of bus shelters in rural areas.**

**The issue was also sent to the Minister for Transport, Tourism & Sport, Paschal Donohoe T.D. for his consideration. The Private Secretary of the Department forwarded the request to the National Transport Authority, who is now tasked with the provision of bus shelters throughout the State. The matter was referred to the Chief Executive of the NTA and we are awaiting a reply.**

- 24. Cllr. A. Thornton:** Kerry County Council to confirm when the extended roadway at the end of the main road into the Meadows will be finished off, i.e. outside the house of (details with Operations, Health & Safety Directorate).

**Reply:** The roadway in question is not in the care of Kerry County Council, consequently the local authority is not responsible for the provision of this roadway.

**Cllr. Thornton stated that she will be pursuing this matter as the problem needs to be dealt with. This is not acceptable.**

**Cllr. J. Moloney requested that Kerry County Council continue to follow up on the matter. He hopes to see progress soon.**

**Cllr. J. Kennelly supported the Motion.**

**Mr. J. Sheehan replied that Kerry County Council will not be doing the works in question. It is a private road.**

- 25. Cllr. M. Kennelly:** That Kerry County Council investigate and alleviate the parking facilities in Ballygologue Park, Listowel.

**Reply:** There are 112 houses in Ballygologue Park of which 23 units are currently in local authority ownership.

In relation to car parking, there is a minimum of 115 on-street linear spaces contiguous with the 'near side' footpath. Approximately 35 houses have dedicated driveways and there is an 'off street' parking area capable of supporting a minimum of 12 spaces. This gives 162 total available parking slots allowing 1.45 spaces per housing unit. All except one house has rear access.

The road widths are in the 7.0m bracket and are sufficient to allow easy transit of the majority of generated traffic. The former Listowel Town Council engaged with the Residents' Association with regard to the provision of some extra parking spaces, however a consensus opinion could not be achieved as to how or where they were to be located. Should the Ballygologue Residents' Association achieve a unity of determination in relation to the proposed location, we will provide an estimated cost of the project and return to you for your determination.

**Cllr. Kennelly acknowledged the reply and stated that he will speak with the Residents' Association on the matter.**

**Cllr. D. Nolan supported the Motion. She stated that the upper and bottom corners were congested. A solution to the problem would be welcomed.**

- 26. Cllr. M. Kennelly:** That Kerry County Council carry out a survey on the safety of cobble footpaths in Listowel Town and to examine the footpaths within the Council's housing estates, in particular, Ballygologue Park, Listowel.

**Reply:** (a) The Risk Management Officer, Kerry County Council has indicated that the number of Public Liability Claims within the Listowel Central Town Zone is small, mostly historical, and would not be considered excessive in comparison with comparable areas in the County. Public liability claims are a reasonable indicator of the relative condition and safety that a surface provides for pedestrian transit.

(b) There is approximately 1.0km of footpath in Ballygologue Park, large segments of which have recently been upgraded by the former Listowel Town Council. 98% of the walking surface is in excellent condition. Works to upgrade further elements of the footpath system, inclusive of disability access, will be undertaken before the end of 2014.

**Cllr. Kennelly stated that there was an issue with the cobble footpaths. He knows a person who recently fell on the cobbles but did not pursue a claim against the Council. A survey needs to be carried out. Need to prevent accidents occurring again.**

**Mr. J. Sheehan replied that if the issue was with a specific area, to notify the Engineers and they would deal with it immediately.**

- 27. Cllr. M. Kennelly:** That the road servicing Dirrah West in Listowel be resurfaced with immediate effect.

**Reply:** This section of road (L6037) is not currently on a Road Improvement Programme. The condition of the surface renders it unsuitable for inclusion on the Restoration Maintenance (Surface Dressing Programme in 2015). The Road Improvement Programme (Strengthening) has been determined to the end of 2016. This segment of carriageway can be put forward for inclusion in a subsequent programme. In the interim, Listowel Municipal District Operations will continue to inspect and undertake periodic repairs on this roadway.

**Cllr. Kennelly sought clarification on the statement " *The condition of the surface renders it unsuitable for inclusion on the Restoration Maintenance (Surface Dressing Programme in 2015)*".**

**Mr. J. Sheehan replied that surface dressing only seals the surface. The rain causes the potholes. An area that is heavily filled sometimes has undulations on the surface. The surface would need to be repaired with Bitmac. This is not included on the Roads Programme. He stated he would try and include it on future Roads Programmes.**

**(c) Questions**

- 1. Cllr. J. Brassil:** What is the up-to-date status with the bus shelter for Sráid Thaidhg Estate, Ballyheigue?

