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MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE MEMBERS OF THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF KENMARE HELD IN POBALSCOIL INBHEAR SCÉINE, KENMARE, FRIDAY 31st JULY 2020

MIONTUAIRISCÍ NA CRUINNITHE DE CHEANTAR BARDASACH NEIDÍN A THIONÓLADH I POBALSCOIL INBHEAR SCÉINE, NEIDÍN AR AN HAOINE 31Ú IÚIL 2020.

PRESENT/I LÁTHAIR

Councillors/Comhairleoirí

**Cllr. P. Connor-Scarteen
Cllr. N. Moriarty
Cllr. M. Cahill
Cllr. D. McCarthy
Cllr. J. Healy-Rae
Cllr. J. F. Flynn (Cathaoirleach)**

IN ATTENDANCE/I LÁTHAIR

Mr. M. O' Donoghue	Delegated Executive Kenmare Municipal District
Mr. C. O' Connor	Director of Corporate Services
Mr. P. Teahan	Municipal District Engineer
Ms. S Griffin	Municipal District Office
Mr. M. Kelliher	EE Caherciveen
Mr. B. Hickey	E.E. Killorglin
Mr. K. O' Halloran	E.E. Kenmare
Mr. P. Neary	S.E. Water Services
Ms. C. Fitzgerald	S.O. Corporate Services

The meeting commenced at 10.40 a.m.

Cathaoirleach J. F. Flynn took the chair.

At the outset of the meeting Mr. C O' Connor Director of Corporate Services, went through the protocol for Municipal District Meetings during COVID-19.

20.07.31.01 (a) Confirmation of Minutes of the following meeting:

1. On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. D. McCarthy & SECONDED by Cllr. P. Connor-Scarteen it was agreed that the Minutes of the Kenmare Municipal District meeting held on 31st January 2020 be confirmed.

2. On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. D. McCarthy & SECONDED by Cllr. P. Connor-Scarteen it was agreed that the Minutes of the Kenmare Municipal District Community Support Fund Meeting held on 28th February 2020 be confirmed.

3. On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. D. McCarthy & SECONDED by Cllr. P. Connor-Scarteen it was agreed that the Minutes of Special Kenmare Municipal District Meeting held on 15th May 2020 be confirmed.

4. On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. D. McCarthy & SECONDED by Cllr. P. Connor-Scarteen it was agreed that the Minutes of Special Kenmare Municipal District Meeting held on 12th June 2020 be confirmed.

5. On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. D. McCarthy & SECONDED by Cllr. P. Connor-Scarteen it was agreed that the Minutes of the Kenmare Municipal District AGM held on 26th June 2020 be confirmed.

Update on Kenmare FRS Project / Flooding Kenmare Town 30th July 2020

In response to the recent flooding in Kenmare Town on Thursday 30th July 2020, Mr. P. Teahan circulated an update on the Kenmare FRS project status report to the members

The OPW have, following the completion of the CFRAMS project which identified areas susceptible to flooding throughout the county, approved funding for the development of two major Flood Relief Schemes in Kerry, namely the Kenmare FRS and the Tralee FRS.

KCC have been appointed as agent to the OPW to engage consultants for the development and detail design of these schemes. To bring forward these schemes KCC, in conjunction with the OPW, established a Project team which started work on the Tralee FRS and Kenmare FRS in March 2020. The initial work of this team is the development of the Project Briefs for the engagement of Consultants to carry out Scheme Development and Design, Relevant Planning and Delivery Consent procedures, Detailed Construction Design and Tender of Works Contractor(s), Construction Supervision and Management.

This work is currently being developed by KCC in conjunction with a KCC / OPW Steering Group. The brief is currently being progressed with the publication of same anticipated for November 2020. This will enable KCC to advertise for Consultants and subject to tendering / evaluation, we expect to be in a position to appoint these consultants in Q1 2021.

Following the appointment, it is expected that the design of the scheme will take 18 to 24 months.

CFRAMS Proposed Measures for Kenmare:

The proposed measures for Kenmare, identified as part of the CFRAM Study and estimated cost in the region of €5m include:

- *Removal of the existing sewer pipe under Finnihy Bridge.*
- *Fluvial Flood defense Walls and embankment on the Finnihy and Keelnagower rivers.*
- *Construction of flood defence wall in town centre.*

- Along the river adjacent to Scarteen Park Housing Estate.
- Along the River in the car park opposite the church
- Along the riverbank in the square
- Along the riverbank to the rear of house at Bridge Street.
- At the foot bridge on bridge street.
- Tidal Flood Defences comprising of walls, embankments and removable barriers.
 - o Construction of flood defence walls, raising of the road and fitting of flood barrier/gates for tidal defence at Pier Road.

It should be noted that water storage will also be investigated and may be recommended as a measure to reduce the size and presence of embankments and flood walls in the town.

Advance Works – OPW Gauge installation:

As part of the Kenmare FRS works the OPW will be installing hydraulic gauges at key locations along the river and at the pier to measure water levels that will directly inform the hydraulic modelling, design and analysis. OPW have been on site in recent weeks and the location for these gauges has been identified. Subject to local approval these gauges are due to be installed at the end of August / start September. The data collected from these gauges will be used in the design of the scheme to calibrate the flood model being produced by the consultants.

Cllr. D. McCarthy noted the reported and stated that the reports have been completed and that immediate action is required. Flooding is a serious issue in Kenmare Town. The water rose and came down very fast into the town and said he believed that the branches of the Sally Brush Tree had contributed significantly to the flooding. He complimented the council staff on their quick response and in particular Mr. K O' Halloran Kenmare Area Engineer, the outdoor staff and the Fire Service Department.

Cllr. P. Connor-Scarteen noted the report and asked if the €5m had been specifically ring fenced for Kenmare. He said he was calling for immediate action, the bridge is a factor and there is also issues with the flood plain. He noted that climate change is also a contributing factor. There have been three other incidents of flooding in the town since 2008 and said he was asking that the council would contact the OPW requesting that officials would visit the town with a view to commence the required works. In conclusion he thanked and complimented the staff on their quick response to the flooding.

Cllr. J. Healy-Rae stated as he was unable to attend the AGM on 29th June he wished to congratulate the Cathaoirleach Cllr. J. F. Flynn and wished him well for the year ahead. In response to the report, Cllr. J. Healy-Rae stated that flooding is an issue in Kenmare for many years. The rivers are full of debris and the water has to rise to the top. He expressed disappointment on the length of time it has taken for the report to be concluded and said that it is very unfair on the businesses and rate payers. There is a fall from the bridge to the Public toilets which should have been rectified when the bypass was constructed. He said that he too was calling on the council to contact the OPW requesting that

they would receive a deputation from the Kenmare Municipal District members to discuss the matter further.

Cllr. N. Moriarty stated that the flooding has been an extra blow to the businesses given the current economic situation. She referred to the report and said that it is not good enough and that funding must be put in place immediately before there is any further flooding to the town. The reports have been carried out and it is now time for immediate action. She added that the Inny bridge will have to be raised and the Foilmore pipes need to be able to take the water. The town needs significant infrastructure to take the water.

Cllr. M. Cahill said that he too wished to support the call for immediate action for both Kenmare and Sneem town. The timeframe of 12-18 months for funding is too long. This can no longer continue, the businesses in the town have suffered enough.

In response Mr. P. Teahan stated that the CFRAM Plan is the only solution. He acknowledged that the sewerage pipe for Finnihy Bridge is a significant problem and that it is hugely frustrating for businesses and residents that the works can not commence immediately but stressed that this a medium term project with a comprehensive plan. There is a prioritisation scheme from CFRAM and Kenmare was identified as a priority. In regard to the ring fencing of money, Mr. P. Teahan confirmed that the scheme has been approved by the OPW and stressed that a very strong commitment has been given that there is an investment in progress. In response to a query regarding the construction of a defence wall in the town, Mr. P. Teahan stated that the wall will be part of the scheme. The flood water will have to be contained with constructed walls in the town which is a complicated process as Kenmare is a heritage town.

Cllr. D. McCarthy asked who is responsible for the trees on the river bed and is there anything that can be done to cut the trees.

In response Mr. P. Teahan outlined that the Riparian owner is responsible for the land surrounding the river. He confirmed that the council is not responsible for these lands. If the land owners were to cut the trees they would have to comply with the environmental requirements.

20.07.31.03 To note the report from Economic & Community Development

It was agreed to note the following report.

Economic & Community Development Report

KENMARE Municipal District

July 2020

Business Support Unit (LEO)

There was exceptional demand for support from the Local Enterprise Office during the lockdown and now during the re-opening phase.

Covid Response Actions **Restart Grant**

The Restart Grant opened for application on Friday, 22nd May. This grant is available to businesses with a turnover of less than €5 million and employing 50 people or less, which were closed or impacted by at least a 25% reduction in turnover out to 30 June 2020. It is a contribution towards the cost of reopening or keeping a business operational and re-connecting with employees and customers.

The grants will be equivalent to the rates bill of the business in 2019, with a minimum payment of €2,000 and a maximum payment of €10,000.

A Restart Grant team has been established to process the scheme. A total of 1,575 applications have been received with a value of €5.6M.

No. of Applications Received	1575
No. of Applications Processed	845
No. of Applications Approved	714
No. of Applications Paid	466

The value of the applications paid is €2,066,690.

Business Continuity Voucher Scheme

In May, a Business Continuity Voucher scheme was announced by the Government. This allowed businesses with up to 50 employees to access consultancy supports worth up to €2500 to assist with their recovery from the pandemic. The scheme was open for applications until May 2020 and the LEO received almost 300 applications. Support sought was typically in the area of financial planning and cashflow management, remote working advice, supply chain and HR advice.

Trading Online Voucher Scheme

The lockdown emphasised the importance of having an online presence for smaller firms. The Government responded by altering the terms of the existing Trading Online Voucher scheme to allow for 90% funding (previously it was

50%) up to a max of €2500 for e-commerce enabled websites. This led to unprecedented demand for the scheme and to meet this demand the LEO organised 8 informational webinars between March to June with 624 participants. Kerry LEO has received an updated allocation of 300 vouchers (original allocation was 44 for the year) and this allocation is under review. There are 180 completed applications received and c.30 new applications are submitted each week.

Microfinance Ireland Loan Scheme

A new reduced interest rate of 4.5% was introduced by Microfinance Ireland and the maximum loan amount was increased to €50,000 as part of the initiatives to ensure that businesses had access to sufficient cashflow during lockdown. The new interest rate is much more competitive than previous offerings. 32 applications have been processed through the LEO in the year to date compared with 9 for all of 2019 and there is a very strong pipeline of applications.

