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MIONTUAIRISCÍ NA CRUINNITHE MHIOSIÚIL DE COMHAIRLE CONTAE CHIARRAÍ A THIONÓLADH I SEOMRA NA COMPHAIRLE, ÁRAS AN CHONTAE, TRÁ LÍ AR AN LUAN, 15 EANAIR 2018

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF KERRY COUNTY COUNCIL HELD IN COUNCIL CHAMBER, ÁRAS AN CHONTAE, TRALEE ON MONDAY, 15TH JANUARY, 2018

PRESENT/I LÁTHAIR

Councillors/Comhairleoirí

T. Barry	R. Beasley	M. Cahill
P Connor-Scarteen	B. Cronin	J.J. Culloty
P. Daly	T. Ferris	J. Finucane
S. Fitzgerald	J.F. Flynn	N. Foley
M. Gleeson	D. Grady	J. Healy-Rae
M. Healy-Rae	N. Kelleher	M. Kennelly
S. Locke	J. Lucid	D. McCarthy
P. McCarthy	T. McEllistrim	J. Moloney
N. Moriarty	T. O'Brien	B. O'Connell
M. O'Shea	L. Purtill	D. Quigg
J. Sheahan	G. Spring	A. Thornton

IN ATTENDANCE/I LÁTHAIR

Ms. M. Murrell, Chief Executive	Mr. J. Breen, Director Water Services
Ms. A. McAllen, Head of Finance	Mr. M. Scannell, Dir. Job Cr/Sust. ED
Mr. M. O'Donoghue, Dir.Hsg. & Corp.S.	Mr. C. O'Sullivan, Director of Operations
Mr. L. Quinlan, Meetings Administrator	Mr. O. O'Shea, Press & Comm. Officer
Mr. B. Looney, Head of IT	Ms. B. Reidy, SSO Corporate Support
Ms. O. O'Shea, CO Corporate Support	Ms. J. O'Sullivan, CO Corporate Support

The meeting commenced at 10.30am.

Cllr. J. Sheahan took the Chair.

The Cathaoirleach extended a vote of sympathy to the family of the late T.J. Cronin, a valued staff member in CIU.

All members stated they wished to be associated with this expression of sympathy.

The Chief Executive, on behalf of management and staff also extended her sympathy to the Cronin family on their sad loss.

18.01.15.01 Cathaoirleach's Report on the CPG meeting held on the 9th January 2018

The Cathaoirleach read the following report into the record of the meeting:

"Agenda for the January Council Meeting

Mr. L. Quinlan briefed the meeting on the Agenda for the January Council Meeting.

Having regard to the approval being sought for the opening of tenders for Design Team Services for the construction of 56 No. Housing Units at Lohercannon Tralee Cllr. J. Finucane asked that sites would be made available to first time buyers at Lohercannon.

Mr. M. O'Donoghue advised that a master plan will be prepared for these lands. He clarified that the Low Cost Sites Scheme was discontinued a number of years ago but he understood there would be an announcement on it in the near future.

The Chief Executive emphasised that the master plan will be for mixed development.

Update from the Chairs of SPCs

Mr. N. Kelleher advised that a Quality of Life SPC meeting would be held in February.

Mr. M. Kennelly advised that the Operations SPC met on the 15th December and he briefed CPG on the items considered at the meeting following which a discussion took place on policy matters pertaining to Burial Grounds in the county going forward. A report on the meeting would be presented to the January Council meeting.

Cllr. J. Finucane briefed CPG on the items considered at the meeting of the Planning and Economic Development SPC held on the 13th December and advised that a report would be presented to the January Council meeting.

Request for Civic Receptions

CPG agreed that Mick O'Dwyer, former Kerry player and Manager, would be honoured at a Civic Reception hosted by full Council for his contribution to Gaelic Games in Kerry.

CPG further agreed that Milltown Community and Chamber Alliance would be honoured by the South and West Kerry MD having been shortlisted for the 2017 Excellence in Local Government Awards.

Any other business

Local Electoral Area Boundary Committees

Mr. M. O'Donoghue informed the meeting that Minister of State Mr. John Paul Phelan T.D. has established two committees to review and make recommendations on local electoral areas. Mr. O'Donoghue undertook to revert to Council when formal notification is received.

Update on TII Grant Funding

Mr. C. O'Sullivan gave details of the 2018 TII grants which have been circulated to members. These details are separately contained in the Chief Executive's monthly report.

Mr. O'Sullivan also advised that Service Delivery Plans will be brought to the MDs and a special Roads Meeting will be held in March.

Weather Alerts

Mr. C. O'Sullivan highlighted that a number of weather alerts issued over the past few weeks most of which were yellow alerts with the exception of warning for storm Eleanor which was upgraded to an orange alert. The main concern was for coastal areas a survey of which is being undertaken and members will be updated on any significant findings.

Cllr. M. Kennelly expressed disappointment at the level of funding provided for roads in North Kerry and for the Listowel By-Pass in particular.

The Chief Executive clarified that the initial funding of €100,000 for the Listowel By-Pass is indicative of more substantial funding forthcoming for this project.

Cllr. N. Kelleher welcomed the funding for the N72 and he asked if a new Roads Programme would be agreed in 2018.

Mr. C. O'Sullivan clarified that the 2016 – 2018 Restoration Programme will be completed in 2018. He undertook to revert to members when the 2018 non-national road grant allocation is received.

Cllr. J. Sheahan welcomed the significant increase in national road funding and commended Mr. O'Sullivan and his team on it.

Cllr. M. Kennelly asked that priority would be given to the Great Southern Trail in the context of compliance with statutory planning requirements in order for a funding application to be made.

Governance Training for members

Mr. L. Quinlan informed CPG that the planned Governance Training for members would be treated as a training event and he advised of the importance for councillors to attend."

18.01.15.02 Confirmation of Minutes

- (a) On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. J. Finucane, SECONDED by Cllr. S. Locke it was resolved that the minutes of the November Ordinary Meeting be confirmed.
- (b) On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. B. O'Connell, SECONDED by Cllr. P. McCarthy it was resolved that the minutes of the December Ordinary Meeting be confirmed.

18.01.15.03 Chief Executive's Report to Council

The Chief Executive read the following report into the record of the meeting:

“The attached report has been prepared for the January 2018 Council Meeting.

Finance Directorate

As agreed with the Members, a Financial Report for Members will be provided on a quarterly basis in line with the Quarterly Reporting Process for Income and Expenditure already in place to the Department of Housing, Planning Community & Local Government. The Qtr 4 Financial report will be set out in the Chief Executive's Report presented at the March Council Meeting.

Infrastructure, Operations, Health & Safety Directorate

TII Funding - Details of the 2018 grants from the TII were announced on the 21st December 2017 and were circulated to all members. The allocation of €17.8 million represents an increase on the €7.8 million allocated last year. In particular, I welcome the design funding for the N22 Farranfore - Killarney By-Pass and the N69 Listowel By-Pass. These are critical routes identified in Kerry County Council's submission to the National Planning Framework, which require investment to improve linkages and support the economic development of the county. This funding allows for a review of the scheme and hopefully it will be included in the Government's Capital Investment Plan.

The Council also received €9.5 million additional funding in December where contracts were awarded in 2017 and the schemes are under construction, including the N86 Tralee to Dingle road and the N70 Kilderry Bends.

It is intended to seek TII approval to advance design on the N69 over the coming weeks.

Economic & Community Development Directorate

Kerry Local Enterprise Office

The office has completed its 2017 Employment survey which indicates an increase of approximately 70 jobs in its portfolio. Over 25 core projects were approved funding in 2017 with over 800 people participating in training programmes. A further 60 Trading Online Vouchers were approved. Planning has commenced for the 2018 suite of programmes and a series of business programmes are presently open for booking in the period January – March and posted on the website. December concentrated on issuing funding to successful clients by the end of year. Engagement continues with the “Lean for Micro” Programme. A new national programme called “Optimise” has been launched specifically encouraging participation in online sales by the Craft sector and the LEO is working in promoting the new scheme.

Community Department

2018 Community Support Fund

The 2018 Community Support Fund was launched on the 14th of December 2017 at the Tralee Bay Wetlands Centre. The fund, which is now in its fourth year, has supported over 1,000 projects since 2015 to the value of €2.25million. As occurred in 2017, some of the Community Support Fund will be used to target strategic projects in the four municipal districts and to co-fund projects which are in receipt of grants from other sources.

In 2017, almost €1million was leveraged from other grant sources such as Town and Village Renewal and the Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Fund as a result of the strategic allocation of resources under the Community Support Fund.

For 2018, the fund has been refocused to target funding under five categories of support:

- Growing and Sustaining Communities
- Community Tidy Towns Initiatives and Amenity Projects
- Community Sport and Physical Activity Programmes
- Community Economic Innovation
- Community Based Tourism, Festivals and Events

The closing date for receipt of completed applications is Monday, 22 January 2018 and application forms may be downloaded from the council's website. Further information is available for Kerry County Council's Community Department at 066 7183680.

LEADER Programme

In 2017, the Local Action Group (LAG) met on 12 occasions, the final meeting of the LAG for 2017 was held on the 12th of December 2017 where 68 Expressions of Interest were presented. To date 551 expressions of interest have been reviewed by the LAG and 102 applications approved for LEADER funding to the value of €1.7million— representing one-fifth of projects approved nationally.

SICAP 2018 – 2022

The tender process for the appointment of Programme Implementers to the Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme (SICAP) 2018 to 2022 has been completed and the award of the contracts approved by the LCDC at the November meeting. The Funding Agreement with the successful Programme Implementers appointed to each of the 3 Lots, namely NEWKD, SKDP and IRD Duhallow, was signed on 19th of December.

Healthy Ireland Funding

A grant of €100,000 was awarded to the Kerry LCDC to fund 12 actions, across the three initiatives of Healthy Ireland Strategic Plans. The actions listed include a number of initiatives targeted at increasing physical activity, healthy eating & the general well-being of young people, older people and employees which is in line with the priorities agreed in the Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP).

