

**Minutes of the September Monthly Meeting of Clare County Council held via MS Teams on Monday, 13<sup>th</sup> September, 2021 at 3:45 p.m.**

**Present via MS Teams:**

**Present:**

Councillors M. Howard, M. Nestor, J. Flynn, C. Colleran Molloy, P. Murphy, A. Norton, P. Daly, J. Cooney, P. Hayes, P. Burke, A. O'Callaghan, T. O'Brien, J. Crowe, M. Begley, P.J. Ryan, P. McMahon, G. Flynn, D. McGettigan, P. O'Gorman, S. Talty, J. Killeen, J. Garrihy, P.J. Kelly, B. Chambers, G. Keating, C. Murphy, I. Lynch.

- Mr. Pat Dowling, Chief Executive.
- Ms. Ann Reynolds, Meetings Administrator.
- Ms. Margaret O'Rourke, Assistant Staff Officer.
- Ms. Anne Haugh, Director of Social Development.
- Mr. Liam Conneally, Director of Economic Development.
- Mr. Leonard Cleary, Director of Rural Development.
- Dr. Carmel Kirby, Director of Physical Development.
- Ms. Noeleen Fitzgerald, Director of Finance and Support Services.
- Mr. John Leahy, Senior Engineer, Physical Development.
- Mr. Seán Lenihan, Senior Engineer, Physical Development.
- Mr. Cyril Feeney, Senior Engineer, Physical Development.

The Cathaoirleach, Cllr. P.J. Ryan presided.

**Vote of sympathy.**

A vote of sympathy was extended to the following:

- Mary Quinlan, Doonaha, Kilkee RIP
- Michael (Mick) O'Connell, Castleisland, Kerry RIP
- Sean Culligan, Kilrush, RIP

**Shannon Airport.**

Cathaoirleach, Cllr. P.J. Ryan addressed the meeting and stated that he was delighted to see the return of the Aer Lingus London Heathrow service at Shannon Airport starting today.

Cllr. Ryan stated that this has always been a vital service for the business community and its return for an initial 10-week period is a positive step.

Cllr. Ryan continued that with today's Heathrow announcement, Shannon Airport now has the best connectivity to the four key London airports – Stansted, Gatwick, Heathrow and the new London Luton service due to commence at the end of October.

Cllr. Ryan urged people to get behind the Heathrow service to ensure it is retained in the longer term and felt that it is critical that we support all Shannon's air services and our airport as it works to build back routes in what has been a catastrophic period for airports and airlines globally.

Cathaoirleach, Cllr. Ryan commended Shannon Group on the great job it has already done in this regard and stated that the work they have done with Ryanair which has led to them restoring a second based aircraft at Shannon and having 18 routes available from Shannon for winter is a tremendous achievement, especially considering the huge competition there is internationally to secure air services.

As people begin to think about taking to the skies to enjoy a well-deserved holiday after so long, it is great to know that we now have some wonderful new destinations from Shannon like - Edinburgh, Turin, Budapest, Fuerteventura and Birmingham to choose from. These services were hard won, and it is important that as a County, we row in behind them and think 'Shannon', when booking our next overseas holiday.

**Item 1: Minutes of Council Meetings.**

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

“That the Minutes of the July Meeting of Clare County Council held on 12<sup>th</sup> July, 2021 be adopted and signed.”

b. Ar moladh Cllr. M. Howard  
Cuidithe ag Cllr. P. Murphy agus glacadh leis

“That the Minutes of Special Meeting of Clare County Council held on 28<sup>th</sup> July, 2021 be adopted and signed.”

**Item 2: Matters Arising.**

There were no matters arising.

**Item 3: Minutes of Municipal District Meetings.**

a. Ar moladh Cllr. A. Norton  
Cuidithe ag Cllr. P. Murphy agus glacadh leis

“That the Minutes of the Ennis Municipal District Meeting held on the 6<sup>th</sup> July, 2021 be noted.”

b. Ar moladh Cllr. P. Hayes  
Cuidithe ag Cllr. P. Burke agus glacadh leis

“That the Minutes of the Killaloe Municipal District Meeting held on the 19<sup>th</sup> May, 2021 be noted.”

c. Ar moladh Cllr. P. Burke  
Cuidithe ag Cllr. A. O’Callaghan agus glacadh leis

“That the Minutes of the Killaloe Municipal District Special Meeting held on the 24<sup>th</sup> June, 2021 be noted.”

d. Ar moladh Cllr. P. Hayes  
Cuidithe ag Cllr. T. O’Brien agus glacadh leis

“That the Minutes of the Killaloe Municipal District Annual General Meeting held on the 24<sup>th</sup> June, 2021 be noted.”

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

“That the Minutes of the Shannon Municipal District Meeting held on the 18<sup>th</sup> May, 2021 be noted.”

f. Ar moladh Cllr. J. Crowe  
Cuidithe ag Cllr. M. Begley agus glacadh leis

“That the Minutes of the Shannon Municipal District Special Meeting held on the 18<sup>th</sup> June, 2021 be noted.”

g. Ar moladh Cllr. M. Begley  
Cuidithe ag Cllr. P. McMahon agus glacadh leis

“That the Minutes of the Shannon Municipal District Annual General Meeting held on the 18<sup>th</sup> June, 2021 be noted.”

