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**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE MEMBERS OF THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF TRALEE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, ÁRAS AN CHONTAE, TRALEE ON MONDAY 11<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2016.**

**MIONTUAIRISCÍ NA CRUINNITHE DE CHEANTAR BARDASACH THRÁ LÍ A THIONÓLADH I SEOMRA NA COMHAIRLE, ÁRAS AN CHONTAE, TRÁ LÍ, AR AN LUAN 11 EANAIR 2016.**

**PRESENT/I LÁTHAIR**

**Councillors/Comhairleoirí**

P. Daly	N. Foley	T. McEllistrim
T. Ferris	S. Locke	T. O'Brien
G. Spring	P. McCarthy	J. Finucane

**In attendance/i láthair**

Mr. J Breen	Director of Sust. Communities & Q of Life
Mr. O Ring	Director of Water Services
Mr. G. O'Brien	Meetings Administrator
Mr. G Riordan	S.E
Mr. D Doyle	A/SE
Mr. C. Lynch	E.E.
Mr. J. Fitzgerald	E.E.
Ms. D Ginty	E.P.
Ms. J. Foley	M.D. Officer
Mr. C. Mangan	S.E.E.
Mr. F. Hartnett	S.E.E.
Mr. M Lynch	S.E.E
Mr. T. O'Connor	S.O.
Ms. S Broderick	S.O.

The meeting commenced at 10.55a.m.

The Cathaoirleach, Cllr. T McEllistrim took the Chair.

Mr. J Breen informed the members that he would be deputising for Mr. C O'Sullivan Municipal District Manager who was unable to attend due to being on sick leave.

Mr. Breen advised that it has been proposed to hold Special Municipal District Meetings to discuss the recent severe weather conditions. As the Tralee Municipal District Meeting had been organised prior to the proposal he sought the agreement of the members that this item would be dealt with before the commencement of this meeting.

It was unanimously agreed that this item would be dealt with.

#### **16.01.11.01 Weather events including flooding in December 2015**

On behalf of Kerry County Council Mr. J Breen expressed appreciation for the hard work and co-operation, in difficult conditions, of all individuals and agencies involved in the management and response to the recent extreme weather conditions, in particular An Garda Síochána, the HSE, the staff and volunteers of Civil Defence, the Fire Service and the staff members of Kerry County Council who worked around the clock and were accessible to people who had concerns about flooding.

He thanked the media for their assistance in keeping the public informed and members of the public who brought flooding incidents to the attention of the public and the Council. The number of hits on Kerry County Council's Twitter account increased from approximately 14,000 per month to 615,000 during the month of December.

He paid tribute to the people of Kerry for the great community spirit and resilience demonstrated throughout the county during this time.

Mr. D Doyle A/SEE briefed the members on the following report which was circulated:

Kerry has experienced a number of severe weather events since the 1<sup>st</sup> December 2015.

- The first event, Code Level RED Rainfall Alert, occurred on the weekend of the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> December 2015.
- The second event, Code Level ORANGE Rainfall Alert, occurred on the weekend of the 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> December 2015.
- The third event, Code Level ORANGE Rainfall and Wind Alert, occurred on the 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> December 2015.

#### **The first event, Code Level RED, occurred on the weekend of the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> December 2015**

The event of the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> was a code level RED Severe Weather Rainfall Alert. The alert projected very heavy rainfall, with accumulations in excess of 70mm, and strong gale force winds. There were also flood alerts from the OPW in respect of the River Shannon but these primarily related to the water levels upstream of Limerick. However we were mindful of any impacts that this could potentially have with the high rainfall predicted in the county.

The Council activated its Severe Weather Response Plan immediately and put in place procedures to deal with the most likely outcome, based on the forecast. Road crews were deployed to fill sandbags; re-check drainage outlets and culverts in known areas of high risk; notify property owners in areas that have flooded in similar circumstances in recent years and to be prepared to respond to flooding as it may occur.

The Civil Defence was activated at 3pm on the Friday to assist in the filling and distribution of sandbags. Approximately 100 Civil Defence volunteers assisted in the response over the weekend and almost 10,000 sandbags were filled and distributed throughout the county. 6 units of the Fire Service were deployed to respond to flooding of properties

The Council's Flood Emergency Management Team convened 8 times over the period of the storm and there were 7 conference calls with management in An Garda Síochána and the HSE, who are members of the Kerry Emergency Flooding Steering Committee. There was also a conference call with the Cork Kerry Major Emergency Regional Steering Committee, in case of a need for any specialized equipment or additional resources to be put on standby. A flooding support helpline was established and a communications team issued information and advice on the situation to the general public through our PPN, Radio Kerry, social networks, and the Council website.

The worst affected areas were in Tralee (River Lee Catchment, including Ballyseedy, Ballymullen, Killerisk, Manor West, Caherwisheen, Camp, Skahanagh and Ballyard); Kenmare (Market Square & Finnihy Court in the River Finnihy catchment); Glenflesk and Killarney (Ballycasheen and Ross Road), both in the River Flesk catchment, where properties were flooded. Almost 500 properties in these areas were at risk of flooding and 7 families had to be rescued from their homes on the Saturday night by the Council. Volunteers from the Red Cross, Kerry Mountain Rescue, and Killarney Inland Shore rescue were called in, to assist in the evacuation of residents in a house at Foilduane, Glenflesk. The HSE arranged for 2 high wheeled army carriers, to be deployed on Saturday evening from Cork to Tralee General hospital and to Kenmare Community Hospital, to assist in recovering any casualties / patients from high floods.

Sections of key access routes in the county, including the N22 Killarney . Cork Road, the R569 to Kenmare, the N71 Killarney to Kenmare Road over Molls Gap, the N70 Castlemaine Road in Tralee, the Tralee By-Pass were closed as well as a significant number of local and urban roads. The high winds on the Friday evening also resulted in fallen trees which were addressed promptly.

The rainfall recorded varied significantly throughout the county, with less than 50mm recorded in Valentia and Ardfert but gauges around Tralee indicating between 77mm and 114mm, over a 36 hour period. The water level recorded on the gauge on the River Lee at Ballymullen was the highest since its installation in 1975, exceeding the previous high in 1986, when significant areas in Tralee Town centre were flooded. The levels recorded on the River Flesk, and the flooding witnessed in Glenflesk, equated to a 1 in 1000 flooding event, based on modelling done by the OPW under the CFRAMS study. The flooding in Kenmare was consistent with flooding events previously recorded, though not to the same extent as in 2008.

The emergency response to the severe weather over the weekend of the 4<sup>th</sup> to the 6<sup>th</sup> December was stood down at 7 am on the Sunday when flood waters had abated, but some staff assisted in the cleanup operations on the Sunday and following Monday.

**The second event, Code Level ORANGE, occurred on the weekend of the 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> December 2015**

The Council received a code level ORANGE rainfall alert at 8:30 on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December 2015, with prolonged heavy rain totalling up to 50 mm projected on the Saturday. The Council's Severe Weather Response Plan was again activated as there was a risk of further flooding to properties, particularly in high risk areas, with saturated ground and predicted high tides. Given the increased risk, a further 10,000 sandbags were made available, particularly targeting properties flooded the previous week. All of these homes and businesses were contacted directly by staff in the areas, with crews on standby in advance of the high tides on the Saturday morning. Civil Defence crews also on standby and called to a number of properties on the Cashen, in advance of the high tides on the Saturday evening.

Approximately 38mm of rainfall was recorded in Valentia and whilst river levels in Castleisland, Kenmare and Sneem, were very high, no properties were flooded and a limited number of local roads and the N70 Castlemaine Road in Tralee, were closed for a few hours on the Saturday.

Again the Council's Flood Emergency Management Team convened 7 times over the weekend and there were 3 conference calls with management in An Garda Síochána and the HSE. A dedicated flooding helpline was established in County Buildings with a Communications team established to inform the public and elected members.

Weather conditions improved on the Saturday afternoon and river levels receded before the high tides. The Flooding Response Teams were stood down at 6:30pm on the Saturday, in consultation with An Garda Síochána, HSE and the Civil Defence.

An assessment of the damage to public infrastructure as a direct result of the flooding was estimated at "860,000. An application to the Department of Environment, Community & Local Government was made and we are awaiting the announcement of this funding. However, the costs of responding to the event (staffing, pumps, filling and distributing sandbags; fire service response, emergency accommodation) was "244,447. The Department of the Environment, Community & Local Government has provided this amount of funding to Kerry County Council.

**The third event, Code Level ORANGE Rainfall and Wind Alert, occurred on the 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> December 2015**

The Council received a Code Level ORANGE alert on the 28<sup>th</sup> December, valid from 12.01 Tuesday, 29<sup>th</sup> December until 23.59 Tuesday, 29<sup>th</sup> December.

The Council activated its Severe Weather Response Plan again and put in place procedures to deal with the most likely outcome, based on the forecast. Operational staff were recalled from leave and together with the Civil Defence were deployed to fill sandbags; re-check drainage outlets and culverts in known areas of high risk; notify property owners in areas that have flooded in similar circumstances in recent years and to be prepared to respond to flooding as it may occur. Emergency Telephone number re-established along with contingency backup call centre.

Met Éireann confirmed that 130m of rainfall was recorded at Cloon Lake, Glencar over this period.

This worst affected areas were Killorglin, Beaufort, Fossa, Killarney, Glenflesk, Ballyheigue and Ardfert. The N22 at Glenflesk, the N72 between Beaufort and Killorglin, the N71 at Dinish and the R569 at Loo Bridge were both closed for a number of hours on the 30<sup>th</sup> December. A number of local roads at Foiladown, Beaufort, Caragh Lake, Ballyheigue, Banna and mid-Kerry were closed on the 30<sup>th</sup> December. 4 properties were damaged in the Killorglin due to flooding. A number of other properties were under threat of flooding. A minor land slippage occurred on a local road in Currow.

