

Minutes of the Budget 2017 Meeting of Clare County Council held in the Council Chamber, Áras Contae an Chláir, New Road, Ennis, Co. Clare on Friday, 11th November, 2016 at 3:00 p.m.

Present:

Councillors J. Breen, J. Flynn, P. Daly, A. Norton, T. McNamara, M. Howard, P. Murphy, C. Colleran Molloy, J. Cooney, P. Hayes, M. Begley, T. O'Brien, P. Burke, A. O'Callaghan, C. Crowe, J. Crowe, G. Flynn, P.J. Ryan, P. McMahan, C. Curtin, R. Nagle, B. Slattery, I. Lynch, M. Hillery, P.J. Kelly, B. Chambers, G. Keating.

- Pat Dowling, Chief Executive.
- Carmel Greene, Meetings Administrator.
- Karen Stackpoole, Staff Officer.
- Ger Dollard, Director of Service.
- Niall Barrett, Head of Finance.
- Anne Haugh, Director of Service.
- Liam Conneally, Director of Service.
- Leonard Cleary, A/Director of Service.
- Caroline O'Connor, Management Accountant.
- Helen Walsh, County Librarian.
- Mairead Corbett, Administrative Officer.
- Mark Dunphy, Communications Officer.
- Jason Murphy, Senior Executive Officer.
- John Leahy, Senior Engineer.

Apologies: Cllr. M. McKee

The Cathaoirleach, Cllr. B. Chambers presided.

At the outset, the Cathaoirleach called on the Chief Executive, Pat Dowling to give a brief overview of the Budget. Mr. Dowling advised that, as in recent years, a central objective of 2017 budget is the maintenance of existing levels of service, and this is a significant challenge. He reminded members that the Council also has additional resources to allocate in 2017 arising from the Council's decision in September to apply the standard Local Property Tax (L.P.T.) rate in 2017. This provides an extra €1.5m. in resources. He highlighted that the Budget 2017 shows an overall revenue expenditure of €107 m. which, on a positive note, will be mainly spent locally e.g. in payroll and goods and services etc.

Mr. Dowling highlighted the main aspects of Budget 2017. He reported that the Department of Transport had not yet advised of the roads allocation for 2017 but the Budget had been prepared on the basis of the same level of funding as that received in 2016. He reminded members that as is required by legislation, the draft budget continues the rates harmonisation process commenced in 2016 in order to bridge the gap that exists between the former Town Council areas and the former county area. He also reported that it is also proposed to increase the amount of the grant available

for those who pay their rates on time in the former Town Council areas so as to alleviate the impact of the ongoing harmonisation adjustment.

He further advised the Members that the Council is on schedule to transfer the billing and related collection activity for non domestic water charges to Irish Water in Quarter 4 of 2016. However, he did emphasise to the Members that there is currently no agreement as to how the staff and other costs that remain with the Council after the transition is complete will be funded. It is the Council's position that these costs should be funded by either Irish Water or the Department of Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government.

He concluded by thanking the Cathaoirleach, the Corporate Policy Group, the Municipal Districts Members and all the Elected Members for their advice, assistance and positive engagement throughout the budgetary process. He also thanked the contribution of all staff in the Council in preparing this Budget especially the Head of Finance and the staff in the Finance Department for all their efforts in managing the complex financial challenges of preparing the draft Budget 2017.

The Head of Finance, Niall Barrett, then addressed the meeting and outlined the main points of the Budget this year which included the further continuation of the harmonisation of the rates, the calculation of the base year adjustment and the impact on the rates for 2017.

At this point in the meeting both Cllrs. M. Begley and J. Crowe indicated that they needed to leave early due to prior commitments. They asked that it be recorded that they were both in support of adopting the Draft Budget 2017.

Cllr. J. Breen also queried at this point whether the C.P.G. has unanimously agreed to bring this budget before the Council. In response the Chief Executive advised that there were many meetings held with the C.P.G. and based on those meetings the Executive had presented the draft Budget to the Members for adoption. It is a reserved function of Council to adopt the Budget.

Division A. Housing and Building

Cllr. G. Flynn, Chair of the Planning & Housing S.P.C. addressed the meeting and provided a brief overview of activities for the Housing division. He referred to the main issues contained in the Budget relevant to this area and under the remit of the Planning & Housing S.P.C.

A number of queries were raised by members regarding this division which were all responded to by Liam Conneally, Director of Services.

The Members also welcomed Liam Conneally who has recently joined Clare County Council as Director of Service in Housing and thanked him and his staff for their input into the budgetary process.

Division D Development Management

Cllr. G. Flynn, Chair of the Planning & Housing S.P.C. then addressed the meeting for a second time and provided a brief overview of activities for the Planning division. He referred to the main issues contained in the Budget relevant to this area and under the remit of the Planning & Housing S.P.C.

Cllr. R. Nagle, Chair of the Economic Development & Enterprise S.P.C. provided an overview of activities in this area and highlighted the ongoing work taking place in the Local Enterprise Office. He referred to the continued success of the Wild Atlantic Way, Shannon International Airport and also the hosting of the Fleadh in Ennis in 2016.

A number of queries were raised by the members regarding this division which were all responded to by Gerard Dollard, Director of Services.

The Members thanked Gerard Dollard for his input into the budgetary process and also complimented the Planning Staff on the preparation of the County Development Plan. The Members also welcomed the appointment of Leonard Cleary as the new Director of Rural Development.

Division B Road Transport and Safety

Division C Water Services

Division E Environment

Cllr. J. Cooney, Chair of the Environment & Transportation S.P.C. addressed the meeting and provided an overview of the activities in the Roads Department and referred to the main issues contained in the Budget relevant to this area.

He also provided an overview of the activities in the Water Services Department. He reminded the Members that Clare County Council will continue to fulfil its obligations as Agent for Irish Water under the Service Level Agreement during 2017.

As Chair of the Environment S.P.C. he also provided an overview of the activities under the Environmental Services division and referred to the main issues contained in the Budget relevant to this area. He informed the Members that the 2017 work programme for the Environment Section will largely be driven by an extensive regulatory framework which is anticipated will continue to expand in the coming years particularly in the areas of waste and water.

A number of queries were raised by the members regarding this division which were all responded to by Anne Haugh, Director of Services. The Members thanked Anne Haugh and her staff for their input into the budgetary process.

Division F Recreation and Amenity

Division G Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare

Cllr. P. Hayes, Chair of the Cultural Services & Arts (including Community, Recreation and Amenities) S.P.C. addressed the meeting and outlined activities proposed in both these areas including the Library Service, Glór, Leisure Centres and Burial Grounds. He highlighted details of the capital programmes relevant to those divisions.

Division H Miscellaneous Services

Division J Central Management Services

The Cathaoirleach drew the member's attention to the proposals contained in the above divisions and same were noted by the members present.