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

“That the Minutes of the West Clare Municipal District Meeting held on the 4<sup>th</sup> May, 2021 be noted.”

i. Ar moladh Cllr. S. Talty  
Cuidithe ag Cllr. C. Murphy agus glacadh leis

“That the Minutes of the West Clare Municipal District Special Meeting held on the 1<sup>st</sup> June, 2021 be noted.”

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

“That the Minutes of the West Clare Municipal District Annual General Meeting held on the 23<sup>rd</sup> June, 2021 be noted.”

k. Ar moladh Cllr. J. Garrihy  
Cuidithe ag Cllr. J. Killeen agus glacadh leis

“That the Minutes of the West Clare Municipal District Annual General Meeting held on the 24<sup>th</sup> June, 2021 be noted.”

**Item 4: Minutes of the Corporate Policy Group Meetings.**

The members noted the minutes of the meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> July, 2021 as presented.

**Item 5: 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.

Cllr. C. Murphy acknowledged the work completed by staff in West Clare Municipal District in solving a flooding issue which in the past had caused houses to be stranded.

Cllr. C. Murphy also commended the work carried out by crews on the ground who kept beaches and amenities clean during an exceptionally busy summer season.

Referring to water refill stating in Ennistymon which is a plastic free initiative, Cllr. C. Murphy asked when this initiative will be rolled out to other communities.

In relation to water conservation, Cllr. C. Murphy queried if leak detection crews can provide support to group water schemes.

Cllr. G. Flynn expressed thanks to staff in Social Development for the swift response in cleaning up Gort na Rí housing estate in Shannon recently. Cllr. Flynn also commended the work done in replacing the bus shelter in Shannon.

Cllr. A. Norton acknowledged the staff in Physical Development who successfully managed the countys beaches during a very busy summer. Cllr. Norton also acknowledged the variety of online services being provided by the library, arts, museum and archives departments.

Cllr. P. Hayes requested an update from the Chief Executive on the transfer of staff to Irish Water and stated that this is a source of great concern for workers on the ground. Cllr. Hayes expressed thanks to the team behind the bridge repairs across the county.

Cllr. P. Hayes referred to the roundabouts on the M18 and requested that the Senior Engineer raise the issue with Transport Infrastructure Ireland as they are particularly dangerous and need to be upgraded.

Cllr. J. Flynn acknowledged the progress being made by the Social Development Directorate and welcomed the increase in housing being provided. Cllr. J. Flynn also welcomed the introduction of virtual inspections in private rented properties.

Cllr. J. Garrihy echoed the tributes paid to Council staff who worked on beaches and amenities during the very busy summer and commended the staff for their ongoing positive engagement with members of the public. Cllr. Garrihy stated that staff were innovative and creative in finding solutions for parking, etc. and requested that the Council focus on solving parking problems at popular locations being mindful of pedestrian safety.

Cllr. J. Garrihy paid tribute to Cratloe Community in relation to the community owned solar farm and expressed congratulations to the team at the Cliffs of Moher as the Cliffs of Moher moves into the top 10 visitor attractions in the world.

Cllr. P. Murphy welcomed works being undertaken on footpaths at Ballybeg Road and requested that further works be carried out on a section of footpaths at this location.

Cllr. P. Murphy noted the good quality of roads available for cyclists in West Clare. Cllr. Murphy welcomed the Town and Village Renewal project in Clarecastle and he also welcomed the traffic calming project in Abbey Court and Abbeyville.

Cllr. P. Burke joined with Cllr. P. Hayes in relation to the bridge rehabilitation works. Cllr. Burke noted that 15 bridges are listed for works and queried why only 5 have been completed.

Cllr. M. Begley referred to an extension to a local graveyard and expressed concern that this project is being delayed by the NPW and Geophysicist in carrying out reports. Cllr. Begley requested that this project be advanced to the planning stage.

Cllr. M. Begley welcomed progress on works at Springfield, Clonlara.

Cllr. Begley raised the issue of the Gillogue to UL walkway/cycleway and requested that action be taken on this project now that students are back in campus as this project has been in the pipeline for 5 years.

Cllr. G. Keating thanked Clare County Council for supporting the opening of the digital hub in Cross and felt that this initiative should be the responsibility of the Rural Development Directorate.

Cllr. P. McMahon expressed thanks to Clare County Council staff for the positive response in resolving the roads issue near the Wells school.

Cllr. S. Talty echoed the praise extended to the executive and staff in managing Doolin, Lahinch and all locations during the exceptionally busy tourist season.

Cllr. S. Talty welcomed the seven families who have been resettled in County Clare communities and expressed hope that these families will be happy and content in their new homes.

Cllr. J. Killeen acknowledged the Council staff who worked at the county's beaches during the summer. Cllr. J. Killeen also acknowledged the people who provide the face of Clare County Council and who met people when they visited the offices of Clare County Council during lockdown and carried out essential services.

P. Dowling, Chief Executive on behalf of the staff thanked the Councillors and acknowledged their comments and undertook to pass on their compliments to staff who have been exemplary in carrying out their duties.

Referring to the Digital Hub in Cross, Mr. Dowling stated that all digital hub initiatives are the responsibility of the Rural Development Directorate and that the Design Office co-ordinate the design of the hubs.

In response to concern raised by Cllr. P. Hayes, Mr. Dowling stated that he has communicated with Water Services staff within the past few weeks and that negotiations continue. Mr. Dowling undertook to inform Councillors when there is an update with definitive information.

John Leahy, Senior Engineer, Physical Development informed the members that he has had a conversation with officials in TII and has written to them in relation to the roundabouts on the M18 and is awaiting a response.