Again the Council's Flood Emergency Management Team held 7 conference calls with management of An Garda Síochána and the HSE. A dedicated flooding helpline was put in place with a Communications team established to inform the public and elected members.

An assessment of the damage to public infrastructure, from the 19<sup>th</sup> December to the year end, as a direct result of the weather event was estimated at " 607,000. An application to the Department of Environment, Community & Local Government was made. The costs of responding to the event was " 162,535. We are awaiting the announcement of this funding.

#### **Damage to Piers and Harbours**

Following the weather events in December the following piers and harbours were damaged. An application for funding was submitted to the LGMA/DAFM for the following locations:-

- Tralee / Fenit Regional Road: coastal protection works - " 250,000.
- Cliff Road, Rossbeigh: further damage to coastal embankment - " 500,000.
- Provision of a new road to replace existing road, Lower Road, Rossbeigh, which is extensively damaged due to recent storm damage - " 1.1m.
- Ballinskelligs Pier: further structural damage/undermining of pier - " 160,000
- Scraggane Pier - further damage/undermining of pier - " 80,000
- Cliff Road, Ballyheigue /adjacent to the fishery slipway - Coastal Protection Works required due to storm damage, approx. 280m of rock armour revetement - " 500,000.

#### **Resources Deployed**

- 250 staff in total involved/ mobilised throughout storm events in December
- 100 outdoor operational staff, including supervisory and technical professional staff
- 30 Retained Fire Services staff
- 100 Civil Defence Volunteers assisted in structured rosters
- Up to 20 senior staff involved in Emergency Management Team and support throughout the events.
- Council staff and Civil Defence mobilised in advance of all weather events. All high risk areas were visited - properties and businesses called to or contacted to make them aware of storm and forecast. High risk areas provided with

supplies of sandbags for removal and deployment by public. Road closure signs and numerous road diversions were put in place. Pumps to prevent properties from flooding were also deployed at various locations throughout the county. Staff alleviated drainage issues along the public road network. A presence was maintained in high risk areas throughout the weather events.

- Council staff and Civil Defence worked long hours in difficult conditions through these three weather events.
- Approximately 18,000 sand bags were filled and deployed as necessary during the weather events in December

### **Media**

Kerry County Council kept the public informed at all times throughout these weather events, with daily weather updates on local Radio, Twitter, website, etc.

### **Properties affected**

The details outlined are based on information provided to Council staff and from property owners who contacted the Council:-

- The total number of evacuated residential dwellings since 3 December is 17
- The number of residential dwellings evacuated where residents have now returned is 15
- The number of residential dwellings damaged by flooding but habitable is 48
- The number of residential dwellings not flooded but inaccessible due to road flooding is 506
- The number of residential dwellings currently under threat of flooding is 27
- The number of business premises affected by flooding is 24

### **Issues arising**

- Details of the extent of the recent flooding are being recorded and will be submitted to the OPW, who are the lead agency for flood risk management and have been tasked by the Government to identify options to mitigate for the future risk of flooding. All of the areas severely impacted by the floods in Tralee, Kenmare, Killarney and Glenflesk are included in these CFRAM studies. These studies involve very complex modelling of flood predictions, taking into consideration the changing environment, and various assessments on the impact of climate change.
- The National Primary Road N22 at Glenflesk, sections of the N72 at Beaufort and the N71 at Muckross had to be closed during these events. Sections of the National Road network, critical for access, will be reassessed with TII.
- Both access routes to Kenmare within the County again severely flooded and closed . Kenmare was essentially cut off from access within Kerry (alternative access from Cork route available but with significant additional journey distance).
- Many local roads throughout the county were flooded at various times during these weather events

- Following these weather events the entire road network has suffered significant damage. Pothole and drainage issues will continue to exist over the coming month. Council crews will focus on drainage and road surface repairs to address these issues.
- Scouring may have occurred at a number of our bridges but this is difficult to assess due to the high river levels at present. Surveys of these bridges will take place over the coming months.

The Council is also assisting the Red Cross in processing any claims from small businesses for emergency funding.

Cathaoirleach T McEllistrim congratulated the staff of Kerry County Council and all the other agencies and volunteers involved in dealing with the impact of the recent severe weather conditions. The worst affected areas were in Manor, Cloghers, Ballymullen and Ballyseedy also on the Castlemaine road adjacent to Cuil Didin Nursing Home. He said that Kerry County Council should consider making an application for special funding to address the ongoing flooding issues in Tralee.

The Cathaoirleach acknowledged that Mr. C O'Sullivan MD Manager was unable to attend the meeting due to being on sick leave and therefore not present to respond in relation to the flooding which has occurred at Kilmoyley Burial Ground. He said that he had raised this matter at a previous meeting of the Full Council and had received cross party support for his proposal. The flooding of the Burial Ground is ongoing. This is unacceptable and the issue must be resolved. Extra boreholes are needed in the Burial Ground and also in the nearby housing estate.

Cllr. S Locke paid tribute to the staff of Kerry County Council and all the other agencies and volunteers involved in dealing with the impact of the recent severe weather conditions. He thanked Mr. D Doyle for his report and said that in the past farmers were allowed to clean rivers and use the silt on their land. The human cost of the impact of flooding must come before the impact of cleaning rivers on spawning fish. Local knowledge saved a considerable amount of public money in the past.

Cllr. T Ferris commended the staff of Kerry County Council and all the other agencies and volunteers involved in dealing with the impact of the recent severe weather conditions. With regard to the flooding of Kilmoyley Burial Ground she said that a resolution must be found and asked that a report on this matter be prepared. She said that local people have tried to pump the water out of the graveyard and asked if a surface water drainage system could be put in place. She said that Blackpool in the Spa was flooded and asked that drainage at this location be examined.

Cllr. T Ferris referred to the reply to her Notice of Motion regarding a commencement date for Ardfert sewerage scheme which states that *"it is anticipated that the Tender process will be conducted over the coming months and the Contract is scheduled to commence in the autumn of 2016"* and asked why this is taking so long. She said she has been raising this matter for the past two years, because of the safety issues involved as she is very concerned that a traffic accident will occur due to the ponding of surface water on the road.

Cllr. T Ferris said that she is a Community First Responder and the flooding which occurred on the Bog road, Ballyheigue would make access to people in need in that area, very difficult.

Cllr. T Ferris asked if the construction of the Tralee by-pass which took flooding from the Ballinorig area of Tralee has contributed to flooding in other parts of the town.

Cllr. J Finucane commended the staff of Kerry County Council and all the other agencies and volunteers involved in dealing with the impact of the recent severe weather conditions. He said that in 1986 the former Tralee Urban District Council installed a flood relief system for the town which was designed to deal with a risk of one flood in 100 years. In 2015 three flooding incidents have occurred in one winter. He said that the putting in place of a dedicated team to manage flooding matters on an all year round basis must be considered as it is gone past the stage where the Council is prepared only to respond to emergencies. Cllr. Finucane welcomed that funding from the Councillor Specific Municipal District Operations Fund could be utilised to rectify small issues for residents.

Cllr. N Foley acknowledged the outstanding level of service provided by the staff of Kerry County Council and all the other agencies and volunteers involved in dealing with the impact of the recent severe weather conditions. She said that this was a hugely traumatic time for many people. Houses in Manor Village and Castlevue Park were damaged by flooding and the Ballymullen and Skehanagh areas were badly affected. She said that the completion of the CFRAM study must be a top priority.

Cllr. N Foley moved Notice of Motion No. 10 Item 5 at this stage.

*That the ongoing flooding at Carahane, Banna be examined again as a matter of urgency as this is an ongoing health and safety dilemma for residents of this area. That a report on the progress we have made to date and our future plans to address this issue be outlined.*

**Reply:** The Capital Infrastructure Unit is currently examining this location with a view to finding a solution to the problem of ongoing flooding. Progress has been slow on finding a solution mainly due to the complexity of the problem from an engineering and environmental perspective (SAC, SPA, pNHA).

Cllr. N Foley said that the public road is impassible at this location and asked that the ongoing flooding be examined and addressed as a matter of urgency. She PROPOSED that a deputation from the residents of Carahane, Banna, be received at the next meeting of the members of the Municipal District of Tralee.

Cllr. S Locke SECONDED the proposal.

Cllr. N Foley referred to the flooding of Kilmoyley Burial Ground and said that this is a matter of huge concern for many people.

Cllr. T O'Brien commended the staff of Kerry County Council and all the other agencies and volunteers involved in dealing with the impact of the recent severe weather conditions. He said that the flooding in Manor Village, Castlevue Park and



Ballymullen was very traumatic for the residents. He referred to the location of Fells Point Hotel and the Cinema and said that this area was once a swamp and pointed out that water must go somewhere, therefore, the zoning of land for development is a matter which should not proceed without taking such issues into consideration.

Cllr. T Ferris asked if many areas not identified on the CFRAM map for Tralee as prone to flooding have actually been flooded.

Cllr. G Spring paid tribute to the staff of Kerry County Council and all the other agencies and volunteers involved in dealing with the impact of the recent severe weather conditions. He moved his Notice of Motion No. 19 Item 5 at this stage and said that he was happy with the response.

*That Kerry County Council request that the CFRAM map for Tralee is reviewed considering that recent flooding affected areas previously unaffected by flooding.*

**Reply:** Kerry County Council has written to the OPW seeking a review of the hydrology and draft CFRAM flood extent maps for the Tralee AFA to accurately reflect the flood extents recently witnessed on the 11<sup>th</sup> -13<sup>th</sup> of September and the 5<sup>th</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> of December 2015.

Cllr. T O'Brien ~~OP~~ SECONDED the motion.

### **CFRAM Study**

Mr. D Ginty advised the members that the CFRAM study is currently under the remit of the OPW who are the lead agency responsible for flood risk management. The OPW works in close partnership with Local Authorities in delivering the objectives of the CFRAM Programme.