**Reply:** The responsibility for the provision of bus shelters for school children lies with the Department of Transport, Tourism & Sport. The National Transport Authority is the body vested in the provision of rural bus and associated services. We have contacted the Department without success so far.

We have also been in touch with the newly formed Kerry Transport Coordination Unit (TCU) who has forwarded our request to the NTA. Our request has gone to their Planning and Investment Unit. We undertake to revert to you on receipt of a reply.

Should we have to provide units ourselves the associated cost of a single bus shelter, without lighting, will vary from €16,500 - €22,000 depending on specification. You may consider this for a scheme funded from Councillors' Allocations.

**Cllr. Brassil stated he was confused with this response.**



**Mr. J. Sheehan stated that a number of emails relating to this matter had been received.**

**Kerry Community Transport Ltd currently has no funding for the provision of bus shelters in rural areas.**

**The issue was also sent to the Minister for Transport, Tourism & Sport, Paschal Donohoe T.D. for his consideration. The Private Secretary of the Department forwarded the request to the National Transport Authority, who is now tasked with the provision of bus shelters throughout the State. The matter was referred to the Chief Executive of the NTA and we are awaiting a reply.**

**If the reply to our request for funding is in the negative, the financial outlay for the provision of a bus shelter is €16,500 - €22,000. This is made up of the purchase of a propriety unit plus a concrete base, with no provision for lighting.**

- 2. Cllr. J. Brassil:** What is the up-to-date status with the road safety measures for the Clounametig Road, Abbeydorney?

**Reply:** This issue has been referred to the Road Design Office for assessment. We have, as yet, not received a determination from the Road Design Office on the matter. We undertake to revert to the Listowel Municipal District meeting when a report is received.

**Cllr. Brassil stated that a fatality occurred on this road last year. It is a very dangerous location. He asked that the Council stay on top of the issue.**

**Mr. J. Sheehan replied that input from the Road Design Office was vital in this instance.**

- 3. Cllr. J. Brassil:** What is the up-to-date status with the re-building of the storm wall at Ballyheigue Beach?

**Reply:** Work on this project has commenced and should be completed within the month.

**Cllr. Brassil welcomed this reply.**

- 4. Cllr. L. Purtill:** When will the Council do remedial work in Ahabeg East where the road is in terrible condition as it is only recently recognised that it is in the ownership of Kerry County Council.

**Reply:** No complaint has been received in relation to this issue.

Road and Lighting faults can be reported to Listowel Municipal District Operations at Áras Phádraigh, Listowel - Tel 068 / 21004.

*The following protocol in relation to reported road faults will be established within the Listowel Municipal Area:*

- *A logging system of received complaints is kept at the Listowel Municipal District Office.*
- *All lighting defects, for which Kerry County Council has responsibility, will be notified to our service provider immediately.*
- *Any reported road defect will be examined within 1 week, emergencies within 1 day and a course of action determined.*
- *All minor road restoration works, which are deemed necessary, will be undertaken within 2 working weeks of the initial report.*

We will now log this complaint and undertake to carry out remedial works within a fortnight.

**Cllr. Purtill acknowledged this reply.**

5. **Cllr. D. Nolan:** What is the current state of our housing stock regarding energy efficiency upgrades and insulation improvements.

**Reply:** There are 979 local authority houses in the care of Kerry County Council within the Listowel Municipal District Operations area. All of our housing stock, which was in the care of the former Listowel Town Council, (303 houses, 6 apartments of which 286 units were constructed by the local authority and 23 were purchased) has been upgraded. 103 house are currently about to receive thermal upgrade in the Listowel Municipal District rural area. A contractor has been appointed and works are expected to commence this week. Of the remaining 'rural' stock we are currently attempting to ascertain the level of previous upgrades and will revert to you with this information as it becomes available.

**Cllr. Nolan acknowledged that this reply had been discussed in a previous motion.**

6. **Cllr. D. Nolan:** Is it possible to complete the footpath from Clieveragh to Listowel on the right hand side travelling in outwards from Listowel Town.