Tralee Bay Wetlands Centre

In December 2017, the café at the Tralee Bay Wetlands Centre re-opened to the public after being closed for a short period to allow for its refurbishment. The renovation work was done during the off-peak season to avoid disruption to customers. This refurbishment has been welcomed by Fáilte Ireland which has indicated its intention to include the centre as a coffee/lunch stop on itineraries in 2018 where possible.

FESTIVAL & PARTICIPATIVE EVENTS PROGRAMME FOR COUNTY KERRY 2018:

Fáilte Irelands Regional Festival & Participative Events Grant Scheme is now administered by Local Authorities in cooperation with Fáilte Ireland. Under this Programme, approx. €70,000 was allocated in 2017. The Scheme aims to support festivals and participative events that will drive domestic tourism and help to improve the visitor experience in Kerry. A number of criteria apply, including a minimum expenditure of €10,000 for both festivals and participative events, extension of the tourism season and a strong link to the Actions included in the County Kerry Tourism Strategy & Action Plan 2016 -2022, must be demonstrated.

Closing date for receipt of completed applications, to be submitted to The Tourism Unit, is 5pm on Monday 29th January 2018.

Planning and Sustainable Development

Conservation Architecture:

Built Heritage Investment Scheme 2018

Kerry County Council has been allocated €50,000 under the Built Heritage Investment Scheme 2018.

This scheme aims to encourage leveraging private capital to invest in a number of small-scale, labour-intensive projects to repair and conserve protected structures. The scheme funds capital works up to a maximum of €15,000 per project. The Closing date for receipt of applications by Kerry County Council is 16/02/18

Structures at Risk Fund 2018

This fund grant aids capital works between €15,000 - €30,000 and aims to reduce deterioration, support employment for conservation works and to prevent the loss of a structure where there is an immediate danger of significant deterioration.

Each Local Authority can propose up to five structures (four structures per LA (one of which can be a public building) and one additional structure if it is a historic house).

The closing date for receipt of applications by Kerry County Council under the Structures at Risk Fund 2018 is 31/01/18

Housing & Corporate Directorate

I have received correspondence from the Minister for Housing, Planning and Local Government outlining details of a further Housing Summit between Chief Executives and the Minister and his officials later this month.

In addition, the Capital Programme targets for Kerry for 2017/2021 are being finalised currently.

I will have an item on the February Council Meeting detailing the output of the Housing Summit and the Programme.”

Cllr. M. Gleeson referred to the development to the South Kerry Greenway and advised that approx. 240,000 people have used the Waterford Greenway. He expressed concern at the inordinate delays in progressing the South Kerry Greenway. Cllr. Gleeson called on the public to act responsibly when mountain climbing.

Cllr. B. Cronin welcomed the commencement of work on the new burial ground for Killarney and added that it is vital that plots would be made available as soon as possible. He congratulated St. Brendan’s Killarney Students – (*Names withheld for data protection purposes. A paper copy of the unedited minutes is available on request.*) who won the overall Best Group at the BT Young Scientist and Technology Exhibition for their investigation into conformity and how minorities can influence it. They also won the RTE Best Communications Award. He also congratulated (*Names withheld for data protection purposes. A paper copy of the unedited minutes is available on request*) who won the National Park and Wildlife Award for their project “Deter Deer” aimed at reducing the risk of collision between motorists and deer in the Killarney area.

Cllr. J.J. Culloty concurred with the views expressed by Cllr. Gleeson in relation to those who climb mountains and he also acknowledged the achievements of St. Brendan’s College students. He requested clarification on the criteria for the Fáilte Ireland funding for festivals.

Cllr. M. Cahill welcomed the grants outlined in the Chief Executive’s Report and in particular the fact that Kerry County Council now administers the Fáilte Ireland festival grant. He called for the setting up of a countywide grants office in Killorglin to administer all schemes, local, national and international.

Cllr. J. Finucane acknowledged the 70 jobs created by the Local Enterprise Office and he called on the Chief Executive of the IDA to appoint an IDA officer permanently to the Local Enterprise Office.

Cllr. T. Ferris called for the holding of a Special Housing Meeting.

The Chief Executive advised that grants are administered by the Community Department under the stewardship of Niamh O’Sullivan who is the Chief Officer to the LCDC. She supported members call for the appointment of an IDA officer to Kerry. In response to Cllr. Ferris’s request for a Special Housing Meeting the Chief Executive stated that the housing issues could be dealt with as an item on the February Agenda as an alternative to holding a special meeting.

Cllr. Ferris agreed that housing issues could be considered at the February meeting.

18.01.15.04 Lease of land

On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. P. McCarthy, SECONDED by Cllr. M. Kennelly it was agreed to approve the lease of a plot of land of 1.0480 Ha and building at Clounalour, Tralee to Tralee Regional Sports & Leisure Company Ltd. By guarantee in accordance with the terms of notice issued 21st December 2017 pursuant to Section 183 of the Local Government Act 2001, Section 211 of the Planning & Development Act 2000 and Article 2016 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001.

18.01.15.05 Report of the Local Government Auditor

Ms. A. McAllen, Head of Finance, referred members to the Report of the Local Government Auditor on the Council's Accounts for the Financial year ended 31st December 2016 which was circulated together with a Report from the Audit Committee on the Statutory Audit Report for the year ending 31st December 2016. Ms. McAllen welcomed the Auditor's positive comments on the level of collections.

On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. B. O'Connell, SECONDED by Cllr. M. Gleeson it was agreed to note these reports.

18.01.15.06 Appointment of an Ethics Officer for Kerry County Council

Mr. M. O'Donoghue referred members to report dated 9th January, 2018 on this item which was circulated and he briefed them on the report.

Cllr. D. Grady requested clarity on the role of the Ethics Officer and why guidelines and training are not provided by the Ethics Officer to members.

In response Mr. O'Donoghue clarified that the duties of the Ethics Officer are set out in the Local Government Act 2001. An item can be included in the Governance Training for members scheduled for the 29th January on the duties of the Ethics Officer. Mr. O'Donoghue clarified that the role of the Ethics Officer is that of a registrar and not an advisor.

It was unanimously agreed to note that Mr. L. Quinlan, Senior Executive Officer had been appointed by the Chief Executive as the new Ethics Officer for Kerry County Council for the period 3rd October 2017 to 2nd October 2019.

18.01.15.07 Annual Declaration Forms in accordance with Part 15 (Ethics) of the Local Government Act 2001

Mr. L. Quinlan referred members to report dated 9th January 2018 on this item which was circulated. He advised members that their Ethics Declarations must be returned before the 28th February, 2018.

It was agreed to note this report.

18.01.15.08 Date for the March Council Meeting

On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. J. Finucane, SECONDED by Cllr. B. Cronin it was agreed to held the March Council meeting on Monday 12th March 2018.

18.01.15.09 Updates on National Roads Programme

Mr. P. Curry of the NRDO Office briefed members on this item under the following headings:

- The current network
- Traffic Volumes on National Network in Kerry
- What are key considerations.
- Types of improvements
- National Primary Routes
- TII Investment since 2007
- Pavement Overlays between 2007 and 2017
- Where are improvements currently targeted
- N69 Tralee to Tarbert
- N86 Tralee to An Daingean
- N72 Killorglin to Rathmore
- N70 Tralee to Kenmare
- N71 Killarney to County Bounds

Cllr. M. Kennelly expressed his extreme dissatisfaction at the condition of the N69 and the lack of progress on the construction of the Listowel By-Pass. North Kerry is open for investment but the road infrastructure is an impediment to this. It is vital that repairs to the N69 and Listowel By-Pass come to fruition immediately. He advised that he submitted a Notice of Motion for the next Listowel MD Meeting calling on the Chief Executive and Director of Operations to attend the next Listowel MD meeting as an extraordinary measure given the extraordinarily deplorable condition of roads in the North Kerry Area. Cllr. Kennelly appealed to the Chief Executive and the Cathaoirleach to ensure that these projects are delivered.

Cllr. J. Moloney stated the €100,000 for Listowel is totally unacceptable from the allocation of €17.8m in 2018 for national roads and expressed his dismay at the low priority of the N69 and he added that it is the worst road in Kerry and is only at design stage. This section of the N69 is not included in the 17 roads prioritised for funding by the TII and members are not provided with minutes of meetings with TII where roads are prioritised. Cllr. Moloney then moved Notice of Motion No. 11.

11. Funding for the N69

Pursuant to notice duly given Cllr. J. Moloney PROPOSED:

Can an explanation be given as to how no section of the N69 was deemed fit for funding by the TII. How is the priority list presented to TII and what is the status of roads remaining on the list.

The following reply issued:

The prioritization of national roads for improvement or pavement overlay is determined independently by the T.I.I. based on an engineering assessment of the condition of the road, safety records and having regard to the volumes of traffic using the route. When this assessment is complete, Kerry County Council is consulted and requested to prepare a Pavement Assessment and Repair Report (PARR), which details the extent of the works required and the cost estimate for the scheme.

Subject to approval of this report and available funding, Kerry County Council can be instructed to complete a detailed design and to prepare tender documentation.

The N69 and N67, in the Listowel Municipal District, account for approximately 14% of the entire national road network in the county and there are significant sections of the N70, N71, N72 and N86 which have poorer riding quality than the N69. Since 2007, approximately 1/3 of the national secondary road network in the county has been improved. In the same period, 60% of the N69 has been improved.

A specific allocation of €100,000 has been provided for the N69 Listowel By-Pass in the 2018 grants, which will allow the Council to progress advance works (Archaeology, treatment of invasive species etc.), address commitments given to An Bord Pleanála on approving the EIS and CPO for the Scheme in November 2017, and allow for the development of the detailed design.

A further €1 million was allocated to Limerick City and County Council to progress the Foynes to Limerick route (which includes the Adare By Pass). This funding will allow for the submission of the CPO and EIS for this scheme to An Bord Pleanála. This scheme is of strategic importance to County Kerry, improving our linkage with Limerick and Dublin, via the N21 and the N69.