The Cathaoirleach thanked the S.P.C. Chairs, the Chief Executive, Directors of Services and Head of Finance for their presentations and then opened the debate to the floor.

The Cathaoirleach reminded members that they needed to make a decision to either adopt or reject the Budget as presented or adjourn the discussion to a later date. The Cathaoirleach then called a vote on the proposal of Cllr. G. Flynn, seconded by Cllr. J. Cooney to adopt the Budget.

The following resolutions were read out by the Meetings Administrator and as proposed by Cllr. G. Flynn and seconded by Cllr. J. Cooney

“That pursuant to Section 103 of the Local Government Act 2001 (substituted by Section 58 of the Local Government Reform Act 2014) the Draft Budget 2017 as presented by the Chief Executive is hereby adopted.”

“That the Council hereby determine in accordance with Budget 2017, as presented by the Chief Executive, the rate set out in Table A (General Annual Rate on Valuation of 72.99) and the base year adjustments of €2.77 discount for the former Kilrush Town Council Rating Authority area, making an effective rate of €70.22, as set out in Table C and €1.89 discount for the former Ennis Town Council Rating Authority are, making an effective rate €71.10 as set out in Table C.”

The vote on these resolutions resulted as follows:

In favour: Cllrs. J. Breen, P. Daly, A. Norton, T. McNamara, P. Murphy, C. Colleran Molloy, J. Cooney, P. Hayes, G. Flynn, P.J. Ryan, P. McMahan, C. Curtin, R. Nagle, B. Slattery, M. Hillery, B. Chambers, G. Keating. (17)

Against: Cllrs. J. Flynn, M. Howard, P.J. Kelly. (3).

Abstentions: Nil.

The Cathaoirleach declared these resolutions carried.

The following resolution in relation to the rates incentive scheme was read out by the Meetings Administrator as proposed by Cllr. T. McNamara and seconded by Cllr. P.J. Ryan.

“That the Council hereby approve the rates payment incentive grant scheme for 2017 in respect of occupied properties in respect of the areas set out below:

Former Ennis Town Council Area	7% of the 2017 Rates Cost or €350 if lower
Former Kilrush Town Council Area	9% of the 2017 Rates Cost or €450 if lower
Former County Council Area	3% of the 2017 Rates Cost or €100 if lower

and where the rates are paid on time; or where there are established payment plans (or new payment plans that have been agreed in writing with the Council on or before 31st July 2017) which provide for the clearance of all the rates due by December 2017 and where the rates outstanding are actually cleared in line with the payment plan.”

In favour: Cllrs. J. Flynn, P. Daly, A. Norton, T. McNamara, M. Howard, P. Murphy, C. Colleran Molloy, J. Cooney, P. Hayes, G. Flynn, P.J. Ryan, P. McMahon, C. Curtin, R. Nagle, B. Slattery, M. Hillery, B. Chambers, G. Keating. (18).

Against: Cllr. P.J. Kelly. (1)

Abstentions: Cllr. J. Breen. (1)

The Cathaoirleach declared this resolution carried.

The following resolution was read out by the Meetings Administrator as proposed by Cllr. G. Flynn and seconded by Cllr. R. Nagle

“Pursuant to the provisions of Section 104 of the Local Government Act 2001, that the following additional expenditure by division in 2016 is approved:

Division A	€683,943
Division D	€2,256,053
Division E	€294,225

The Cathaoirleach called a vote on this resolution which resulted as follows:

In favour: Cllrs. J. Breen, P. Daly, A. Norton, T. McNamara, M. Howard, P. Murphy, J. Cooney, P. Hayes, G. Flynn, P.J. Ryan, P. McMahon, R. Nagle, B. Slattery, M. Hillery, B. Chambers, G. Keating. (16)

Against: Cllr. P.J. Kelly. (1).

Abstentions: Cllrs. J. Flynn, C. Collieran Molloy, C. Curtin (3).

The Cathaoirleach declared this resolution carried.

The Cathaoirleach thanked the members, Chief Executive, Directors of Services and Head of Finance and their staff for their co-operation in the preparation and adoption of the Budget for 2017. He also thanked members of the Corporate Policy Group for their input into the Budget process.

The meeting then concluded at 5.27 p.m.

Signed: _____
Riarthóir Cruinnithe

Signed: _____
Cathaoirleach

Date: _____

Minutes of the November Monthly Meeting of Clare County Council held in the Council Chamber, Áras Contae an Chláir, New Road, Ennis, Co. Clare on Monday, 14th November, 2016 at 3:45 p.m.

Present:

Councillors J. Breen, J. Flynn, P. Daly, A. Norton, T. McNamara, M. Howard, P. Murphy, C. Colleran Molloy, J. Cooney, P. Hayes, M. Begley, P. Burke, A. O’Callaghan, C. Crowe, J. Crowe, G. Flynn, P.J. Ryan, P. McMahon, M. McKee, C. Curtin, R. Nagle, B. Slattery, I. Lynch, M. Hillery, P.J. Kelly, B. Chambers, G. Keating.

- Ms. Anne Haugh, Director of Service.
- Ms. Carmel Greene, Meetings Administrator.
- Ms. Karen Stackpoole, Staff Officer.
- Mr. Leonard Cleary, Director of Services.
- Mr. Liam Conneally, Director of Services.
- Mr. Niall Barrett, Head of Finance.

Apologies: Cllr. T. O’Brien,

- Pat Dowling, Chief Executive
- Gerard Dollard, Director of Service

The Cathaoirleach, Cllr. Bill Chambers presided.

At the commencement of the meeting Cllr. T. McNamara proposed a vote of sympathy to the following:

- Cllr. Bill Chambers, Cathaoirleach on the death of his brother Denis Chambers, Shannon, R.I.P;
- Cllr. P.J. Kelly and Cllr. C. Curtin on the death of their mother in law Mrs. Gretta Barry, Inch, R.I.P;

Cllr. T. McNamara proposed the suspension of Standing Orders so that the meeting could be fully adjourned as a mark of respect. This was seconded by Cllr. J. Cooney and agreed by the members present. Tributes were paid and prayers were recited for the deceased.

The Cathaoirleach stated that the adjourned meeting would take place at 3:45 p.m. on Monday, 21st November, 2016.

Conferences.

Reports on Seminars/Conferences attended.

With regard to seminars/conferences attended, reports completed in accordance with Section 142 of the Local Government Act 2001 were made available at the meeting.

AILG Training taking place in Plaza Hotel, Killarney, Co. Kerry on 19th May, 2016.

The Meetings Administrator informed the Members that the estimated average cost per Councillor attending this Conference was €337.02 including conference fee of €50.

It was agreed that Cllr. P. Daly attend this Conference.

Conference entitled “Entitlement to Health Services” taking place in Carlingford, Co. Louth on 2nd – 3rd September, 2016.