**Reply:** The requested works, without upgrading existing elements of footpath or lighting which should receive consideration, entail land purchase from 4 separate land owners, an additional 13 no. lighting columns, reconstruction of boundaries, drainage, extensive accommodation works, the relocation of services and approx 670m<sup>2</sup> of footpath surface. The estimated cost of these works is €175,610.

Listowel Municipal District Operations does not currently have a budget to undertake these works.

**Cllr. Nolan acknowledged this reply.**

7. **Cllr. M. Kennelly:** What is Kerry County Council's update on the installation of speed ramps in the Meadow Lane Estate, Ballyduff?

**Reply:** This issue has been referred to the Road Design Office for assessment. We have, as yet, not received a determination from the Road Design Office on the matter.

We undertake to revert to the Listowel Municipal District meeting when a report is received.

**Cllr. Kennelly acknowledged this reply.**

8. **Cllr. M. Kennelly:** What is Kerry County Council's update on road refurbishments at Bedford Cross, Listowel?

**Reply:** A number of severe surface irregularities recently became apparent on the southbound lane of the R552 south of Bedford Cross. Strengthening and surface restoration works were undertaken in late September/early October.

**Cllr. Kennelly welcomed this reply.**

#### 14.10.09.06 Water Services Directorate

It was agreed to note the following report from Mr. J Kennelly SE Water Services which was circulated.

#### Irish Water Capital Investment Programme 2014-2016

Irish Water Capital Investment Programme 2014-2016 was launched in May. A total of 8 wastewater Schemes (total value of €10.7 million) and 7 Water schemes (total value of €24 million) in Kerry are included in the IW Capital Investment Programme. The schemes listed in the CIP which affect the Tralee 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>Tionscnamh Project</b>	<b>Stádas Status</b>		
Mains Rehabilitation Projects	Description	Value	Status
	Tralee Estates Mains Replacement Contract Works	€ 1,835,000	Construction Stage Budget Approved by Irish Water – Appointment of Contractor being progressed by Irish Water. This includes the replacement of Lead Distribution mains at St. Brendan's Park. EPA has served a summons on Irish Water and KCC regarding non-compliance with a Direction on Lead mains in Tralee.
Central Regional Water Supply Scheme	Description	Value	Status
	Scart Reservoir, Farranfore	€ 292,000	Construction completed and reservoir in operation.
	Lough Guitane Water Treatment Plant – Design, Build and Operate	€ 2,250,000	Updating Tender documents to align with Irish Water procurement requirements. Due diligence being carried out on all aspects of the design to-date. Progress to Tender stage with a view to commencing construction by the end of the current CIP in 2016.

## **CIP TIONSCNAIMH FUÍOLLUISCE** **CIP WASTEWATER PROJECTS**

<b>Tionscnamh Project</b>	<b>Stádas Status</b>
Ardfert SS	Scheme included in Irish Water - Capital Investment Plan 2014 - 2016. Contract Tender Documents submitted to Irish Water for review and updating to meet Irish Water specifications. Application made to Irish Water to proceed to Tender stage. Business Case application also made for inclusion of storm-water separation sewer, as Advance Works
Fenit SS	Scheme included in Irish Water Capital Investment Plan 2014 - 2016. Contract Tender Documents have been submitted to Irish Water for review.

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

Irish Water has indicated that it will prioritize funding for capital projects based on key issues to be addressed. In water, priority will be given to schemes on a Boil Water Notice (BWN), on the EPA Remedial Action List (RAL) and/or on a Direction from the EPA. In wastewater, priority will be given to towns (agglomerations) with an ECJ Ruling and on meeting the EPA Discharge License requirements.

### **Irish Water Minor Capital Programme 2014-2016**

Irish Water has also launched a Minor Capital Works Programme 2014. 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 Tralee Area is outlined in the following table:

<b><u>MINOR CAPITAL WORKS PROGRAMME</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	<b>Completed</b>
Castleisland SS - Limerick Rd. Sewer	Replace collapsed length of sewer	€ 4,500	Approved
Fenit Sewerage Scheme	Replace 50m section of sewer damaged by storms	€ 25,400	Completed
Brosna Knocknagoshel WSS - Dooneen Res.	Provide Security Fencing and Gates	€ 8,000	Requested
Dromultan Scartaglin Pumping Station	Lay pipe to eliminate pumping station	€ 35,000	Requested
Brosna WSS - Meenleirim PH	Provide Underground Storage Tank	€ 12,000	Requested
Lyreacrompane WTP - Sludge Treatment	Complete Sludge Treatment Plant	€ 50,000	<b>Underway</b>
Lyreacrompane Water Supply	Install new scour valves and provide sampling points on existing scours	€ 17,000	Requested
Ballyheigue Water Supply	Refurbish Water Softener	€ 7,000	Requested
Tralee Sewerage Scheme (Knockmoyle)	Lay 100m dedicated 225mm dia. Storm pipe and manholes	€14,000	Requested
Ardfert South Water Supply Scheme	Installation of 3no. PRV's and 9no. Air Valves	€ 24,500	<b>Underway</b>
Tralee WWTP UV	UV Disinfection System upgrade	€ 2,791	<b>Underway</b>

Castlemaine House	Pump and Control Panel Upgrade	€ 15,422	Approved
Castlemaine WW Tank	Pump and Control Panel Upgrade.	€ 11,848	Approved
Knockawaddra Pump House	Installation of inline booster pump and motors	€ 18,300	Approved
Mobile Generator for Garryruth and Cloghers Sewage Pumping Stations	Provision of Backup Generator	€ 20,000	Requested
Castleisland SS - Barrack Street Bridge	Reconfiguration of Existing River Crossing	€ 45,000	Requested
Castleisland SS - Church Street Bridge	Reconfiguration of Existing River Crossing	€ 45,000	Requested
Mulgrave Bridge Pumping Station	Upgrade PLC	€ 6,224	Requested
<b>Total</b>		<b>365,485</b>	

## 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 €906,600 has been allocated to Kerry County Council for the various measures under the Rural Water Programme in 2014. This includes grants of €625,100 for Group Water Supply Schemes and €281,500 for Group Sewerage Schemes.**

### 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. Pending the publication of this protocol, all Takeover applications are 'on hold'.

### Group Water Supply Schemes

Almost all of the €625,100 grant for GWSSs is allocated towards the completion of ongoing upgrade works on existing schemes in other parts of the county.

### Group Sewerage Schemes

#### **General Background**

The DOECLG Grant for any proposed Group Sewerage Schemes (GSSs) was increased to €6,500 per house or 75% of the cost of the scheme, whichever is the lesser, in December 2012. The members of a proposed group scheme must contribute the balance of the initial capital / construction costs. It is also necessary that each GSS and Irish Water agree, in advance of the Scheme's construction, that Irish Water will take over that scheme on its satisfactory completion. Kerry County Council has discussed this with Irish Water and does not anticipate any difficulty in obtaining the consent of IW.

#### **Alderwood Road Group Sewerage Scheme**

This Road is located north east of Oakpark in Tralee. There are approx 100 houses on the route and a sewer line of approx 3.1 km is necessary. The DoEC&LG allocated €10,000

towards a feasibility study on the proposed connection of this district to the existing public sewer. There is a difficulty in that the existing sewer system 'downstream' is unable to cope with any proposed increase in sewage. The feasibility study is to investigate and quantify the works necessary on the existing system to accommodate the proposed Alderwood Road Group Scheme.

#### **Killeen Road Group Sewerage Scheme**

This proposed scheme is located off the Oakpark Road, Tralee and would involve of seven existing houses. The design of the scheme is currently under review with the Group.

#### **Lead Piping**

Cllr. D. Nolan referred to a Motion she had on the previous month's Agenda requesting that an inventory of all lead piping still remaining in Listowel Town be carried out. She asked if an update on same was available to the Councillors.

Mr. C. Mangan stated that the Report was almost completed and it is planned to have it available for the next Municipal District Meeting.

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

1. **Cllr. R. Beasley:** That the water leak in the Ballybunion / Asdee Road at Doon East be fixed immediately. This problem has been going on long enough.

**Reply:** This situation has been closely investigated by Water Services' staff. The water on the roadside is not a leak in a water main. The water pipe is actually on the opposite side of the road.

**Cllr. Beasley acknowledged that this was a roads issue. There is a genuine fear of an accident here due to the erosion of the road. During the height of the tourist season it was very busy but there was only room for a single line of traffic.**

2. **Cllr. D. Nolan:** That Kerry County Council put in place a grant scheme for those in financial or medical difficulties to upgrade their water pipes from 'stopcock' inwards where deterioration could lead to health risks.