There are a limited of sections of the N69, particularly between Coolnaleen and Banemore, where the pavement is in need of improvement and this has been brought to the attention of the TII.

Cllr. M. Kennelly SECONDED the motion.

Cllr. A. Thornton highlighted that the Dale Road needs substantial funding as it is in a deplorable condition and the contribution from the wind farm company should only be used to reinstate the section for which they are responsible. Previously she had requested information in relation to roads on the priority list. Initially she understood that the TII were responsible for this road but she now understands that in fact it is the Department of Transport. She asked if the Dale Road was discussed with the Department and if so what was the outcome? It is not acceptable that, as a public representative, she has not been informed if the Dale Road is on a priority list or not.

Cllr. Thornton asked if Kerry County Council submitted a priority list to the TII for national roads or was the priority list drawn up by the TII. She asked if it is an executive function to interact with the TII or should councillors a role in this. Cllr.

Thornton requested comparative figures of TII funding for North Kerry and South Kerry for the past 5 years. The allocation of €100,000 out of €17.8 million for the Listowel By-Pass is unacceptable. She expressed concern that there is no other funding scheme to repair the N69.

Cllr. R. Beasley advised that most of the road network in North Kerry are regional and local roads and do not receive funding from the TII yet they are in a very poor condition. Tourists will not return to North Kerry because of the condition of the road network. Funding for Phase 2 of the Dale Road is awaited for 13 years and successive governments have failed to fund improvements to it.

Cllr. P. McCarthy welcomed funding for the various projects. The new Killarney By-Pass is vital for tourism and job creation and he asked what progress will be made in 2018 – 2019 on it. In conclusion he stated the Adare By-Pass is also vital from a job creation perspective.

Cllr. J. Healy-Rae highlighted that the By-Pass for Killarney needs to be progressed. He added that Killorglin and Kenmare need to be by-passed. Improvement works on the Ring of Kerry are urgently needed and the TII should address these issues. He expressed his disappointment at the reduction in the overall funding. Cllr. Healy-Rae welcomed the funding for bridges but expressed his disappointment that Poulgorm was not included and asked that it would be referred to the TII for funding. He also requested that a funding application be submitted to the TII for lighting and speed limit upgrading at Glenflesk Church.

Cllr. B. Cronin welcomed the funding for Killarney By-Pass but added that the Lewis Road Junction is highly dangerous and needs to be prioritised with the TII. He asked why the TII has not agreed to meet with the Killarney members. There are problem areas at Madams Hill, Coolcashlagh and Fossa at Liebherr and he hoped that the Speed Limit Review may address some of these areas. Funding has been provided for Dysert Bridge however traffic lights are urgently needed at Listry Bridge.

Cllr. D. Grady requested a meeting on Housing and he supported Cllr. Cronin's request for lights at Listry Bridge. There are ongoing problems at Mission Road and he asked that they would be examined. He referred to the Scartaglin and Gneeveguilla roads to Killarney and highlighted that they are in a very poor condition. Cllr. Grady also referred to the slow progress of the resolution of the Lewis Road junction.

Cllr. M. Gleeson stated that traffic delays are interminable at the Ballycasheen and Coolcashlagh junctions. The N22 is a significant economic lifeline for Kerry and must be maintained to a proper standard. He requested the Council to consult with the TII to expedite the Macroom Ballyvourney By-Pass. The road west of Barraduff is in an appalling condition and he welcomed the commitment to repair it off season. Cllr. Gleeson referred to the dangerous junction at the Lewis Road and he asked that consideration would be given to having a left turn only as an interim measure.

Cllr. J.J. Culloty referred to his previous request for a speed limit at the Lewis Road Junction and supported the call for a left turn only in the interim. While he welcomed the progress on the Macroom By-Pass he also stated that this together with the

proposed Adare By-Pass will substantially increase traffic into Killarney. In light of this he called for the outer By-Pass to be prioritised.

Cllr. D. Quigg expressed his disappointment at the level of funding in comparison to the rest of the country. While motorists pay road tax the road is not being adequately funded and maintained. The current TII process is not working and he asked that local input would be taken into consideration when the priority list is being compiled.

Cllr. M. Cahill welcomed plans to upgrade a section of the N72 between Killorglin and Killarney. He called for the realignment of the bridge at Caragh Lake and for a traffic management plan for Killorglin. Cllr. Cahill supported Cllr. Cronin's call for traffic lights at Listry Bridge. In order to progress much needed cycle ways he called on the Council to appoint a Cycle Officer. In conclusion Cllr. Cahill expressed his outrage at the planning ban on national routes for family members and he asked that a letter would issue to TII and An Bord Pleanála to reverse this decision.

Cllr. N. Kelleher expressed his disappointment at several years of under investment on the N22 at Barraduff. He requested that plans for the Lewis Road Junction would be progressed as soon as possible. He further requested that the lights at the Rathmore Crossing would be changed to white. Cllr. Kelleher welcomed the allocation of €100,000 for Mossie's Turn and he asked that this work would be progressed as soon as possible.

Cllr. J. Lucid highlighted that there is increasing frustration in North Kerry at the deteriorating condition of the road network. Roads used during detours should be repaired on completion of the work. He then moved Notice of Motion No. 28.

28. Review of roads in North Kerry

Pursuant to notice duly given Cllr. J. Lucid PROPOSED:

That Kerry County Council ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport to arrange a review of the roads in North Kerry with a view to upgrading the status of roads that connect primary towns and roads that have high levels of traffic from local and regional to national status.

The following reply issued:

This is a matter for consideration by the members.

The classification of any public road as a national road can only be made by order of the Minister, in accordance with the provisions of Section 10 of the Roads Acts 1993 – 2015. Currently there are 94km of national primary roads and 330km of national secondary roads in the county. The national secondary road network accounts for approximately 12.4% of the entire national secondary road network. In Kerry, all towns with a population over 2,000 are on a national road.

Cllr. Lucid read the following statement into the record of the meeting:

“Over the past few weeks an announcement was made that TII was about to invest €17.8m in Kerry roads in 2018. Great news indeed. I have to say I welcome this

and I am delighted to see this level of investment in the roads in our County, it is greatly needed and will bring great benefit to the areas and residents where the money is spent.

My problem is that there is only one national road in North Kerry the N69. That is the only road that can benefit from TII investment. TII, you see, have the money and Councils do not. For instance, it might interest you to know that €40m will be invested in Donegal, €35m will be invested in Mayo, Galway are getting €25m. The overall TII budget for 2018 is €312.25m. As things currently stand North Kerry has little or no opportunity to take advantage of this level of funding as all we have is regional and local roads.

I ask myself why is this? Surely Ballybunion is a town; it was when I learned the county towns many years ago in Bouleenshere NS. Surely then the road between Lisotwel and Ballybunion should be a National road and similarly the road between Ballybunion and Tralee would be a national road. I would like to know what is the criteria required to define whether a road is regional or national.

As long as the status quo remains the roads in North Kerry will not qualify for TII funding and will continue to be left behind. This must change. People in North Kerry deserve better and must be treated fairly.

I propose that the process is commenced to upgrade the status of the roads between Listowel and Ballybunion and also Tralee and Ballybunion to National status so that the area can qualify for its fair share of TII funding.”

Cllr. L. Purtill highlighted that an allocation of just €100,000 for North Kerry out of a total allocation of €17.8m is unfair and unacceptable. There is a 4-mile section of the N69 which is inadequate and he called on the Council to seek additional funding from the TII for it. The Dale Road is dangerous and urgently needs funding.

Cllr. N. Moriarty welcomed the funding for national roads but stated that it was poorly proportioned. She requested clarification on the location of the 6km section to be improved at Waterville and she further requested a timeframe for the works at Ardkearagh. She welcomed funding for bridges and she requested that funding be prioritised for Gortnagree, Caherciveen town centre and Caherdaniel village.

Cllr. T. Barry expressed his extreme disappointment at the allocation of €100,000 only for North Kerry. The condition of the Dale Road poses a major risk to all. Sustaining tourism and job creation requires proper infrastructure. Cllr. Barry suggested that social media could be used to identify the location of potholes

Cllr. P. Connor-Scarteen welcomed that the one third of primary routes have been overlaid. He welcomed funding for Dromquinna bridge but stated extra funding was needed for Kilgarvan roads, footpaths generally and electronic signage. He requested further discussions with the TII to secure same.

Cllr. T. Ferris acknowledged the hard work of the Roads staff in trying to maintain the disproportionately high level of substandard road network. She stated the Dale Road was the most dangerous road in Kerry. She expressed concern at the dangers of

granting planning permission directly on the N86. She urged the Chief Executive to discuss the Dale Road further with the Department and to seek further funding for cycleways/walkways. She welcomed the use of social media to highlight potholes.

Cllr. N. Foley acknowledged the hard work of the staff in very difficult circumstances, stating a basic standard was vital for all roads. While welcoming the €17.8m allocation, she stated it was wholly inadequate and requested further funding be sought through the tourism sector for roads repairs given that tourism was strategically important to Kerry. She also supported the use of social media for reporting potholes.

Cllr D McCarthy also welcomed the funding allocation.

Cllr J Sheahan welcomed the allocation. He stated that the long term solution for the Farranfore to Lissivigeen bypass needs to be advanced. He welcomed the commitments for Rathmore and in particular the pedestrian crossings funding. He moved Notice of Motion No. 27.

27. Call to implement a 60km speed limit at Glenflesk village

Pursuant to notice duly given Cllr. J. Sheahan PROPOSED:

That Kerry County Council call on the TII to implement a 60 km speed zone at Glenflesk village as soon as possible.

The following reply issued:

The making of the Bye-Laws is a reserved function but the council cannot make bye-laws relating to a national road or a motorway without the prior written consent of the National Roads Authority (TII).