The Meetings Administrator informed the Members that the estimated average cost per Councillor attending this Conference was €762.31 including conference fee of €100.

It was agreed that Cllr. B. Slattery attend this Conference.

AILG Training taking place in Douglas, Co. Cork on 10th September, 2016.

The Meetings Administrator informed the Members that the estimated average cost per Councillor attending this Conference was €390.56 including conference fee of €100.

It was agreed that Cllr. T. McNamara attend this Conference.

LAMA Autumn Training Seminar taking place in Westlodge Hotel, Bantry, Co. Cork on 30th September & 1st October, 2016.

The Meetings Administrator informed the Members that the estimated average cost per Councillor attending this Conference was €613.53 including conference fee of €160.

It was agreed that Cllrs. M. Hillery, M. Howard and T. McNamara attend this Conference.

Conference entitled “From Hope to Action – Irish Association of Suicidology” taking place in the Brehon Hotel, Killarney on 6th 7th October, 2016.

The Meetings Administrator informed the Members that the estimated average cost per Councillor attending this Conference was €482.02 including conference fee of €70.

It was agreed that Cllr. M. Howard attend this Conference.

AILG Autumn Seminar 2016 being held in Amber Springs Hotel, Gorey, Co. Wexford on 13th & 14th October, 2016.

The Meetings Administrator informed the Members that the estimated average cost per Councillor attending this Conference was €457.52 including conference fee of €50.

It was agreed that Cllrs. M. Howard, P. Burke, T. McNamara attend this Conference.

AILG Training taking place in Kilkenny on 27th October, 2016.

The Meetings Administrator informed the Members that the estimated average cost per Councillor attending this Conference was €365.37 including conference fee of €50.

It was agreed that Cllrs. B. Slattery, P. McMahon, P. Murphy, P. Burke, T. McNamara, A. Norton, P.J. Kelly, P. Daly, and M. Hillery attend this Conference.

The meeting then concluded.

Signed: _____
Riarthóir Cruinnithe

Signed: _____
Cathaoirleach

Date: _____

Minutes of the adjourned November Meeting of Clare County Council held in the Council Chamber, Áras Contae an Chláir, New Road, Ennis, Co. Clare on Monday, 21st November, 2016 at 3:45 p.m.

Present:

Councillors J. Breen, J. Flynn, P. Daly, A. Norton, T. McNamara, M. Howard, P. Murphy, C. Colleran Molloy, J. Cooney, P. Hayes, M. Begley, T. O'Brien, P. Burke, A. O'Callaghan, C. Crowe, J. Crowe, G. Flynn, P.J. Ryan, P. McMahon, M. McKee, C. Curtin, R. Nagle, B. Slattery, I. Lynch, M. Hillery, P.J. Kelly, B. Chambers, G. Keating.

- Mr. Pat Dowling, Chief Executive.
- Ms. Carmel Greene, Meetings Administrator.
- Ms. Karen Stackpoole, Staff Officer.
- Mr. Gerard Dollard, Director of Service.
- Ms. Anne Haugh, Director of Service.
- Mr. Leonard Cleary, A/Director of Service.
- Mr. Liam Conneally, Director of Service.
- Ms. Caroline O'Connor, Management Accountant.
- Mr. Mark Dunphy, Communications Officer.
- Mr. John Corry, Administrative Officer.

The Cathaoirleach, Cllr. Bill Chambers presided.

At the commencement of the meeting it was proposed by Cllr. T. McNamara and seconded by Cllr. J. Cooney to extend congratulations to the Ballyea Senior Hurling Team on their emphatic win over Glen Rovers in the Munster Senior Club Hurling Final. This sentiment was echoed by all the members present.

Item 1: Minutes of Council Meetings.

a. Ar moladh Cllr. J. Cooney
Cuidithe ag Cllr. J. Crowe agus glacadh leis

“That the Minutes of the October Meeting of Clare County Council held on 10th October, 2016 be adopted and signed.”

Item 2: Minutes of Municipal District Meetings.

a. Ar moladh Cllr. Tom McNamara
Cuidithe ag Cllr. A. Norton agus glacadh leis

“That the Minutes of the Ennis Municipal District Meeting held on the 6th September, 2016 be noted.”

b. Ar moladh Cllr. T. McNamara
Cuidithe ag Cllr. A. Norton agus glacadh leis

“That the Minutes of the Ennis Municipal District Meeting held on the 7th October, 2016 be noted.”

c. Ar moladh Cllr. T. McNamara
Cuidithe ag Cllr. A. Norton agus glacadh leis

“That the Minutes of the Ennis Municipal District Budget Meeting held on the 21st October, 2016 be noted.”

Item 3: Minutes of the Corporate Policy Group Meetings.

The members noted the minutes of the meetings held on 3rd October, 2016 as presented.

Item 4: Monthly Management Report.

The monthly management report attached to the agenda included key activities in the principal service areas and was noted by the members.

It was agreed by the Members to take Item No. 5 & 19 together as they were inter-related.

Item 5. Invitation from Chairman of Shannon Group to hold January 2017 meeting in Shannon Airport.

Correspondence dated 27th September, 2016 from Rose Hynes, Chairman, Shannon Group was circulated with the agenda. As Chairman of Shannon Group plc. Ms. Hynes extended an invitation to the Cathaoirleach and members of the Council to consider holding the January 2017 Council meeting at Shannon Airport.

Item 19. Shannon Group.

Ar moladh Cllr. P. McMahon
Cuidithe ag Cllr. P. J. Kelly agus glacadh leis

“I call on the Council to invite the new C.E.O. of Shannon Group to address the full Council on his future plans for the Airport and Shannon Group.” (M)

Pat Dowling, Chief Executive replied as follows:

“I wish to advise that Rose Hynes, Chairman of the Shannon Group has recently extended an invitation to Clare County Council to hold the January 2017 monthly meeting at Shannon Airport.

This item is included on the November agenda for approval of the Members and it is intended that this will provide an opportunity for the C.E.O. and Chairman of the Shannon group to provide an update to the Council of their activities and their future plans for the Airport and for the Shannon Group.”

It was agreed by the members to hold the January 2017 monthly meeting at Shannon Airport. This meeting has been set for Monday 9th January, 2017 and will provide an opportunity to the C.E.O. of the Shannon Group to address the full Council on the day. However, Cllr. J. Breen asked that it be noted that whilst he was in full support of the Council meeting being held at Shannon Airport he wanted the issue of Standing Orders to be looked at, in particular the holding of Council meetings outside of the Chamber.

Item 6. Report of Clare County Councils CEDRA Committee.