Mr. Leahy stated that 30 bridges were included in the bridge rehabilitation programme and that a further 5 were added for emergency works. Mr. Leahy undertook to revert to Cllr. P. Burke with more detail as funding is awaited.

Mr. Leahy stated that correspondence issued to the elected members during the summer requesting them to inform the Municipal District Offices of road works to be included in the 3 year programme as the list is being compiled and has to be submitted before the end of October.

Cllr. P. Hayes referred to the transfer of assets issue and stated that it is critically important that now is the time to continue to fight for workers before the final decision is made as the Irish Water issue has not been a success story for Clare County Council workers.

Dr. C. Kirby, Director of Physical Development referred to concerns raised by Cllr. P. Hayes and stated that there is strong communication with staff at all Irish Water meetings. Dr. Kirby stated that the smoothest way for this transition is via communication and emphasised that staff welfare is paramount.

Referring to the water refill station, Dr. Kirby stated that this was a pilot project that is being monitored and will be rolled out to other locations if successful.

Dr. Kirby informed the meeting that Clare County Council do not repair group water scheme leaks but will provide support and guidance when necessary.

Seán Lenihan, Senior Engineer, Physical Development addressed the meeting and stated that hauliers are delivering material to the site at Springfield, Clonlara and are adhering to the traffic management plan in place.

Referring to the Gillogue walkway/cycleway, Mr. Lenihan noted that there are sensitive environmental constraints in the area which are being addressed. Mr. Lenihan undertook to meet Cllr. Begley during the week and stated that commitment to this project has not waived as funding is in place.

Cllr. C. Murphy clarified that Clare County Council has opportunity with leaks team to provide a support mechanism to group water schemes as he felt this would be a good use of resources.

Cllr. M. Begley noted that ¾ of the walkway at Gillogue already exists and stated that he did not understand why the environmental issues impact on something that already exists. Cllr. Begley requested that this project gets underway as a matter of urgency.

**Item 6: Disposal of land by means of lease at Gort Road, Ennis, Co. Clare pursuant to Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001 and Section 211 of the Planning & Development Act, 2000.**

Report dated 8<sup>th</sup> July, 2021 from Carmel Greene, Senior Executive Officer, Economic Development Directorate was circulated with the agenda together with map. The report states that it is proposed to dispose of an area of lands at Gort Road, Ennis, Co. Clare by means of lease subject to the conditions as set out in the notice served on the members dated 8<sup>th</sup> July, 2021.

Ar moladh Cllr. P. Murphy  
Cuidithe ag Cllr. M. Howard agus glacadh leis

“Notice having been served pursuant to Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001, Clare County Council approves pursuant to the powers vested on it at Section 211 of the Planning & Development Act, 2000 as amended, of disposal of land by means of lease, at Gort Road, Ennis, Co. Clare subject to the conditions as set out in the notice served on the members dated 8<sup>th</sup> July, 2021.”

**Item 7: Disposal of lands to rear of Unit 9, Gort Road Business Park, Dulick, Ennis, Co. Clare pursuant to Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001 and Section 211 of the Planning & Development Act, 2000.**

Report dated 8<sup>th</sup> July, 2021 from Carmel Greene, Senior Executive Officer, Economic Development Directorate was circulated with the agenda together with map. The report states that it is proposed to dispose of an area of lands measuring 0.0064 hectares at Gort Road Business Park, Dulick Ennis, Co. Clare subject to the conditions as set out in the notice served on the members dated 8<sup>th</sup> July, 2021.

Ar moladh Cllr. A. Norton  
Cuidithe ag Cllr. P. Murphy agus glacadh leis

“Notice having been served pursuant to Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001, Clare County Council approves pursuant to the powers vested on it at Section 211 of the Planning & Development Act, 2000 as amended, of disposal of lands to the rear of unit 9, Gort Road Business Park, Dulick, Ennis, Co. Clare subject to the conditions as set out in the notice served on the members dated 8<sup>th</sup> July, 2021.”

**Item 8: Disposal of area of ground to the rear of Sixmilebridge Credit Union, Sixmilebridge, Co. Clare pursuant to Section 183 of the Local**

**Government Act, 2001 and Section 211 of the Planning & Development Act, 2000.**

Report dated 31<sup>st</sup> August, 2021 from Carmel Greene, Senior Executive Officer, Economic Development Directorate was circulated with the agenda together with map. The report states that it is proposed to dispose of an area of ground measuring 0.0114 hectares to the rear of Sixmilebridge Credit Union, Sixmilebridge, Co. Clare subject to the conditions as set out in the notice served on the members dated 31<sup>st</sup> August, 2021.

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

“Notice having been served pursuant to Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001, Clare County Council approves pursuant to the powers vested on it at Section 211 of the Planning & Development Act, 2000 as amended, of disposal of area of ground to the rear of Sixmilebridge Credit Union, Sixmilebridge, Co. Clare subject to the conditions as set out in the notice served on the members dated 31<sup>st</sup> August, 2021.”

**Item 9: Disposal of property at Knocksaggart, Newmarket on Fergus, Co. Clare pursuant to Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001 and Section 211 of the Planning & Development Act, 2000.**

Report dated 16<sup>th</sup> August, 2021 from Anne Hugh, Director of Social Development was circulated with the agenda together with map. The report states that it is proposed to dispose of property at Knocksaggart, Newmarket on Fergus, Co. Clare subject to the conditions as set out in the notice served on the members dated 16<sup>th</sup> August, 2021.