As part of the process in reviewing the speed limits for the county and preparing revised Bye-Laws, the Council has been actively engaging with the TII on the proposed speed limits for the national routes. As advised to the members at the December 2017 meeting, briefings are being arranged in January for a presentation of the proposed changes to the speed limits in each Municipal District.

A proposal to apply a 60kph speed limit on the N22 at Glenflesk, is recommended by the TII.

Following the briefings to the members, it is proposed to complete the drafting of the Bye-Laws by the end of March, to allow for a statutory public consultation process to commence. The prescribed public consultation period is for 30 days, and subject to the level of submissions or objections received, the Council hopes to be in a position to bring the final draft to Council for consideration in June 2018.

In reply to the matter raised regarding the Roads allocation, The Chief Executive stated her priority is to maximise negotiations with the TII in order to secure maximum funding for the whole County in the context of competing with all other counties. Kerry has a higher proportion of National Primary and Secondary roads.

She assured members that all issues raised in the Chamber are brought to the attention of the TII. Connectivity to the county is vital through the N22, N72, N70, N69 to Foynes, N21 and the N86, in order to market the County. It is also critical to get the Farranfore-Killarney by-pass listed. The €100k secured for Listowel bypass is critical to progress the project and she is confident the much needed funding for this project will follow. TII has limited funding but all efforts are being made to maximise allocations based on needs and she is confident that as the NRDO is so proactive, further funding will come on-stream. She fully supported the call for the Lewis Road Deputation request and undertook to finalise this with the TII.

Cllr. D. Grady SECONDED the motion.

Mr. C. O'Sullivan, Director of Operations, outlined the process and procedure regarding the allocation of funds and prioritisation of national roads projects. The assessment is initially carried out by the TII and then local input is sought in advance of finalising the allocation. Kerry County Council always maximises the numbers for priority and the TII will normally fund a number, but not all, of the requested projects. Further allocations may follow later for the remainder depending on availability of funding. He acknowledged that €100k is small but this is a vital allocation to kick start the project and funding will follow. Regarding pothole repairs, there is a commitment in the plan to repair within 3 working days. The very inclement weather has worsened the roads conditions countywide but he will maximise funding for repairs dependant on TII allocations.

Regarding the Speed Limit Review, he informed members that they will be briefed over the coming weeks with the public consultation process commencing as quickly as possible. He is hopeful this will come before the members for resolution by June, depending on submissions. The strategic investment report was submitted to the Department in 2014 who has acknowledged that investment needs to double to address the roads infrastructure in Kerry and this is a major challenge.

Cllr. J. Moloney restated that the €100k funding is totally inadequate and unfair to the people of North Kerry. He also requested clarity of the timeframe for the submission of the N69 design. He also requested clarity on the process of the priority list.

Cllr. A. Thornton restated her confusion regarding executive and reserved responsibilities regards the TII allocations. She also restated her disappointment at the level of funding.

Cllr. M. Kennelly restated the priority list and allocation are unacceptable. He stated that not enough is being done to secure funding for North Kerry as he previously highlighted.

The Chief Executive stated she took grave exception to the allegation that not enough is being done to secure funding. She works to maximise funding for a county as a whole as connectivity out of and into the county from all sides is critical.

Cllr. D. Quigg acknowledged the efforts of the Chief Executive stating that more funding is needed for Kerry and Kerry TDs need to do more on this.

Cllr. P. Daly, in support of Cllr Quigg, stated the Department's treatment of Kerry is appalling.

It was agreed to suspend Standing orders and allow Killarney Municipal District hold it's meeting.

The meeting resumed at 2.15pm.

18.01.15.10 National Inspection Plan 2018 – 2021 for Domestic Waste Water Treatment Systems (Septic Tanks) – Public Consultation Process

Mr. J. Breen briefed members on the report before them. In response to a query from Cllr. P. McCarthy, Mr. Breen confirmed that all observations should be directed to him.

Cllr. B. Cronin asked if there was a plan to increase the number of inspections and the planned timeframe for same. He also called on the government to simplify the grants process as this will improve the pass rate.

Cllr. J. Healy Rae expressed concern where businesses were required to install expensive treatment system and were now being charged extra inspection fees. He also requested clarity on failures in vacant properties. He stated that people may need assistance in order to comply with the process.

Cllr. M. O'Shea also called for assistance for individuals in order to achieve compliance stating the older persons housing assistance scheme should be used.

Cllr. S. Fitzgerald asked if a funding request for systems upgrades had been made to the Department.

Mr. J. Breen confirmed that grant availability was both income and works dependant stating there was a low level of grant applications. He will re-examine the costs to businesses and particular individual cases.

18.01.15.11 Reports on SPCs

- (a) On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. N. Foley, SECONDED by Cllr. M. Gleeson it was agreed to note the report on the meeting of the Economic Development and Enterprise SPC held on the 13th December 2017.
- (b) On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. N. Foley, SECONDED by Cllr. M. Gleeson it was agreed to note the report on the meeting of the Operations SPC held on the 15th December 2017.

18.01.15.12 Summary of proceedings at the Eolas Housing 2017 Conference

It was agreed to note Cllr. P. Connor-Scarreen's report on the Eolas Housing 2017 Conference on behalf of the Kerry County Council delegates that attended in accordance with Section 142(5)(f) of the Local Government Act 2001.

18.01.15.13 Approval for the opening of Tenders

- (a) On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. M. Gleeson, SECONDED by Cllr. P McCarthy it was agreed to approve the opening of tenders for Integrated Design Team Services for the construction of 56 No. Housing Units at Loercannon Tralee – Closing date: Wednesday 10th January 2018.
- (b) On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. J. Finucane, SECONDED by Cllr. P McCarthy it was agreed to approve the opening of tenders for Flood Relief Measures, Clieveragh, Listowel, Engineering Consultancy Services – Closing date: Friday 26th January 2018 at 4pm.
- (c) On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. J. Finucane, SECONDED by Cllr. P. McCarthy it was agreed to approve the opening of tenders for Kerry, Cork and Clare Bridge Rehabilitation – Contract B – Closing date: Friday 16th February 2018 at 3pm.

18.01.15.14 Notices of Motion

1. Respect for the personal conscience of each individual

Pursuant to notice duly given Cllr. M. Gleeson PROPOSED:

As respect for the personal conscience of each individual is the second most fundamental of all Rights and the very essence of what it means to be a rational human being, that respect for that Right would be enshrined in Bunreacht na h-Eireann [The Irish Constitution] thus ensuring that each person in either private or public life is entitled without penalty or censure of any sort to express publicly their beliefs.

Mr. L. Quinlan stated this is a matter for consideration by the members.

Cllr. M. Gleeson read the following statement into the record of the meeting:

“What distinguishes us from all the rest of creation is the tremendous gift of Free Will. It’s because of that gift that we develop a Conscience which is our moral arbiter in distinguishing right from wrong and good from bad. It is ultimately what allows us to decide so often during every day which road to take.

It is Free Will and Good conscience that inspires people such as Kerry Mountain Rescue to leave the warm fire and take to the snow- capped hills to rescue some lost or injured climber.

It is Free Will and the anthesis of good Conscience that allows an elected Member of Parliament to place a Kingsmill pan loaf on his head in order to mock the massacred and inflict further pain on survivors and relatives.

It’s because of the importance of respecting individual Conscience that I and many others welcome the decisions by Leo Varadker and Mícheál Martin to allow party members a free vote in the Oireachtas regarding the 8th Amendment. It is sad that

all parties are not prepared to show the same respect for individual Conscience It's also why I and many others were greatly saddened that that privilege was not afforded by the then Taoiseach, Enda Kenny, to members of Fine Gael regarding the Same Sex marriage Oireachtas vote.

We must at all times realise that when our Conscience tells us that we should perform a particular deed that we have a moral duty to do so. That is the challenge, the difficulty and the privilege of an informed Conscience.

When a party leader, a church leader, a parent or any other person in authority seeks to deny the right to freedom of individual Conscience they are in reality behaving as Dictators. And Dictators at many levels have left indelible scars on individuals and society.

When Germany, bleeding and broken, emerged from the horror of World War 2, it realised and decided that the inclusion of a Conscience Clause or Article in its new Constitution was of vital importance.

I believe that in this time of possibly many Referendums that none would be of greater importance to individuals and to democracy than a Conscience Article that would give due respect to the Free Will and Conscience of each individual.

I formally propose my Motion calling for such an inclusion in Bunreacht na h-Éireann.

It is, in conclusion good to remember the words of the Great Bard:

"This above all else: to thine own self be true and it must follow, as the night the day thou canst not then be false to any man."

The motion was not seconded.

It was agreed to suspend standing orders and take motion 33.

2. Collection of plastic waste from beaches by schools

Pursuant to notice duly given Cllr. M. Cahill PROPOSED:

That Kerry County Council enter a partnership arrangement with all schools in the County whereby on one day every year, each school will help the Council with the collection of waste plastic from our beaches, as this is now becoming a very real scourge, interfering with Marine Life, making our beaches unsightly, etc (separate days and times to be arranged with each school).

The following reply issued:

Schools close to beaches currently carry out beach clean ups during the school year. In addition to this The Spring Clean campaign involves many beach cleans carried out by local communities and various organisations around the county. An Taisce co-ordinate two beach clean ups during the year and communities close to beaches also carry out clean ups throughout the year outside of the Spring Clean Period. The Council assist these groups by making bags, gloves and litter pickers available in addition to picking up the waste collected. As many schools in Kerry are a distance from the sea the transport costs involved in getting to a beach may be prohibitive. All Green Schools in close proximity to a beach will be encouraged to carry out beach

clean ups as part of their Green Schools module on Litter and Waste. The Council will assist any schools that are interested in carrying out Beach clean ups. It should also be noted that the Council have a comprehensive beach cleaning programme in place during the season.