Ar moladh Cllr. J. Cooney
Cuidithe ag Cllr. G. Keating agus glacadh leis

Report dated 7th November, 2016 from Leonard Cleary, A/Director of Service, Rural Development was circulated with the agenda. The report states that the report of the Commission for Economic Development of Rural Areas (CEDRA) was published in 2014. The elected members decided to set up a working group to examine the recommendations of the report and how Clare could benefit from such recommendations. The Working Group met during 2016 to review progress on the REDZ (Rural Economic Development Zones) pilot projects and to focus on rural development in the county.

A copy of the new REDZ and CLÁR schemes announced by Government was issued to all elected members on 12th October, 2016 and Councillors were invited to liaise with their Area Engineer re project proposals. A copy was also issued to Directors of Service with responsibility for co-ordinating Municipal Districts and to Area Engineers in each Municipal District. A meeting of the CEDRA Committee was held on 17th October, 2016 to consider an appropriate approach to prioritizing any projects submitted in light of the short timeframe closing date of 4th November, 2016. A second meeting was held on 26th October, 2016 to consider the projects submitted and to make recommendations regarding prioritization of same. Due to the high number of projects submitted and the limited funding available, it was recommended that the Council adopt a three-year strategy in terms of applying for project funding to the Department in a structured way during this period.

The following list of projects submitted for CLÁR and REDZ funding was also circulated with the report.

- Appendix A: CLÁR Measure 1 - Safety Package for Schools/Community Facilities.
- Appendix B: REDZ Flagship Regional Project – Western Innovation Network
- Appendix C: Medium REDZ – Scarriff/Nenagh: Lough Derg Blueway
- Appendix D: Small REDZ – Scattery Island Project, Miltown Malbay Visitor Centre.

Item 7. Agree date for statutory meeting re adoption of the Clare County Development Plan 2017-2023.

It was agreed that this meeting will take place on Monday, 19th December at 3:00 p.m.

Item 8. Consider proposal for amendments to the Strategic Policy Committee (S.P.C.'s).

Ar moladh Cllr. G. Keating
Cuidithe ag Cllr. J. Cooney agus glacadh leis

Report dated 8th November, 2016 from Pat Dowling, Chief Executive was previously circulated with the agenda. The Chief Executive stated that following on from the establishment of the new directorates in Clare County Council, it was an opportune time to review the Strategic Policy Committees to ensure that the policy agenda for each of the four directorates is led and supported by a Strategic Policy Committee in each individual area. He proposed that the following changes would be put in place.

The proposal is set out in the Table below and includes the following changes:

Current SPC	Proposed SPC	Key change
Environmental & Transportation S.P.C.	S.P.C. for Physical Development (Roads, Water Services, Environment, Fire and Emergency Services)	Name change only
Economic Development & Enterprise S.P.C.	S.P.C. for Economic, Development (Enterprise, Planning and Tourism)	Addition of Planning into this S.P.C.
Planning and Housing S.P.C.	S.P.C. for Social Development (Housing, Culture and Sport)	Removal of Planning from this S.P.C. and addition of Culture and Sport
Cultural Services / Arts S.P.C.	S.P.C. for Rural Development (Rural, Community and I.C.T. Development)	This S.P.C. would replace the S.P.C. for Cultural Services

He further advised the members that it was not proposed to change the chairmanship or the membership of the elected members on the individual S.P.C.'s.

In relation to the nominees from the Sectoral interests, subject to their agreement, two changes were proposed as follows:

- that the membership on the Housing S.P.C. from the Agricultural and Farming Community would move to the Rural and Community S.P.C.
- that the Trade Union Representative on the Rural and Community S.P.C. would move to the Housing, Social & Cultural S.P.C.

He further indicated to the members that the proposed structure with four Policy areas supported by four Directors in each of those policy areas would allow Clare County Council to advance the development of policy in these key areas for County Clare.

The members discussed this issue at length and wished the Chief Executive well with this new structure. Some had concerns that the attendance from the sectoral interests at the S.P.C. meetings was poor. Others felt that going forward there should be a huge focus on Climate Change and that this issue needs to feed into the S.P.C. forum. Cllr. P.J. Kelly also indicated that it was his preference to be a member on the S.P.C. for Economic Development which includes the Planning brief. In answering the queries raised the Chief Executive undertook to look at the poor attendance of the sectoral interests at meetings. He also advised that there is a National Reform Programme for Climate Change and that Local Authorities will feed into this. In response to Cllr. Kelly's query the Chief Executive advised that the nomination of members to S.P.C.'s was a reserved function and this can be examined further.

Item 9. Ennis South Flood Relief Scheme.

Ar moladh Cllr. P. Murphy
Cuidithe ag Cllr. J. Flynn agus glacadh leis

“I am requesting an update on the outstanding aspects of the Ennis South Flood Relief Scheme and any other similar schemes that haven't been completed across the county.” (M)

Tom Tiernan, Senior Engineer replied as follows:

“The up-to-date position in relation to the Ennis South Scheme is that it was approved subject to a number of conditions in July of this year. These conditions required that a number of aspects (mostly minor in nature) be re-examined with a view to satisfying oneself regarding the integrity of the proposed scheme. Our Consultants have assessed in detail the various points raised with a view to finally determining the scope of the scheme to go to construction. Arising from same, the scheme to go to tender will be the scheme as originally approved with the exception of upgrading works on the embankment to the south of the N85 dual carriageway on the basis that an overspill of this embankment only affects undeveloped land with no threat to developed residential or other property. The existing sluice in this section of embankment will, however, be upgraded to facilitate efficient drainage of the back drain system.

The next step involves preparation of tender documents with a view to commencement of the tender process at the end of January, 2017 to be followed by commencement of construction in late Spring. It is envisaged at this stage that construction of the project will be completed in the final quarter of 2018.

With regard to other Flood Scheme considerations around the county, the position is as follows:

- In relation to Springfield, Clonlara, a review of this situation is presently being carried out by O.P.W. Consultants on foot of additional information recently provided by the Council – the outcome of this review is expected before the end of the year.
- The construction of a number of minor works on the North side of Ennis is expected to be completed in the Spring of 2017.
- A report has recently been completed regarding potential flood relief measures required on foot of extensive periodic flooding of the N67 near New Quay and some nearby properties. This is expected to form the basis of an application to the O.P.W. for funding for a Flood Relief Scheme in due course.
- The completion of a Hydrology Report pertaining to periodic flooding problems in Miltown Malbay.
- The completion of a Hydrology Report pertaining to periodic flooding problems in Ballyvaughan is imminent.
- Funding of almost €50,000 has recently been confirmed in favour of proposed River Embankment Strengthening Works along the Blackwater River in South East Clare.”

Item 10. Planning permission.