Ar moladh Cllr. C. Murphy  
Cuidithe ag Cllr. D. McGettigan agus glacadh leis

“Notice having been served pursuant to Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001, Clare County Council approves pursuant to the powers vested on it at Section 211 of the Planning & Development Act, 2000 as amended, of disposal of property at Knocksaggart Newmarket on Fergus, Co. Clare subject to the conditions as set out in the notice served on the members dated 16<sup>th</sup> August, 2021.”

**Item 10: Interim Financial Report to 30<sup>th</sup> June, 2021.**

Financial Report for half year to 30<sup>th</sup> June, 2021 was circulated with the agenda. The report set out a financial review of the Council’s income and expenditure account for the first six months of 2021, together with an overview of the activity on capital projects in the same period. The members noted the report as presented having been proposed by Cllr. P. Murphy and seconded by Cllr. J. Garrihy.

**Item 11: Museum Standards Programme for Clare Museum.**

Report dated 6<sup>th</sup> September, 2021 from Siobhán Mulcahy, A/Director of Social



Development was circulated with the agenda. The report states that the following policies are required to be adopted by Clare County Council in order to maintain the museum's Full Accreditation status under the Museum Standards Programme for Ireland:

- Collection Policy 2020 – 2025
- Disposal Policy 2020 – 2025
- Loan Policy 2020 – 2025
- Exhibition Policy 2020 – 2025
- Education Policy 2020 – 2022

The report states that while the Disposal, Loan and Exhibition policies are rolled over from the 2015-2019 versions, the Education Policy is updated to reflect new opportunities presented by the availability of a volunteer, while the Collection policy includes the museum's commitment to GDPR requirements.

The members adopted the plans and policies as presented having been proposed by Cllr. J. Cooney and seconded by Cllr. C. Murphy.

## **Item 12. Tenancy Enforcement Officers.**

Ar moladh Cllr. J. Flynn

Cuidithe ag Cllr. P. Murphy agus glacadh leis

“Report on progress dealing with anti-social behaviour of “neighbours from hell“

I refer to previous notice of motions on the need to protect residents from the anti-social behaviour of “Neighbours from hell“

I ask for a progress report on the work of three Tenancy Enforcement Officers appointed by Clare County Council at the start of this year 2021. These Tenancy Enforcement Officers operate on a 24 hour 7 day basis to support residents experiencing anti-social behaviour from neighbours in Clare County Council housing tenancies. Residents can;

1) Ring 24/7 Emergency number to contact Tenancy Enforcement Officers at (87) 416 9496, and or

2) also email the complaint to Anti-Social behaviour section of the Housing department at [ASB@clarecoco.ie](mailto:ASB@clarecoco.ie)” (M)

### **Anne Haugh, Director of Social Development replied as follows:**

“This Council approved additional funding in the 2021 Budget which facilitated the enhancement of the Housing Estate Management unit by appointing 3 temporary Tenancy Enforcement Officers (TEO's).

The primary role of the TEO team is to:

- receive and investigate fully in a proactive manner, as part of the Estate Management team, any complaints relating to alleged failure of tenants to abide by the conditions of their letting agreements.

- work closely and collaboratively with the Traveller community and respond to complaints of anti-social behaviour, serve notices on illegally parked caravans as required and to liaise with Local Authority Services and other statutory agencies i.e., Gardai to address unauthorised encampments within the County in accordance with the relevant legislation.
- provide support to communities in relation to anti-social behaviour of Council tenants.

The Tenancy Enforcement Team has been very successful and effective in proactively dealing with anti-social behaviour complaints. In the year to date the team have undertaken 1731 callouts. Many of these call outs were repeat therefore 1731 would not be reflective of individual ASB complaints but rather where an incident of ASB was reported the team would have initially responded to that complaint and would have followed up with repeat call(s) to help prevent re-occurrence(s).

It is generally recognised that as a result of Covid-19 lockdowns and stay-at-home restrictions the number of ASB complaints, particularly those associated with noise complaints, did increase significantly. The TEO team has been very successful and effective in proactively dealing with such complaints.

Clare County Council has a duty to manage and control dwellings let under the Housing Acts, with a view to securing and protecting the interests of tenants, their families and the community in the peaceful occupation of their homes. In accordance with our Anti-Social Behaviour Strategy, adopted by the Council earlier this year, Clare County Council is committed to the preservation of the peaceful occupation of all dwellings for which it is responsible and will not tolerate anti-social behaviour (ASB). Clare County Council will investigate all complaints of ASB in an efficient, fair and impartial manner and will take all appropriate steps, in accordance with best practice as set out in this strategy, to prevent same. Clare County Council will carry out such investigations and inquiries as it considers necessary to establish whether there is substantive evidence to suggest that the respondent is or has engaged in ASB. Upon investigating any such complaints of alleged ASB the Council can decide on an appropriate remedy in accordance with the Anti-Social Behaviour Strategy.

Any matters that need to be brought to the attention of the Estate Management unit can be done so by emailing [asb@clarecoco.ie](mailto:asb@clarecoco.ie) . The working hours of the TEO team are flexible to meet required need, involving working after hours and weekends as the need dictates. The TEO team can be contacted out of office hours, should the need arise, by contacting the Council.”

The elected members raised concern in relation to a small number of troublesome local authority tenants who move into established peaceful communities and create disorder by intimidating and harassing vulnerable people. The elected members stated that they have been informed of complaints of racist behaviour, serious drug areas and poor waste management in council tenancies and council supported tenancies.

