

**Minutes of the Manorhamilton Municipal District Meeting held in the HSE Offices  
Manorhamilton on Monday, 15 April 2024 at 2.30 pm**

**Members Present:** Councillor Felim Gurn (Cathaoirleach)  
Councillor Frank Dolan  
Councillor Justin Warnock  
Councillor Sean McDermott  
Councillor Mary Bohan  
Councillor Padraig Fallon

**Apologies:**

**Officials Present:** Saramarie Lynch  
Eric Gilroy, SEE North Leitrim  
Nicola McManus, Meetings Administrator Manorhamilton  
Municipal District

**MMD.34.22      Adoption of Minutes**

On the **PROPOSAL** of Cllr Sean McDermott  
**SECONDED** by Cllr Mary Bohan

It was **AGREED** to adopt the minutes of the Manorhamilton Municipal District Meeting of 19<sup>th</sup> March 2024.

**MMD.35.22      Meeting Correspondence**

Cllr Mary Bohan stated that the response received from the HSE was not adequate. Cllr Bohan expressed the urgent need for children to be able to avail of these services.

On the **PROPOSAL** of Cllr Mary Bohan  
**SECONDED** by Cllr Justin Warnock

It was **AGREED** to write to the HSE in relation to providing adequate services for children in Leitrim.

**MMD.36.22      Nomination of a member of the Manorhamilton Municipal District to the new County Tourism Forum'**

On the **PROPOSAL** of Cllr Felim Gurn  
**SECONDED** by Cllr Frank Dolan

It was **AGREED** to nominate Cllr Mary Bohan as a member of the Manorhamilton Municipal District to the new County Tourism Forum.

**MMD.37.22**      **Community and Tourism Festival & Events Grants Scheme**

On the **PROPOSAL** of Cllr Sean McDermott  
**SECONDED** by Cllr Mary Bohan

It was **AGREED** to approve the Community and Tourism Festival & Events Grants Scheme.

Cllr Pdraig Fallon and Cllr Felim Gurn both asked if the same provisions be granted this year with regard to fees in relation to street closures.

Ms. Mary Quinn, Director of Services informed the meeting that all provisions will be the same as last year.

**MMD.38.22**      **Note the date and time for the May meeting**

On the **PROPOSAL** of Cllr Felim Gurn  
**SECONDED** by Cllr Mary Bohan

It was **AGREED** to change the date of the May meeting to the 13<sup>th</sup> of May 2024.

**MMD.39.22**      **Motion from Councillor Felim Gurn:**

"The issue of childcare has been a significant challenge for both childcare providers and users over the last 12 to 15 years, various reasons including insurance, other overhead costs and the sector being over regulated have been cited. The combined issues of lack of places and significant costs often result in one parent having to give up work. Currently there is no childcare spaces available in Manorhamilton and Dromahair and we need to be looking at additional childcare facilities in both areas. I ask that this MD write to Minister Roderic O’Gorman to address these challenges immediately so as to avoid population decline like our European counter parts."

Cllr Felim Gurn stated that the need for space in childcare facilities is a serious ongoing problem that needs to be resolved.

Cllr Pdraig Fallon outlined that he raised the issue back in March and stated that not only is this a major issue in North and South Leitrim but that it is an issue country wide.

Cllr Justin Warnock stated that without these facilities children are being neglected.

All members supported the motion.

**MMD.40.22      Motion from Councillor Felim Gurn:**

"I ask that the Senior engineer Terry McGovern contact the TII to address the following traffic hazard issue as a matter of urgency under health and safety before there is a fatality. The traffic and residents that are coming from Manorhamilton on the N16 turning up to Lurganboy with no right turn or traffic Island to pull into. Something like the island that is in place at The Shrine in Glencar maybe a solution, this need to be dealt with urgently before a serious accident takes place for those coming from Sligo or Manorhamilton."

***Report by Roads - General***

"The Design office will discuss this junction with the TII regarding a road traffic survey in order to assess this junction's suitability for the inclusion of a right turning lane"

Cllr Felim Gurn outlined his concerns that the issue is the speed at which cars are travelling on this road and the number of near accidents.

Cllr Pdraig Fallon stated he had raised this issue before but in relation to the next junction.

Mr. Eric Gilroy, Area engineer stated he would follow up on the matter.

All members supported the motion.

**It was agreed to take Agenda Item no. 8 (Cllr Fallon) and no. 15 (Cllr Bohan) together as they were of a similar nature.**

**MMD.41.22      Motion from Councillor Pdraig Fallon:**

"I ask if there are any plans to remove tree stumps following recently felled trees at Sheena Drumkeeran."

**MMD.42.22      Motion from Councillor Mary Bohan**

"I ask that the Council remove the tree stumps at the rear of the houses in Sheena. The trees were cut down recently and the site has been left in a dangerous condition."

***Report by Roads - General***

"Leitrim County Council Housing Department will install fencing around the areas where the tree stumps are present to leave the area safe for members of the public."

Cllr Pdraig Fallon thanked the local authority for the removal of the trees. Cllr Fallon added that Tidy Towns had highlighted concerns over the stumps. Cllr Fallon noted that when the stumps are removed, the area must be aesthetically pleasing, and he asked the local authority to be conscious of this.

Cllr Mary Bohan outlined that the area is an eyesore and where the trees have been removed the houses of the elderly need to be painted and roofs cleaned as they are unable to do it themselves.