During 2017 Kerry County Council extended its involvement in the Green Coast initiative to 5 beaches. Béal Bán has had a Green coast flag for many years and an additional 4 beaches were awarded flags in 2017:- Castlegregory, Ballinskelligs (also has Blue Flag) Waterville Town beach and Littor beach in North Kerry.

Cllr. Cahill referred to the TV programme re' miles of waste' pointing to the destructive effect plastic has on wildlife.

Cllr J Finucane SECONDED the motion and it was also supported by Cllr. N. Foley who suggested the topic could be included in the schools' CSP program with the Department of Education funding support.

3. Call to prevent school buses being passed while dropping or picking up children

Pursuant to notice duly given Cllr. T. Ferris PROPOSED:

That similar practices to the USA would be introduced preventing school buses being passed while dropping or picking up children.

Mr. L. Quinlan stated this is a matter for consideration by the members.

Cllr. Ferris called for stop signs to be attached to the school busses similar to the busses in America.

Cllr. J. Sheahan SECONDED the motion.

4. Call to reinstate the over age exemption for children with disabilities

Pursuant to notice duly given Cllr. N. Foley PROPOSED:

That this Local Authority call on the Department of Children and Youth Affairs to reinstate with immediate effect the over age exemption for children with disabilities to allow them attend an EECE place for longer before attending Primary School. The recent abolition of same is causing tremendous worry and hardship for parents/guardians.

Mr. L. Quinlan stated this is a matter for consideration by the members.

Cllr. N. Foley referred to the aggressive and callous cuts which will negatively impact on the children affected and their families. She requested that the motion would be circulated to all local authorities.

Cllr. N. Moriarty SECONDED the motion.

5. Economic Conference

Pursuant to notice duly given Cllr. J. Finucane PROPOSED:

That Kerry County Council would organise an economic conference for Kerry along with the National bodies such as IDA and Enterprise Ireland, and with key people from the Kerry Diaspora, to encourage job creation and development within our County.

The following reply issued:

Council Management support the hosting of this Economic Conference as outlined and will arrange for this event in 2018, building on the success of the tourism conference hosted by the county in Listowel in 2017.

Kerry County Council has also engaged with the diaspora through the “Prosper Series”. This is a joint initiative between Kerry County Council, Guinness Enterprise Centre, Dublin and the ITT where meetings have been held introducing the services and supports within the county to our diaspora. Referral support has also been sought from the diaspora to assist a number aspiring businesses seeking market extension contacts. The first network event was held in Dublin in Novemeber 2017 and was supported by KCC contacts including CE Moira Murrell and representatives from the Economic Development Unit and the LEO. Further events are planned both in Kerry and Dublin.

The Council has supported the successful submission “KerryScitech” initiative under the Regional Enterprise Development Fund in association with industry leaders, Kerry County Council & IT Tralee, to develop a professional marketing strategy for the county to both attract investment and the necessary skills to Kerry. Building the relationship with the Diaspora will be central to this campaign.

Cllr Finucane stated there was an invaluable contribution available from the Diaspora.

Cllr. J. Moloney SECONDED the motion.

6. Appointment of a designated European Funding Officer

Pursuant to notice duly given Cllr. T. McEllistrim PROPOSED:

To call on Kerry County Council to appoint a designated European Funding Officer to scrutinize Cohesion, Structural and Inter Regional funding that would be available for projects to benefit County Kerry for tourism and jobs.

The following reply issued:

Kerry County Council has strengthened its economic development profile over the past two years with the appointment of an economic development officer and has been successful in securing grant funding from both EU and national programmes.

The Council administers significant EU funding through the Leader programme, LEO and other projects. Kerry County Council applied for and

successfully received funding for the redevelopment of the Island of Geese Site in 2015 under the European Regional Development Fund – S&E Regional Operational Programme (OP) 2014 – 2020 - Designated Urban Centre Grant Scheme. The Council is also involved in a number of EU collaborative projects in partnership with other regions.

Recognising the scope and range of EU potential programmes the Council are in discussions with third level institutes in relation to the provision of a joint resource which would provide scope for identifying and developing EU funded applications that are relevant to the functions of the Council.

Cllr. McEllistrim welcomed the positive response.

Cllr. M. Gleeson SECONDED the motion.

The motion wasn't supported by Cllr. D. Quigg.

7. Assistance in the setting up of Technology Hubs

Pursuant to notice duly given Cllr. P. Connor-Scarteen PROPOSED:

What can Kerry County Council do to assist setting up the likes of a Technology Hub in Towns and Villages so as to attract tech jobs to the County.

The following reply issued:

Kerry County Council has been to the forefront in supporting the development of Hubs, co-working spaces, and most recently in the proposed development of centres of excellence in the financial services and agri-tech areas.

The Council has been involved in projects in Sneem, Caherciveen, Dingle, Castleisland and the recently announced enterprise Ireland grant aided facilities for Tralee and Killorglin. Kerry County Council will continue to work with local initiatives in establishing such centres where the proposals are supported by clear local governance models and which can demonstrate strong local support both from the business and community sectors. The Council will seek to support such ventures through the various grant schemes that may become available including the Town & Village Renewal Scheme, Enterprise Ireland, REDZ and other emerging potential grant sources.

The Council through its Local Enterprise initiatives can provide on-going mentoring, training and employment supports and additional grant aid measures for small enterprises within such centres. Qualifying businesses located within these centres can avail of a range of supports and the Local Enterprise Office will engage with centre management to provide an overview of business supports.

Kerry County Council is currently in the process of developing a skills register on a pilot basis and which can subsequently be rolled out throughout the county. This will provide a measure of the available and potential talent for companies seeking to locate to the County.

As outlined at the December meeting the council will continue to support the rollout of broadband throughout the County to provide the necessary infrastructure for such facilities.

Cllr. D. McCarthy SECONDED the motion.

8. Notification to tenants of improvement works to their homes

Pursuant to notice duly given Cllr. T. Barry PROPOSED:

What notification is given to Kerry County Council tenants informing them of improvement works to be carried out in their homes.

The following reply issued:

In general appointments are made in advance with Council tenants when operational works are being undertaken in Council dwellings. Appointments are made at times that are convenient for tenants whether for minor repairs, stock surveys or tenancy management issues. However, in certain urgent cases it may be necessary to call without prior notice.

All Kerry County Council staff have Council Identification and this should be sought by members of the public where individuals call and indicate they are representing Kerry County Council.

Cllr. M. Healy-Rae SECONDED the motion.

9. Choice Based Letting Model

Pursuant to notice duly given Cllr. N. Kelleher PROPOSED:

Will Kerry County Council consider the Choice Based Letting Model for allocating houses to housing applicants.

The following reply issued:

Choice Based Letting has been used for the allocation/ letting of Council units where appropriate.

The Housing Department is committed to using this model on a more frequent basis into the future in appropriate cases.

Cllr. Kelleher stated this model should make the allocation process more efficient.

Cllr. J. Moloney SECONDED the motion.

Mr. M. O'Donoghue undertook to keep members apprised of future developments and of its use.

10. Meeting with Management at UHK

Pursuant to notice duly given Cllr. R. Beasley PROPOSED:

In light of recent revelations at Kerry University Hospital that management of that facility meet with representatives of this Council to discuss a number of recurring issues at the hospital, namely the manner in which the elderly and vulnerable patients are treated.

Mr. L. Quinlan stated this is a matter for consideration by the members.

Cllr. Beasley expressed his concern at the lack of dignity afforded to the patients.
Cllr. J. Healy-Rae SECONDED the motion.

12. Call for full consultative approach prior to housing Asylum Seekers

Pursuant to notice duly given Cllr. J.J. Culloty PROPOSED:

That this Council write to the Department of Justice, calling on them to have a full consultative approach with the relevant Authorities, prior to housing Asylum Seekers in this county.

Mr. L. Quinlan stated this is a matter for consideration by the members.

Cllr. B. Cronin SECONDED the motion.

It was agreed to suspend Standing Orders and take motions 19&32.

19. Submission to the Boundary Committee

Pursuant to notice duly given Cllr. B. Cronin PROPOSED:

To ask Kerry County Council to make a submission to the recently formulated Boundary Commission, who will be changing constituency boundaries for the next County Council election, to try and ensure that communities in Kerry are not left separated from their natural administrative and local Council centres and left isolated and disenfranchised from important local services.

The following reply issued:

This is primarily a matter for resolution by the Members.

As Members are aware a Local Electoral Area Boundary Committee has been established.

The Terms of Reference have been published by the Minister.

At this point we await formal correspondence on this matter and expect that a public consultation process will commence in due course which would normally afford Council an opportunity to make a formal submission.

When we receive formal correspondence from the commission the matter will be brought back to Council as an Agenda item.

Cllr. D. Quigg SECONDED the motion.

32. Provision of Bus Shelters in Farranfore

Pursuant to notice duly given Cllr. B. Cronin PROPOSED:

To ask that every effort be made to construct a bus shelter at the stops in Farranfore, which is on a National route. We cannot have people continuously standing in the rain. I have requested this for many years and a shelter has to be provided for the public. Could this be included in the Community Support Fund Scheme.

The following reply issued:

This motion was previously moved at the Killarney Municipal District meeting in December 2017 at which a response was given to the members.

The Provision of Bus Shelters is a matter for National Transportation Authority (NTA). Kerry County Council wrote to the NTA on the 28th July 2017, who responded that the provision of bus shelters at the bus stops in Farranfore does not satisfy its prioritization policy for such infrastructure.

The provision of such services is a matter for bus companies and the NTA and does not meet the criteria for funding under the Community Support Fund Scheme.

A commitment was given at the Killarney Municipal District Meeting by the Killarney Municipal District Manager to review the matter further.

Cllr. Cronin stated it is a very busy bus route and shelter is vital.

Cllr. J.J. Culloty SECONDED the motion and it was also supported by Cllr. M. Gleeson.