The Councillors commended the work of the Tenancy Enforcement Officers and Chief Executive for providing finance to appoint the Tenancy Enforcement Officers and urged that these positions be kept going forward as it is important that communities feel safe.

### **Item 13. Affordable Housing.**

Ar moladh Cllr. C. Murphy

Cuidithe ag Cllr. S. Talty agus glacadh leis

“All the anecdotal evidence suggests there is a crisis in the availability of affordable housing stock, for both private ownership or long term rental, for permanent residents. I request that Clare County Council would undertake, as a matter of urgency, the relevant research to provide empirical evidence as to the current demand here in Clare for affordable housing for permanent residents who do not qualify for social housing assistance.

I would also request, should this motion be successful, a firm timeline for the delivery of the research be provided to the members within 2 weeks of this meeting.” (M)

#### **Anne Haugh, Director of Social Development replied as follows:**

“The recently published Government Housing plan ‘Housing for All’ sets out the framework for housing delivery up to 2030, this policy document will inform the housing targets and objectives for local authorities. In addition, the process for preparation of a new County Development Plan requires the preparation of a Housing Strategy which will set out how the anticipated population growth can be accommodated in the County over the lifetime of the plan.

Supply of housing remains the key issue in the County, there is minimal development(s) of scale under construction at this time. The lack of new housing supply has impacted on the second-hand market which has seen significant increase in property prices in the County.

In a recent circular issued by the Dept of Housing, Local Government and Heritage the basis for allocation of funding from the newly established Affordable Housing Fund was outlined as follows:

*Funding will be specifically targeted at areas where a strong demand for affordable housing units is evidenced, by reference to a Housing Need and Demand Assessment (HNDA) carried out in accordance with the guidance to local authorities circulated in April 2021 or other verifiable data indicating a strong, evidence-based affordable housing need. Where an Assessment for an administrative area has been undertaken using the specific HNDA Guidance and Tool, it will form the sole basis of determination of a strong demand for affordable housing units.*

At this juncture the Council is awaiting further detailed criteria against which applications for affordable schemes will be assessed but it is clear that a robust evidence based case will need to accompany any such application which will identify a verifiable housing need in the area in question and that the proposed dwellings can in location and price address that need.

In this regard it is intended to commission a detailed study as requested in the motion which will build on the data already compiled as part of the preparation of the Housing Strategy.

Members will be advised as requested as to the timelines for completion of this research.”

The elected members were in agreement that people are in need of assistance in obtaining affordable housing and that there is a need to deliver on housing for all. It

was noted that there is a lack of permanent housing available in tourist resorts. The members felt that while County Clare is being advertised as a prime location to reside in more people are moving here at the cost of people already living here as existing community members are being outbided when purchasing houses. The members agreed that local service providers cannot afford to live in coastal areas and that there is a need to put a plan in place to deliver housing for these citizens which will regenerate rural areas and create sustainable communities.

The elected members noted that some people are over the limit for Council support but cannot get a mortgage and that the level of rent being paid is a barrier in saving for a house deposit. It was felt that evidence based research is critical on this issue.

Anne Haugh, Director of Social Development addressed the meeting and stated that the Council has engaged Consultants and intend to include this element in preparation of a housing strategy for the County Development Plan. Ms. Haugh stated that the Consultants will be asked to include local context when putting the brief together. Ms. Haugh undertook to provide an update on scheduled timeline for delivery within the next few weeks.

#### **Item 14. Vehicle charging points.**

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

“I am calling on Clare County Council Roads Department to put in place vehicle charging points in towns and villages long the Wild Atlantic Way in anticipation of the significant increase in visitor numbers expected with the easing of Covid restrictions. Notwithstanding the current restrictions in overseas visitors 2021 has been an exceptionally busy summer period on the Wild Atlantic Way with the domestic stay-cationers.

The charging points should be located centrally in towns/villages car parking spaces to encourage visitors to avail of the many amenities in the area while their vehicle is charging. This would boost and encourage small tourism providers in retail/arts and crafts and the hospitality business to further develop their many offerings.

We do not need a pilot scheme or any feasibility report. Car charging is readily available and is grant aided by the Department and I am looking for a commitment from the Roads Department to immediately begin their installation. In addition the installed charging points should be highlighted on the Council website to illustrate to visitors that Clare encourages and is very much open to sustainable modes of transport.” (M)

#### **Dr. Carmel Kirby, Director of Physical Development replied as follows:**

‘Documentation was released by the LGMA/CCMA during August giving guidance to the sector in relation to Electric Vehicle Charging Points (EVCPs). Local Authorities have been requested to develop a strategy within their Local Authority Area for the rollout of EVCPs at key locations. A plan for rollout has yet to be devised but it is the intention of Clare County Council to develop a strategy, identify the optimum locations and commence rollout of charging points for electric vehicles as soon as funding becomes available.’

The elected members agreed that there is an opportunity for local authorities to lead by installing electric vehicle charging points countywide in order to attract tourists to the entire county. It was felt that there should be a focus on fast charging points.

**Item 15. Illegal dumping signs.**

Ar moladh Cllr. D. McGettigan  
Cuidithe ag Cllr. G. Flynn agus glacadh leis

“I call on this Council to review their signs on illegal dumping and to erect more signage on the 'Leave no Trace’.

The 'leave no Trace' policy is not working on its own and needs a combined effort of highlighting and enforcement such as more fines.