Mentoring

There is very strong demand for mentoring services particularly in the areas of health and safety, financial planning and online marketing. Current volumes are at 134 individual mentoring applications (145 for the entire year 2019). Mentoring is now delivered online or via phone calls.

Training

The pandemic necessitated the move to an online model for all training courses. All course fees have been suspended for the duration of the pandemic. 24 different webinars workshops were held between March and June:

Some of the events held include:

Event	Date	Participants
Recovery Advice for the Retail and Hospitality Sectors	13/05/2020	75
Are you ready to reopen your business	10/06/2020	67
Trading Online Voucher Webinars	Various (8 dates)	624

Grant Aid- Business Expansion, Business Start Up Grants

There was a slow down in enquiries for expansion and start up grants during the lockdown. There are tentative signs of a recovery in the past few weeks. Drawdown of existing grants was also impacted with the amount paid to date running at €55,000.

Tourism Development

Kerry has been deeply impacted by the coronavirus pandemic and Kerry County Council has and continues to work closely with tourism industry partners, state agencies and tourism providers throughout the county, during this challenging time for the sector.

In early April, Kerry County Council in association with the Kerry Tourism Industry Federation commissioned a survey for tourism providers, to establish the full impact of COVID-19 on the tourism industry.

Three independent economic studies were commissioned, and all have indicated that Kerry will be one of the counties hardest hit by the pandemic, due to its dependency on tourism. Kerry was found to have the highest exposure to the negative economic impact of the restrictions, with more than half our businesses operating in the worst affected sectors.

An assessment by Economist, James Dorgan commissioned by Kerry County Council, quantifies the loss to the county's tourism industry this year at €400 million – the equivalent of a 10% drop in the income of every family in the county.

In June, as the County's tourism and hospitality sectors prepared to reopen, Kerry County Council, Kerry Education & Training Board, the Kerry branch of The Irish Hotels Federation and Kerry Tourism Industry Federation launched the **Safe Destination Kerry** programme. The programme has involved training of thousands of staff in the hospitality and retail industry in best practice cleaning protocols and will offer assurance to our visitors. The specialised training was devised by Kerry ETB and includes modules on cleanliness, hygiene and customer interaction and is to the highest international standards. Once staff complete the training, premises can display a Safe Destination Badge. To date, over 3,000 staff have participated in the training which will be ongoing over the coming weeks. It will help position Kerry as a safe and attractive destination for both visitors and locals. Businesses interested in participating can register on Kerry County Council's freephone Business Support Line **1800 807 102** or business.support@kerrycoco.ie.

Community

COVID-19 Emergency Funding – 2nd targeted call

The COVID-19 Emergency Fund is a grant programme to provide funding to groups that are involved in the Community Call response to the COVID-19 pandemic. It is funded by the Department of Rural and Community Development and administered by the Local Authority in each area. The grant is available to those groups and organisations actively involved with the Kerry Community Support Helpline, who have incurred costs on the direct delivery of frontline services to people impacted by this crisis. These services include delivery of meals and groceries, medicine, fuel and other similar activities. Kerry County Council has been allocated **€79,468** under the Fund. Under the first round of funding €57,812 was allocated, with 57 no. groups being approved for funding. There was a second targeted call made for the remaining grant allocation of **€21,656**. Funding priority under the second targeted call was given to groups who did not apply in the first instance, also to groups that have incurred additional costs and particularly, to groups providing meals on wheels service. The closing date for receipt of

applications under the second targeted call was 22nd June 2020 and 20. no. applications were received. These are currently being assessed.

Grants – closing dates

Grant	Closing date for submission of EOI/Application form to KCC for assessment	Max. no. of applications that can be submitted to DRCD for funding	Application deadline for submission to DRCD
Town & Village – accelerated Measure (in response to Covid-19) – Round 1	25 th June 2020 (public call not made – EOI's submitted by Municipal Districts)	5 no.	3 rd July 2020
Town & Village – accelerated Measure (in response to Covid-19) – Round 2	To be decided	5 no.	14 th August 2020
Town & Village – ordinary Scheme	10 th July 2020 (public call for EOI's)	6 no.	28 th August 2020
CLÁR (Measure 1 & Measure 2)	17 th July 2020	10 no. (in total between both measures)	28 th August 2020
Community Enhancement Programme	To be decided – launched on 22 nd June 2020. To be discussed with LCDC members on Monday 29 th June 2020, prior to public call for funding being made	N/a (funding of €62,534 awarded)	To be decided – DRCD not setting a national closing date, but will allow each LCDC to set its own, to best suit its area. The DRCD will require that all closing dates are no later than 30 th September 2020

Kerry Recreation & Sports Partnership

1. Get Kerry Cycling – July 3rd – August 16th

As part of the #InThisTogether National campaign, this 6-week programme comprising of six fun themed activities. The weekly activities will include **week 1** cycling solo or with a friend to the shop or perhaps meet for an outdoor cuppa, **week 2** a family cycle, **week 3** a cycle to a historical monument, **week 4** a cycle wearing ones' favourite club or county colours, **week 5** a cycle to the water's edge and let's wrap up **the 6 weeks** by cycling a marathon (42.1km) over 7 days during our final week! One will have lots of fun completing these manageable challenges and activities and possibly meet and greet other cyclists and neighbours along the journey throughout ones' locality. We envisage individuals and family members will exercise personal responsibility over the 6-week timeframe, bearing in mind the themed cycles are to be completed within the current HSE and recommended travel guidelines.

2. Kerry's Wellbeing Walks – starting the week beginning July 13th

A six-week low level trail walk suitable to all fitness levels lead by a number of Hillwalking Clubs

3. Men's Health Week – June 15th – 21st

for the duration of this week, KRSP promoted a wide range of information and statistics across all social media platforms. KRSP also offered free two online fitness and health taster sessions for men and were able to capture some expressions of interest for potential participants for our '*Men on The Move*' programme later in the year.

4. National BeActive Day – Sunday June 28th

Sport Ireland's network of Local Sports Partnerships have come together to create this national initiative to support people to keep active and together, where we challenge families to take part in National BeActive Day on Sunday June 28th. Challenges have been shared across social media as well as booklets with the games and challenges printed out to be distributed countywide by SKDP and NEWKD.

5. Camp Abilities – Wednesday July 1st

This is a residential sport and recreation camp for children who are blind or visually impaired. For the past 10 years this has taken place in Kerry, but due to COVID it will now take place via an online platform. KRSP, together with National Council for the Blind of Ireland (NCBI), Vision Sport Ireland, IT Tralee, Cara (Sport Inclusion Ireland) and Cappanalea National Outdoor Education Centre (Killorglin). The campers and their families will be brought together online for a quiz, with activity challenges in between and some VIP guest speakers including Paralympic Champion, Jason Smyth and professional Rugby player, Ian McKinley. Healthy Kerry and KRSP have teamed up to further support this camp, offering 'Play Packs' as part of the National Pay Day on Saturday 4th of July 2020.

PLANNING & SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Conservation

The following structures in the Municipal District have been allocated grant funding under the Built Heritage Investment Scheme:

The Old Oratory, Main Street, Caherciveen	€4,702
Kimego Tower, Caherciveen	<u>€4,702</u>
Total	€9,404

(b) Questions

1.Cllr. P. Connor-Scarreen: What supports are there for businesses around The Ring of Kerry to assist them get through the Covid-19 Crisis pandemic.

Reply: Kerry County Council has operated the Business Restart Grant Scheme, and this is opened to businesses across the country. The Local Enterprise Office provides ongoing support to businesses throughout the county. Examples of support are the Trading Online Voucher Scheme, Employment Support Mentoring and Training.

Cllr. P. Connor welcomed the response.

20.07.31.03 To note update report from Water, Environment, Fire and Library Services Directorate

It was agreed to note the following report.

Water, Environment, Fire & Library Services Report

Kenmare Municipal District

DATE: July 31st, 2020

Director of Service: John Breen

Environmental Protection

Business Unit Manager: Gerard O'Brien SEO

Period; January - May 2020

Accumulative Waste Transactions for All Waste Stations

Year	Weighbridge Transactions	% of weigh bridge transactions as % of Total transactions	No. of bags transactions	% of bag tickets sold as % of total transaction	Total no. of Transactions
2020	5057	13%	33570	87%	38627

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Recycling – Accumulative Sales for All Stations

2020 Eco sense bags sales = **12,006**

Accumulative Waste and Recycling Tonnage for All Stations

Year	Weighbridge Waste Tonnage (Incl Tkt Weight)	Recycling Tonnage for Eco Sense Bags
2020	1669.88	197.84

Dogs Statistics January-May 2020

Number of Dog Licences Issued	6822
Number of Dogs Fines issued	26
Number of dogs Rehomed	44

Environmental Enforcement	
Period: January -May 2020	
Litter	2020
No. Litter Complaints	487
No. Fines Issued	46
No. Fines Paid To-date	17
No. Court Prosecutions	0
Total Amount Awarded	€0
Air - No. Complaints Investigated	34
Air - No. Court Prosecutions	0
Air - Total Amount Awarded	€0.00

Waste - No. Complaints Investigated	144
Waste - No. Court Prosecutions	1
Waste -Total Amount Awarded	€875
Water - No. Complaints Investigated	65
Water - No. Court Prosecutions	0
Water - Total Amount Awarded	€0

Fire Service

Business Unit Manager: Mr. Andrew Macilwriath, Chief Fire Officer

Operation of the Fire Brigade Service:

- There were 596 mobilisations up to the end of June 2020 compared to 740 mobilisations for the same period in 2019. This represents a 19.4% decrease in mobilisations.
- Gorse fires at 162 were *down* from 204 for the same period last year. This represents a 20.6% decrease.
- Chimney fires were at 42 which is down from 51 for the same period last year. This represents a 17.6% decrease.
- Road Traffic Collisions were at 40 which is down from 62 for the same period last year. This represents approximately 35.4% decrease.

	2019	2020
	Jan-June	Jan-June
<i>FIRE OPERATIONS - DETAILS OF OPERATIONAL WORK</i>		
<i>Fires Number</i>		
Chimney Fires	51	42
Gorse Fires	204	162
Other Fires	102	90
Total	357	294
<i>Special Services Number</i>		

Entrapment	12	6
Gas/Chemicals	6	0
Hazardous substances in transit not involving fire	2	0
Hazardous Substances non Transit	1	6
Machinery	1	1
Miscellaneous	55	59
Other rescue	21	41
Rescue/Removal of persons from water	4	9
Road traffic accident	62	40
Water pumping/flooding	7	1
Total	171	163
<i>False Alarms Number</i>		
Malicious	6	1
Good Intent	79	70
Total	85	71
<i>Total Number of Incidents</i>	613	528
<i>Total Number of Mobilisations</i>	740	596

Fire Safety and Prevention:

- Due to restrictions caused by the COVID -19 emergency, inspections by Fire Officers were limited to those considered to be absolutely essential. An inspection protocol has been put in place and Fire Officers were provided with additional suitable PPE to enable essential inspections of premises to be carried out as safely as possible.