13. Kilcummin Sewerage Scheme

Pursuant to notice duly given Cllr. J. Sheahan PROPOSED:

That Kerry County Council liaise with Irish Water to ensure that the Kilcummin Sewerage Scheme progresses without any further delay, as road surfaces in the area have deteriorated to dangerous levels and cannot be repaired until the infrastructure for pipe works are laid.

The following reply issued:

Further liaison with Irish Water is a matter for resolution by the Members.

Following the decision by An Bord Pleanála in October 2017 to uphold Kerry County Council's decision to grant Planning Permission for the proposed Kilcummin Sewerage Scheme, Irish Water has confirmed, in response to a recent Dáil question, that it plans to go to Tender in 2018 and Construction in 2019 for the proposed Scheme, the cost of which is provisionally estimated at €2.7 million.

Cllr. Sheahan called for works on the scheme to be expedited.

Cllr. M. Healy-Rae SECONDED the motion and it was supported by Cllr. M. Gleeson.

14. Call for funding to restore the roads on the Wild Atlantic Way

Pursuant to notice duly given Cllr. J. Lucid PROPOSED:

I ask that Kerry County Council write to the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport to seek additional funding immediately to restore the roads on the Wild Atlantic Way, many of which have deteriorated.

The following reply issued:

This is a matter for consideration by the members.

There is 444 km of the Wild Atlantic Way (16%) in County Kerry, extending from Tarbert to Kenmare, of which 150 km are national secondary roads, 200 km are regional roads and 94 km are local primary roads.

In the development of the Wild Atlantic Way, with Fáilte Ireland, the route was assessed for its suitability, having regard to the nature and volumes of traffic projected to use it, and were considered to be generally in good condition.

There are a limited number of sections of the route which were identified for improvement works and with funding from the TII, for national routes, and the Department of Transport Tourism and Sport, for the Regional and Local Roads, these were and are being addressed.

Over the past 4 years, the TII have provided €44.5 million for improvements to the national road network on the Wild Atlantic Way and a further €10 million was allocated in 2018.

In developing the 3 year multi-annual regional and local road restoration programme for 2016 to 2018, those sections on the Wild Atlantic Way were assessed and prioritized for funding having regard to the strategic importance of this route to the economy of the county.

Any sections of the route requiring works in 2018, will be considered for improvement when full details of the 2018 Regional and Local Road grants are provided by the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport. These grant allocations have traditionally been announced towards the end of January.

Cllr. Lucid referred in particular to the Kerryhead section of the Wild Atlantic Way.

Cllr. M. Cahill SECONDED the motion.

15. Call to accept proof of postage as proof that documents are posted

Pursuant to notice duly given Cllr. D. McCarthy PROPOSED:

To ask Kerry County Council to write to the Minister for Agriculture to accept receipt of postage as an acceptable form of proof from farmers that necessary documents are posted rather than requesting that such documents be sent via registered post.

Mr. L. Quinlan stated this is a matter for consideration by the members.

Cllr. J. Healy-Rae SECONDED the motion.

16.Funding to clear the Shanowen River

Pursuant to notice duly given Cllr. M. Healy-Rae PROPOSED:

To ask Kerry County Council why they didn't make an application under the Minor Flood Works Mitigation Scheme to clear the Shanowen River above the college in Castleisland which would prevent further flooding of the College and of private houses in Tonbwee, Castleisland

The following reply issued:

Castleisland is included in the CFRAM programme by the OPW. The preferred option identified under the program consists of a combination of upstream storage on the Anglore river, flow diversion at Tullig and a series of defensive walls and embankments in Castleisland. The estimated cost of these works is €6 million. Following the recent visit by Minister Kevin Moran, T.D., who has responsibility for the OPW, to the county and at which he met a deputation in Castleisland and the elected members of Kerry County Council in County Buildings, the Council was asked to consider raising the bank of the Shanowen River, to mitigate against the risk of flooding of the College and houses in Tonbwee, Castleisland. The Minister also stated that he was amenable to funding applications for works under the Minor Flood Works Mitigation Scheme, notwithstanding if such works were identified as part of the CFRAM programme. It was agreed that the Council would assess this location and, if appropriate, make an application to the OPW under the Minor Works Flood Relief Programme, provided that any measures identified would not have a negative impact on other properties in the town. On this basis Kerry County Council retained the services of Consulting Engineers, who had previously modelled the river as part of the CFRAM programme, to assess the proposal of raising the bank of the Shanowen River and if it was feasible to advance some of the works, identified in the CFRAM study, under the Minor Flood Works Mitigation Scheme. The Consultants advised that the raising of a low point on the bank of the Shanowen River, which is a flood plain, would increase flood levels immediately downstream and further upstream at Tullig. They also advised that the construction of flood defence walls and embankments at the Community College, which are part of the CRFRAM Work program, in isolation of the full CFRAM program, would result in increased flood levels downstream. Having regard to the above advice, it would not be advisable for the Council to seek funding for works that could potentially increase the risk of flooding to properties in other parts of the town and the only option is to request the OPW to progress the works identified in the CFRAM program.

Cllr. M. Healy-Rae stated that proposed solutions could lead to property insurance issues for existing homeowners. She requested these proposed solutions be re-examined. She also requested that a clearing be undertaken to Castlemaine Harbour.

Cllr. J. Healy-Rae SECONDED the motion.

Mr. C. O'Sullivan added that Kerry County Council would not propose measures which would risk flooding other properties. The solution is to get the CFRAMS works completed.

It was PROPOSED by Cllr. M. Healy-Rae and SECONDED by Cllr. J. Healy-Rae to send a deputation to the Minister on the matter.

This was supported by Cllr R Beasley, Cllr J F Flynn and Cllr M Gleeson who stated that this matter cannot be dealt with in isolation, rather a full overview of the river needs to be taken.

17. Opening up of passing bays and laybys

Pursuant to notice duly given Cllr. J. Healy-Rae PROPOSED:

I am asking Kerry County Council to open up some of the passing bays and laybys that they seem to be consistently closing as there is nowhere for a lorry or slow moving vehicles to pull in, especially from the County Bounds to Cahirchiveen, alot of these have been closed up.

The following reply issued:

Practically all of the National Primary road network from the County bounds have hard shoulders and were constructed to provide for adequate overtaking. Similarly, on the National Secondary Road network to Cahersiveen, where there have been significant improvements in recent years, adequate safe passing distances have been provided. If there are particular sections of the network, where the members consider the need for passing bays and additional laybys, these can be reviewed and consideration given to seeking funding for their construction.

Cllr. J. Healy-Rae acknowledged some lay-bys were closed due to illegal dumping.

Cllr. M. Healy-Rae SECONDED the motion.

18. Cutting of hedges on amenity roads

Pursuant to notice duly given Cllr. N. Moriarty PROPOSED:

That we compile a priority list from each Municipal District, of amenity roads and busy tourist routes that we know will need to have the hedges cut back and ensure that on health and safety grounds, this work is completed prior to the beginning of the 2018 tourist season and before the hedgecutting season is closed at the end of February.

The following reply issued:

Each of the Municipal Districts has a detailed inventory of critical junctions and lands in our ownership where hedge maintenance is required. The Council also carries out hedge cutting on critical sections of the Ring of Kerry, due to width restrictions on the route and the large volumes of tourist buses using it,

as well as sections of public roads scheduled for improvement works to allow for safe work operations.

In 2017, the Council cut over 625 km of hedgerows and 304 junctions throughout the county.

However, the maintenance of hedges on a public road is the responsibility of the landowner and the Council has an active policy for enforcing the provisions of the legislation.

Cllr. J.J. Culloty SECONDED the motion and stated he still had outstanding complaints.

Mr. C. O'Sullivan stated particular locations will be re-examined. The vast majority are in compliance following issue of notices. He undertook to follow up on outstanding complaints.

20. Call to have an active rear light on all bicycles

Pursuant to notice duly given Cllr. M. Gleeson PROPOSED:

That cyclists would ensure that each bicycle has an active rear light and not be solely dependent on a reflector to inform following traffic of their presence.

The following reply issued:

There is a statutory obligation to have lighting on a pedal cycle, which is provided under Article 29 of Road Traffic (Lighting of Vehicles) Regulations, 1963 – S.I. No. 189 of 1963.

Cllr. J.J. Culloty SECONDED the motion.

21. Review of the Housing Assistance Payment

Pursuant to notice duly given Cllr. M. Cahill PROPOSED:

That Kerry County Council call on the Government and the Minister for Housing to carry out an immediate review of the Housing Assistance Payment Scheme (HAP), as there is a real need to increase the payment limits as a short term solution, so as to avoid the Housing Crisis and Homeless situation escalating out of control.

The following reply issued:

This is a matter for resolution of the Members.

The Housing Assistance Payment (HAP) has been in operation in Kerry since December 1st 2016 and there are presently 420 active HAP tenancies. The Housing Section is in close communication with the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government regarding the financial rates of support under HAP for Kerry and has advised the Department where it has experienced increased rates in the private rental market in some urban areas in Kerry.

Cllr. Cahill stated this needs to be reviewed as we are in an era of rapidly rising rents.

Cllr. M. Healy-Rae SECONDED the motion.

Mr. M. O'Donoghue stated this will be referred to the SPC. Any increase is based on local rents and private top ups cannot be taken into consideration.

22. Details of all legal practitioners retained in the last 5 years

Pursuant to notice duly given Cllr. T. Ferris PROPOSED:

That all legal practitioners whose services have been retained by Kerry Local Authorities over the past 5 years, would be listed and total payments made to each provided.

The following reply issued:

Kerry County Council has an in house legal department which carries out the legal work and protects the legal interests of the Council.

The payments relate to necessary engagement of specialist legal advice. The majority of the specialist legal advice retained in relation to major infrastructural projects is recouped from the funding authority e.g. Transport Infrastructure Ireland, Irish Water, relevant department. (Recoupable amount outlined on the table below).