This issue comes up repeatedly, I have seen signs that are covered in debris or overgrown therefore making them almost invisible. We need hard hitting signs with graphics that show the damage that directly affects our wildlife and our environment, graphics that may make people stop and think of the damage they are doing before dumping or littering.” (M)

**Cyril Feeney, Senior Engineer, Physical Development replied as follows:**

“To help bring awareness and prevent illegal dumping the Environmental Awareness Team of Clare County Council work under the Greener Clare programme. The Greener Clare programme encourages and promotes best environmental practice across Co. Clare. Supporting locally led environmental awareness initiatives is at the core of the Greener Clare programme. The supports include the provision of advice, information and material resources as well grant aid to communities across the county. Clare County Council are members of “Leave No Trace Ireland” and have access to their resources which includes logo and campaign materials which we promote through our social media channels. The “Leave No Trace” slogan has anti-litter and anti-dumping messaging as its core theme.

However our littering and antidumping awareness campaigns are not limited to “Leave No Trace” messaging. We are constantly raising awareness and the visible presence of community led volunteers litter picking in our towns, villages and beaches is considered a very effective way of achieving this aim. To this end Clare County Council actively support and encourage participation in the An Taisce National Spring Clean and Clean Coast programmes as well as the An Taisce Green Schools Programme which includes the theme of Litter and Waste. In addition, Clare County Council also supports the “My Waste Ireland” campaign. This government funded national initiative has recently developed a hard hitting “Your Country - Your Waste” campaign for use by both Local Authorities and communities. During 2021 this campaign has been actively promoted through social and print media.

Social media is an important tool to communicate the anti dumping /littering messaging. The Council uses its social media channels on a regular basis to highlight littering/dumping and their effects on the receiving environment. Paid advertisement through the Greener Clare social media channel is an effective tool for targeting

awareness for local littering / dumping incidents and our Waste Enforcement team use this tool to highlight particular black spots. We will discuss the potential of using hard hitting signage graphics with the Leave No Trace Ireland organisation at national level to ensure it is in keeping with their messaging ethos. The Municipal District Offices will be tasked with cleaning and uncovering any existing signs to restore them to prominence.

It is important to also acknowledge the general public who continue to recycle and dispose of their waste correctly either through a collection service, bring banks or civic amenity sites. In fact many items that are illegally dumped could be recycled for a small nominal fee and certain items such as electric goods are actually free to recycle at our amenity sites. Our enforcement team are also very active and will prosecute all illegal dumping where evidence is obtained. To date in 2021 we have issued 96 fines under waste management legislation.”

The elected members welcomed the proposal to restore signs and compliments were paid to the local authority in supporting community groups who are pro-active in litter picking.

It was agreed that Items No. 16 and 17 would be discussed together.

**Item 16. Communication from Irish Water.**

Ar moladh Cllr. J. Crowe  
Cuidithe ag Cllr. A. O’Callaghan agus glacadh leis

“That Clare County Council request that Irish Water in such circumstances as contamination, leaks, boil notices, restrictions etc, group scheme secretaries be notified.

This will eliminate any confusion in all areas, as we have experienced a number of problems in recent weeks.” (M)

**Item 17. Communication from Irish Water.**

Ar moladh Cllr. A. O’Callaghan  
Cuidithe ag Cllrs. J. Crowe, P. O’Gorman, M. Howard agus J. Cooney agus glacadh leis

“Due to some serious breakdown on Irish Waters network, that the CEO and with support of the full council that the current information would be relayed as matter of urgency to Local radio/social media/printed media/local authorities/group water schemes and elected representatives. And daily accounts and updates would be given to same.” (M)

**Cyril Feeney, Senior Engineer, Physical Development provided reply received from Duane O’Brien, Asset Operations, South West Region, Irish Water as follows:**

“In the event of water restrictions or interruptions being placed upon any public water supply, Irish Water endeavours to ensure that any group water schemes taking a supply from the public scheme are notified immediately.

Irish Water, working with Clare County Council, identifies the affected group water schemes in any communications issued to local representatives, media and on our website.

As the supervisory authority for group water schemes, direct contact is made by Clare County Council through its Rural Water Section.

Irish Water also provide extensive information on their website relating to supply interruptions and members of the public can phone the free phone 1800 278278 number for further updates.

In addition, Oireachtas members and local representatives can email localrepsupport@water.ie or phone the dedicated 0818 178178 number for additional support and information.

Irish Water are always working to improve this communication process to provide the most up to date information to public representatives and the general public.”

The elected members outlined details of an issue which arose recently whereby a “do not consume” notice was placed in an area due to a high level of manganese in a water source. It was noted that there was a delay in communicating this information to residents and confusion in relation to the affected areas. The members felt that communication from Irish Water during this time was sub-standard and that a lesson should be learned from this experience going forward and that Irish Water should alert householders and people affected in a timely manner. It was felt that maps of the pipework should be more readily available.

The Council staff and the contractor involved were complimented on the manner in which they dealt with this issue.