Building Control:

- The number of Commencement Notices/ 7 Day Notices received to the end of June 2020 was 163 valid Commencement Notices, which is a 19.7% decrease on the same period last year.
- The building control section continues to process Disability Access Certificate applications and also Fire Safety Certificate applications. Up to the end of June 2020 a total of 49 No. Disability Access Certificate applications had been received representing a 24.6% decrease on the same period last year. A total of 68 Fire Safety Certificate applications were received, which is a 16% decrease on the same period last year.

Building Control Statistics.

BUILDING CONTROL-	June 2019	June 2020
Fire Safety Certificate Applications Received	81	68
Disability Access Certificate Applications Received	65	49
Commencement Notices Received	203	163

Library Services

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

Library service:

- Re-opening of library services

As outlined in the Government's Roadmap for re-opening society, public Libraries across the country continue to restore services to the public in a step-by-step manner in line with public health guidance. All Kerry branch libraries now offer a 'Browse & lending' model of service.

The Mobile Libraries and the Local History service are not due to return for the present.

During the restrictions over the past few months there was a major uptake of the free library online resources that are available via the library website www.kerrylibrary.ie These include online newspapers and magazines, e-learning courses, e-books and e-audio. Online comics for the teenage audience were added in early March. There were 216,820 usages of the online services during the period 13 March – 20 June.

In addition, 1,758 new members joined Kerry library to use the online services during the same period, a 43% increase on 2020.

- Summer Stars programme 2020

In a break with normal practice, the 2020 Summer Stars reading programme for children will be delivered online for 2020. The Kerry programme runs from 1 July – 31 August. While traditional book lending will be available as usual, this year the library will offer readers the option to include free downloadable e-books and e-audio books to add to the Summer Stars reading experience as well as online quizzes, a national short story competition, summer reading tips and recommended books for children. Details available at www.kerrylibrary.ie or at www.summerstars.ie

Summers Stars is part of the national Right to Read programme.

KENMARE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT

Kerry County Council Water Services Investment Programme

Status Summary at 10th July 2020

Funding Priorities for Capital Projects

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

In Water, priority will be given to any Scheme to which a Boil Water Notice (BWN) applies and to 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 Rulings apply, and on meeting the requirements of the EPA Discharge Licences.

WATER SUPPLY PROJECTS IN THE KENMARE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT

Project	Description and Status
Mountain Stage WSS (Glenbeigh)	Work on the substantial Upgrades to the water treatment plant at Letter West are completed by contractor Veolia Ltd. The commissioning of the project has been delayed due to difficulties accessing the site. The upgrade of the nearby treatment plant at Droum reservoir, which is part of the Scheme, is complete.

IRISH WATER'S CAPITAL INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

The Schemes in the Kenmare Municipal District which are listed in Irish Water's national draft **Capital Investment Plan** are outlined in the following tables:

WASTEWATER PROJECTS IN THE KENMARE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT

Project	Description and Status
Kenmare Wastewater	The proposed €10M upgrade of the Wastewater Treatment Plant included in IW's national Capital Investment Plan and is at the detailed design stage. Irish Water is preparing the Planning Application and Environmental Impact Assessment Report and is in pre-Planning discussions with An Bord Pleanála, following which the submission will be lodged with a view to construction in 2021 and completion in 2022. A Drainage Area Plan (assessment of the existing sewer network) is ongoing.

IRISH WATER MINOR CAPITAL INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

This is a rolling programme of **Minor Improvement Works**. The only **current** project, for which Kerry County Council has received funding in this district, is outlined below.

MINOR CAPITAL WORKS PROGRAMME for KENMARE AND SOUTH KERRY AREA

Project	Description	Estimate	Status
Portmagee WSS Knightstown	Provision of Reservoir, 1830M rising Main and 650M distribution mains	€275,000	Pipes laid , site acquired and Planning process complete – reservoir installation by contractor in August
Approximate Total of <u>APPROVED</u> Works not yet done:		€40,000	

Boil Water notice issued for Cahersiveen Water Supply Scheme

Irish Water issued a boil water notice for the Cahersiveen water supply on 9th July last due to the detection of cryptosporidium in the water supply. A copy of the Boil water notice has been posted on the Irish Water website and a map showing the Cahersiveen water supply catchment area affected has been posted on the website also. The area affected runs from Coulagh near Kells in the East to Renard in the West. The relevant information for consumers for the use of water while the boil water notice

remains in place is contained in the notice. Irish Water have also placed relevant information in the local media and on social media. Members will be updated accordingly as required.

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 **Department Of Housing, Planning and Local Government**.

Irish Water has no authority, responsibility or involvement.

The national **Rural Water Programme 2019 – 2021** was published by the DoHP&LG in late 2019.

Takeover of Group Schemes

Since 1 January 2014, responsibility for the Takeover of Group Schemes has transferred to Irish Water, **and KCC is no longer in a position take over Group schemes.**

Irish Water has developed a protocol to facilitate the Takeover of Group Schemes.

Funding is allocated in the DoHP&LG's 2019-2021 programme for **upgrade works, prior to take-over** by IW, on the Group Water Schemes of **Kells** (€1.35M), **Bonane** (€110K), **Dawros** (€100,000), **Tuosist** (€60K), and **Rossdohan** (€5K).

(b) Notices of Motion

1.Cllr. M. Cahill: That Kerry County Council take into consideration the significant spike in littering and dumping during Covid -19 throughout the county, including at many of our beaches by making a determined effort to put an end to this totally irresponsible behaviour for once and for all. This type of behaviour is grossly unfair to all our Tidy Town Committees, Schools and other groups who give freely of their time to keep our county clean. It also adds to Council expenditure in this area.

Reply: The protection of Kerry's environment is of paramount importance to our inhabitants and visitors and Kerry County Council is very active in the pursuit and prosecution of those who litter our countryside, beaches and urban areas and takes a very serious view of such activity. During 2019 Kerry County Council investigated 939 complaints of littering and illegal dumping. To date in 2020 568 complaints have been investigated. Kerry County Council Litter Wardens now supported by our MD Enforcement Officers investigate all such complaints in accordance with the stringent legal processes and evidence proofs that are required under the Litter Pollution Act. There were 114 litter fines issued in 2019 and to date in 2020 46 fines have been issued. There were 8 prosecutions in 2019 and 5 to date in 2020.

Cllr. M. Cahill said that he had received a number of complaints regarding litter and illegal dumping. The problem is public behaviour and this country should be looking at educating the public and schools in regard to littering. He asked that the council would engage with the schools regarding this matter.

2.Cllr. P. Connor-Scarteen: Kerry County Council working with Irish water please give an update in relation to the Group Water Scheme in Lauragh, how may breaks/ faults have taken place in the last two years? And please notify householders in advance of works.

Reply: The Lauragh Water Supply Scheme, which serves 45 customers through 4.6Km of mains. This Scheme is public and is in charge of Irish Water. This Water Scheme is not a Group Scheme.

The pipe network for this Scheme, laid in the Sixties, is structurally deficient and in need of replacement. In recent years there have been regular incidents of breaks in the pipes, resulting in interruptions to the supply to customers. It is not possible to notify the customers in advance as these breaks are instantaneous.

The solution lies in the replacement of 3.5Km of pipe at an estimate of €500,000. The funding is not currently available from Irish Water.

Substantial upgrade works, including the provision of a new well source, treatment plant and the replacement of 1.1Km of 4" watermains (110MM diameter) have been carried out on the Lauragh Scheme over the past three years.

As stated it is not possible to give customers prior Notice of bursts to the mains. Any planned works which may cause disruption to the supply are publicised through Radio Kerry, usually with 2 days' notice.

Irish Water maintain a list of vulnerable customers who are on a specific water scheme. This Priority Services Register is for those who have a critical dependency on water as a result of their medical condition.

Irish Water will contact (phone or text) these customers at least two days in advance of planned disruptions, and for unplanned interruptions that may last longer than four hours.

Irish Water can be contacted in this regard as listed below.

- Telephone: 1850 278 278 or +353 1 707 2828
- Irish Water, PO Box 860, South City Delivery Office, Cork City
- Email: vulnerablecustomer@water.ie

Cllr. P. Connor-Scarteen said that there has been a number of breaks in the Lauragh area with not enough adequate public notice been given. Older people and people with medical issues should be informed as a priority. If the funding is not available, he asked that the works would be done in stages. There are a number of businesses in the area that have no option but to close when there is a water outage. He asked that funding would be requested from Irish Water to carry out works of 3.5km by the church.

Cllr. J. Healy-Rae seconded the notice of motion and said that the scheme is over 60 years old. There is a small section by the church that is continuously breaking and called on Kerry County Council to request funding from Irish Water to repair the section of the road.

3.Cllr. P. Connor-Scarteen: I believe the Charges in our Waste Transfer Stations are excessive, please outline the various charges. We need to encourage the general public to use the facilities more.

Reply: Kerry County Council operates 5 Civic Amenity Sites around the county and these facilities are well supported by our customers in their surrounding hinterlands. There are substantial costs incurred on an annual basis in maintaining and operating these sites. In line with our operating costs, our charges are kept under regular review. Current charges are as follows

Regular Black Bag of Waste -€5
6 Regular Black Bags of Waste -€27.50
Packet (4) of Eco-Sense Recycling Bags -€8
Tonnage rate over Weighbridge-€400

Cllr. P. Connor-Scarteen noted the response and said that this is an excellent facility and the council should encourage the public to use it more. However, he did express concern that some of the charges were excessive.

4.Cllr. P. Connor-Scarteen: Please install Water Refill stations in a few locations in Kenmare, Cahersiveen and Killorglin.

Reply: Irish Water's policy is to support the provision of such drinking water refill stations and it will facilitate the connections to the network.

However, IW do not provide the budget for the provision of the actual water fountain proprietary hardware.

IW and Kerry County Council's Water Services department, when approached, will liaise and co-operate with any local development groups or programmes etc in the provision of such water stations.

However, for regulatory purposes, it is necessary that the proper procedure in applying for each connection to Irish Water is carried out.

The Application forms and advice may be downloaded from the public utility's website.

The potential for funding for the provision of these facilities will be considered in the context of Budget 2021.

Cllr. P. Connor-Scarteen noted the response and said that there are an excellent facility and should be installed in all towns and villages.

Mr. P. Neary stated that Irish Water will provide a connection to the unit but have no role in the provision of the drinking water fountain itself. The refill stations purchase would be a matter for the MD through Rural renewal budgets or some other funding mechanism.