Ar moladh Cllr. P.J. Kelly

Cuidithe ag Cllr. C. Colleran-Molloy agus glacadh leis

“That a report be made available justifying the legality and ethics of Council executive policy of amending planning permissions for the benefit of financial institutions who have repossessed a property of a person in financial difficulty and the Council having previously refused to grant the same accommodation to a troubled borrower who would have avoided loss of property if the accommodation granted to the financial institution had been granted to him in the first case.” (M)

Gerard Dollard, Director of Service replied as follows:

“In line with other Local Authorities practices and in accordance with the indicative occupancy condition as set out in the ‘Sustainable Rural Housing Guidelines for Planning Authorities April 2005’ as issued by the Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government, the Planning Authority has a standard occupancy condition which is applied to planning permissions in appropriate circumstances as set out below.

The proposed dwelling, when completed, shall be first occupied as the place of permanent residence by the applicant and shall remain so occupied thereafter for a

minimum of 7 years. Within two months of the occupation of the permitted dwelling, the applicant shall submit to the Planning Authority a written statement of confirmation of the first occupation of the dwelling and the date of such occupation.

(This condition shall not affect the sale of the dwelling by a mortgagee in possession or by any person deriving title from such a sale)

Reason: In the interest of proper planning control, having regard to the Clare County Development Plan 2011-2017 as varied and the 2005 Sustainable Rural Housing Guidelines.

The purpose of the above condition is to remove any impediment that a lending institution may perceive as applying to a property when considering awarding a mortgage to a potential applicant.

This element of the condition applies only to a lending institution or any person who derives title from a sale by the mortgagee.”

In response to this the members felt that the 2005 Sustainable Rural Housing Guidelines for Planning Authorities were completely out of date and needed to be reviewed. The Chief Executive also advised that he would arrange a review of the Planning Authorities standard occupancy condition.

Item 11. Compensation claims.

Ar moladh Cllr. C. Colleran Molloy
Cuidithe ag Cllrs. C. Curtin agus P.J. Kelly agus glacadh leis

“(a) How many successful court compensation claims have been made against Clare County Council since 2014?

(b) What were the year-on-year payout amounts?

(c) What were the year-on-year premiums paid?

(d) What areas of legal liability were the claims regarding?

(e) The specific legal expenses accruing from same?” **(Q)**

Anne Haugh, Director of Service replied as follows:

“The Council insurers, I.P.B., handle all cases on its behalf. I.P.B. has assisted in providing the details set out in the response below.

(a) How many successful court compensation claims have been made against Clare County Council since 2014?

The number of new claims made against Clare County Council in the period 1/1/2014 – 30/9/2016 is 220

(b) What were the year-on-year pay out amounts?

The year on year pay outs for claims finalised in the corresponding period were

- 2014: €970,180
- 2015: €1,127,002

- 2016: €681,567 (year to date)

(c) What were the year-on-year premium paid?

The year on year premiums paid in the corresponding period were

- 2014: €933,501
- 2015: €1,071,803
- 2016: €1,071,803

(d) What areas of legal liability were the claims regarding?

The top four causes of the claims, in terms of numbers, in the period are:

- Footpath - 49
- Slipping/Tripping – 48
- Pothole – 42
- Road – 22

(e) The specific legal expenses accruing from same?

The breakdown on legal fees for each claim isn't available but I.P.B. have indicated that the average cost for legal feels equates to 40% of the overall cost of claims paid.”

The members discussed this issue at length. They posed questions in relation to the detail provided in her response and Anne Haugh, Director of Services replied to all queries raised. The members were unanimous in voicing their concerns that the figures quoted and the costs associated with same were alarming. Some members felt that it would be far better to spend more on upgrading foothpaths etc rather than the huge costs associated with slips, trips and falls.

The Chief Executive informed the members that he had met with I.P.B. Insurance (Irish Public Bodies Insurance) to review this matter in recent days. He was successful in getting an undertaking from them that going forward claims from Clare County Council would be processed in a more efficient and speedily manner. Whilst he acknowledged that Clare County Council are facing particular challenges in this area he did assure the members that going forward there would be close monitoring of all aspects of claims on an ongoing basis.

Item 12. Water charges.

Ar moladh Cllr. P.J. Ryan
Cuidithe ag Cllr. J. Flynn agus glacadh leis

“That this Council would give a breakdown of water charges which are included in Commercial and Industrial rates in this county.” (Q)

Anne Haugh, Director of Service replied as follows:

“The most recent determination by Clare County Council of a price per cubic meter for non-domestic customers was done in January 2013, to apply from 1st January 2013 to 31st December, 2013. As in previous years it was based on a pricing model which included calculations on input costs, distribution costs, volumes produced and volumes sold, and was calculated separately for water and wastewater.

The water element was calculated as €1.24 per cubic meter or €5.64 per 1,000 gallons, which is applicable to customers using water from the public supply and not discharging to sewers. The wastewater element was calculated as €1.65 per cubic meter or €13.14 per 1,000 gallons, which is applicable to customers not using water from the public supply but discharging to public sewers. The composite price for customers using both public water mains and public sewers is the sum of the two, i.e. €2.89 per cubic meter or €18.78 per 1,000 gallons.

Since Irish Water took over as water services authority in January 2014 the Council has not had the power to determine non-domestic water charges. Irish Water has retained the pre-January 2014 charges, and has stated that it will continue to do so, as part of the “business as usual” approach, after the forthcoming transfer of billing and collection from the Council to Irish Water.”

It was noted by the members in a Business Magazine article that County Clare was one of the dearest counties in Ireland at €1.65 per cubic meter for waste water. Anne Haugh, Director of Services, in response, advised the members that the Council no longer has the power to reduce charges and Irish Water will most likely examine the non-domestic charges for water services as this function has recently transferred to them.

Item 13. Income receipts.

Ar moladh Cllr. C. Curtin
Cuidithe ag Cllr. G. Flynn agus glacadh leis

“That the Finance Officer inform the Council of income receipts in 2015 for each of the Municipal Districts under the following headings (i) rates, (ii) non-domestic water (iii) house rents and (iv) planning fees and for the county, the motor tax and local property tax receipts in 2014 and 2015.” (Q)

Niall Barrett, Head of Finance replied as follows:

“Commercial Rates:

The council’s rates database is not based on a municipal district basis. In particular some valuations are provided by the Valuation Office on a county wide basis and are not amenable to subdivision and also there are customers with multiple properties in different parts of the county. However, an estimate of the amounts invoiced by municipal district for the periods requested has been made and this has been set out below:

Municipal District 2015	€'m
Ennis	6.6
Global	3.4
Killaloe	1.5
Shannon	15.9
West Clare	15.0

Non Domestic Water:

Since January 2014 the council is not the beneficial recipient of non domestic water charges. These receipts belong to Irish Water. The councils work in this area is solely as the agent of Irish Water and so the council does not have receipts for non domestic water charges in the period indicated.