Payments made between 2012 to 2016 are as follows:

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Total Payments to Legal Practitioners	€367,147	€301,782	€648,822	€305,614	€211,933
Recoupable Amount	€174,703	€180,254	€565,983	€205,061	€108,008

The attached schedule gives the details of the total payments made to legal practitioners whose services have been retained by Kerry Local Authorities for the past 5 years. Work on the completion of the Annual Financial Statement 2017 has now commenced. Payments made to all such legal practitioners over the five years 2012 to 2016 inclusive for legal services provided to Kerry County Council are as reflected in the Annual Financial Statements for those years. The payments listed are the gross invoice amounts i.e. inclusive of Withholding Tax and VAT. Also included are payments made from 2012 to May 2014 by the former Town Councils.

Appendix One details these payments by supplier.

Appendix One

Total payments to legal practitioners whose services have been retained by Kerry Local Authorities 2012-2016.

Payments to Legal Practitioners 2012-2016 (inclusive)	
	Total €
Áine Horan BL	10,546
Bonnie Hickey BL	154
Caoilte O Connor BL	2,489
Carol O'Farrell	1,878
Clodagh Brick	3,193
Damien Keaney BL	60,216
Denis Horgan	7,032
Denis Mc Donald SC	67,448
Dermot A Flanagan SC	36,155
Eliza Kelleher BL	25,105
Elizabeth Murphy BL	85,697
Elizabeth O Brien BL	48,036
Ercus Stewart SC	1,845
Esmonde Keane SC	240,205
Garrett Simons SC	14,718
Gary Fitzgerald, BL	1,968
Henry C Downing BL	63,892
John Gallagher SC	17,879
Karen Denning BL	424
Leonie Hussey - O Brien BL	15,948
Mairead Coghlan BL	59,167
Martin Patrick Whyms BL	4,428
Micheál Munnelly BL	25,173
Micheal O Connell BL	1,956
Owen Hickey SC	8,518
Peter Bland SC	2,460
R David Kennedy	31,697
Richard Liston BL	419
Rory Mulcahy SC	8,229
Seamus Roche BL	47,358
Shelley Horan BL	615
Suzanne Murray BL	3,893
Thomas Rice BL	738
Vincent McKechnie BL	1,641
A&L Goodbody	715,459
Arthur Cox	5,110
Behan & Associates Legal Costs Consultants Ltd	1,812
Byrne Wallace Solicitors	33,560
Cyril O Neill Legal Cost Accountants	25,143
Hudson & Browne	17,835
McCann Fitzgerald Solicitors	7,923

McGuire Desmond Solicitors	18,755
Murphy Ramsay Walsh Solicitors	31,252
Philip Lee Solicitors	6,150
Philip O Sullivan & Associates Solicitors	435
Smyth & Son Solicitors	70,744

Cllr. J. Sheahan SECONDED the motion.

23. Additional Community Gardaí in Kerry

Pursuant to notice duly given Cllr. T. Barry PROPOSED:

That Kerry County Council write to the Minister for Justice, asking him to provide more Community Gardaí in Kerry.

The following reply issued:

This request has been previously made to the Minister. It may also be appropriate for the motion to be forwarded to the Kerry Joint Policing Committee for consideration.

Cllr. T. Barry stated that Community Gardaí played a major role in the community, working with youth groups in particular. He requested this be referred to the JPC for support.

Cllr. R. Beasley SECONDED the motion.

24. Funding for regional and local roads in North Kerry

Pursuant to notice duly given Cllr. J. Moloney PROPOSED:

In light of the €100,000, or 0.58% of total funding allocated to the Listowel MD for roads by the TII, that the Council make a drastic increase in regional and local road funding for the area to address this imbalance.

The following reply issued:

The grant allocations from the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport for the Regional and Local Roads are generally announce in late January. On receipt of the grant allocations, the roads work programme will be prepared and presented to each of the Municipal Districts in March.

The level of funding allocated to each Municipal District for maintenance and improvement works on the non-national road network, is determined having regard to the overall length of the road network in each municipal district, the conditions of the roads based on the pavement condition surveys and the volumes of traffic using the routes.

The level of investment by the TII on the national road network is not an objective basis for determining the investment requirements for regional and local roads.

Cllr. J. Moloney stated the current allocation is totally inadequate. He pointed out funds secured from Gas networks cannot be used as an overall solution.

Cllr J Lucid SECONDED the motion.

25. Funding for repairs to Group Water Schemes

Pursuant to notice duly given Cllr. J.J. Culloty PROPOSED:

That this Council write to the Department of Environment requesting a funding scheme, by which local Group Water Schemes can avail of replacing short problematic sections of water mains piping.

The following reply issued:

The administration and development of the Group Scheme sector continues to be a function of Local Authorities under the guidance and supervision of the Department of Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government.

Funding for “Upgrade Works Prior to Take-Over” is available from the Department. under its Rural Water Multi-Annual Programme, but it is available only to those Group Water Schemes which have applied to be taken over. There are approximately 157 Group Schemes in Kerry that would qualify for Take Over by Irish Water, of which 70 have made formal applications for takeover.

Cllr. Culloty requested that 2018 funding should be used to eliminate the 2017 list firstly.

Cllr. M. Kennelly SECONDED the motion and requested that more funding then be requested to deal with the next phase of requests.

26. Greater emphasis on trades and skills

Pursuant to notice duly given Cllr. P. Connor-Scarteen PROPOSED:

That Kerry County Council call upon the relevant Government Departments to put greater educational emphasis on trades and skills which are vital for the continuing growth of our economy.

Mr. L. Quinlan stated this is a matter for consideration by the members.

Cllr. M. Gleeson SECONDED the motion and requested that a committee be formed to project needs into the future.

Ms. M. Murrel pointed out that Kerry County Council is linked to the regional skills group, of which Brid McElligott is a member.

It was agreed to refer the motion to the Director of Services for Economic Development.

29. Funding for the repair of roads damaged by the felling of trees

Pursuant to notice duly given Cllr. D. McCarthy PROPOSED:

To ask Kerry County Council to write to the relevant Departments to seek funding for the repair of roads which have been damaged by the clear felling of forestries.

The following reply issued:

This is a matter for consideration by the members.

Funding for the maintenance and upkeep of the public road network is primarily provided through the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport, either directly to local authorities in relation to non-national roads, or through the TII in relation to national roads.

A significant number of forestries are accessed from local tertiary or local secondary roads. Given the length of the public road network in the county, the overall condition of the public road network, and the level of funding available, unfortunately, it has been difficult to prioritize these roads for funding, particularly given the very low levels of traffic using the routes. Some additional funding was provided by the Department of Community, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs, between 2004 and 2007, for the improvement of such roads in CLÁR areas but there has been no other funding programme since 2007.

Private roads serving at least two landholdings and lands used for harvesting, may be suitable for funding under the Local Improvement Scheme.

Cllr. N. Moriarty **SECONDED** the motion and stated forestry companies should fund this.

30. Applications for LIS

Pursuant to notice duly given Cllr. M. Healy-Rae PROPOSED:

We have been told that there are about 500 applications for Local Improvement Schemes that aren't on the priority list and haven't been assessed. What will Kerry County Council do now to progress these applications as they have been waiting since 2007. Furthermore, when will Kerry County Council accept new Local Improvement Scheme applications.

The following reply issued:

The last priority list for the Local Improvement Scheme was completed in 2007, following an advertised call for applications. A total of 254 applicants were prioritized for funding, having satisfied the qualifying criteria.

Following the closing date in 2007, any late applications were retained but were not assessed given the large number of applications on the priority list and having regard to the level of funding available.

Between 2007 and 2012, when funding for the Scheme was suspended, a further 92 applications were received. Members were advised in 2012, that the

Council could not accept any further applications without significant state funding being provided.

Given the allocation of approximately €1m in 2017, which allowed for 43 schemes to be funded, and an indication of further funding in 2018, which should allow for a significant number of the 70 remaining applicants to be offered funding, a commitment was given to the members at the December meeting that a new scheme will be advertised in 2018. Members will be informed when the scheme will be advertised, but it would be advisable to await details of the funding being made available in 2018, as the estimated cost of completing the existing programme is over €1.5m. The Department have indicated that the provision of funding will be announced early this year.

The 92 applicants who submitted requests for funding will be informed of the re-opening of the scheme and requested to submit any additional /updated information that they consider may be necessary to support their application. It will not be necessary for these 92 applicants to submit a new application.

Cllr. J. Healy-Rae **SECONDED** the motion and called for the 92 late applications to be prioritised, following the 70 on hand.

This was supported by T Ferris.

The Chief Executive confirmed that existing funding of €1.5m is needed to clear the 70 remaining applications referred to in the reply.

Mr. C. O'Sullivan stated the 92 cannot be prioritised but will be included with new applications when the scheme reopens. All applications will then be assessed on a needs basis per the terms of the scheme.

31. Drainage Programme in each Municipal District

Pursuant to notice duly given Cllr. J. Healy-Rae PROPOSED:

That Kerry County Council would go back to having a Drainage Programme in each Municipal District, which was the case until about 10 years ago.

The following reply issued:

As outlined in the Budget Report, adopted by Council in November 2017, it is proposed to roll out an enhanced drainage programme in each municipal district in 2018, to be funded by any increase in the Restoration Improvement Programme. Details of the grants from the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport on the Restoration Improvement Programme are awaited.

The scale of the Drainage programme to be delivered can be enhanced significantly by the strategic investment of own resources from the General Municipal Allocations, and will be considered further in consultation with the members, in the development of the Municipal District Service Delivery Plans.

Cllr. J. Healy Rae commended the works already completed and asked that consideration be given to drain 25 roads per MD area.

Cllr. M. Healy-Rae SECONDED the motion.

33. Decentralisation Programme

Pursuant to notice duly given each member of the Tralee Municipal District PROPOSED:

Because of major commuting problems having an effect on our carbon footprint, that the Government draw up a ten year programme to decentralise thousands of jobs along the Wild Atlantic Way (WAW). Housing and commuting would not be as much of a problem and it would solve the housing crisis in Dublin. There are too many jobs in Dublin, they are not spread around the rest of the country.