5.Cllr. J. F. Flynn: That Kerry County Council contact Irish Water to survey the water pipes supplying the Tullig and Sunhill area as recently there has being a number of breaks on this line.

Reply: The water main in the Reen, Douglas area has been subjected to a number of bursts in the recent past. This water main was recently included in a submission for funding to Irish Water under their Mains replacement programme. However, to date no funding has been forthcoming for this project.

Cathaoirleach J. F. Flynn stated that there has been a number of breaks on this line and proposed that a letter would issue to Irish Water requesting funding be provided to upgrade the scheme.

Mr. P. Neary stated that this water main is included in a comprehensive list of mains that need to be replaced and confirmed that Kerry County Council will continue to make representation to Irish Water.

It was agreed that a letter would issue to Irish Water requesting that they would provide funding to upgrade the water main in Reen, Douglas.

6.Cllr. J. F. Flynn: That Kerry County Council take in charge Cumor Graveyard in Glencar that has being developed and offered to the council.

Reply: Cumor Graveyard is a very old Archaeologically protected Graveyard, and the adjoining landowner wished to offer some land to the Council to extend it. Following analysis and the excavation of trial holes it has been determined that this land adjoining the graveyard is unsuitable for use as a Graveyard due to a high water table level.

The Cathaoirleach noted the response and stated that he had been contacted by a number of constituents who were very upset as they may be unable to bury their loved ones in this Graveyard. He added that an individual is willing to sign over land and allow the graveyard to be extended and developed. He asked if any further works could be carried out by the council to resolve this issue. He asked that a member of Kerry County Council would make contact with the landowner.

Mr. P. Neary stated that there are guidelines in place for the provision of a graveyard and confirmed in this particular area there is an issue with the water table and isn't a cost effective job. He undertook to ask a member of staff from this Department to contact the landowner.

Cllr. P. Connor-Scarreen said that he too noted the response but added that this family have done a lot of work and asked that the council would reconsider the matter.

Cllr. J. Healy-Rae said that he had previously raised this issue and said he believed that Kerry County Council haven't given it enough consideration. This is a very generous offer and should be availed of.

Mr. M. O' Donoghue advised that following the assessment carried out it would be very difficult to meet the required criteria. The works are very extensive with strict guidelines and criteria. Kerry County Council is very appreciative of the offer and will review the position

7.Cllr. N. Moriarty: That the replacement and upgrading of Water Pipes from Coomastow, through Kilamckieran and Tullig on The Maulin line be expedited and that all road reinstatement work subsequently required be committed to by Irish Water.

Reply: This pipeline has been subject to a number of bursts and requires replacement/ This water main was recently included in a submission for funding to Irish Water under their Mains replacement programme. However, to date no funding has been forthcoming for this project.

Cllr. N. Moriarty noted the response and asked that all would be done to expedite the matter.

8.Cllr. D. McCarthy: To ask Kerry County Council to provide additional footpaths and an additional water tap at the new Cemetery Kenmare.

Reply: The new Cemetery at Gortaglass, Kenmare currently has sufficient footpaths for at least the next 2 years, however Kerry County Council will monitor this and ensure that additional footpaths are provided, in advance of when they are required. Kerry County Council are prioritising the provision of a water supply in all cemeteries that currently do not have any at present and funding is being prioritised for this.

Cllr. D. McCarthy said he has raised this matter previously and ask if CSMDOF Allocation could be used for these works.

In response Mr. P. Teahan stated that the CSMDOF is specifically for maintenance of local and regional roads.

9.Cllr. J. Healy-Rae: That we would be provided with a timeline and start date for Kenmare Wastewater Treatment plant.

Reply: Irish Water have provided the following reply;

The upgrade of the Kenmare Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) has been included in Irish Water's 2020-2024 Investment plan. The project is currently at the detailed design stage. Irish Water is working with our designers to complete complex environmental assessments and marine modelling studies with a view to submission of a Planning application and Environmental Impact Assessment Report later in 2020. Subject to receipt of the necessary approvals Irish Water will progress with necessary procurement and advise the members of the construction timelines in due course.

Cllr. J. Healy- Rae said that he has previously raised this issue and expressed frustration with the response. There is a need for housing in Kenmare and all planning applications for housing in Kenmare now have a planning condition that they cannot be granted until the scheme is upgraded. He said that the situation is unacceptable and asked that Kerry County Council could all it could to expedite the matter.

Cllr. P. Connor-Scarteen seconded the notice of motion and said that the matter has been previously raised on a number of occasions. It will be an impossible task to get people to settle in Kenmare if they cannot find housing. It is a huge impediment to the town.

In response Mr. P. Neary stated that the Member's arguments have been noted. The application is currently with An Board Pleanála awaiting further direction.

10.Cllr. J. Healy-Rae: That Kerry County Council would provide an explanation as to what has gone wrong with Cahirciveen Water supply and what actions are being taken to rectify this and when will the boil water notice be lifted.

Reply: Irish Water issued a boil water notice for the Cahersiveen water supply on 9th July last due to the detection of cryptosporidium in the water supply. A copy of the Boil water notice has been posted on the Irish Water website and a map showing the Cahersiveen water supply catchment area affected has been posted on the website also. The area affected runs from Coulagh near Kells in the East to Renard in the West. The relevant information for consumers for the use of water while the boil water notice remains in place is contained in the notice. Irish Water have also placed relevant information in the local media and on social media.

Further testing has been carried out on the Water Supply and at the Water Treatment Plant filters to ascertain how the positive Cryptosporidium result happened.

This follow on sampling indicated that Cryptosporidium may be getting through one of the filters and some action has been taken to mitigate this.

The most recent drinking water sample was clear of Cryptosporidium but further clear samples are required and a demonstration that any deficiencies in the treatment causing the failure is remedied.

Further test results are due in the coming days.

The lifting of the notice will be a matter for Irish Water in consultation with the HSE who are the responsible Authority in regard to public health and drinking water.

Cllr. N. Moriarty stated that she has been advised that the water should be treated with Ultra Violet treatment and asked that this treatment would be made available as soon as possible. She also requested that a further public notice would be issued to ensure that all visitors to the town are aware of the Boiled Water Notice.

Cllr. J. Healy-Rae asked for clarification on what went wrong in the first place and is this Water Plant adequate going into the future and finally is there any plans to upgrade the plant.

In response Mr. P. Neary said that there are a number of treatment options available. The source of the contamination is upstream and the recent heavy rainfall isn't helping the situation. The source of the contamination indicated that the Cryptosporidium is getting through one of the filters and remediation works had been carried to solve this problem, furthermore it is intended by Irish Water to supplement the water with Bore Holes drilled on the site. This is a very complex situation and several clear tests are required. He stressed that the lifting of the notice is a matter for the Irish Water in consultation with the HSE.

Mr. M. O' Donoghue reiterated to the members that the lifting of the Water Notice is a matter for the H.S.E. There is an established protocol in place.

Cllr. M. Cahill stated that public health should be a priority for Irish Water and it should be their job to provide adequate drinking water. In normal circumstances there would be a music festival in Caherciveen which would attract large volume of crowds to the town. He called on Irish Water to ensure that Water Treatment plants have adequate facilities.

(c) Questions

1. Cllr. N. Moriarty: Can we work with the existing Graveyard Committee at Holy Cross Cahersiveen to review and examine how to best manage and maintain the area and specifically look at the possibility of appointing a caretaker for the cemetery.

Reply: Kerry County Council are available at all times to work with the existing Graveyard Committee at Holy Cross, Caherciveen to improve this cemetery, and will appoint an existing council employee as a caretaker for this Graveyard.

Cllr. N. Moriarty welcomed the response.

20.07.31.04 (a) To note update report from Housing Directorate

It was agreed to note the following report

HOUSING DIRECTORATE REPORT KENMARE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT

31st July 2020

Director of Service: Martin O' Donoghue

Housing Report – Kenmare Municipal District

Housing Report – KENMARE

Municipal District

- **Housing Applications**

	<u>No</u>
Current no. of approved applicants on the housing list who have selected an area within this MD as an area of choice	646
Net Need for Kenmare MD (excluding transfers)	397
No. of applications received this year who have selected an area within this MD as an area of choice	92
No. of applications approved since the start of this year who have selected an area within this MD as an area of choice	80

Breakdown by Bed No.

1-Bed	328
2-Bed	171
3-Bed	121
4-Bed	24
5-Bed	2
Total	646

- **Void Management**

Municipal District breakdown	<u>No</u>
Current no. of dwellings under repair and unallocated	0
Current no. of dwellings under repair and allocated	4
Current no. of dwellings awaiting repairs	4
Current no. of repaired dwellings awaiting allocation	0
Current no. of repaired dwellings allocated awaiting occupation	2
<u>Total No of Vacant dwellings in Municipal District</u>	10

- **Social Housing Options**

Social Housing Options in MD	New tenancies since the start of the year	Current No of tenancies
LA Housing	33	687
RAS	5	65
Leasing	2	62
HAP	38	128
<u>Total no of Tenancies</u>	78	942

4 Housing Construction Programme

Schemes/S.R. dwellings at planning/design stage in Municipal District

<u>Location</u>	<u>No of dwellings</u>	<u>Type of dwellings</u>	<u>Estimated start date</u>	<u>Estimated completion date</u>
Glannagilliagh, Caragh Lake, Killorglin	1	Single Rural Dwelling	Oct 2020	Oct 2021
Ardbhearna, Gortamullin, Kenmare. Phase 5	14	3 bed	Mar 2021	Apr 2022

Schemes/ S.R. dwellings under construction in Municipal District

<u>Location</u>	<u>No of dwellings</u>	<u>Type of dwellings</u>	<u>Start date</u>	<u>Estimated completion date</u>
Ardbhearna, Gortamullin, Kenmare. Phase 4	14	3 bed	Dec 2019	Feb 2021
Drom West, Glenbeigh	1	Single Rural Dwelling	Jan 2020	Dec 2020
Ballnakilly, Glenbeigh	1	Single Rural Dwelling	Jan 2020	Dec 2020
Cullenagh Upper, Beaufort	1	Single Rural Dwelling	Mar 2020	Mar 2021

5 Maintenance/Improvement of Housing Stock

Since 1st January 2020, 462 requests for repairs have been received for the Kenmare Municipal District.

6 Housing Adaptation /Housing Aid for Older People Grants

Since 1st January 2020, 45 grants have been allocated in the Kenmare Municipal District.

7 Bedroom Extensions

Since 1st January 2020, no bedroom extensions have been allocated in the Kenmare Municipal District.