Ms. Mary Quinn, Director of Services outlined that she would discuss the matter with the Housing Maintenance Team.

***MMD.43.22      Motion from Councillor Pdraig Fallon:***

"I propose that resurfacing works take place at Tullintowel Drumkeeran."

***Report by Roads - General***

"Failures have developed at this location following haulage of material for forestry roads. Leitrim County Council has been liaising with the forestry company on restoration works, it is anticipated that works will be completed this summer."

Cllr Pdraig Fallon stated that the roads damaged from the works being carried have been left undriveable.

Cllr Mary Bohan supported the motion and suggested that the windfarm and forestry companies should maintain the roads throughout their time in any one area.

***MMD.44.22      Motion from Councillor Sean McDermott:***

"I ask if Leitrim County Council can investigate the possibility of preserving the old water pumps that were originally provided by the Council prior to the Group Water Schemes. Many of these pumps no longer exist but there are a few in North Leitrim that still work. I have spoken to the Council about 2 Water Pumps that are in working order in Glenfarne. In the past these pumps were places of social and cultural importance, where people gathered daily to draw water and exchange news. These pumps can be a tourist attraction."

***Report by Head of Finance & Water Services***

"Leitrim County Council is no longer the water service authority for public water supply."

Since the 6th of September 2023 all publicly in charge water supplies are under the direction and control of Uisce Eireann. I will bring this matter to the attention of Uisce Eireann."

Cllr Sean McDermott expressed his worry that the water pumps will be decommissioned and removed. Cllr McDermott stated that these pumps are a part of our heritage and culture.

All members supported the motion.

**MMD.45.22**      **Motion from Councillor Sean McDermott:**

"I ask if the Council can extend the waste water treatment plants in towns and villages. I am aware that where many of these Treatment Plants are in small villages, there is the capacity for further housing. This would solve the problem of depopulation in many of these areas."

***Report by Head of Finance & Water Services***

"The management and operation of wastewater treatment plants in towns and villages throughout the county is now a matter for Uisce Eireann. All such proposals should be raised through the Local Representatives forum or addressed directly to Uisce Eireann."

Cllr Sean McDermott expressed the importance of this issue in the context of the survival of the town.

Cllr Mary Bohan stated that this has been argued for years and they have yet to be provided with a solution.

Cllr Justin Warnock stated there is a demand for it and that it is provided for in the County Development Plan.

All members supported the motion.

**MMD.46.22**      **Motion from Councillor Frank Dolan:**

"A number of people have voiced their fears in relation to an overhanging tree at the water treatment plant in Lurganboy. I ask that this be removed before a wind storm does remove it."

***Report by Head of Finance & Water Services***

"The water treatment plant site is under the direction and control of Uisce Eireann and the matter has been brought to their attention for follow up."

Cllr Frank Dolan outlined that the elderly living in that area fear that it will come down

at any stage.

All members supported the motion.

**MMD.47.22**      **Motion from Councillor Justin Warnock:**

"There are a number of young families in rental accommodation in the Manorhamilton MD and throughout Leitrim (The Working Poor) who don't qualify for social housing because their income is just above the €30,000 income threshold, so I ask that we write to the Minister for Housing Darragh O'Brien TD and ask to have this threshold increased to €35,000 immediately."

On the **PROPOSAL** of Cllr Justin Warnock  
**SECONDED** by Cllr Mary Bohan

It was **AGREED** to write to the Minister for Housing Darragh O'Brien TD and ask to have this threshold increased to €35,000 immediately.

All members supported the motion.

**MMD.48.22**      **Motion from Councillor Justin Warnock:**

"There are many vacant and occupied houses across our Municipal District and throughout our county which have corrugated asbestos roofs, asbestos in walls, ceilings and fittings, so therefore I will ask that we write to the Minister for Housing Darragh O'Brien a) to provide extra funding under the Croí Conaithe Grant for the removal and disposal of the asbestos and b) to provide a new roofing grant for the occupied houses, which will also cover the cost of the removal and disposal of this hazardous material."

On the **PROPOSAL** of Cllr Justin Warnock  
**SECONDED** by Cllr Pdraig Fallon

It was **AGREED** to write to the Minister for Housing Darragh O'Brien a) to provide extra funding under the Croí Conaithe Grant for the removal and disposal of the asbestos and b) to provide a new roofing grant for the occupied houses, which will also cover the cost of the removal and disposal of this hazardous material.

All members supported the motion.

**MMD.49.22**      **Motion from Councillor Mary Bohan**

"I ask that the Council contact Electric Sky Line regarding the provision of extra street

lighting in Dromahair between the Depot and the Rock Valley entrance at the top of the Backline."

***Report by Roads - General***

"Leitrim County Council will have the public lighting in the area assessed to investigate if an infill section of public lighting is required."

Cllr Mary Bohan stated that a number of people have contacted her raising the issue of the poorly lit areas on the road.

Cllr Felim Gurn stated that the service is not reliable.

This concluded the business of the meeting at 3.45 pm

**SIGNED:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Councillor Felim Gurn**  
**Cathaoirleach,**  
**Manorhamilton Municipal**  
**District**

**SIGNED:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Nicola McManus**  
**Meetings Administrator**

**Date: Monday, 13 May 2024**