Housing Rents:

The council's housing rent database is not based on a municipal district basis. However, an estimate of the amounts invoiced by municipal district for the periods requested has been made based on collections areas administered which do not tie in with Municipal District areas but give some indication of the geographic spread and this is set out below:

Municipal District	2015 €'m
West Clare	1.83
Shannon	1.08
Killaloe	1.68
Ennis	1.52

Planning Fees:

The council's planning fee income is not captured at a municipal district level. In 2015 the net income from planning applications fees was €0.28m.

Motor Tax Income:

Year	Online €m	At Council Offices €m	Total €m
2014	16.9	13.8	30.8
2015	17.9	11.9	29.8

All motor tax sums collected in Clare motor tax offices (Ennis and Ennistymon) are transferred on a daily basis to the Local Government Fund.

Local Property Tax Income:

The collection of Local Property Tax income is administered by the Revenue Commissioners and all income is paid by property owners direct to Revenue. The allocation to Clare County Council is determined at a National level and remitted back to this council. Details on income collected in County Clare as provided by the Revenue Commissioners (as at June 2016) are as follows: 2014 €10.1m and 2015 €8.4m.”

Item 14. Homeless.

Ar moladh Cllr. J. Breen

This motion was not seconded

“That the following information be made available to this Council:

1. The number of people that have presented as homeless in the last 12 months.
2. The type of accommodation made available to them.
3. The number of people that are on the housing waiting list for 1 to 10 years
4. The reason why people that are long term waiting have not been offered houses.”

(Q)

This item was placed on the Agenda as a Question. Cllr. J. Breen was emphatic in his opinion that this should be categorised as a motion. The Meetings Administrator referred to Standing Orders and read out the definition of a motion. This was referred to the Chief Executive for a response. At the request of Cllr. Breen, the Chief Executive said that this query would be referred to the County Solicitor for his professional advice.

Item 15. Maintenance of public open spaces in estates.

Ar moladh Cllr. C. Crowe
Cuidithe ag Cllr. J. Flynn agus glacadh leis

"That Clare County Council

1) cease the discriminatory practice whereby they provide fully for the grass cutting in some housing estates, but not in others.

and

2) make the necessary financial & organisational arrangements for all public open spaces in Council charge to be maintained either directly by Council staff or indirectly vis-a-vis landscaping contractors." (M)

Tom Tiernan, Senior Engineer replied as follows:

“There is no intentional discrimination in this area – the situation as it pertains at the moment has evolved as a result of historical necessities and associated policy changes associated, in the main, with funding deficiency. Current policy encourages communities to look after public open space in their own estates – not just because it provides some financial savings but also because it facilitates focus for communities and ultimately, in most situations, yields a better quality output than the routine grass cutting which the Council could at best facilitate.

As was outlined in a related notice of motion a number of months ago, the estimated cost of extending grass cutting arrangements to all public open space in the county would be in the region of €750,000.”

Item 16. Periodic Payment Orders.

Ar moladh Cllr. C. Colleran Molloy
Cuidithe ag Cllr. J. Flynn agus glacadh leis

“With Heads of Legislation approved in May 2015, that Clare County Council call on the Taoiseach and the Government to prioritize the introduction of Periodic Payment Orders allowing periodic payments to be made to catastrophically injured claimants over their lifetime.” (M)

Item 17. Shannon Airport.

Ar moladh Cllr. P. Daly
Cuidithe ag Cllrs. P. McMahon agus glacadh leis

“We call on the Board of Shannon Airport to negotiate with bus operators, to facilitate, collect and deliver potential passengers throughout the country onto Shannon Airport”. (M)

The majority of the members were in agreement with the above motion. They felt a proper, sustainable bus service was needed to link Shannon Airport up to all the major towns and cities in Ireland and that this should be emphasised to the new C.E.O. in Shannon Airport. However, Cllr. T. O'Brien stated his opposition to this motion. He outlined the significant number of daily services by Bus Eireann which stop at Shannon, servicing Limerick, Galway and other routes. In not supporting the motion, he asked that the existing service be supported and used by all. He said that he would accept if the wording of the motion had called for a review of the service.

Item 18. Telecommunication Infrastructure.

Ar moladh Cllr. I. Lynch
Cuidithe ag Cllr. P. Hayes agus glacadh leis

“That Clare County Council request the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment to commission a report into the condition and suitability of the land line telecommunication infrastructure in Co. Clare and that he ensures adequate funds are allocated for the upgrade and replacement of lines following extended periods of line outage experienced by rural parts of Co. Clare.” (M)

Item 20. Coroners Bill.

Ar moladh Cllr. M. Howard
Cuidithe ag Cllr. A. Norton agus glacadh leis

“This Council requests the Government to progress the Coroners Bill as a matter of urgency, and that the Coroners Bill will provide for an automatic inquest into every maternal death in the state.” (M)

Item 21. Traveller accommodation.

Ar moladh Cllr. M. McKee
Cuidithe ag Cllr. J. Flynn agus glacadh leis

“That Clare County Council give a report on the funding from Central government for Traveller accommodation in the past 2 years. How does the funding compare with other counties and how it has been spent.” (Q)

Liam Conneally, Director of Service replied as follows:

“Over the past 2 years the following funding allocations were provided by Central Government for traveller accommodation:

Year	Total National Funding Allocation for Traveller Accommodation	Clare Allocation	Project
2015	4.3m	€37,000	Pumped Sewer at Deerpark, Ennistymon
2016	5.5m	€200,000	Demolition and construction of 5 units at Ballaghboy, Ennis

The design process for the Ballaghboy Group Housing Scheme has commenced. In addition, the Council has two refurbishment applications with the Department for approval, i.e. Deerpark and Ballymurtagh.

To date, in 2016 Clare County Council has spent €250,000 on the management and maintenance of Traveller Specific Accommodation in the County.

At the time of writing I have sought but have not received corresponding figures from neighbouring local authorities.”

It was agreed by the members that the funding from central government was totally inadequate and that additional funding should be provided for in 2017. Some of the members felt that ongoing continued maintenance of the sites is a major problem and funding for this should be provided for. Others felt that there was a duty of responsibility also on the tenants at these sites to keep the sites tidy and clean.

Item 22. Illegal dumping.

Ar moladh Cllr. T. McNamara
Cuidithe ag Cllr. P. J. Ryan agus glacadh leis

“I call on the Environment Section of Clare County Council to put a system in place to remove rubbish that has been illegally dumped when all other avenues of getting it removed have failed”. **(M)**

John Leahy, Senior Engineer, Environment Section replied as follows:

“Clare County Council Environment Section has the following policy in place in relation to removal of waste that has been illegally dumped:

If there are up to 6 no. bags of waste, i.e. if it will fit in a patrol warden’s van, the Environment patrol warden removes illegally dumped waste to the nearest authorized disposal site.

If there is a large amount of waste or if it is difficult to reach or requires traffic management to safely remove it, then it is referred to the Municipal District Office for removal to the nearest authorized disposal site.”