**Reply:** This is a matter which is more appropriate for consideration at national rather than at the level of the Local Authority.

**Cllr. Nolan acknowledged the reply and stated that no scheme was currently in place.**

**Mr. O. Ring stated that he didn't know of any scheme. He stated that Members could pass a resolution that such a scheme be put**

**in place. This was PROPOSED by Cllr. D. Nolan and SECONDED by Cllr. R. Beasley.**

- 3. Cllr. J. Moloney:** Can Irish Water be requested to expedite the improvement works to the water supply in Moyvane, Knockanure and surrounding areas. This funding was allocated in 2012 and with the changeover is now awaiting approval from Irish Water. There has been multiple breaks already this year causing major inconvenience to residents in these areas.

**Reply:** The water supply to this area can be affected by the recently regularly occurring bursts on a 6.5km section of the 300mm AC pipe from Listowel to Tarbert. If a burst occurs in the pipeline on the Listowel side of the crossroads at Derry, then the Moyvane / Knockanure area is directly affected. There are approximately 2,000 people served by this 300mm water main. This pipe has been bursting ever more frequently in recent years and there have been 24 bursts to-date in 2014. A 570m length of the main was replaced by direct labour by Kerry County Council in 2011. A Site Investigation Contract has been completed and contract documents, prepared by Kerry County Council, are now ready for the replacement of a further 3.5km. A meeting between Engineers of Irish Water and Kerry County Council has taken place this week. It is intended that this €1.2m job will go to tender later this year. A further submission seeking funding for the replacement of another 2.25km length has recently been submitted to Irish Water. This, and the much publicised Mid-Kerry Gearha pipeline (funding of €1.1m approved), are the two biggest issues in water supply in Kerry.

**Cllr. J. Moloney stated that €1.2m was allocated to this project in July 2012. Nothing has happened for the past 2 years and now the matter has reverted to Irish Water. This matter needs to be highlighted to Irish Water. Will the works start in February/March? Has additional funding been sought?**

**Cllr. M. Kennelly supported the Motion. He stated that 24 bursts on the line this year was unacceptable especially in light of Irish Water now charging for water consumption. He would welcome funding for this.**

**Mr. J. McEniry replied that the Water Services department had met Irish Water to discuss this matter last week.**

**Mr. C. Mangan stated that it is hoped to go to tender perhaps by year's end and that the works may then commence in the Spring. The project is estimated to cost €1.2m which would replace 3.5km of pipes northwards from a point circa 500m beyond Lyons' Cross on the Listowel to Tarbert road.**



**Cllr. M. Kennelly stated that he had raised a similar Motion at the September Meeting. The metering has started and bills are starting to be sent. 24 bursts are unacceptable. Funding would be very welcome.**

### **Water Connections**

Cllr. J. Brassil raised an issue regarding water connections. He referred to situations where houses were built and their water supply was taken off an existing connection. He asked if the only avenue open to these people was to apply for a new connection.

Mr. C. Mangan said an option available to homeowners would be to divide the cost of the water bill between the houses. This would be very difficult to operate. If someone wishes to apply for a new connection, the cost is €2,650. This amount comprises of €1,500 infrastructural levy and an additional charge of €1,150 for a connection fee.

Mr. O. Ring stated that the Regulator had not made a determination regarding how new connections are to be dealt with. In the meantime, it's 'business as usual' for Kerry County Council.

Cllr. Brassil said that the public can't be expected to pay for a connection and development levy and then pay for water.

Mr. Mangan said that, in relation to the charging of the Infrastructural Levy in such cases, the Council had previously a level of discretion but this is now gone. The Regulator's ruling on these matters is awaited. The current situation is that Kerry County Council charges a levy, regardless of the age of the house.

Cllr. J. Brassil referred to people who had their own wells. They did not require a water supply but were using the sewer system.

Mr. J. McEniry said that the charge for the immediate short-term will be based on the number of people in the house. The customer is advised to fill in this detail on the recently circulated Irish Water Application Form as accurately as possible.

Cllr. J. Brassil stated that he knew 24 houses which have their own wells. All are connected to the sewerage scheme but have no public water coming in. These are all private houses. How will these charges be calculated?