Notice of Motion

1.Cllr. M. Cahill: Kerry County Council has a proud history of allocating Housing Loans to the people of Kerry to construct a family home and in this context, will the Council give a detailed overview of the following: How many Housing Loans were applied for during each of the past 5 years? How many were approved? How many were withdrawn? How many were refused? How

do recent figures compare to the number of Loans that were allocated when such loan applications peaked?

Reply: The only loan that was available from Kerry County Council for the period 2015, 2016, 2017 and up to 31st January, 2018 was a loan to enable persons acquire their Local Authority Rented House in accordance with the terms of the Tenant Purchase Scheme.

The Rebuilding Ireland Homeloan is the only loan available from Kerry County Council with effect from the date of its introduction on 1st February, 2018. I set out hereunder a breakdown of the data requested for both Schemes over the past 5 years.

How many Housing Loans were applied for during each of the past 5 years

	Tenant Purchase Scheme	Rebuilding Ireland Homeloan
2015	18	
2016	22	
2017	42	
2018	6	113
2019	0	89

How many were approved?

	Tenant Purchase Scheme	Rebuilding Ireland Homeloan
2015	0	
2016	1	
2017	8	
2018	3	42
2019	0	25

How many were withdrawn?

No Loan Applications were withdrawn. However, in accordance with the terms of the Rebuilding Ireland Homeloan Scheme, Approval in Principle remains valid for a period of six months. If a loan applicant has not identified a suitable property for acquisition, and a Final Loan Offer Letter has not

been issued within six months of the date of Approval in Principle, the Approval then expires. However, applicants can submit a new application for consideration again.

How many were refused?

	Tenant Purchase Scheme	Rebuilding Ireland Homeloan
2015	18	
2016	22	
2017	42	
2018	6	26
2019	0	26

How do recent figures compare to the number of Loans that were allocated when such loan applications peaked?

As outlined above the only loan that was available from Kerry County Council for the period 2015, 2016, 2017 and up to 31st January, 2018 was a loan to enable persons acquire their Local Authority Rented House through the Tenant Purchase Scheme. This will explain the low number of loan applications processed during this period.

The Rebuilding Ireland Homeloan was launched on 1st February, 2018 and as is evident from the data above there has been a substantial increase in the level of activity with regard to the number of applications being processed.

Cllr. M. Cahill noted the response and acknowledged that all loan applications must be signed off by the Department but felt that the criteria was too strict. Some people are paying as much rent as they would pay for a mortgage repayment.

In response Mr. M O’ Donoghue stated that this is a national scheme and before the applicants can apply to Kerry County Council they have to get two refusals from a lending institutions and on that basis they are already deemed at risk. The application is then forward to the HSA for a recommendation which has very strict criteria. If Kerry County Council refuse the application, it means that they have received three refusals from three underwriters.

2.Cllr. J. F. Flynn: That Kerry County Council provide us with a list of all council owned lands that are suitable for Housing development in the Kenmare Municipal District area and to inform us of the plans and progress on each plot.

Reply: The Council were notified of the Kerry County Council Land bank in a report dated 15th January 2019. A subsequent update was given on 10th May 2019 and regular updates are contained in the MD reports for every MD meeting since that date. The following table indicates the current status of lands in the Kenmare MD which shows recent and proposed delivery dates. As is the case countywide, our resources are targeted at areas of highest demand.

Address	Area of landholding	Status
Ardbhearna Phase 4, Kenmare	1.57 hA	14 x 3 bed units being constructed and due for delivery early 2021
Ardbhearna Phase 5, Kenmare	1.57 hA	14 x 2 bed units currently being designed with a 2022 delivery
Carhan Lower, Caherciveen	1.44 hA	No proposals at present. Land unzoned and remote from town centre
Bridewell, Milltown	0.23 hA	8 units (2 & 3 bed) delivered end of 2019
Ardmoniel, Killorglin	0.5 hA	14 x 2 bed units delivered end of 2019
Farantooreen, Killorglin	0.87 hA	Currently being examined. Post 2022 delivery
Inchaleega, Sneem	1.54 hA	Unzoned. No current plans
Glenbeigh	0.024 hA	3 units. Currently being examined. Post 2022 delivery
Mile's Lane, Milltown	0.453 hA	Land adjacent to Mart. No current plans
Spunkane, Waterville	1.558 hA	No current plans

Mr M O Donoghue replied to supplementary queries on specific plots of land. In addition, he added that the council is currently seeking land / turn key properties and sites for acquisition in Killorglin. The council has done a number of national calls for acquisition of properties and will continue to do so.

Cllr. M. Cahill asked if the council can recoup the cost of land purchases.

In response **Mr. M. O' Donoghue** stated that initially the council must purchase the land by its own means but the cost can be recouped when the land is developed. He advised that the council is still holding a significant amount of land which hasn't been developed. By the end of the current Housing Programme it is anticipated that all council land that can be developed will be developed.

(c) Questions

1.Cllr. N. Moriarty: Can we please get some clarity as to when technical assessments for internal works to housing grant applications will recommence and an update on the funding of void refurbishment and renewal works?

Reply: Kerry County Council are currently reviewing the situation in relation to the inspection of houses for grant applications as well as private rental inspections. The Roadmap for the Reopening of Society & Business, published by the Government on 1st May 2020 and updated every 3 weeks has been the guide, both for the restarting of our various services and the reopening of our customer interfaces. In relation to grant applications it is envisaged that the process will be operational, in line with Health & Safety requirements and relevant Standard Operating Guidance, from Phase 4 which currently is August 10th 2020.

VOIDS Update: As Members are aware vacancies in Council properties are generally dealt with under the established VOIDS programme. This programme has been funded by a significant annual Department Allocation each year.

It has been flagged to Members that at national level this approach was under review with consideration being given to a move to a more preventative maintenance approach. This area was under review both nationally and locally given the very significant local financial implications arising from any change in funding models. However, the Covid19 situation has delayed any resolution and the completion of this work.

To date in 2020 no general VOIDs programme has been advised. A call was made in early June for properties under a specific funding model relating to the Covid19 situation. The qualifying criteria were very tight (works undertaken during a very specific period, for the relief of Covid19 housing demands and with a low ceiling on works value). All qualifying properties were submitted, and we have been notified of grant support for 12 properties totalling €84,000 approximately. At this stage given issues previously raised and the additional financial challenges facing the Council the matter remains under review and being examined in detail. In addition, we await clarification of Housing Policy in this area arising from the new programme for government.

Cllr. N. Moriarty said that COVID has made the situation very difficult, however people need to be assessed as a matter of urgency.

In response Mr. M. O' Donoghue advised that there are two significant issues, the overall health issue and the wellbeing of Kerry County Council employees. The fundamental issue is that some of these individuals are vulnerable and elderly people who may be cocooning and contractors have to be very cautious when entering into a premises. He confirmed that during the lockdown a number of emergency cases had been completed. He asked the members if there are aware of any inspection that require attention to bring it to his attention. In regards to Housing Voids, Mr. M. O' Donoghue advised that a detailed circular has today been issued and undertook to forward the details to the members.

20.07.31.05 To note update from the Roads, Transportation & Marine Directorate

It was agreed to note the following report.

Kenmare Municipal District Meeting – 31st July 2020 Update Report from the Director of Roads, Transportation & Marine

1. Roads / Transportation

Design and Construction works on the following projects over the next two months

National Secondary Pavement and Minor Works – Road Widening and Realignment - Design

N70 Sneem to Blackwater Bridge (Ankail to Doon) Road Project

- The Statutory Public Notice for CPO, EIAR, and NIS was published in December 2019. Closing date for submissions was February 7th 2020. Notification of the date of the Oral Hearing is awaited from An Bord Pleanála.

N70 Glanbehy Bridge Improvement Scheme - 2020 Allocation €100k:-

- Options have been identified and are being appraised.
- Public Consultation in relation to the Route Options will take place in Q3 2020.
- Statutory Planning Process which will be undertaken in late 2020.

N70 Creamery Cross

- Options have been identified and are being appraised.
- Consultation with the landowners is ongoing in relation to the Options.

N70 Waterville to Ballybrack – 2020 Allocation -€200k

- Options for western and eastern pedestrian/ cycling facility including footbridge have been appraised.
- Statutory Consent process for Planning and Land Acquisition will be commenced in late 2020

N70 Brackaharagh – 2020 Allocation -€2M

- Land acquisition conveyancing is ongoing.
- Archaeological Testing has been completed
- Detailed Design and Tender Document preparation are nearing completion. This scheme will go to Tender in Q3 2020 and construction will commence in Q4 2020.

N70 Derreenafoyle

- At Preliminary Design Stage

N72 Minor Works Scheme between Killorglin Bridge and Anglont-

- Ground Investigation Works have been undertaken.
- Design proposals have been developed and will be displayed at a Public Consultation which will be undertaken in Q3 2020.

National Secondary Pavement and Minor Works
Pavement overlay and associated works

Status of Projects at Construction Stage

<i>Road No.</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Length (m)</i>	<i>Current Allocation</i>	<i>Comment</i>
N70	Waterville to River Inny Bridge	6,000	€3.5m	This contract was awarded to Roadstone Ltd. The works are scheduled for completion in Q4 2020.

Status of Projects at Design / Pre-Construction Stage

<i>Road No.</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Length (m)</i>	<i>Current Allocation</i>	<i>Comment</i>
N71	Molls Gap to Kenmare	5,100	€2.5m	Transport Infrastructure Ireland approved the award of contract to Glas Civil Engineering Ltd to undertake the following works: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ N71 Kenmare to Molls Gap Pavement scheme. ▪ N71 Kenmare Safety Scheme including the provision of a footpath to Ard Bhearna. <p>These works have commenced. The project is scheduled for completion in Q4 2020.</p>

Regional and Local Roads

**Restoration Improvement Programme
Restoration Maintenance Programme**

An update in relation to the status of these two programmes is provided in Appendix A.

Other Road and Public Area Works Programmes

All Areas

Councillor Specific Municipal District Operations Works.

Drainage maintenance, footpath maintenance, pothole and patch repairs.

2. **Department of Rural and Community Development Grants Status of Projects being delivered directly by the Roads' Dept.**

Grant Scheme	Description	Allocation	Status
Town & Village Renewal 2019	Caherdaniel - Enhancement to amenities in the Village	€60,000	Design Stage
	Upgrading of amenity area and car park at Reenroe Beach to improve access.	€75,000	Design Stage
	Waterville - Improvements at the promenade in Waterville including car parking provision and facilitation of a Dark Sky Reserve Solar Walk.	€200,000	The Council has reached an agreement to acquire additional lands to extend this car park in Waterville. It is proposed to commence a Part 8 Statutory Planning Process by the end of the current quarter.
CLÁR 2019 Measure 1	Kilgobnet NS - Flashing Amber Lights	€6,300	These works are complete.