The members were unanimous in their support for additional CCTV cameras to be installed at black spots throughout the county. They also asked for the name and shame policy to be adopted in the Environment Section in order to change the public's attitude towards illegal dumping. The Chief Executive, in response, acknowledged that this was a growing society issue which warranted a diverse response. He was supportive of increased awareness through the Environmental Awareness Programme in schools and at community level.

Anne Haugh, Director of Service updated the members on the programme of works which have been undertaken by the Environment Section in recent times to combat the instances of illegal dumping as follows:-

New CCTV cameras have been purchased for use throughout the County;

Identification of black spots for illegal dumping;

A new Community Warden will be appointed in 2017 thus ensuring that there will be a Community Warden assigned to each Municipal District;

Appeals to the public to come forward and report sightings of illegal dumping and follow up with attendance at Court;

RMCEI Plan in Environment ensures planned inspections of Waste Collection trucks are carried out in conjunction with the local Gardai. Conditions of these permits are reviewed on a regular basis.

The setting up of a new Regional Waste Enforcement Team based in Cork with the sole purpose of looking into the movements of waste throughout the region.

The members asked that the Director of Services update them in the Monthly Management Report on these initiatives in December.

Item 23. Sat Nav companies.

Ar moladh Cllr. G. Keating

Cuidithe ag Cllr. B. Slattery agus glacadh leis

“To request Clare County Council to make contact with the Sat Nav companies to ensure that all main routes are utilised on Sat Nav equipment as tourists are being directed down unsuitable roads. As a result there have been a number of incidents where locals have been called to help pull cars out of ditches along the Wild Atlantic Way on roads from the Killimer Car Ferry and out of Doolin. This should be prioritised as a matter of urgency”. (M)

Tom Tiernan, Senior Engineer replied as follows:

“In general terms, signage strategies facilitated by T.I.I. and the local authorities is based on the assumption that the vast majority of traffic remains on the more strategic/higher category routes and only diverts away from same when the only reasonable remaining option is use of the local road network to facilitate access to destination. While it is appreciated that it may not be as easy to get Sat Nav technology to function precisely in accordance with this approach, there would appear to be room for improvement in terms of the Sat Nav Companies' understanding of the hierarchical structure of the road network. I think that they need to be thinking in this way and it would be reasonable to make such a point to them.”

Item 24. Third level I.T. Course in County Clare.

Ar moladh Cllr. J. Crowe
Cuidithe ag Cllr. C. Crowe agus glacadh leis

“In view of the I.D.A.’s comments regarding the shortage of local technology workers to supply the increasing demand for such skilled works in I.T., Financial, Pharma and Med-Tech Companies in the Mid-West Region, that Clare County Council engage with all the Third Level Institutions in the Region with a view to providing a Third Level I.T. Course in County Clare. Ensuring that we address this skills gap is a key enabler to becoming an even more attractive location for F.D.I.”. (M)

Item 25. Commemorating Walls in public graveyards.

Ar moladh Cllr. G. Flynn
Cuidithe ag Cllr. C. Collieran Molloy agus glacadh leis

“That Clare County Council install Commemorating Walls in their public graveyards to facilitate the placing of human remains from cremation and that this be considered in light of the recent directive from the head of the Catholic Church”. (M)

There was unanimous support for this motion from the members. The Chief Executive in response advised the members that he would organise an appraisal of this and report back to them in due course.

Item 26. Shannodoc.

Ar moladh Cllr. P. Hayes
Cuidithe ag Cllr. C. Collieran Molloy agus glacadh leis

“I propose that Clare County Council call on the Minister for Health, Mr. Simon Harris to intervene immediately into the recent announcement by Shannodoc to reduce its services to the public and in particular the Killaloe and Kilrush areas. The downgrading of these services is putting lives at risk and also contributing the further decline in rural communities”. (M)

The members discussed this very serious issue at length. It was strongly felt that there was an overall downward spiral of rural services in County Clare and that this was one decision that needed to be overturned. The members also asked that in conjunction with the above an invitation should also be extended to the Chief Executive of Shannodoc to attend at a future meeting to address the members regarding the recently announced reduction of services to the public.

Item 27. Home help.

Ar moladh Cllr. P. Daly
Cuidithe ag Cllr. G. Flynn agus glacadh leis

“I call on the H.S.E. and the Department of Health to allocate extra funding to Clarecare in order to alleviate the waiting list of approximately 200 people seeking home help in Co. Clare”. **(M)**

The members also asked that a copy of this resolution should also go to the Chief Executive of Clarecare for his information.

Item 28. Public lights.

Ar moladh Cllr. M. Hillery
Cuidithe ag Cllr. G. Flynn agus glacadh leis

"That the management of Clare Co. Council would seek funding from the government for a pilot project to replace existing public lights with solar powered ones to help reduce the large cost incurred by this Local Authority each year in electricity charges." **(M)**

Tom Tiernan, Senior Engineer replied as follows:

“Undoubtedly there is a requirement to significantly reduce power costs associated with public lighting. There is an onus on the local authority to reduce its energy consumption by 33% by 2020 to facilitate compliance with EU requirements. This is mandatory and must be achieved. The Council is presently feeding into a National strategic process whose target is to facilitate local authorities in achieving compliance in this regard. Public lighting is by far the biggest energy consumption component of infrastructure under the control of the local authority. The likelihood is that the replacement of the existing conventional public lighting lanterns by LED units will be identified as the primary means by which the aforementioned 2020 targets are to be achieved. LED lighting has been evolving over the past 20 years or so as a technology which has at this stage achieved a level of efficiency and competence that makes it suitable for this purpose such that the energy savings it will generate will facilitate its paying for itself within a relatively short period of time (5 – 10 years).

On the other hand, solar powered lighting has some distance to go before it is likely to be deemed suitable as an efficient innovation in public lighting terms. As things stand, the cost of average units (incorporating lighting column, battery and lantern) is in the region of €5,000 - €6,000 while the equivalent LED facility costs in the region of €1,500. Also, there are costs associated with maintenance of solar powered units such as periodic battery replacement and maintenance/periodic cleaning of the solar units to ensure that output is maintained at the required levels.

Notwithstanding the fact that I don't think solar powered lighting is an attractive alternative option economically, Clare County Council will be happy to facilitate a pilot project if funded to do so.”

Item 29. Construction Apprenticeships.

Ar moladh Cllr. J. Cooney
Cuidithe ag Cllr. J. Flynn agus glacadh leis

“That Clare County Council request Solas to prioritise the national roll-out of Construction Apprenticeships to address the increase in demand for various trades people”. (M)

Item 30. Comhfhreagras. Correspondence.

Correspondence.

It was proposed by Cllr. J. Cooney, seconded by Cllr. P. McMahon and agreed by all members present that the Cathaoirleach accept the invitation to attend the World Trade Market in London.