Mr. J. McEniry said these will only pay for sewerage going out, on the basis of the number of people in the house.

Cllr. A. Thornton stated that it is important that there be a place for this entry is on the form. She knew of people who have wells and weren't going to return the Application Forms.

Cllr. J. Brassil referred to a house where the stopcock is at end of a private road. The house is 100 yards in from main road. Should the meter be outside the property?

Mr. J. McEniry replied that with a private road, everything is private. What goes on in the private side is the owner's business. The meter is correctly located.

Mr. O. Ring stated that each case would have to be viewed separately. Irish Water would need to know about the circumstances of each individual case.

Mr. J. McEniry stated that Irish Water only own the public pipes as far as the stopcock – from there to the house etc is privately owned.

Cllr. J. Brassil stated that Irish Water is a semi-private company. Kerry County Council has to realise that it represents the community. Irish Water is charging people and getting an income. The Council's job is to get as much as we can for people we represent.

Mr. O. Ring stated there is a Service Level Agreement with Irish Water on certain matters. We no longer make decisions on matters like the one that has been raised. The transition period is underway. In the meantime it is business as usual. Metering is not part of our business.

Cllr. A. Thornton referred to the deadline of 31<sup>st</sup> October for the return of the Irish Water packs. She asked if an Item regarding the water metering could be put on the Kerry County Council Agenda and that the relevant staff would be available if Councillors had questions to ask.

Cllr. J. Brassil supported Cllr. Thornton's proposal. He stated that he knows it is Irish Water which is dealing with the matter but information is needed. He asked that a representative from Irish Water be present. He stated that Conor Keane of Irish Water had said he was available to come in at any time. We should demand information from them.

Mr. G. O'Brien stated that the timing was quite tight.

Cllr. Brassil suggested an update on Irish Water and metering provision.

Cllr. Thornton said it would be hard to find a topic that affects the public as much as the watering metering does.

### Group Schemes

Cllr. J. Brassil asked if there was any move on Group Schemes – takeover etc.

Mr. C. Mangan again referred to ongoing discussions between the Department of Environment, CCMA and Irish Water - the outcome of the deliberations of this forum on the Takeover of GWSSs etc is awaited.

#### **14.10.09.07 Reception of deputations**

On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. R Beasley SECONDED by Cllr. J. Moloney it was agreed that a deputation from Slievewaddra National School concerning road safety outside the school would be received at a meeting of the Municipal District of Listowel.

#### **14.10.09.08 Dates for meetings**

On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. M. Kennelly, SECONDED by Cllr. R. Beasley, it was agreed that the next meeting of the Municipal District of Listowel would be held on Friday, 21<sup>st</sup> November 2014 at 11.00am.

It was agreed that the Reception for (*Name withheld for data protection purposes. A paper copy of unedited Minutes available on request*) would be held in conjunction with the Reception for the 2014 Fleadh Cheoil Winners.

#### **14.10.09.09 Matters arising from the Minutes as confirmed at 1 above.**

Cllr. J. Brassil enquired if there was any update on vacant houses.

Cllr. R. Beasley referred to the report they used to received from Liam Quinlan, Housing Department. He also enquired why the Housing staff were no longer available at meetings to refer questions to.

Mr. G. O'Brien replied that a review of the number of staff at meetings was carried out. The area based staff now deal with housing issues. The Municipal Manager now reports back with any issues.

Cllr. J. Brassil stated that there were 6 houses mentioned on the report and he would be interested in discussing 3 of them.

Cllr. Beasley stated that housing was such an important part of area meetings and especially social housing which was a major concern.

Mr. G. Riordan informed the meeting that Mike Griffin and Mike McEnery both look after housing maintenance under the new Directorate structure and they would be in a position to deal with any queries the Members may have.

#### **14.10.09.10 Any Other Business**

Mr. G. O'Brien circulated a letter to the Members in response to correspondence that issued to Bus Éireann following the previous Municipal Meeting regarding wheelchair users having to book their seats 24 hours in advance of wishing to travel.

Cllr. M. Kennelly stated that the response was not acceptable and asked that this matter be pursued until a satisfactory outcome is received.

**The meeting concluded at 1.20pm.**

Gerard O'Brien

**Gerard O'Brien**  
**Meetings Administrator**

Cllr. M. Kennelly  
**Cathaoirleach of Listowel**  
**Municipal District**