The CFRAM study has 4 stages:

1. Identification of areas at risk of flooding.  
This is complete. 14 areas were identified in Kerry.
2. Preparation of predictive flood maps showing the extent and depth of anticipated flooding.  
This is complete. (Oct - Dec 2014.) Public consultation days were held in all areas with predictive flood maps on display.
3. Consideration of all options to mitigate flood risk and the selection of a preferred option.  
This is complete. (Sep - Dec 2015.) Public consultation days were held in all areas with the preferred option to mitigate the flood risk on display.
4. Preparation of a flood management plan for each area. These are due to published and placed on public display in June 2016.

Mr. Ginty said that the recent flood events experienced in Tralee identified flooding at locations that were not predicted in the CFRAM predictive flood maps. Kerry County Council has written to the OPW seeking a review of the hydrology and predictive flood maps published as part the CFRAM study in light of the recent flooding.

Cllr. N Foley requested that Carahane, Banna be included in the flood map as a location which is prone to flooding.

Mr. Ginty said that he would refer this location to the OPW for consideration.

Mr. J Breen thanked the members for their very positive comments and feedback on the service provided by Kerry County Council and other agencies during the recent severe weather conditions. Assessment of the damage caused by the flooding had been carried out in many areas and is ongoing.

Mr. J Breen said that " 250,000 has been sought to stabilise the Fenit road.

Cllr. T Ferris said that this work has been required for many years.

Cathaoirleach T McEllistrim said that the upgrading of roads in tourist areas should be prioritised with a view to attracting visitors to the county.

The members commended Mr. J Breen on the assistance provided by Kerry County Council to people who needed temporary accommodation due to their homes being flooded.

#### **16.01.11.02 Confirmation of Minutes**

On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. T. O'Brien SECONDED by Cllr. N Foley, it was agreed that the Minutes of the meeting of the members of the Municipal District of Tralee held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> November, 2015 be confirmed.

On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. J Finucane SECONDED by Cllr. P Daly, it was agreed that the Minutes of the meeting to consider and adopt a Draft Budgetary Plan for the Municipal District of Tralee for 2016 held on 23<sup>rd</sup> October, 2015 be confirmed.

#### **16.01.11.03 Water Services Directorate**

It was agreed to note the following report which was circulated:

##### **TRALEE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT MEETING KERRY COUNTY COUNCIL and IRISH WATER UPDATE ON WATER SERVICES**

*Achoimre Stádais ar an 23<sup>ú</sup> Nollaig 2015*  
Status Summary at 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2015

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

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

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 " 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>CLÁR INFHEISTÍOCHTA CAIPITIL - TIONSCNAIMH SHOLÁTHAIR UISCE</b> <b>CAPITAL INVESTMENT PROGRAMME - WATER SUPPLY PROJECTS</b>			
<b>Tionscnamh Project</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Value</b>	<b>Stádas Status</b>
<b>Mains Rehabilitation Project</b>	Tralee Estates St Brendan's Pk., Connolly Pk., Riverside, Kerin's Pk., Lohercannon and Marian Pk. Mains Replacement Works	" 1,835,000	The Certificate of Substantial Completion was issued to Wills Bros. Contractors on 29.05.15. The Snags and Reinstatement is being carried out over the maintenance period.  The cast iron mains and lead service pipes have been disconnected.
<b>Central Regional Water Supply Scheme</b>	Lough Guitane Water Treatment Plant . Design, Build and Operate	" 22,000,000	Tenders for the development of a new Water Treatment Plant were received in May 2015. A recommendation has been sent to IW and the go-ahead to appoint the Contractor is expected in the coming short-term.

<b>CLÁR INFHEISTÍOCHTA CAIPITIL - TIONSCNAIMH FUÍOLLUISCE</b> <b>CAPITAL INVESTMENT PROGRAMME - WASTEWATER PROJECTS</b>	
<b>Tionscnamh Project</b>	<b>Stádas Status</b>
<b>Ardfert SS</b>	The Scheme is included in Irish Water's Capital Investment Programme 2014 - 2016. The final Contract Documents have been submitted to Irish Water. It is anticipated that the Tender process will be conducted over the coming months.
<b>Fenit SS</b>	The Scheme is included in Irish Water's Capital Investment Programme 2014 - 2016. Contract Documents have been submitted for review to Irish Water. Agreement has been reached with the landowner for the purchase of the site, the budget for which has recently been approved by Irish Water.

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

Irish Water has also launched a Minor Capital Works Programme 2014-2016. This is a rolling programme of **Minor Improvement Works** which can be added to as the

need arises. The list of works in the Tralee Municipal District for which Kerry County Council has applied under the Minor Capital Works Programme is outlined in the following table:

<b>CLÁR OIBREACHA BEAGA CAIPITIL - MINOR CAPITAL WORKS PROGRAMME</b>			
<b><i>Tionscnamh / Project</i></b>	<b><i>Cuir Síos / Description</i></b>	<b><i>Meastachán Estimate</i></b>	<b><i>Stádas Status</i></b>
Castleisland Sewer. Sch.	Replace collapsed length of sewer Church St.	" 3,500	Completed
Castleisland SS	Replace collapsed sewer Limerick Rd.	" 4,500	Completed
Fenit Sewerage Scheme	Replace 50m of sewer damaged by storms	" 25,400	Completed
Fenit Sewerage Scheme	Repair storm damage to Plant	" 12,800	Completed
Fenit SS	Upgrade Outfall Pipe	" 23,000	Complete
Fenit Sewerage Scheme	Upgrade of pumping stations at Tawlaght and Tralee Rd.	" 65,000	Approved
Fenit Water Supply	Replace 300M old 2+watermain Tawlaght	" 12,000	Approved
Ardfert South WSS	Installation of 3no. PRVs and 9no. Air Valves	" 24,500	Underway
Brosna Knocknagoshel WSS - Dooneen Res.	Provide Security Fencing	" 8,000	Approved
Brosna Knocknagoshel WSS	Provide Storage Tank Meenleirim Pump	" 12,000	Approved
Lyreacrompane WTP - Sludge Treatment	Complete Sludge Treatment Plant	" 50,000	Underway
Lyreacrompane Water Supply	Install new Scour Valves and provide sampling points on existing scour-outs	" 17,000	Requested
Tralee Sewerage Scheme (Knockmoyle)	Lay 100m of dedicated 225mm diameter Storm pipe and manholes	" 14,000	Complete
Tralee SS: WWTP UV	UV Disinfection System upgrade	" 32,139	Complete
Tralee SS: Castlemaine Road Pumpstation	Pump replacement and Upgrade of Control Panel	" 15,422	Approved
Tralee SS: Mulgrave's Bridge Pumpstation	Upgrade PLC system	" 6, 224	Complete
Tralee SS: Garryruth and Cloghers Pumping Stations	Provision of mobile electricity generator	" 20,000	Requested
CRWSS Tralee Mains	Replace cast iron mains and Lead connections; 22 locations; 6.5Km of 100mm to 300mm pipe and 5.2Km of	" 4.143M	Requested

	25mm HDPE pipe		
CRWSS Tralee Mains	Replace long Lead connections 7No. districts	" 299,000	Requested
<b>CLÁR OIBREACHA BEAGA CAIPITIL - MINOR CAPITAL WORKS PROGRAMME <i>cont'd</i></b>			
<b><i>Tionscnamh / Project</i></b>	<b><i>Cuir Síos / Description</i></b>	<b><i>Meastachán Estimate</i></b>	<b><i>Stádas Status</i></b>
CRWSS - Knockawaddra	Install inline booster pumps	" 18,300	Complete
CRWSS Abbeydorney	Laccamore Replacement of 1,440m of defective 160mm uPVC	" 158,000	Approved
CRWSS Dromultan Scartaglin	Lay 300m pipe to eliminate pumping station	" 35,000	Approved
CRWSS Reservoirs Refurbishment	Cloonafineela, Tubrid, Barrow	" 19,000	Approved
CRWSS Tralee	Decommission cast iron main Pembroke St	" 5,900	Complete
CRWSS Tralee	Replace 30M of 100MM cast iron Princeps St	" 6,400	Complete
CRWSS Kilflynn	SCADA/Telemetry Cloonafineela Reservoir	" 6,400	Complete
CRWSS Tralee	Replace existing C.I. mains Ard na Lí	" 88,000	Approved
CRWSS Tralee	Replace C.I. mains Castle Demesne	" 30,000	Underway
	<b>Total approved to-date</b>	<b>€ 675,485</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 " 780,100 has been allocated to Kerry County Council for the various measures under the Rural Water Programme in 2015. The funding for 2016 is expected in March or April.

#### **Takeover of Group Schemes**

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

#### **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. There is a difficulty in that sections of the existing sewer system ~~downstream~~ are unable to cope with any proposed increase in sewage volume. A **Feasibility Study** for the proposed connection of this district to the existing public sewer has been completed by a local Consulting Engineer in October 2015. This Feasibility Study is now being evaluated by Kerry County Council.

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

Work commenced in December 2015, by contract, on the scheme, which is located off the Oakpark Road, Tralee and which involves the connection of seven existing houses that are currently served by private septic tanks, to the public network.

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

**1. Cllr. J. Finucane:** That Kerry County Council formulate a policy to resolve the outstanding issues in Alderwood Road, Tralee on the basis of the consultants report.

**Reply:** A recent feasibility study, commissioned by Kerry County Council and carried out by a Consulting Engineer, suggests that the cost of the scheme may be of the order of " 600,000. Accordingly, the required local contribution for the construction would be a of the order of at least " 150,000.

Prior to construction, it would be necessary for the Group to hire a Consulting Engineer to carry out a detailed design, including site investigation, topographical survey, wayleaves and possible site acquisitions, preparation of Planning Permission and Tender Documents, etc. This lead-in period would be perhaps 2 to 3 years in length.