3. Capital Infrastructure

South Kerry Greenway

The An Bord Pleanála oral hearing concluded on the 22nd November 2019. The decision of An Bord Pleanála is awaited.

4. Other Operational Matters

Piers and Harbours Fishery Harbour and Coastal Infrastructure Development Programme 2020

The Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine has made an allocation of €48,000 available for maintenance work on the Glen Pier, Ballinskelligs. These proposed works are currently being procured.

Public Lighting Report regarding Maintenance

No. of faults reported since last meeting: 77

No. of faults repaired within 12 working days (since last meeting – incl. routine maintenance): 65

No. of faults repaired outside 12 working days: 3

Outstanding Repairs not completed within 12 working days: None

John Kennelly

A/Director of Roads, Transportation & Marine

APPENDIX A

Restoration Improvement Programme

Kenmare

Road Number	Road Description	Allocation	Length/m	Status of Works
R-573	Kilmacalogue Burial Ground aka Coast Road	€137,500	1,000	Completed
R-573	Kilmacalogue Picnic Area	€62,500	500	Completed
L-4065	Letter	€77,000	400	Completed
L-7601	Dromnevane	€94,500	450	Scheduled for end Q3
L-4056	Gleninchaquin	€87,953	1,000	Completed
L-7543	Oysterbed	€87,500	1,000	Completed
L-4043	Slieveadubh	€87,500	1,000	Completed
L-7549	Bauragh, Bonane	€74,375	850	Completed
L-11622	Lomanagh Sneem	€70,000	800	Completed
L-7060	Bog Rd Kilgarvan	€100,628	1,000	Completed
L-3021	Incheese	€60,000	440	Scheduled for end Q3
L-3022	Borlin	€125,000	1,000	Completed
Total		€1,064,456		

Killorglin

Road Number	Road Description	Allocation	Length/m	Status of Works
L4018	Quaybawn to Callinahiska	€126,000	1,000	Lining
L4010	Owngarry to Glencuttane	€163,200	1,632	Lining
L4038	Ardlaghas to Whitefield	€77,000	700	Grading in August
L4040	Tomies to Dunloe	€154,000	1,100	2 nd surface dress complete
L7702	Iveragh Park	€113,311	440	Scheduled for end Q3
L4036	Dromin to Ballyvirrane	€100,000	1,100	Lining
Total		€1,012,511		

Caherciveen

Road Number	Road Description	Allocation	Length/m	Status of Works
R-567	Keinneigh towards Emlaghreenagh	€128,552	600	Lining
R-565	Aghagadda to Ahaneboy	€207,200	1,000	Lining
L-4010	Garrannafulla towards Spunkane	€132,500	1,000	Lining
L-7537	Maulin towards Dromaragh	€92,500	1,000	Fully complete
L-11604	Westcove Pier Road	€98,975	1,070	Grading with Cl. 804
L-11537	Muingydowda to Emlaghamuck	€144,000	1,600	Grading with Cl. 804

L-7529	Cloghanelinaghan	€136,500	1,300	Grading with Cl. 804
L-4007	Raheen towards Kealfreaghane East	€120,600	1,100	1 st surface dress complete
Total		€1,060,827		

Restoration Maintenance Programme

Kenmare

Road Number	Road Description	Allocation	Length/m	Status of Works
R-568-197	Sneem - Molls Gap	€94,600	2,150	Completed
R-569-51	Caher East	€35,200	800	Skirting and drainage complete, surfacing dressing remaining
R-569-71	Ardtully	€35,123	640	Skirting and drainage complete, surfacing dressing remaining
L-4058-24	Drombohilly Lower	€19,035	940	Completed
L-11682-0	Mulagallane	€23,490	1,160	Completed
L-11765-0	Kilkeanna	€19,300	1,200	Completed
L-4051-0	Dromnevane	€28,350	1,400	Completed
L-4055-14	Gortalinny North	€39,862	1,100	Skirting and drainage complete, surfacing dressing remaining
L-7547-0	Gortalinny South	€22,275	1,100	Skirting and drainage complete, surfacing dressing remaining
Total		€317,235		

Killorglin

Road Number	Road Description	Allocation	Length/m	Status of Works
L8009	Knockavota	€22,140	2,150	Surface Dressing in August
L4022	Caragh Bridge to Dooks	€43,538	2,150	Lining
L4017	Oolagh X to Barrys X	€52,362	3,200	Surface Dressing in August
L4039	Cappaganneen to Ballagh	€24,030	890	Surface Dressing in August
L11658	Reenalagane	€37,739	1,973	Lining
L4041	Gap of Dunloe	€28,350	2,100	Complete
Total		€297,304		

Caherciveen

Road Number	Road Description	Allocation	Length/m	Status of Works
L-7523	Coars to Derreenamoira	€55,123	3,500	Skirting & Drainage complete
I-11591	Baslickane, Waterville	€22,860	1,270	Completed
I-7537	Dromargh - Canuig	€23,760	1,390	Completed
I-4011	Clodragh- Coshcummeragh X	€32,226	1,900	Completed
I-7524	Cashlagh - Toorsaleen	€35,910	2,100	Completed
L-4005	Garranebane to Garrarearagh, Cahersiveen	€28,800	1,600	Due to commence in August
L-4010	Bunadreen to Inchinatunny,	€56,700	2,100	Skirting / Drainage

L-11563 & L-7532	Oghermong to Letter, Cahersiveen	€28,350	1,800	Due to commence in August
L-11590	Baslickane Bridge to Shanaknock, Waterville	€37,463	1,850	50% completed
Total		€321,192		

Proposed CarPark Extension at Waterville Promenade

Mr. P. Teahan presented an indicative layout of the proposed car park extension at Waterville Pier. He stated that the council is proposing to use a small section of the green area to accommodate 10 car parking spaces. The plan is proposing to facilitate 43 car park spaces 2 disabled spaces and 6 coach spaces. He said he believed that this was a good solution and cautioned that the funding will not be available indefinitely. This will make a positive difference to the area while taking into account the proposed solar walk on the promenade. He said that he was before the members today to propose the commencement of the Part 8 process. In addition, he undertook to brief the parties in Waterville who had previously made representations.

Cllr. N. Moriarty welcomed the design and said that she believed that 6 extra spaces are all that is required. In the busier times, more car park space could be required if the buses were relocated from the streets. In conclusion she thanked Mr. P. Teahan and Ms. S. Griffin for their involvement in the bringing the project to this stage.

Cllr. P. Connor-Scarteen stated that it is vital that the funding is secured and stated that he didn't want to comment until he viewed the plans in more detail.

Cllr. M. Cahill welcomed the proposal and said he was hopeful that the plans would be accepted locally. He wished to acknowledge the time and effort by Mr. P. Teahan and Ms. S. Griffin in revising the plan.

Cllr. J. Healy-Rae agreed to move the following Question

17.Cllr. J. Healy-Rae: *What is Kerry County Council update with the proposed Car Park in Waterville is this going to left as it is.*

REPLY: *As outlined in the Update Report, the Council has reached an agreement to acquire additional lands to extend this car park in Waterville. This proposal forms part of a Town and Village Renewal Project at the promenade that includes facilitation of a Dark Sky Reserve Solar Walk. The project has received grant assistance of €200k from the Department of Rural Development.*

It is proposed to commence a Part 8 Statutory Planning Process by the end of the current quarter.

He stated said that the plan is welcomed but asked that all interested would be briefed prior to the commencement of the Part 8 process to alleviate any problems that may arise.

Mr. M. O' Donoghue stated that this is a stand-alone project to enhance the parking and the promenade in Waterville.

(b) Notice of Motion

1.Cllr. M. Cahill: That Kerry County Council prioritise footpaths that are in a shocking and dangerous condition in Caherciveen Town. There is an urgent need for significant investment in Caherciveen.

REPLY: The Department of 'Rural Development recently announced funding of €1.056m for the first identified intervention of the Caherciveen Town Centre Regeneration Project. This funding is being made available under Category 2 of the Rural Regeneration and Development Fund. A portion of this funding will be utilised to prepare a comprehensive public realm improvement plan for the New Market Street/Main Street area and will include the design of significantly improved pedestrian facilities.

Aside from the provision of this funding, the Council have been making a case to Transport Infrastructure Ireland in relation to improvement of the pavement and footpaths on the entire N70 Ring of Kerry Route through the town.

The remaining sections of footpath in the town that require improvements will have to be considered under the footpath maintenance programme for which a sum of €60,000 has been made available for the MD under the Schedule of Municipal District Works Plan 2020.

Cllr. M. Cahill welcomed the response and asked when would details of the plan be available. In addition, he requested that a letter would issue to TII asking that they would provide investment for the footpaths in Caherciveen town.

In response Mr. P. Teahan stated that the RDF announcement is still at early stages and the council is awaiting formal confirmation. On receipt of the confirmation he undertook to brief the members on the timeline and administration of the grant.

It was agreed that a letter would issue to the T.I.I. requesting that funding would be provided for the restoration of footpaths in Caherciveen town.

2.Cllr. M. Cahill: That Kerry County Council and Transport Infrastructure Ireland take into consideration the recent opening of the new Fexco €21m Research and Development facility in Killorglin by expediting the realignment of the road from Killorglin town out to this magnificent facility, acquire the necessary lands and provide a greatly needed footpath and cycle lane adjacent to this very busy and dangerous road. The hundreds of employees who are currently and, in the future, will be based in this world-class centre deserve to access their workplace safely and will the Council give a detailed progress report on this most important project.

REPLY: Kerry NRO are currently progressing the design of a shared cycle and pedestrian facility from Killorglin Bridge to the new Fexco facility at Anglont. The project involves the rehabilitation of the existing pavement and the provision of a new 3.0m wide shared use cycle/pedestrian facility on the northern side of the road. The improved road will consist of 3.0m wide lanes with 0.5m wide hard strips in each direction. Where the posted speed limit

is 80km/h or higher, and site constraints allow, a 1.5m wide raised grass verge to separate the cycle facility from the carriageway will be introduced. This cross section complies with the requirements of TII standards and will provide a sustainable facility which will be fit for purpose into the future.

The scheme will utilise existing setbacks where possible. However, some property acquisition is required to accommodate the proposed cross section. Retaining walls will be used where possible to minimise the land required.

The design of the footpath and retaining walls is currently being refined by consultants appointed by Kerry County Council. It is envisaged that a public display will take place in Autumn 2020 which is likely to be an online format due to Covid-19 considerations.

The statutory consent process will be commenced in late 2020/ early 2021 subject to TII approval.

In response to a query from Cllr. M. Cahill, Mr. P. Teahan stated that the design needs to be accepted to determine the land acquisition.