#### **Item 18. Representations from elected members.**

Ar moladh Cllr. G. Flynn

Cuidithe ag Cllr. J. Flynn agus glacadh leis

“I am calling on the Chief Executive to put in place a mechanism or some system related to performance indicators for each Municipal District to monitor representations from elected members concerning requests for work to the Council concerning their respective areas. Several motions in regards to this issue have been submitted and supported by the elected representatives over the years but unfortunately no substantial progress has occurred from the Executive. Councillors carry out a very important role on behalf of their communities and require a timely response to their representations.” (M)

#### **Ann Reynolds, Senior Executive Officer, Corporate Services replied as follows:**

“Representations are made in a number of ways by elected representatives: via telephone, via email, the Councillor App, or by way of Notice of Motion at Municipal District and Council Meetings. Formal representations at Municipal District level are normally logged on the Municipal District CRM and referred to the relevant Engineer or Supervisor for action. Many informal representations received verbally are

actioned outside of the CRM. This is the nature of the environment that Municipal District staff work in.

The Councillor App provides online access to members to log and track progress on their particular representations. There are varying levels of usage of the Councillor App. In this regard further support and training on use of the Councillor App can be made available to members if required.

As advised in reply to previous similar Notice of Motion in February there is an ongoing review and integration of CRM in the Council and the Council Motions CRM will form part of this.

Work has been completed on the extraction of progress reports from the existing Council Motions CRM which will be published shortly on the Councillor Extranet. Members will be requested to provide feedback on these reports which can be further adapted to meet members needs and will inform the design of the upgraded CRM system. Similar reports can be devised at Municipal District level and be provided to members.

The management structure of the Municipal Districts was enhanced in 2019, by the appointment of a Senior Executive Officer to each Municipal District, who is a point of contact for Councillors. The Senior Executive Officers are available to provide updates on projects and works as required.”

The elected members agreed that as they are elected to make representations on behalf of their constituents it is important that Councillors can demonstrate that issues raised at Municipal District level are acted on. It was also felt that this is important as a management tool in order to review how notice of motions are dealt with as they progress through the system.

The members felt that the Councillor app is a transformational project as the logistics can be keyed in directly and progress can be tracked on the app.

Disappointment was raised in relation to difficulty in making contact with some staff during the summer months.

P. Dowling, Chief Executive agreed that staff should respond to communication from elected members. Mr. Dowling stated that it is important that Councillors can track all representations made so that they can produce a report for their constituents.

Ann Reynolds, Senior Executive Officer, Corporate Services informed the members that this had been discussed at the recent CPG meeting and that reports can be provided at Council level from the existing CRM system and likewise at Municipal District level. Ms. Reynolds stated that the app is available for day to day representations and acknowledged that direct engagement is also required on a regular basis. Ms. Reynolds advised that training and support can be provided to elected members.

**Item 19. Imbalance in allocation of population in the National Planning Framework.**



Ar moladh Cllr. J. Killeen  
Cuidithe ag Cllr. J. Garrihy agus glacadh leis

“We call on Clare County Council, our Oireachtas Members and other relevant agencies to address the imbalance in the allocation of population in the National Planning Framework, and the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy between Metropolitan Areas and Rural Areas in the Galway, Limerick Clare area.” (M)

**Liam Conneally, Director of Economic Development replied as follows:**

“The National Planning Framework (NPF) and associated NPF Roadmap 2018 provide the overall strategic projected population target ranges for each local authority area. These NPF projected population targets are incorporated into the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategies (RSEs) adopted by each of the three Regional Assemblies and form the broad population parameters for each local authority development plan preparation process. In order to address the shorter-term requirements for development plan preparation, Planning Guidelines for Housing Supply Target Methodology for Development were made available by the DHLGH in December 2020 (known as 'HST Guidelines'). These are statutory guidelines for incorporating housing supply targets into development plans and were issued under Section 28 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 as amended. The 2020 housing supply target methodology guidelines are based on work undertaken by the Economic and Social Research Institute (ESRI), which further developed the NPF Roadmap population projections to provide a nationally integrated and standardised evidence base for local authorities to estimate overall housing demand for the period of each county or city development plan. Accordingly, the development plan must set out a clear housing supply target for the relevant six-year (i.e. quarter-to-quarter) plan period consistent with the prescribed methodology in the relevant issued guidelines.

The targeted distribution of housing and population within the development plan is referred to in the Planning Act as the ‘settlement hierarchy’. This settlement hierarchy is the vision for how the county is likely to grow and develop over the lifetime of the development plan allowing for targeted housing provision and land-use zoning proposals for settlements and for the rural areas within the county. This settlement strategy dictates the nature of the core strategy statement.

The allocation of future population growth and housing supply across the county in metropolitan and rural areas must have regard to this settlement hierarchy and to the guidelines and policies in place at National and Regional level.

In this regard the Planning Authority has developed a Core Strategy in the pre-draft County Development Plan (currently with the members for consideration) in accordance with national and regional planning policy, legislative requirements and in line with relevant guidelines. Any imbalance in population growth / housing supply must first be addressed at a national government level and any revised figures can then be filtered through the regional assemblies to local authorities and into the relevant statutory Development Plans.”

The elected members discussed the population projection for County Clare and felt that there is an over emphasis on the growth of urban areas to the detriment of rural areas of West Clare and North Clare. The members noted that there is an urgent need for housing in rural Clare as accommodation is scarce in coastal areas and this is proving to be a difficulty for local people wishing to reside in County Clare due to remote working initiatives. The members felt that it was important that West Clare

has the capacity to reap the rewards of the future off-shore wind development of Moneypoint in order to keep west Clare communities alive. It was also suggested that zoned land and serviced sites should be available in rural towns and villages. The members agreed that Oireachtas Members should be lobbied to change the national planning framework (NPF) and seek more rural and regional balance. In the context of an over concentration of development in urban areas the Councillors stated that it will be difficult to support the new County Development Plan.