No funding would be made available by the DoEC&LG until construction commences . this is to avoid paying for Schemes which are not constructed.

**Cllr. J Finucane acknowledged this reply and PROPOSED that a submission be made to Irish Water for the required local contribution of €150,000 and the remainder of the cost be funded by the DoECLG and that work on the project would commence as a matter of urgency.**

**Cllr. T McEllistrim SECONDED the proposal.**

**Cllr. N Foley said that this is a longstanding issue and the residents have been more than patient. She asked that a submission be made to Irish Water immediately as there is a duty of care in this case.**

**2. Cllr. T Ferris:** Can the residents at Baltovin, Ardfert reconnect to the old water supply?

**Reply:** This district is served by both the North Ardfert Water Supply Scheme, the source of which is the Slugaire surface spring, and the Central Regional WSS the source of which is the upland Lough Guitane near Killarney. The closed sluice valve

between the two supplies has been in the same position for at least thirty years, and the pressure in the watermain is similar on both supplies at this location. There is currently no plan or reason to change the existing layout.

**Cllr. T Ferris said that historically this area was served by the Central Regional Water Supply Scheme but in recent times the area is being served by the North Ardfert Water Supply Scheme and this supply is hard water.**

**Mr. C Mangan said that the Baltovin area has been served by both the North Ardfert Water Supply Scheme, and the Central Regional WSS for many years and there is no plan to change the existing layout. Mr. C Mangan said that it is important to point out that the quality of water is very good on both supplies.**

**Cathaoirleach T McEllistrim asked that Mr. Mangan would review this matter.**

**3. Cllr. T Ferris:** When will works begin on the Ardfert sewage scheme?

**Reply:** The Scheme is included in Irish Water's Capital Investment Programme 2014 - 2016.

The Contract Documents are with Irish Water and are under review prior to the invitation of Tenders. It is anticipated that the Tender process will be conducted over the coming months and the Contract is scheduled to commence in the autumn of 2016.

**Cllr. T Ferris said that she became a member of Kerry County Council in 2003 and was advised in January 2004 that Kerry County Council was optimistic that the sewerage scheme for Ardfert would commence very soon.**

**Mr. C Mangan said that he was hopeful that the construction of the scheme would commence in 2016.**

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

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

**1. Cllr. T Ferris:** What is the current position in relation to the contested rights of way included in the County Development Plan?

**Reply:** At the adoption stage of the County Development Plan last February, 6 no. proposed Rights of Way were legally contested in the Circuit Court.

When the Plan was finally adopted, these 6 no. Rights of Way were not included. They were Rights of Way No.s 3a 3b 3c and 4 in the Banna area and 29a and 25 in the Dingle area.

Subsequently the legal challenge to Rights of Way 3c and 4 were withdrawn and the Circuit Court prescribed that they now be included in the County Development Plan in accordance with legislation.

Proceedings in relation to the other 4 no. Rights of Way are ongoing and they have been listed for hearing in the Circuit Court with no date prescribed at this stage.

**Cllr. T Ferris said that she was disappointed that more detailed information was not available at this stage.**

**Cllr. J Finucane asked that Kerry County Council would engage with the people concerned.**

**2. Cllr. N Foley:** What progress has been made regarding the resolution to rights of way 3A and 3B at Akeragh as per the Draft County Development Plan?.

**Reply:** At the adoption stage of the County Development Plan last February, 6 no. proposed Rights of Way were legally contested in the Circuit Court.

When the Plan was finally adopted, these 6 no. Rights of Way were not included. They were Rights of Way No.s 3a 3b 3c and 4 in the Banna area and 29a and 25 in the Dingle area.

Subsequently the legal challenge to Rights of Way 3c and 4 were withdrawn and the Circuit Court prescribed that they now be included in the County Development Plan in accordance with legislation.

Proceedings in relation to the other 4 no. Rights of Way are ongoing and they have been listed for hearing in the Circuit Court with no date prescribed at this stage.

**Cllr. N Foley said that it is important that the group concerned are involved in the consultation process regarding a resolution to this matter.**

**3. Cllr. G Spring:** Please give an update on the planning permission associated with the advanced manufacturing facility in Tralee.

**Reply:** A planning application was received on the 23<sup>rd</sup> December from IDA Ireland for the construction of an advanced technology building consisting of a production facility and office space at the Technology Park, Dromtacker, Tralee.

The building is approximately 2300m<sup>2</sup> in area on a site of 1 Ha.

**Cllr. G Spring welcomed the response and said that job creation in Tralee is very important.**

**Mr. M Lynch said that pre planning discussions have taken place. The application has been validated and the Planning Ref. No. is 15/1171.**

**Cllr. T O'Brien SECONDED the notice of motion.**

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

Mr. J Breen advised the members that Mr. Johnnie Wall will continue as Chairperson of the St. Patrick's Day Committee in Tralee.

It was agreed to note the following report which was circulated:



**SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES /QUALITY OF LIFE DIRECTORATE  
TRALEE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT MEETING  
Library Service Report January 2016**

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

***Library service:***

~ One of the actions in the national Strategy for Libraries: Opportunities for All (2013-2017), is to 'enable free access to core services by 2017'. In line with this, all libraries, including Kerry will put in place **free library membership from 1 January 2016**.

In addition, in line with the introduction of the new national circulation Library Management System (LMS), **the fine levy on overdue books is to be standardised nationally at 5 cent per day, with a maximum charge of 30 cent per week** (a change from the current 10 cent per week). Kerry is due to link up with the national system in June 2016. However, in the day to day interaction with customers and with SMS text notifications, the emphasis is to get books returned on time, reduce the possibility of fines and thus increase the circulation of books.

~ The no. of items borrowed at Kerry's libraries during 2015 was **645,273**.

While the final figure was down slightly (just 2,260 books less than in 2014), library usage county wide is quite strong. Tralee continues to be the busiest library with 155,573 items borrowed.

45,616 items were borrowed from Castleisland library, a 3% increase on the 2014 figure.

**Housing Services Report January 2016**

**Business Unit Manager: Kathleen Moriarty SEO**

**Tenant Purchase Scheme**

The Council was notified by DOECLG on 17<sup>th</sup> November of the enactment of the relevant legislation to introduce the new Tenant Purchase Scheme for existing local authority houses. The Scheme came into effect on 1 January 2016.

The new Scheme introduces significant changes to Tenant Purchase including discounts for purchasers linked to household income and a discount related charge on the property that reduces to nil over a period unless the house is re-sold or the purchaser fails to comply with conditions of sale. An information Leaflet on the New Scheme is being compiled by the Housing Agency and this will be circulated to all tenants by the Housing Department as soon as possible.

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

The Council has received official notification from DOECLG of an additional allocation under the Housing Adaptation Grants for Older People and People with a Disability Grant Scheme for 2015 of " 225,000 of which " 45,000 is to be provided from our own resources. This brings the total allocation for 2015 to " 2,013,778. This allows the Council to allocate further grants for applications on hand, in accordance with our Priority Scheme.

**Housing Programme 2015 - 2017**

The Council completed the purchase of 35 houses by the end of December 2015 as part of the Housing Construction and Acquisition Programme 2015 . 2017. The target for purchase for 2016 is 40 houses and we continue to seek suitable houses for purchase in the County.

The Council made a total of 146 Council housing allocations in 2015.

In addition, a further total of 231 contracts and allocations were secured through the RAS and Leasing Schemes during 2015 and we continue to seek suitable properties for lease.

We also continue to work closely with Voluntary Housing Bodies and a total of 40 housing units throughout the county were secured in 2015 for accommodating qualified housing applicants through the Voluntary Bodies.

Every effort continues to be made to advance the Housing Construction and Acquisition Programme and a full report will be provided to Members at the Special Housing Meeting in January.

## Social Housing Activity Report at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2015. Tralee Municipal Area (TMA)

<b><u>Social Housing Applicants</u></b>		<b>2015</b>
Accommodation offers made for property located within Municipal Area		85
New Tenancies Commenced		73
Accommodation refusals		7
<b><u>Social Houses</u></b>		
<b>Vacant properties within Municipal Area</b>		
Under/awaiting Repair (excl those subject to major refurbishment)		23
Awaiting Allocation		9
Choice Based Letting (Excluded from Above)		9
<b>Construction Programme</b>		
Single Rural Dwellings - Transfer Stage		1
Single Rural Dwellings - under construction		0
Extensions - applications on hands		
Extensions - under construction		0
<b><u>Rental Accommodation Scheme</u></b>		
	<b><u>County</u></b>	<b><u>T.M.A.</u></b>
Total Active Tenancies	891	432
New tenancies in 2015	155	71
Tenancies terminated in 2015	46	28
<b><u>Leasing</u></b>		
	<b><u>County</u></b>	<b><u>T.M.A.</u></b>
Leased Properties	112	34
Leases under negotiation	24	11
<b><u>Housing Adaptation Grants (County Wide)</u></b>		
	<b><u>No.</u></b>	<b><u>"</u></b>
2015 Allocation		" 2.014m
New Grants Allocated 2015	393	" 2.081m
Total 2015 Commitment	167	" 0.914m
Grants Paid	337	" 1.676m

**Business Unit Manager: Brian Looney SEO**

**Community Dept Report (Community Elements) – January 2016.**

**Local Economic & Community Plan.**

Following on from extensive socio economic research and consultation, the draft Kerry Local Economic and Community Plan has been developed. There are 3 themes of Economic development, Social Inclusion and Quality of Life. Draft actions for the economic elements were considered and approved at the Economic Development and Enterprise SPC on 19 November. The community elements were considered and approved at the Kerry LCDC at its November meeting. The draft document has now been sent to the key stakeholders for comment for return by 29<sup>th</sup> January 2015. It is anticipated that the LECP will be go to the February/March 2016 meeting of Kerry County Council for approval.