3.Cllr. N. Moriarty: That in light of the recent announcement that Government officials are examining a new strategy to manage coastal erosion which Ministers hope will outline where extra protections need to be put in place that we ensure that the most vulnerable areas of our coast are submitted for attention in this process including Waterville Promenade and other areas within this Municipal District.

REPLY: Any new government strategy to manage coastal erosion is to be welcomed. Kerry has an overall length of coastline of approximately 684km, which represents 12% of the entire country's coastline of approx. 5,779km. Kerry has approx. 378km of soft coastline, and nationally has the second largest length of "soft" coastline. In particular, the county has a number of "soft" coastal bays which because of their sandy composition are particularly vulnerable to coastal erosion.

The OPW, who are the body with responsibility for Flooding and Coastal Erosion, commissioned an extensive study of the Country's coastline in 2013 entitled the Irish Coastal Protection Strategy Study (ICPSS), which identified areas susceptible to both coastal flooding and coastal erosion. In particular, Ballinskelligs Bay (Waterville, Inny Strand, Emlagh, Ballinskelligs Beach/Pier) was identified due to its soft coastline as one of the five primary areas of potential erosion risk in the county by the ICPSS. Rock revetment works have been carried out in these areas in the past and these protection works are continued to be monitored. Some minor maintenance works will be undertaken on the rock revetment in front of the Waterville Promenade by early Q4 2020.

Over and above these ICPSS identified areas, there are a number of other areas that are considered vulnerable to erosion. These are monitored annually to ascertain if any changes

have taken place in the preceding time interval. The areas of particular concern are where infrastructure (roads/walkways etc.) and properties could be at risk.

If a call for submissions is made by the Minister/OPW, we will ensure that all vulnerable areas are submitted for attention as part of any new strategic examination.

Cllr. N. Moriarty welcomed the response and in particular to the works for Waterville. However, she added that further studies are required.

4.Cllr. P. Connor-Scarreen: That Kerry County Council please investigate further coastal erosion that has taken place along the promenade in Waterville and arrange for it to be strengthened.

REPLY: The rock revetment that is placed in front of the promenade in Waterville has been examined and there are minor maintenance works needed which will be completed by early Q4 2020.

5.Cllr. J. F. Flynn: That Kerry County Council write to the TII to provide funding for the Killorglin/Killarney road as the condition of this road is in very poor condition. This is on the main Ring of Kerry road and should be kept at a high standard.

REPLY: Kerry NRO are developing improvement proposals at a number of sections on the N72 between Killorglin and Killarney.

In the Kenmare MD, the section that is being designed is the N70 Killorglin to Anglont scheme which involves provision of a shared cycle and pedestrian facility from Killorglin Bridge to the new Fexco facility at Anglont. The project involves the rehabilitation of the existing pavement and the provision of a new 3.0m wide shared use cycle/pedestrian facility on the northern side of the road. The improved road will consist of 3.0m wide lanes with 0.5m wide hard strips in each direction. Where the posted speed limit is 80km/h or higher, and site constraints allow, a 1.5m wide raised grass verge to separate the cycle facility from the carriageway will be introduced. This cross section complies with the requirements of TII standards and will provide a sustainable facility which will be fit for purpose into the future.

The scheme will utilise existing setbacks where possible. However, some property acquisition is required to accommodate the proposed cross section. Retaining walls will be used where possible to minimise the land required.

The design of the footpath and retaining walls is currently being refined by consultants appointed by Kerry County Council. It is envisaged that a public display will take place in Autumn 2020 which is likely to be an online format due to Covid-19 considerations.

The statutory consent process will be commenced in late 2020/ early 2021 subject to TII approval.

Cathaoirleach J. F. Flynn noted the response and stated that the road is in a very poor condition.

6.Cllr. N. Moriarty: That a dip/hollow on the road along Renard road outside (**Details with Directorate**) be levelled as it is contributing to the undermining of adjacent boundary wall.

REPLY: This repair work has recently been completed.

Cllr. N. Moriarty welcomed the response.

7.Cllr. D. McCarthy: To ask Kerry County Council to provide funding to upgrade the footpath from Priests Cross to Dromneavane.

REPLY: The provision of a footpath at this location on the R569 Regional Road will be considered for submission to the Department of Transport under a funding heading called Active Travel Measures Allocations which was announced by the Department on the 28th July 2020 via Circular RW 10/2020.

8.Cllr. D. McCarthy: To ask Kerry County Council what the time frame is, from when Road Enforcement officer issues a hedge cutting notice to the landowners for work to be carried out.

REPLY: When a hedge cutting notice is issued to a landowner that person is given 14 days to cut the roadside hedge. In accordance with our current procedures if the landowner does not comply with this formal notice then the Council arranges to cut the hedge and bill the landowner for the costs incurred.

Cllr. D. McCarthy stated that he has previously raised this matter and that landowners have ignored the notice.

9.Cllr. D. McCarthy: To ask Kerry County Council to carry out sight distance improvement works at Cleady Cross Kenmare.

REPLY: This location was considered for submission to the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport for funding under the Safety Improvement Works Scheme last year and it will be considered again this year. The provision of a scheme at this location is considered a priority for the Municipal District.

10.Cllr. J. Healy-Rae: That Kerry County Council would urgently repair the upper half of the Mangerton Road and liaise with Coillte with regard funding.

REPLY: We have liaised with Coillte in relation to the upper half of the Mangerton Road and they have informed us that they have completed the drawing out of timber in the area. In conjunction with Coillte we carried out repairs to this road the week starting 27th July 2020.

Cllr. J. Healy-Rae welcomed the response.

11.Cllr. J. Healy-Rae: Has Kerry County Council made progress with the wall at Kilgarvan Church that we previously had a deputation about.

Reply: The provision of a footpath at this location on the R569 Regional Road will be considered for submission to the Department of Transport under a funding heading called Active Travel Measures Allocations which was announced by the Department on the 28th July 2020 via Circular RW 10/2020.

Cllr. J. Healy-Rae welcomed the response

(c) Questions

1.Cllr. M. Cahill: That Kerry County Council confirm when all the outstanding works provided for in the Bond, ie Roads, Footpaths, Fencing, Water and Sewerage and clearing of overgrowth etc. in respect of Lighthouse View Estate, Caherciveen will be carried out as this Ghost Estate has been neglected for far too long.

REPLY: The Council will cut the hedges on the road leading to the estate as part of preliminary works associated with the bond within the next 2-3 weeks. The Water Services Department are also planning to carry out work in the estate commencing in the current quarter. The remaining works, strictly up to the €234k value of the bond only, are planned to be carried out by the Roads' Department in the 4th quarter of 2020.

Cllr. M. Cahill welcomed the works and asked that Kerry County Council write to Revenue Commissioners requesting that this family the sole occupants of this Ghost Estate and who resided in this Estate in complete darkness up until late last year be exempted from payment of the Local Property Tax and reimbursed all monies paid since the LPT was first introduced in 2013.

2.Cllr. M. Cahill: That Kerry County Council provide Traffic Calming Measures, including Speed Indicator Signs, Road Markings and Signage in the vicinity of the Climbers Inn, Glencar as a matter of priority.

REPLY: The only potential source of funding available that could be considered to undertake these works is the Department of Transport's Safety Improvement Works Grant for Regional and Local roads. This grant is primarily targeted at locations on the public road network that have a history of road traffic accidents. An examination of the data on the Road Safety Authority's website indicates that there are no minor, serious or fatal accidents recorded on this section of Local Primary Road that would support an application to the Department for funding.

Cllr. M. Cahill requested that an estimate be prepared for road lining and signage works at this location.

3.Cllr. M. Cahill: That Kerry County Council and the OPW immediately reinstate and carry out major improvement/drainage works to the Gurrane Quay road that is currently in a shocking condition.

REPLY: The L11720, Local Tertiary Road has been repaired on a temporary basis by Kerry County Council recently. The Office of Public Works has agreed to fund the permanent restoration when the embankment works are complete. Essential maintenance will be undertaken as required in the interim.

Cllr. M. Cahill welcomed the response.

4.Cllr. M. Cahill: That Kerry County Council replace the lighting under the arches on the main Laune View Bridge and also on the old Metal bridge as these were significant features as you enter and exit Killorglin town.

REPLY: Kerry County Council do not have the adequate funding to replace the architectural lighting under the arches on the Laune View Bridge, all available funding is being directed into updating our current lighting stock to more energy efficient units to reduce our carbon emissions and energy usage. We are currently in the process of re-directing supply cables and bringing the lighting installation on the metal bridge up to the required standards.

Cllr. M. Cahill asked that the council would reconsider this request. It is critical for tourism in the town.

5.Cllr. M. Cahill: That Kerry County Council extend the Public Lighting from Beaufort Bridge to Beaufort Village as a matter of priority as this section of road is extremely dark and dangerous.

REPLY: The Council does not have any plans to install public lighting along this section of road. Lighting would only be installed at this location with the provision of additional improvements, such as a footpath and there are no plans to provide such infrastructure which would require land acquisition and very significant accommodation works.

Cllr. M. Cahill expressed disappointment with the response.

6.Cllr. N. Moriarty: To reinstate and make solid the rocks at Bunavalla Pier and access area. To repair the iron railings at one of the sections along the pier also.

REPLY: This maintenance work will be completed by early in Q4 2020.

Cllr. N. Moriarty noted the response and asked could the railings be done in the interim.

Mr M. Kelliher undertook to review the request.

7.Cllr. N. Moriarty: That we do all possible to secure funding from any possible source to reinstate the 2.2 Km of The Bolus Road, Ballinskelligs This is a road with full time residents who struggle with the conditions daily and it is an extremely heavily trafficked road at weekends and throughout the holiday period as it is part of the Bolus-Ducalla Loop walk.

REPLY: This Local Tertiary Road L-11523 in Bolus, Ballinskelligs is not included in the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport's Restoration Improvement Programme 2020/2021 which is the grant that funds significant rehabilitation and strengthening work on the Local Road Network. However, this road would be suitable for funding through a Community Involvement Scheme. Maintenance work will be carried out on the road in the interim to the extent allowable by local roads upkeep funding.

Cllr. N. Moriarty stated the Bolus road is only 2 km. This is a very heavily trafficked road for both locals and tourists.

8.Cllr. D. McCarthy: To ask Kerry County Council to clear the hard shoulder on the Two Mile Bridge road be cleared to allow cyclists and pedestrians use the road in a safer manner.

REPLY: As outlined in the Update Report, construction has just commenced on the N71 Molls Gap Road Pavement Improvement and Safety scheme. The scheme includes the provision of a footpath as far as the Ard Bhearna Estate.

9.Cllr. D. McCarthy: To ask Kerry County Council to put up an embankment at the Sneem side of Drumlusk.