The following correspondence was circulated with the agenda:

1. Report on attendance at the Annual Dinner of the Clare Association of New York.
2. Correspondence dated 8th November, 2016 from Shannon Group regarding marketing activity for Shannon Airport in North America.
3. Notice from Irish Water in relation to Public consultation on preferred scheme for new water supply for the Eastern and Midlands Region.
4. Correspondence dated 5th October, 2016 from Shannon Group regarding the proposal to negotiate with bus operators to increase passenger numbers into Shannon Airport.
5. Correspondence dated 24th October, 2016 from the Office of the Minister for Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht in connection with Japanese Knotweed.
6. Correspondence dated 24th October, 2016 from the Department of Communications, Climate Action & Environment in relation to An Post.
7. Correspondence dated 18th October, 2016 from the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport regarding Japanese Knotweed.
8. Correspondence dated 10th October, 2016 from the Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht in connection with hedge cutting.
9. Correspondence dated 6th October, 2016 from University of Limerick in relation to the appointment of the next President of the University of Limerick.
10. Resolution from South Dublin County Council.
11. Resolution from South Dublin County Council.
12. Seventh Annual Tourism Policy Workshop taking place in Dromoland Castle on 16th – 18th November, 2016.
13. ICHS Seminar entitled “Partnership Working for Housing Associations and Local Authority Elected Members” taking place in the Ashling Hotel, Dublin 8 on 16th November, 2016.

14. Conference entitled “Rebuilding Ireland Action Plan for Housing and Homelessness” being held in the Four Seasons Hotel, Carlingford, Co. Louth on 18th – 20th November, 2016.
15. Conference entitled “First Time Home Buyer Mortgage – Getting on the Property Ladder” being held in the Clonakilty Hotel, Clonakilty, Co. Cork on 25th – 27th November, 2016.
16. Conference entitled “A Practical Guide to Budget 2017” being held in the Clonakilty Hotel, Clonakilty, Co. Cork on 2nd – 4th December, 2016.
17. Conference entitled “2 Day Microsoft Powerpoint Training for Councillors” taking place in the Clonakilty Hotel, Clonakilty, Co. Cork on 7th & 8th December, 2016.
18. Conference entitled “Brexit – The economic consequences for Ireland” taking place in the Four Seasons Hotel, Carlingford, Co. Louth on 9th – 11th December, 2016.
19. Elected Members Seminar entitled “Living with Dementia in Ireland” taking place in the Connacht Hotel, Dublin Road, Galway on 9th & 10th December, 2016.
20. Training Seminar for Councillors entitled “Rebuilding Ireland, Action Plan for housing and homelessness” taking place in the Millrace Hotel, Bunclody, Co. Wexford.
21. Conference entitled “2 Day Microsoft Excel Intermediate Training for Councillors” taking place in the Clonakilty Hotel, Clonakilty, Co. Cork on 16th & 17th December, 2016.
22. Elected Members Seminar entitled “Community Development Achieving Social Inclusion, Reconciliation and Equality” being held in the Connacht Hotel, Dublin Road, Galway on 16th & 18th December, 2016.
23. Elected Members Training Seminar entitled “Local Authorities and Waste Management” taking place in the Connacht Hotel, Dublin Road, Galway on 13th & 14th January, 2017.
24. Elected Members Training Seminar entitled “Supporting Safer Communities” taking place in the Connacht Hotel, Dublin Road, Galway on 20th & 21st January, 2017.

Conferences.

Reports on Seminars/Conferences attended.

With regard to seminars/conferences attended, reports completed in accordance with Section 142 of the Local Government Act 2001 were made available at the meeting.

AILG Training taking place in Station House Hotel, Letterkenny, Co. Donegal on 14th May, 2016.

The Meetings Administrator informed the Members that the estimated average cost per Councillor attending this Conference was €531.78 including conference fee of €50.

It was agreed that Cllr. J. Crowe attend this Conference.

AILG Training taking place in Plaza Hotel, Killarney, Co. Kerry on 19th May, 2016.

The Meetings Administrator informed the Members that the estimated average cost per Councillor attending this Conference was €337.02 including conference fee of €50.

It was agreed that Cllr. J. Cooney attend this Conference.

AILG Training taking place in Ennistymon, Co. Clare on 14th June, 2016.

The Meetings Administrator informed the Members that the estimated average cost per Councillor attending this Conference was €100.32 including conference fee of €50.

It was agreed that Cllr. J. Crowe attend this Conference.

AILG Training taking place in Douglas, Co. Cork on 10th September, 2016.

The Meetings Administrator informed the Members that the estimated average cost per Councillor attending this Conference was €390.56 including conference fee of €100.

It was agreed that Cllr. M. Begley attend this Conference.

AILG Autumn Conference taking place in Gorey, Co. Wexford on 13th – 14th October, 2016.

The Meetings Administrator informed the Members that the estimated average cost per Councillor attending this Conference was €457.52 including conference fee of €50.

It was agreed that Cllrs. T. O'Brien and M. Begley attend this Conference.

AILG Training taking place in Kilkenny on 27th October, 2016.

The Meetings Administrator informed the Members that the estimated average cost per Councillor attending this Conference was €365.37 including conference fee of €50.

It was agreed that Cllrs. G. Keating, M. Begley, J. Cooney and T. O'Brien attend this Conference.

AILG Training taking place in Wexford on 15th November, 2016.

The Meetings Administrator informed the Members that the estimated average cost per Councillor attending this Conference was €425.62 including conference fee of €50.

It was agreed that Cllrs. C. Curtin, M. Hillery and P. McMahon attend this Conference.

Conference entitled “The Challenges, Promise & Responsibility of Education in the 21st Century” taking place in NUI Galway on 12th November, 2016.

The Meetings Administrator informed the Members that the estimated average cost per Councillor attending this Conference was €150.57.

It was agreed that Cllr. C. Curtin attend this Conference.

Conference entitled “Irish Council of Social Housing” taking place in the Aisling Hotel, Dublin on 16th November, 2016.

The Meetings Administrator informed the Members that the estimated average cost per Councillor attending this Conference was €502.67 including conference fee of €50.

It was agreed that Cllrs. P. McMahon and M. Howard attend this Conference.

Training for elected members entitled “Regional Assemblies & their role with Local Authorities” taking place in Red Cow Moran’s Hotel, Dublin on 19th November, 2016.

The Meetings Administrator informed the Members that the estimated average cost per Councillor attending this Conference was €448.66 including conference fee of €50.

It was agreed that Cllrs. G. Keating, M. Begley, M. Howard, C. Colleran Molloy, J. Cooney, P. Burke and P. Murphy attend this Conference.

The meeting then concluded.

Signed: _____
Riarthóir Cruinnithe

Signed: _____
Cathaoirleach

Date: _____