**SICAP**

For the delivery of the programme in Kerry the county is divided into 3 Lots with a programme implementers (3 LDCs in Kerry's case) appointed to deliver services in each of the three lots. Each Programme Implementer developed an Action Plan for 2015 for the delivery of services within their Lot area and this plan was approved by Kerry LCDC.

The LCDC as the contracting authority is required to monitor and review the performance of Programme Implementers and the meeting of specific targets against the Action Plan. The Mid-Term Review has been complete and the End of Year Review will commence shortly. In tandem with this, the Preparation of Action Plans for 2016 will commence in November and be finalised in January. Lot budgets and targets for 2016 will be notified by Pobal at the end of November.

**LEADER 2014-2020**

Kerry LCDC is the Local Action Group (LAG) under the LEADER Programme with the 3 Local Development Companies implementing the programme on the ground. Work is progressing on the preparation of the Local Development Strategy (LDS) with extensive public consultation having taken place. The LDCs, KCC and the LCDC each have a role in the development of the strategy, the adoption of which will ultimately be the responsibility of the LCDC as the LAG. The draft actions and objectives LDS were approved at the November LCDC meeting and it is anticipated that the delivery of services under this programme will commence in February/March 2016.

**Community Support Fund**

Files are currently being finalised for the Community Support Fund 2015. The majority of the files have now been processed and those outstanding are being followed up with a view to finalising them by mid January. There are lessons from the administration of the Fund and a full review will take place in January.

**Comhairle na nÓg**

Kerry Comhairle na nÓg Workplan for 2016 has been submitted to the Department for approval. The change for 2016 involves the expansion of the work programme into all 4 Municipal Districts. The aim of this is to encourage county wide participation and to increase the influence of Comhairle na nÓg at a Municipal District level.

The Kerry Comhairle na nÓg will be attending the European Youth Event in Strasbourg in May.

### **Kerry PPN**

The PPN is the main link through which the Council connects with the community, voluntary and environmental sectors. The main work of the Secretariat during the second half of 2015 has been to consider the most appropriate communication methods for the PPN. The work programme is extensive and includes the Register of Community & Voluntary Groups and the Website development. The tender for the website has now been developed and sent to prospective companies.

In addition to this the Secretariat has been heavily involved in the development of the LECP.

### **Mitchels/Boherbee Community Regeneration**

The landscape of the Mitchels/Boherbee area continues to evolve, with new building and renovations being undertaken throughout the area. Work is ongoing on the landmark site at the junction of Mitchels Road and Urban Terrace with the construction of a new dwelling and the reconstruction of 28 Urban Terrace. The completion of this project in the first quarter of 2016 will lift one of the most prominent sites in the area and indeed in all Tralee. The construction of 3 housing units on Mitchels Road is nearing completion and we look forward to new families taking up residents in the near future. Additional house refurbishments have been undertaken in Marian Park & Kevin Barry's.

The refurbishment of the Moyderwell Convent Wall has recently been completed and has transformed the streetscape on Dean's Lane, lifting what was a very drab wall to highlighting vistas of the convent building and adding a sense of life to the area. Proposals have been submitted for improvement of the wall facing Moyderwell and it is proposed that this work be undertaken early in 2016.

The tender report for Proposed Energy Upgrades and Environmental Improvements Phase 1A, covering the remainder of Mitchels Avenue and the Court has been submitted to the Department for their approval. To date final approval for the project has not been received.

The Council are continuing to meet the residents of Hawley Park in relation to improvements to their estate. Sixteen residents attended the meeting and proposals were put forward for consideration. Once the residents have an opportunity to consider same a further meeting will be held.

The council has been working with the Department of the Environment, Community & Local Government in relation to the revised Master plan. The issues concerning connectivity throughout the area have been approved. Engagement with residents in the area, who are proposed to be re-housed have taken place and the formal planning process is about to begin to allow construction commence in 2016.

It has also been announced recently that funding for the new Gaelscoil has been approved for the lands between Hawley Park and the hospital with a view to commencing work in 2017. The proposal will be subject to the normal planning process.

## **Arts Office / 2016 Programme**

The Kerry County Council Arts Strategy 2016 . 2021 has been formally adopted by the Council, and is available on our website, [www.kerrycoco.ie](http://www.kerrycoco.ie) .

### **Matters arising:**

One of the key points of dissatisfaction noted through public consultation was the lack of a professionally run and dedicated visual arts exhibition and studio space in the County. Artists need space to exhibit, rehearse and show work. Whilst Síamsa Tíre is of huge benefit to Tralee, there is high demand for space, also it takes in approx 12 exhibitions a year and is not always affordable as a venue for emerging artists or amateur groups.

The Arts Office would therefore ask Tralee Municipal District to keep this issue in mind when dealing with any vacant buildings owned by the Local Authority or indeed any future capital developments. We recently received a letter from a man living just outside Tralee asking what KCC was planning to do to provide space for artists to exhibit. We frequently receive requests for space to perform and rehearse.

If the Municipal District Team have any suggestions to fill this gap in provision we would be most grateful for a sharing of information.

### **Arts Plan Areas of focus:**

1. Arts and young people,
2. Professional arts development
3. Arts partnerships.

The main arts partners based in Tralee are Síamsa Tíre, Kerry Film Festival, National Circus Festival, on the craft side . Original Kerry, Kerry Music Education Partnership. We also support a number of arts groups such as the Tralee Art Group, Diverse Writers, Scribblers Writers Group, Duisigh Youth Theatre to name but a few.

### **Recent arts events –**

The **National Circus Festival of Ireland** ran in Tralee from the 13<sup>th</sup> to the 15<sup>th</sup> November. This is Ireland's largest annual circus festival

The National Circus Festival of Ireland is the place for the diverse strands of a contemporary circus culture to meet, share ideas, fun and create an Irish expression for this exciting artform and offers audiences a variety of shows and workshops. It began as a juggling convention in 2000, and now includes many events. Circus Siamsa, a public variety show held in Siamsa Tíre Theatre, is the main event of the festival and is the national showcase for contemporary urban circus and features top national and international performers.

Dúisigh Youth Theatre . *Walking the Tightrope* – 19<sup>th</sup> December . this was a devised piece written and produced by members of the youth theatre. It was the culmination of a three year programme with the youth theatre members. It explored mental health issues in young people, looking at some of the contributing factors involved and how these issues can be overcome.

Free Rads Youth Theatre . *UTOPIA* - an Evening of New Plays on the 18th December at 8pm in Siamsa Tíre.

### **Forthcoming arts events – (January)**

Thursday Night Writers Group, Tralee . weekly meeting at the Abbey Inn, Tralee

Ardfert Acting School . weekly acting classes for adults, Mondays and Saturdays

For up to date information please go to [www.facebook.com/kerrycoarts](http://www.facebook.com/kerrycoarts)

### **Kerry 2016**

#### **Matters arising:**

State Ceremonial event at Banna on April 21<sup>st</sup>. Anticipated crowd of 3-5,000 people. OPW is administering most of the event logistics. The President is to officiate (confirmed) and a request for a meet and greet for 5-10 minutes with Ardfert Development Association at Ardfert Cathedral before hand has been made, and is not yet confirmed.

KCC is organising the MC and artistic events as part of ceremony and will assist with transport for the event.

Bus hire from Tralee to Banna, organised from main car parks, library etc? (Possible pre booked parking in Ardfert village in KCC owned field with bus to car park 1.etc).

There will be a seated area for 200-300 people. The Department will have a number of invited guest and dignitaries. KCC may allocate seats for family members and others interested in attending to be drawn by lottery if demand exceeds seating available.

### **Kerry 2016 events in Tralee Municipal District**

Three Local Schools in North Kerry	1916-2016 and Beyond: Commemorating 1916 Rising and it's legacy in poetry	Oct 2015 - May 2016	" 500
Kerry Women's Writers' Network	"Fearless and Imaginative" Women & Writing: Responses to the Rising	Tralee - Autumn 2016	" 500
Tionól Mhic Easmainn/Roger Casement Autumn Gathering	Comemoration of Roger Casement's landing at Banna Strand	Lectures in Tralee 28/03/2016, Banna Walk Good Friday and walk in Tralee on Easter Sunday	" 250
Ardfert Development Association	Portrait image of Roger Casement Monument	Ardfert Village Easter 2016	" 250
Kerry Archaeological and Historical Society	1916 Kerry Patriots & Places	Various lecture Feb - June 2016	" 400
Irish Life & Lore - Maurice & Jane O'Keefe	1916 Rising Oral History Collection	Tralee & Dublin February 2016	" 250

Gleann na Ginnte Historical & Natural Walks Group	Historical Walk and tour of Captain Monteith home with Tadgh Óg Lenihan	Gleann na Ginnte Valley	" 250
Tralee Art Group	1916-2016 Exhibition	Tralee Library	" 0
James Connolly Park Residence Association	Rocky Road Rising	James Connolly Park	" 0
Tralee Musical Society	Andrew Lloyd Webbers - "The Beautiful Game"	Siamsa Tire April 2016	" 100
Access Heritage Limited	Kerry 2016 Digital Monuments App Project - Working title: 'Rebellion in Kerry'		" 0
Hands Across the Ocean - NEKD Development Group	Hands Across the Ocean	Various locations incl San Francisco 2016 tbc	" 100
B Company & Associates	1916: Remembering Frongoch	Pearse Park - April 2016	" 250
Mitchels Boherbee Community Regeneration Historical & Heritage Group	Tralee Women of 1916 era instrumental in developing strong cohesive communities	Kerry County Library March 2016	" 800
Dance Artist Maria Sveenson with The Education Centre	The Easter Rising School and Dance Project	No of schools around Kerry during Jan-March 2016	" 500
Kerry Choral Union adult & Junior Choirs	Kerry Choral Union 1916 Commemoration Concert	Our Lady & St Brendan's Church Sunday 24th April 2016	" 2,000
Tralee Bay Heritage Association	1916 AUD/U19 Kerry landing	Apr-16	" 250
Radio Kerry's Caint Chiarraí	Ag gCuimhne 1916 I gCarraí	4 part bi-lingual documentary series starting or concluding on Easter Sunday	" 250



Kerry Film Festival	100 re-imagined: a nation on screen 1919-2016	October (part of Kerry Film Festival)	" 2,000
Kerins O'Rahilly's GAA Club	Michael O'Rahilly's Commemorative run & exp	Kerins O'Rahilly's GAA Grounds 31/01/2016	" 100
Tommy Collins	March from Blennerville to Cahill Park with lay of wreath		" 0

For up to date information please go to [www.kerry2016.ie](http://www.kerry2016.ie) excellent website, designed in house by KCC IT Department. Programme available for download, printed programme also available at the Arts Office, County Buildings, the County Museum and Tralee Library.