REPLY: We will place an embankment at this location later in the year following the completion of the main road works programme.

10.Cllr. D. McCarthy: To ask Kerry County Council for an update on when safety measures will be put in place at Reenagross.

REPLY: Signage has been erected at the exit of Reenagross Park and we are due to receive delivery of the barriers this week which will be put in place immediately once received.

11.Cllr. P. Connor-Scarteen: Please give an outline of the works to be carried out under the Rural Regeneration Grant secured for Cahersiveen, please ensure adequate consultation with local businesses and ensure the works are done outside the tourist season.

REPLY: The Department of Rural Development recently announced funding of €1.056m for the first identified intervention of the Cahersiveen Town Centre Regeneration Project. This funding is being made available under Category 2 of the Rural Regeneration and Development Fund. While the Council is awaiting formal notification of this grant from the Department with associated conditions, the broad outline of the first intervention in

Caherciveen is the design and planning for the regeneration and optimisation of 3 Council owned buildings and 2 Council depots, preparation of a comprehensive public realm improvement plan for the New Market Street/Main Street area that will include the design of significantly improved pedestrian facilities, acquisition of derelict sites and development of an innovation hub. Once written agreement is in place with the Department, a full briefing will be provided to Members including details of the project team and the processes and timelines involved in this project.

Cllr. P. Connor-Scarteen welcomed the response and said the announcement is very positive for Caherciveen Town. He particularly wished to thank Ms. S. Griffin and Mr. P. Teahan for compiling the application for this project.

12.Cllr. P. Connor-Scarteen: What hedge cutting has been carried out in the Municipal District and what are the plans for the remainder of the year.

REPLY: The Council has cut the hedges that are along sections of road where the Restoration Improvement and Restoration Maintenance Programmes are being undertaken. Similar to last year, the Council will be issuing hedge cutting letters, following up these letters with inspections by the Roads Enforcement Officer and subsequently issuing notices to landowners to ensure that they comply with their statutory obligations to cut their roadside hedges.

It is also intended to apply to Transport Infrastructure Ireland for supplementary maintenance funding to cut hedges along sections of the National Secondary network in the Municipal District. This work, if funded, would be carried out in late Q3 and Q4, 2020.

Cllr. P. Connor-Scarteen welcomed the response.

13.Cllr. P. Connor-Scarteen: Please give an update in relation to the LIS Scheme throughout the Municipal District., how many are on the list, what is the schedule.

REPLY: There are 3 Local Improvement Schemes within the Kenmare Municipal District scheduled to be completed this year:-

- Shanara Lower, Kilgobnet.
- Collorus, Lauragh, and
- Cromane, Killorglin.

The Joint Contributions have been paid and the schemes have been forwarded to the Area Engineers for completion.

14.Cllr. J. Healy-Rae: That Kerry County Council would apply for a safety improvement scheme at Foilmore Cross.

REPLY: The need for a safety scheme/ intervention works at this location will be examined in consultation with the TII.

Cllr. J. Healy-Rae noted the response and said that he has previously raised this request.

15.Cllr. J. Healy-Rae: That Kerry County Council would cut all hedges at junctions urgently.

REPLY: The Council has cut the hedges that are along sections of road where the Restoration Improvement and Restoration Maintenance Programmes are being undertaken. Similar to last year, the Council will be issuing hedge cutting letters, following up these letters with inspections by the Roads Enforcement Officer and subsequently issuing notices to landowners to ensure that they comply with their statutory obligations to cut their roadside hedges.

It is also intended to apply to Transport Infrastructure Ireland for supplementary maintenance funding to cut hedges along sections of the National Secondary network in the Municipal District. This work, if funded, would be carried out in late Q3 and Q4, 2020.

In response to a request from Cllr. J. Healy-Rae, Mr. P. Teahan gave a commitment to cut overgrown hedging on all junctions within the Municipal District.

16.Cllr. J. Healy-Rae: That Kerry County Council would get the Enforcement Office to look at the Feorus Road for overhanging trees.

REPLY: The Municipal District Enforcement Officer has inspected this area and the action considered necessary is to issue hedge cutting notices in September at the commencement of the period when hedge cutting is permitted.

Cllr. J. Healy-Rae stated that the land owner is residing in England. He requested that the council would issue a hedge cutting notice and be prepared to act on it. He added that the school buses and lorries cannot use this road due to the overhanging trees.

Mr. P. Teahan stated that if the owners don't comply the council will cut the overhanging trees.

Question 17 previously dealt with see page 34.

18.Cllr. J. Healy-Rae: That Kerry County Council would provide a street light at Bantry Cross Kilgarvan, where the ESB has recently erected a new steel pole. Can Kerry County Council provide a breakdown of the cost of this.

REPLY: The cost to provide a new public light on this newly erected steel ESB Network pole would be in the region of €793 for LED lantern and mounting assembly (1m vertical bracket, steel pole adaptor, interface unit) and €432 for the connection to the ESB Network.

20.07.31.06 Motions / Questions relevant to other Directorates or issues not relevant to Kerry County Council business

(a) Notices of Motion

1.Cllr. M. Cahill: That Kerry County Council support Kerry Students and their families who are under enormous financial pressures in regards to Student accommodation by calling on all stakeholders such as Colleges, Private Landlords, Department of Education, Department of Housing, Department of Social Protection, etc, to engage with each other and come up with a formula that will be affordable . Students and their parents have been left out of pocket for accommodation that they paid for and were not able to use during the Covid-19 pandemic at a time when the majority of parents were out of work. It also needs to be taken into consideration the fact that this summer most students were not able to obtain part time jobs, and this has made the cost of going to college prohibitive for many.

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

Cllr. M. Cahill stated that both parents and students have lost out in thousands during this pandemic and requested that a letter would issue to all departments asking them to provide support to the students and their families.

It was agreed that a letter would issue to all Departments expressing the members concerns.

2.Cllr. P. Connor-Scarreen: Please request Eir to remove the old telephone box on Main Street, Kenmare. It's unsightly, unsafe and not needed anymore.

Reply: The Council will raise this matter with Eir.

3.Cllr. N. Moriarty: That we invite ESB management into us to discuss the much needed upgrading of the network and any outstanding issues that have or are occurring with that process. While some investment has been made and improvements carried out there remains a significant amount that needs to be done and we need clarity on a timeframe and rollout of same.

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

Cllr. N. Moriarty stated that it is important that a member of the ESB attend a MD meeting to discuss the recent outages in Caherciveen. On the first day of the businesses re-opening, the town suffered an outage. The businesses and residents need to be made aware of the outages in advance.

It was agreed that a letter would issue to the ESB expressing the members concerns.

4.Cllr. N. Moriarty: That we as a Municipal District add our full support to a call on the NTA to improve the regularity and capacity of public bus transport from and between Kenmare-Killorglin-Killarney-Tralee.

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

It was agreed that the resolution would issue to the NTA.

5.Cllr. J. F. Flynn: That Kerry County Council write to the Minister for Health Stephen Donnelly to ask him to intervene and get (Details with Directorate) his much needed operation.

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

The Cathaoirleach stated that the whole ordeal is very stressful for the family and is criminal that Ronan Foley is still awaiting this operation.

It was agreed that the resolution would issue to the Minister for Health Mr. Stephen Donnelly.

6.Cllr. N. Moriarty: That we seek a meeting with the newly appointed Minister of State over the OPW with a view to discussing the many OPW operated attractions and amenities in the MD which are of crucial importance from a cultural, social and economic perspective.

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

Cllr. N. Moriarty stated that she would be very much in favour in showing the Minister the many amenities in this Municipal District. In relation to Skellig Michael she stated that it is very disappointing that the Island has been temporarily closed.

It was agreed that the resolution would issue to the Minister for OPW.

7.Cllr. D. McCarthy: To ask Kerry County Council if there are plans put in place to prevent people gathering in Kenmare on the 15th August if the Annual Fair isn't going ahead.

Reply: The traditional 15th August Fair in Kenmare will not be taking place this year due to the Covid-19 pandemic and neither will Puck Fair in Killorglin. The Council, An Garda Síochána and the HSE work together as part of the Cork-Kerry Interagency Emergency Management Group and the three organisations are appealing to people not to gather informally or congregate at either of these locations on the traditional fair dates and to desist from travelling to Killorglin or Kenmare in the expectation of any informal, parallel or 'unofficial' gatherings. A joint press release has been issued and there will also be further postings via social media to reiterate this message. The Gardai will be implementing

additional policing measures at both Puck Fair in Killorglin and the 15th August Fair to ensure public health guidelines are complied with.

Mr. P. Teahan stated in conjunction with the HSE and An Garda Síochána we are trying to prevent any unofficial gathering and want to reiterate this message to the public.

8.Cllr. J. Healy-Rae: That Kerry County Council's plans with the O.P.W to provide wheelchair access to Lough Fada would proceed, this was agreed previously.

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

Cllr. J. Healy-Rae stated that a group had approached him who are looking for wheelchair access to the lake to go fishing. The request is very small and said he understood that the OPW would provide the funding.

Mr. S. Griffin undertook to investigate the matter further.

(e) Correspondence

1.	Letter dated 10 th February 2020, received from Derek Devaney on behalf of Office of the Minister of State for the OPW in relation to preparation of the 10-year Management Plan for Skellig Michael.
2.	Letter dated 05 th March 2020, received Department of Finance in relation to the cost of insurance.

3	Email dated 31 st March from Irish Water in relation to the Sewerage Scheme in South Kerry.
4	Letter dated 16 th June 2020, from HSE re the Direct Provision Centre, Caherciveen.

Cllr. M. Cahill referred to the response received from Irish Water and expressed disappointment with the response.

A.O.B.

Direct Provision Centre- Caherciveen

Cllr. M. Cahill welcomed the recent announcement by the Government to close the Direct Provision Centre in Caherciveen.

Pig Farm

Cllr. M. Cahill stated that local concerns have been raised regarding the provision of a piggery on the Killarney road. He asked that the council would ensure that the facility is within the planning regulations.

Cromane Landing Facility

Cllr. M. Cahill asked that the council would follow up on the progress with the provision of a landing facility at Cromane Pier.

Pilot-Painting Scheme Killorglin

Cllr. M. Cahill referred to a pilot scheme in Killorglin for painting and asked that the council would look at extending this scheme within the Municipal District.

Date of Next Meeting

It was agreed that the next meeting of the members of the Municipal District of Kenmare would be held on Friday 25th September 2020.

Mr. M. O' Donoghue advised the members as the school will no longer be available in September, an alternative venue will have to be sought and will be confirmed in the coming weeks.

The meeting concluded at 12.50 pm

Christy O' Connor
Meetings Administrator

Cllr. J. F. Flynn
Cathaoirleach of the Municipal District
of Kenmare