Mr. L. Quinlan stated this is a matter for consideration by the members.

Cllr. M. Gleeson SECONDED the motion.

34. Phase 2 of the Dale Road

Pursuant to notice duly given each member of the Listowel Municipal District PROPOSED:

That Kerry County Council act without further delay to have Phase 2 of the Dale Road works carried out as the road continues to deteriorate and tour operators are threatening not to travel the route because of danger to passengers. This will have a detrimental effect on Ballybunion Golf Club and the northern part of North Kerry.

The following reply issued:

This motion was previously moved at the Listowel MD meeting in December 2017, at which the following response was given to the members:-

“This road is the R556 regional road from Tralee to Ballyduff. The section of road from Ballinclogher Cross to Abbeydorney is built on a bog rampart, which has a number of undulations. Minor repair works have been carried out over the past number of years, most recently in 2014 to the worst sections of the road. A full road reconstruction is required to adequately improve the poor riding quality, and thus safety, of the carriageway.

A 2.5km section of the road, north of Ballinclogher Cross, was improved in 2009 under a Specific Improvement Grant, at a cost of approximately €3 million. Similar grant funding is required to address the 2.2km section of road south of Ballinclogher Cross.

The Specific Improvement Grant funding available to Kerry County Council for this scheme, was suspended in 2014. This project will require a specific funding mechanism, from the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport.

Some safety works were undertaken in 2015, specifically the provision of extra warning signage and road-markings.

A report outlining the major road safety concerns and in particular to the difference of levels between the existing road and adjoining fields and a cost estimate was prepared and forwarded to the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport in February 2015.

The length of roadway requiring reconstruction is 2.2km. (Phase 2 - 1.55km and Phase 3 - 650m). The estimated cost of undertaking the projected works is €2.87million for both phases. The poorest section of this road is the southern most 650m (Phase 3). The preferred option for this section of road is to excavate out the entire bog rampart and construct the new carriageway, with a finished road level of 0.5 m approximately above the existing field and finished floor house levels. This section of road will cost €847,600.

To date Kerry County Council has not been allocated funding for this project.”

The Council has submitted a request to the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport, from the members, for a deputation to meet with him on the need for funding for the Dale Road.

Cllr. M. Kennelly **SECONDED** the motion.

Cllr. R. Beasley also supported the motion and stated Ballybunion has a great tourist product but no infrastructure and there was now a concern of travelling this road given its condition.

35. Great Southern Greenway

Pursuant to notice duly given each member of the Listowel Municipal District PROPOSED:

When is it envisaged that the Great Southern Greenway will be ready for the planning process.

The following reply issued:

This motion was previously moved at the Listowel MD meeting in December 2017, at which the following response was given to the members:-

“Kerry County Council has recently acquired ownership of the North Kerry Railway line from Tralee to Limerick and the Tralee to Fenit Railway Line. The proposed greenway along this line will be progressed on a staged basis. The first phase will be the 10.5km section from Listowel Town to the Limerick County Bounds at Sluicequarter.

Currently the Listowel Municipal District is carrying out vegetation clearance works on the old railway line from Sluicequarter to Listowel town. The clearance works will be completed by the end of December 2017. Following clearance works, the appointed Consultant, RPS, will carry out detailed surveys along the line to progress the design of the greenway. It is expected that the design of the greenway will be completed by end of June 2018 and the preparation of the necessary planning documentation can begin.

The critical path for the project will be to complete the environmental screening reports in order to determine the appropriate planning process. This involves completion of a pre-planning EIS (Environmental Impact Screening) and NIA screening report (Natura Impact Assessment) to determine if a Stage 2 AA/NIS (Appropriate Assessment/Natura Impact Assessment) and/or an EIS (Environmental Impact Statement) is required. This will determine whether the planning application will be submitted through the part 8 process or whether the application will be to An Bord Pleanála, which would require a much more detailed and costly application. Once the screening reports are completed the scope of the planning process will become clear and the resource implications and planning timelines can be assessed.”

Cllr. J. Moloney **SECONDED** the motion and acknowledged the excellent consultations carried out by Council staff.

Cllr Kennelly requested full government support, including the local junior Minister, for this project.

The Chief Executive informed the members that funding was and will be made available for 'shovel ready' projects. If the project gets to this stage, she is confident that funding will be available towards the end of 2018.

18.01.15.15 Correspondence – Conferences and Seminars

- (a) On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. D. McCarthy, **SECONDED** by Cllr. M. Cahill it was agreed to authorise the attendance of Cllrs. O'Connell, Purtill, Beasley, Finucane, Fitzgerald, Spring, O'Shea, Kelleher, McEllistrim, Lucid, Sheahan and Kennelly at the Conference on the theme “EU Cohesion Policy 2014 – 2020 to be held in Carlingford, Co. Louth from 2nd to 4th February 2018.

Cllr. Purtill was nominated to report back to Council on this Conference.

- (b) Cllr. O'Connell indicated he would not be attending the Policy Forum for Ireland Keynote Seminar to be held in Dublin on the 8th February 2018.

- (c) On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. M Cahill, **SECONDED** by Cllr. D. McCarthy It was agreed to authorise the attendance of all members at the following events to be held in 2018:-

1. AILG Training Events
2. AILG Conferences
3. LAMA Seminars
4. IPI Conference/Seminars/Training Events
5. RIAI Conferences/Seminars/Training Events

- (d) On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. D McCarthy, **SECONDED** by Cllr. T. Barry it was agreed to authorise the attendance of Cllrs. O'Connell and Kelleher at the Training Seminar for Local Authority Members on the theme “Health & Safety

for your Council, The Workplace and your Constituents to be held in Leighlinbridge, Carlow from 9th to 11th February 2018.

Cllr. O'Connell was nominated to report back to Council on this Training Seminar.

18.01.15.16 Correspondence General

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

1.	Email dated 13 th November 2017 from Deputy Michael Healy-Rae in response to a resolution from Kerry County Council in relation to the Fixed Penalty Drink Driving Bill
2.	Letter dated 30 th November 2017 from the Minister for Finance in response to a resolution from Kerry County Council in relation to the cost of insurance.
3.	Letter dated 6 th December 2017 from the HSE in response to a resolution from Kerry County Council in relation to Lyme Disease.
4.	Letter dated 6 th December 2017 from the HSE in response to a resolution from Kerry County Council in relation to respite care in North Kerry.
5.	Letter dated 6 th December 2017 from the HSE in response to a resolution from Kerry County Council in relation to the time frame given to families where a member of the family is in need of full time residential care.
6.	Letter dated 7 th December 2017 from An Post in response to a resolution from Kerry County Council in relation to the collection of outgoing mail from houses.
7.	Letter dated 8 th December 2017 from the Department of Transport in response to a resolution from Kerry County Council in relation to the establishment of a Centre of Excellence in Kerry.
8.	Letter dated 8 th December 2017 from the HSE in response to a resolution from Kerry County Council calling for the reinstatement of the second emergency ambulance in Killarney.
9.	Letter dated 12 th December 2017 from An Post in response to a resolution from Kerry County Council in relation to the collection of outgoing mail from houses.
10.	Letter dated 12 th December 2017 from the Department of Health in response to a resolution from Kerry County Council in relation to respite in North Kerry.
11.	Letter dated 14 th December 2017 from the HSE in response to a resolution from Kerry County Council in relation to the provision of nursing staff at St. Francis School in Beaufort.
12.	Letter dated 14 th December 2017 from the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht in response to a resolution from Kerry County Council in relation to the enactment of legislation to eradicate Japanese Knotweed.

13.	Letter dated 21 st December 2017 from the Fáilte Ireland in response to a resolution from Kerry County Council in relation to Discovery Points on the WAW.
14.	Email dated 21 st December 2017 from the Department of Housing in response to a resolution from Kerry County Council in relation to the provision of grant support for septic tank owners.
15.	Email dated 4 th January 2018 from the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment in response to a resolution from Kerry County Council in relation to Post Codes.
16.	Email from the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport in response to a resolution from Kerry County Council in relation to grant allocations for regional and local roads.
17.	Letter dated 3 rd January 2018 from the Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment in response to a resolution from Kerry County Council in relation to non-recyclable plastics.
18.	Letter dated 14 th November 2017 from Clare County Council to the Taoiseach in relation to a resolution adopted by that authority calling for support by the Oireachtas of the National Housing Co-op Bill 2017.
19.	Letter dated 14 th November 2017 from Clare County Council to the Minister for Employment and Social Protection in relation to a resolution adopted by that authority calling on the Minister to reverse the unfair and discriminatory policy of penalising home makers that took some time out to care for their family prior to 1994.
20.	Letter dated 15 th November 2017 from Leitrim County Council to the Minister for Justice in relation to a resolution adopted by that authority calling for a review of the criteria for Community Based CCTV System Installation in towns.
21.	Letter dated 12 th December 2017 from Galway City Council in relation to a resolution adopted by that authority calling for legislation regarding the disposal of paint under the Producer Responsibility Initiative.
22.	Response dated 30 th November 2017 from the Department of Employment Affairs and Social Protection in response to a resolution from Clare County Council calling on the Minister to reverse the unfair and discriminatory policy of penalising home makers that took some time out to care for their family prior to 1994.
23.	Letter dated 14 th December 2017 from Clare County Council in relation to a resolution adopted by that authority calling on the Minister for Agriculture to put a plan in place to help farmers through the imminent fodder crisis next year.

18.01.15.17 Any other business

- (a) On the PROPOSAL of Cllr M Gleeson, SECONDED by Cllr J Sheahan it was unanimously agreed to afford a Civic Reception to Mr Mick O'Dwyer to honour his many years' achievements with the GAA.

(b) Cllr. J Lucid PROPOSED a vote of congratulation to the Kerry Hurling Team that beat Cork the previous day.

This was supported by all councillors.

Liam Quinlan
Meetings Administrator

Cathaoirleach of Kerry County Council