### **Environmental Protection Services Report January 2016**

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

### **Environmental Awareness Initiatives in the Tralee Municipal District**

Kerry County Council Dog and Litter Wardens will carry out further joint patrols along dog walking route around Tralee area during January/February 2016, in an effort to raise awareness amongst dog owners of their responsibility to license and control their dogs and to clean up after them in public places. It is planned to provide further antidog signage and dog foul dispensers along the river walk in Tralee.

Green School visits ongoing and will be until end of March.

In cooperation with the Southern Regional Waste Management Office, adverts were placed in local newspapers before Christmas rolling out an awareness campaign on preventing Food Waste - in particular bread in the lead up to Xmas. A second series of adverts will run in January and will feature the recycling of Plastic.

### **Fire and Building Control Section - Monthly Report for December 2015 4<sup>th</sup> January 2016**

#### **Building Control Statistics 2015**

#### **Commencement Notices/7 Day Notices**

No. Received	<b>339</b>	No. of Buildings Notified	<b>396</b>
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#### **Fire Certificates:**

	Received	Granted
Ordinary	71	68
7-Day	42	37
Revised	2	0
Regularisation	<u>22</u>	<u>30</u>
Totals	137	135

#### **Disability Access Certificates**

No. Received:	82	No. Granted:	92
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## **Building Control Inspections**

No. of Inspections: 327

## **Planning Applications Referrals**

No. of referrals received: 245

No. of referrals Assessed 215

## **Asset Management**

1. ~~Scafftag~~ 'Scafftag' requested to carry out a trial/demonstration for Kerry. This will answer a number of questions will it suit our needs and is it compatible with our systems?
2. IT Dept. has given some direction on how to complete the purchase of this product in the New Year 2016.

## **Construction Products**

1. We are still in the early stages of how to proceed with this piece of legislation, due to staff shortages and technical qualifications.

## **Equipment-Research/Procurement**

1. Currently four wildfire helmets on trial. These are MSA F2Xtrem and are made by the same manufacturer as our structural helmets.

## **Equipment-Stores/Inventory**

1. This remains the same as the last month due to personal commitments of the Full Time Staff.
2. PPE for fire fighters structural kit is ok. We require a replacement programme for wildfire kit. This would include Wild fire Helmets & Goggles/ Wildfire Overalls/ Smoke Masks/ Backpacks.
3. Stock of flash hoods received and gloves will be delivered in the next couple of weeks.

## **Health & Safety**

1. This is ongoing with ACFO John Hegarty managing all aspects of this.
2. Draft OHSAS documents have been reviewed by the CFO and a second draft is being prepared along with the setting up of a working group.

## **Training**

1. Two new recruits successfully completed a Recruit Induction Course in Foynes Co. Limerick.
2. A Safe Working at Heights Equipment Inspection Course was provided to three personnel and all three successfully completed the course.

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

**1. Cllr. N Foley:** Due to increased levels of anti- social behaviour and the health and safety concerns of residents, that the Tralee Municipal District would take all the necessary measures to improve security in the childrens playground and car park area of Fenit, up to and including the installation of cameras.

**Reply:** Fenit Playground was opened in the around 2005 and complied fully with the requirements of the Council 's Ag Spraoi Policy. In the 10 or more years since opening the Council has never attended to the playground to carry out repairs associated with vandalism or anti social behaviour. The Council will work with local residents who have concerns about the playground using powers under the

Playground Bye-Laws. Concerned residents should contact the Insurance Unit of the Council to discuss their concerns.

**Cllr. N Foley acknowledged the response and asked if the car park could be monitored.**

**Mr. J Breen said that Kerry County Council should be made aware of any specific anti-social behaviour or health and safety concerns which can then be referred to the Gardaí.**

**Cllr. N Foley said that installation of cameras should be considered as the presence of cameras is an effective deterrent to anti-social behaviour.**

**Cllr. T Ferris said that there is a Community Alert group in Fenit and a local person is in the business of the provision and installation of security systems. The car park is used as a storage area for plant on its way to the pier and there are no reports of equipment having been vandalised. She said that any issues with regard to the installation of CCTV should be discussed with the local Community Council.**

**Cllr. N Foley acknowledged that any incidents of anti-social behaviour should be referred to the Gardaí and that all interested parties in the community should be consulted with regard to the installation of CCTV. She said that her notice of motion was based on a suggestion made that all wide open spaces should be monitored for health and safety reasons.**

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

**1. Cllr. N Foley:** That the ongoing issue of the dumping of domestic rubbish in Pearse Park be looked at as a matter of emergency. Can we consider the introduction of cameras as required or the introduction of a different type of bin that will not accommodate such dumping?

**Reply:** The area will continue to be closely monitored to try to track the perpetrators of the illegal dumping. If the problem persists however the two bins in the park will be removed. This method used previously in another area of the town proved successful in eliminating illegal dumping in that area.

**Cllr. N Foley said that Pearse Park is a very significant part of the town and illegal dumping is an ongoing issue there.**

**Cllr. S Locke SECONDED the notice of motion and said that illegal dumping is a problem in many parts of the town and will continue to be so until the perpetrators are prosecuted.**

**2. Cllr. N Foley:** What is the up to date position regarding the Tenant Purchase Scheme and when will Kerry County Council be in a position to accept applications?.

**Reply:** We are currently awaiting a leaflet from the Housing Agency which will summarise the Terms and Conditions of the new Tenant Purchase Scheme for our tenants. Once this is to hand, we should be in a position to make contact with our tenants in the coming weeks.

**Cllr. N Foley acknowledged the response and said that there is a huge interest in the new Tenant Purchase Scheme and it should be made accessible for tenants.**

#### **(d) Any Other Business**

Cllr. T Ferris PROPOSED that a joint Notice of Motion from the members of the Tralee Municipal District be forwarded for inclusion on the agenda for the February meeting of the Full Council.

*“To call on Kerry County Council to support the call for the state to acknowledge that the Travelling Community are a separate ethnic minority in Ireland”.*

The proposal was unanimously agreed.

#### **15.11.02.05 Operations, Health & Safety Directorate**

(a) It was agreed to note the following report which was circulated:

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

##### **1. Reorganisation Project**

**The following staff are based at the Kerry County Council Tralee Municipal District Operations Office at Prince’s Quay (former Tralee Town Hall)**

**Frank Hartnett** - Municipal District Engineer

**Siobhan Horgan** . Senior Administrator

##### **Area Engineers:**

- **John Fitzgerald** (Roads and Environmental)
- **Colm Lynch** (Roads and Environmental)
- **Aidan Harty** (Housing)

##### **2. Road Works Programme for January / February 2016**

<b>Metropolitan Area</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Works to commence on extension of footpaths at Rath Graveyard (Capital Programme)</li><li>• Paving repairs ongoing at The Mall</li><li>• Tree trimming ongoing</li><li>• General roads maintenance ongoing</li></ul>
<b>Tralee Municipal District East</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Killarney Municipal District Works (2no. Crews)</li><li>• Flood Damage Remedial Works</li><li>• CSMDOF Works (County Councillor Allocations)</li><li>• Development Contribution Works</li><li>• Local &amp; Regional Road Maintenance Works</li></ul>

<b>Tralee Municipal District West</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CSMDOF Works (County Councillor Allocations)</li> <li>• Flood Damage Remedial Works</li> <li>• Development Contribution Works</li> <li>• Bond Release / Taking-in-Charge Works</li> <li>• Local &amp; Regional Road Maintenance Works</li> </ul>
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### 3. Housing

Maintenance work is ongoing

Work will be undertaken to the following vacant units in January/February 2016.

	61,63,70,71,72,175 Shanakill 34 Connolly Park 1 & 83 St Josephs Estate 4 Reidys Terrace 6 Killeen Court
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This concludes our Report for January/February 2016

#### (b) Notices of Motion.

**1. Cllr. T McEllistrim:** To cut the trees around the corkscrew bends on the Castlemaine road heading out of Tralee town, in the interest of road user safety.

**Reply:** The Tralee MD Operations Department maintains the verges/hedgerows on sections of the N70 annually. The Tralee MD Operations Department will prune and cut hedges and low branches at this location in the interests of road safety.

**2. Cllr. T. McEllistrim:** To take the ditch on the right hand side of the road to Ballyfinnane near Quills Cross Tralee, in the interest of road user safety.

**Reply:** The ditch at the junction of the L2018 and the L6549 at Quills Cross was removed a number of years ago by Kerry County Council. The area has overgrown in the meantime and this will be cleared to improve sightlines.

**As Cllr. P McCarthy was not present at the meeting at this stage, Notice of Motion No. 3 was moved on his behalf by Cllr. N Foley.**

**3. Cllr. P. McCarthy:** That this Council provide either a pedestrian crossing or zebra crossing at a suitable location in Ballymullen, Tralee and perhaps the Council can advise if the Councillor Specific Municipal District Operations Fund can be used for same.

**Reply:** Requests for a pedestrian crossing at the N86 at Ballymullen have been received previously and a Traffic and Pedestrian Count was duly undertaken by Tralee MD. The results indicated that a pedestrian crossing is not warranted in the area. However, there are plans to improve the junction with Stephens Terrace, which will include improved pedestrian facilities.

**4. Cllr. T. McEllistrim:** That works to alleviate flooding be carried out at the bridge in Ballyard Tralee (Details with Directorate).

**Reply:** The Tralee area has been identified under the CFRAM study as an area at risk of flooding. The CFRAM study is currently under the remit of the OPW which is the lead agency responsible for flood risk management. The OPW works in close partnership with Local Authorities in delivering the objectives of the CFRAM Programme.

The current draft flood maps published in early 2015 as part of this study did not identify properties in the Ballyard area at risk of flooding. However the flood extent witnessed on the 11<sup>th</sup> -13<sup>th</sup> of September and the 5<sup>th</sup> . 6<sup>th</sup> of December 2015 in the Ballyard area resulted in the flooding of a number of properties and was more extensive than predicted on the draft flood maps published under the CFRAM study.

Kerry County Council has written to the OPW seeking a review of the hydrology and draft flood extent maps for the Tralee AFA to accurately reflect the flood extents recently witnessed.

The final phase of the CFRAM study involves the preparation of flood management plans for each area. The flood management plans will include specific measures including new infrastructure to mitigate the flood risk in each area identified in the CFRAM study. These works will be completed subject to Government funding. It is prudent to await on a revision of the draft flood maps and the subsequent publication of the flood management plan for Tralee prior to applying for funding to undertake any works at this location. These plans will take the entire catchment and river route into consideration ensuring that works proposed do not have a negative impact on properties downstream.

**5. Cllr. T. McEllistrim:** That road markings be improved at the four road cross at Knocknagoshel, on the old Tralee to Abbeyfeale mountain road.

**Reply:** A program of works for the line markers has been identified for the coming year and the four road cross at Knocknagoshel is included in these works on the L2015.

**6. Cllr. T. McEllistrim:** That the hedges be cut on the road towards the creamery and in the vicinity of the creamery at Knocknagoshel, on the road from the four road cross at Knocknagoshel, on the old Tralee to Abbeyfeale mountain road.

**Reply:** Hedges in the vicinity of the creamery at Knocknagoshel have been identified for cutting as part of the hedge cutting list for Tralee MD area. This list is being processed and land owners will be written to in the next 2 weeks, requiring them to remove any immediate hazard to road users within 14 days of receipt on the notice.

Failure to do so will result in Kerry County Council carrying out the necessary works and seeking full recovery of all costs from the landowner.

**7. Cllr. S. Locke:** That this Council would rename the area where the Christy Hennessy monument is located in Abbey Court, Tralee to *Christy Hennessy Place*.

**Reply:** We will arrange to review the legislation in respect of this proposal and revert to the members at the next Municipal District meeting.

Cllr. S Locke said that he was not happy with the response.

**G O'Brien informed the meeting that that the adoption of a policy on the naming of Council infrastructure is awaited. He advised the members that Part 18 of the Local Government Act 2001 deals with the changing of a name of a town, townland, street or locality etc. This proposal does not appear to fall within any of these categories and that is why further advice is being sought on the matter.**

**8. Cllr. T. Ferris:** How many properties in the Tralee Municipal District have yet to received window/door replacement and why?

**Reply:** There are in the region of 100 units in the Tralee Municipal District in the ownership of Kerry County Council which require an element of window and/or door replacement. There is no funding currently available from the Department of Environment for this work to be carried out.

**Cllr. Ferris asked why this type of work has not been carried out up to now.**

**Mr. J Breen said that no enhancement work has been carried out on Council housing units over the past few years as no funding has been available.**

**Cllr. T Ferris said that the people most affected are tenants who took care of their windows and doors for many years and the average lifespan has now expired and they need to be replaced.**

**Cllr. S Locke supported the notice of motion and said he would like to see a programme similar to the previous RAPID (Revitalising Areas by Planning, Investment and Development) programme being introduced in Tralee.**

**9. Cllr. T. Ferris:** When will the remaining works at Radharc na Heaglaise be completed?

**Reply:** The public lighting at Radharc na hEeaglaise was made operational in mid December 2015. The remaining balance of the bond will be spent in the estate following a meeting with the residents.

**Cllr. T Ferris said that she had submitted three notices of motion regarding this matter during the past two years.**

**Cllr. T O'Brien supported the notice of motion and asked if there was an issue with regard to the repair of public lighting at the moment.**

**Mr. F Hartnett asked that the members contact him if they were concerned about public lighting being out of order at a specific location.**

**Cllr. N Foley said that there are a number of areas without public lighting and asked that the formulation of a policy be expedited as public lighting enhances the confidence and safety of people at night time.**

**Cllr. S Locke** said that the installation of public lights is awaited on Spa road with approximately three years.

**Mr. J Breen** undertook to refer this matter to the Director of Operations, Health & Safety.

**Notice of Motion No. 10 was moved in conjunction with Item 1.**

**11. Cllr. P. Daly:** That this council will reduce the parking fees on Pembroke Street to the rate on Upper Rock Street.

**Reply:** Due to the limited number of spaces on Pembroke Street, it is considered that long-term parking should be discouraged on the street and that the current fee be maintained. The Council's car park at Balloonagh is nearby, where the rate is " 1.20 for 3 hours. Any amendment to the parking provisions will require an amendment of the current parking bye-laws. It is proposed to carry out a review of these bye-laws in 2016 and this motion can be considered as part of the review.

**Cllr. P Daly** said that it does not make sense that three different parking charges apply in areas that are within 100 meters of each other on a street that has suffered considerable neglect in the past few years.

**Mr. J Breen** said that it is proposed to carry out a review of the bye-laws in 2016 and this motion can be considered as part of the review.

**12. Cllr. N. Foley:** That the lighting on Denny Lane, Tralee be upgraded. This is a popular lane with huge pedestrian usage. Increased lighting would improve it from a health and safety point of view.

**Reply:** Increased lighting on Denny Lane was provided in 2015 and is considered to be satisfactory.

**Cllr. N Foley** asked that the lighting in this area be monitored.

**13. Cllr. N. Foley:** That a safe crossing point be provided for residents of Murphys Terrace Tralee.

**Reply:** Requests for a pedestrian crossing at the N86 at Ballymullen have been received previously and a Traffic and Pedestrian Count was duly undertaken by Tralee MD . the results indicated that a pedestrian crossing is not warranted in the area. However, there are plans to improve the junction with Stephen's Terrace, which will include improved pedestrian facilities.

**14. Cllr. N Foley:** That Kerry County Council would fill the potholes from the Old Petrol Station Road to the beach in Camp as a matter of urgency.

**Reply:** The L8012 Local Secondary Road from Camp Cross to the beach will be patched in the coming days.

**Cllr. N Foley** welcomed this reply.



**15. Cllr. N. Foley:** That the Tralee Municipal District would investigate on a health and safety basis why residents in the holiday homes, many of which are now privately owned and lived in as full time residences, in (Details with Directorate) are without public lights for more than four months now.

**Reply:** The estate known as the Atlantic Village in Fenit is private and not in the charge of Kerry County Council. The management company for the Holiday Home development is responsible for maintaining and operating the public lighting.

**Cllr. T Ferris said that a group representing the residents had requested that a deputation be received at a previous Tralee MD meeting but chose not to attend.**

**Mr. J Breen said that this is a private estate and not in the charge of Kerry County Council. If they make an application for the estate to be taken in charge their application will be processed, in the meantime Kerry County Council can only give them advice.**

**16. Cllr. S Locke:** That the Council dredge the river Lee to alleviate the flooding difficulties in the Ballymullen area of the town.

**Reply:** The Tralee area has been identified under the CFRAM study as an area at risk of flooding. The CFRAM study is currently under the remit of the OPW who are the lead agency responsible for flood risk management. The OPW works in close partnership with Local Authorities in delivering the objectives of the CFRAM Programme.

The final phase of the CFRAM study involves the preparation of flood management plans for each area. The flood management plans will include specific measures including new infrastructure to mitigate the flood risk in each area identified in the CFRAM study. These works will be completed subject to Government funding. It is prudent to await on a revision of the draft flood maps and the subsequent publication of the flood management plan for Tralee prior to applying for funding to undertake any works at this location. These plans will take the entire catchment and river route into consideration ensuring that works proposed do not have a negative impact on properties downstream.

**Cllr. S Locke said the dredging of the river Lee down from Ballymullen bridge is required as there is a lot of silt in the river. The cost of the clean up would be better spent on doing this type of work.**

**17. Cllr. T Ferris:** That flood protection works would be carried out by the property of (Details with Directorate) as a matter of urgency

**Reply:** The Tralee area has been identified under the CFRAM study as an area at risk of flooding. The CFRAM study is currently under the remit of the OPW who are the lead agency responsible for flood risk management. The OPW works in close partnership with Local Authorities in delivering the objectives of the CFRAM Programme.

The final phase of the CFRAM study involves the preparation of flood management plans for each area. The flood management plans will include specific measures including new infrastructure to mitigate the flood risk in each area identified in the CFRAM study. These works will be completed subject to Government funding. It is prudent to await on a revision of the draft flood maps and the subsequent publication of the flood management

plan for Tralee prior to applying for funding to undertake any works at this location. These plans will take the entire catchment and river route into consideration ensuring that works proposed do not have a negative impact on properties downstream.

**Cllr. T Ferris** acknowledged the reply and said that while she appreciated that the CEFRAM Programme was looking at the bigger picture, individual home owners are concerned about future flooding risks and sand bags have not served the purpose. **Cllr. S Locke** said that he understood that a good flood prevention system was available in the 1980's i.e. flaps that can be sealed onto doors to prevent water getting into the property.

**18. Cllr. T Ferris:** That Kerry County Council will ensure a pedestrian access through O'Sullivan's Lane to Boherbee will be included in any development at the old McCowens site.

**Reply:** A Planning Application is currently under consideration for the redevelopment of the site and the above request can be considered.

**Notice of Motion No. 19 was moved in conjunction with Item 1.**

**20. Cllr. G Spring:** That traffic calming measures are introduced at Lee Drive Estate, Ballinorig Tralee.

**Reply:** All requests for traffic calming will be assessed in line with the Council's Traffic Calming Policy; particular locations should be identified and forwarded for consideration to the MD Engineer. In the meantime, in January, 30kph speed limit signage will be erected in the estate.

### **(c) Questions**

**1. Cllr. N. Foley:** Can appropriate action be taken to address the issue of water ponding outside the home of (Details with Directorate).

**Reply:** The tarmac surfaced area at Killeen Road has been inspected on a number of occasions in late December and no water ponding was present; however, the area will be monitored and remedial works undertaken if necessary.

**Cllr. N Foley** acknowledged that the proposal for the provision of a new pedestrian crossing on Killerisk Road is currently going through the public consultation process. She said that this is a very busy residential area and asked that the proposed scheme be brought before the members for adoption at the earliest possible date.

**Mr. F Hartnett** said that it is anticipated that this proposal will be included on the agenda for the March meeting.

**Cllr. N Foley** thanked her fellow councillors for giving a commitment to allocate funding from Councillor Specific Municipal District Operations Fund towards this project.

**2. Cllr. N. Foley:** Whilst acknowledging the sterling work by Kerry County Council staff, other agencies and the community during the recent storm Desmond, what specific plans are now in place to prevent flooding at the various flash points in Tralee e.g.

Manor, Ballymullen, Castlemaine road etc?.

**Reply:** The Tralee area has been identified under the CFRAM study as an area at risk of flooding. The CFRAM study is currently under the remit of the OPW who are the lead agency responsible for flood risk management. The OPW works in close partnership with Local Authorities in delivering the objectives of the CFRAM Programme.

The final phase of the CFRAM study involves the preparation of flood management plans for each area. The flood management plans will include specific measures including new infrastructure to mitigate the flood risk in each area identified in the CFRAM study. These works will be completed subject to Government funding. It is prudent to await on a revision of the draft flood maps and the subsequent publication of the flood management plan for Tralee prior to applying for funding to undertake any works to alleviate flooding in these areas. These plans will take the entire river Lee catchment and route into consideration ensuring that works proposed do not have a negative impact on properties downstream.

**3. Cllr. G Spring:** Can works be carried out to repair the road (Details with Directorate) as there may be a burst pipe causing the problem?.

**Reply:** This large pothole has been recently repaired and further remedial works will be undertaken where required.

#### **15.11.02.07 Any Other Business**

##### **(a) Councillor Specific MD Operations Fund for the provision of defibrillators**

Cllr. T O'Brien asked if funding from Councillor Specific Municipal District Operations Fund could be allocated towards the provision of defibrillators for first responders in Tralee, on a once off basis.

Mr. J Breen undertook to refer this matter to Mr. C O'Sullivan Tralee MD manager.

##### **(b) Hardship & Emergency Fund**

Cllr. T Ferris asked if Councillors from outside the Municipal District are allowed to allocate funding from Councillor Specific Municipal District Operations Fund for Hardship & Emergency cases.

Mr. G O'Brien undertook to discuss this matter with the Director of Operations, Health & Safety.

##### **(c) Canal Road**

Cllr. T O'Brien asked that the condition of the wall on the Canal road be examined. He said that he had previously submitted a notice of motion regarding this matter.

##### **(d) Oyster Hall**

Cllr. T Ferris PROPOSED that an emergency motion be taken concerning the need for coastal protection works at Oyster Hall, Tralee.

Mr. F Hartnett said that this work has been carried out.

#### **(e) Castlewood Park**

Cllr. T Ferris asked that the drains in Castlewood Park be kept clean.

#### **(f) Weed spraying course**

Cllr. S Locke referred to the requirement that people who apply pesticides will need to complete a sprayer operator course which costs " 120 and asked if financial assistance for the cost of such courses will be provided to members of communities who have always carried out this type of work.

Mr. J Breen said that he would consider this matter and revert to the members.

#### **(g) Tralee 800**

Cathaoirleach T McEllistrim said that 2016 is a very important year for Tralee as it celebrates Tralee 800. Attracting tourism is crucial for the economy of Tralee and every effort should be made to promote Tralee 800.

#### **(h) Vacant houses in Shanakill**

Cllr. T Ferris referred to the Social Housing Activity Report on page 16 and asked when it is expected that the vacant houses in Shanakill will be allocated.

Mr. J Breen said that the allocation process will commence following the completion of repairs. The completion date is 1<sup>st</sup> February, 2016.

Cllr. T Ferris said that there are also vacant properties at An Bheara, Ardfert.

Mr. J Breen undertook to follow up on this matter and revert to Cllr. Ferris.

#### **(i) St Stephen's Terrace**

Cllr. P McCarthy referred to the response to his Notice of Motion No. 3 . Item 6 Operations Health & Safety concerning the provision of a pedestrian crossing at a suitable location in Ballymullen, which was moved on his behalf by Cllr. N Foley and asked for clarification with regard to the improvement of the junction with St. Stephens Terrace.

Mr. F Hartnett said that approval for this project has not yet been finalised with Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII).

#### **(j) Allocation from CSMDOF for works near Scoil Ide, Curranes, Castleisland.**

A discussion took place regarding the allocation of funding from the Councillor Specific Municipal District Operations Fund (CSMDOF) by all the Tralee MD members for works in the vicinity of Scoil Ide, Curranes, Castleisland.

Cllr. T Ferris said that in the future she would like to be provided with details of the request made for funding before making a decision to contribute from her Councillor Specific Municipal District Operations Fund to a project.

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

#### **(a) Notice of Motion**

**1. Cllr. P. Daly:** That this Council will endeavour to make additional land available to the Gaelcholáiste for a sports hall.

**Reply:** Kerry County council has transferred a site for a Gaelcholáiste to KETB which includes land that can be developed for sports/recreation purposes. The site is located in lands at the rear of Hawley park and also the lands of the former St Martin's park estate. This was the site that was earmarked for the Gaelscoil for a number of years and no additional land has been sought by KETB or is available. From the outset it was outlined by KETB that the Sports Complex would provide the built sporting facilities for the school and no additional funding was being provided for an additional sports hall on the school site.

**Cllr. P Daly said that it does not make sense to have children walking to and from the Sports Complex in bad weather conditions. He said that he would raise this matter with KETB.**

**2. Cllr. N. Foley:** To commemorate and celebrate the history and culture of old Tralee, that the Tralee Municipal District would acknowledge the location of the old creamery in Tralee with suitable signage and appropriate display. The site of the old creamery is now the location of the Ashe Hotel. This initiative could be part of a history and culture trail in Tralee town.

**Reply:** A heritage and cultural trail in Tralee town would be a very welcome addition to the towns tourism infrastructure .

The members will be receiving a briefing on the Kerry Tourism Strategy following this meeting from John Griffin, Tourism Officer

John will be inviting members to highlight the projects they wish to have included in the Tourism Action plan for the Tralee MD.

This trail would involve the erection of plaques on the appropriate buildings and a corresponding brochure with the map of the town outlined. This would be a very suitable project for the town in 2016 in conjunction with Tralee 800 and could be completed in conjunction with the Tralee Chamber Alliance.

**Cllr. N Foley welcomed the response and said that this area is rich in culture and heritage.**

**Cllr. T McEllistrim SECONDED the notice of motion.**

#### **16.01.11.07 Dates for meetings.**

(a) On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. N Foley SECONDED by Cllr. J Finucane it was agreed that the next meeting of the members of the Municipal District of Tralee would be held on Monday, 7<sup>th</sup> March, 2016 at 10.45am.

(b) On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. N Foley SECONDED by Cllr. J Finucane it was agreed that a meeting to consider the 2016-2018 Multi Annual Restoration Improvement Programme would be held on Monday, 1<sup>st</sup> February, 2016 at 2.00pm.

It was agreed that Mr. F Hartnett would meet with the members of the Municipal District of Tralee on Monday, 25<sup>th</sup> January, 2016 at 1.00pm to brief them on Multi Annual Restoration Improvement Programme.

#### **16.01.11.08 Correspondence**

1.	Letter from The Courts Service dated 3 <sup>rd</sup> November 2015 in response to resolution from the members of the Municipal District of Tralee in relation to making the Courthouse in Tralee more accessible environment for all.
2.	Letter from Health Service Executive dated 16 <sup>th</sup> November 2015 in response to resolution from the members of the Municipal District of Tralee in relation to car parking arrangements at Kerry General Hospital.
3.	Letter from The Courts Service dated 27 <sup>th</sup> November 2015 in response to resolution from the members of the Municipal District of Tralee in relation to floodlighting of Tralee Courthouse.

#### **Replies to correspondence regarding Tralee Courthouse**

Cllr. N Foley referred to the reply from the Courts Service to the resolution requesting the Courthouse Services to flood light the Courthouse building in Tralee and said that this building is an iconic and historical structure that deserves to be highlighted. A filter light would illuminate the building. Every effort should be made to upgrade this location. She acknowledged the work of Ms. J Foley MD Officer and the businesses in the area.

Cllr. T O'Brien referred to the reply from the Courts Services concerning access to the Courthouse in Tralee and said that he was not satisfied with the response. As a Local Authority, Kerry County Council should pursue this matter further.

Cllr. P Daly said that Courthouses in many towns have been closed and no investment has been made in the Courthouse in Tralee.

#### **16.01.11.09 Reception**

On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. T McEllistrim SECONDED by Cllr. T Ferris, it was agreed to host a reception for Mr. Liam Dowling, trainer of %Ballymac Matt+that won the Irish Greyhound Derby.

**The meeting concluded at 13.15pm.**

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

**Mayor of the Municipal  
District of Tralee**