Liam Conneally, Director of Economic Development addressed the meeting and stated that the elected members and the planning department staff are in the middle of the County Development Plan review exercise, a process he said that is governed by legislation and which has to be consistent with national (NPF) and regional (RSES) policy. Mr. Conneally informed the meeting that Clare County Council has to be consistent with national and regional planning objectives including the core strategy population allocations which will be used to identify land for zoning.

Mr. Conneally stated that Clare settlement hierarchy has to be identified and that reasonable population growth has been allocated to settlements within the hierarchy. Mr. Conneally added that in an ideal world we would like to allocate more population to settlements and that any increase in NPF population targets would be welcome in order to share increased population across settlements in an agreed population hierarchy. Mr. Conneally agreed that the Councillors should lobby the Oireachtas members seeking rural and regional balance and undertook to forward their views to Minister O'Brien.

P. Dowling, Chief Executive assured the members that the Council executive are equally as ambitious about the growth of County Clare and vowed to continue to work with the members and staff for the better of the County. Mr. Dowling stated that the Council is bound by the National Planning Framework, primary legislation and the regional Plan. Mr. Dowling acknowledged that this is a challenge as population projections are an indication of future growth and there are limits on how those figures can be expanded. Mr. Dowling stated that issues around covid 19 has changed the guidelines in terms of where people want to live and the Council has to look at dispersal of growth areas while working within the rules as set out. Mr. Dowling agreed that the projection growth figures are causing a divide within the county and stated that there is a need to challenge what is being said at national level.

## **Item 20. Rural Housing Development Plan.**

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

“That the Government be requested to urgently draw up a Rural Housing Development Plan to address the urban housing crisis, recognise the lawful rights of rural people and to address the social and economic changes caused by covid.” (M)

### **Liam Conneally, Director of Economic Development replied as follows:**

“The Sustainable Rural Housing Guidelines 2005 set out the Government policy on rural housing. Since these guidelines were published there have been a number of changes to national policy that directly impact rural housing provision. Also the

Covid 19 pandemic has impacted rural housing demand and views on working from rural locations in a positive way.

The National Planning Framework (NPO 19) sets out the national policy for the provision of rural housing and is based on the core considerations of social and economic need to live in a rural area. In addition, a number of recent publications have issued from government relating to housing matters including:

- Affordable Housing Act 2021
- Housing for All A new Housing Plan for Ireland
- Development Pan Guidelines
- Housing Circular 28/2021 (which includes provisions relating to Part V, to Cost Rental Housing and changes to the requirements of Housing Strategies)
- Housing Circular 14/2021 Housing Need and Demand Assessment (HNDA)

While these policy documents will impact housing supply in rural areas, I agree that specific attention and guidance is required from Government relating to rural housing policy in rural towns and villages and countryside areas. In this regard during the second half of 2021 the Department of Housing has indicated that it will issue revised Rural Housing Guidelines and also new Guidelines on the implementation of Part V. I support the request from the elected member to engage with central government on this important issue and I will prepare correspondence to Minister O'Brien on behalf of Council requesting that the above guidance issue in a timely manner so that it can inform the current County Development Plan review process."

Concern was expressed by the members that traditional farmers and their families cannot obtain planning permission and this is causing a decline in services being provided in rural communities. The elected members requested that the Oireachtas Members act on this as a matter of urgency as it was felt that loyalty to their county is more important than loyalty to their party. The members agreed that rural Clare is a very successful part of the county in terms of the Wild Atlantic Way which is recognized nationally and internationally and that opportunities within our county should be maximized.

L. Conneally, Director of Economic development addressed the meeting and informed the members that by law Clare County Council has to be consistent with other plans and welcomed any help from the members in addressing issues of concern. Mr. Conneally agreed that there is opportunity for renewables, tourism based and other employment based activity and stated that at the moment there is a noticeable increase in planning applications being processed through the planning system and that this is a good indicator that the economy in Clare will see strong growth in the year ahead. Mr. Conneally informed the members that Clare County Council in the next number of County Development Plans will be zoning land for enterprise and residential and undertook to engage with the Department on behalf of the Council requesting that CDP guidance issues in a timely manner so that it can inform the current County Development Plan and future review processes.

Cllr. P.J. Kelly proposed that the time to finish the meeting be extended in order to deal with the outstanding items. This was seconded by Cllr. J. Crowe and agreed by the members present.

**Item 21. Flexible retirement pension plan.**

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

“That Clare County Council calls on the Government to devise a flexible retirement/pension plan which will incentivise employers and facilitate employees who wish to continue to work full time or part time.” (M)

Cllr. P. McMahon provided an outline of the cost factor and the need for people to continue working past the age of 65 and the need to reflect on living arrangements.

**Item 22. Shannon Airport.**

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

“That Clare County Council welcome the success of Shannon Group in attracting Ryanair and other carriers on expanding the route network from Shannon Airport.” (M)

The elected members paid tribute to Mary Considine, Chief Executive Officer, Shannon Group for the work being done to attract Ryanair back to Shannon Airport. The members felt that this is highly positive for the airport and noted the increase in activity in Shannon during the last few weeks. It was felt that creative thinking is now required to do whatever is required to make Shannon Airport viable into the future. The members agreed that government support is needed for Shannon Airport.

**Item 23. Rail link to Shannon Airport.**

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

“That this Council call on Minister for Transport, Climate, Environment & Communications Eamon Ryan to put a plan in place to provide a rail link to Shannon Airport as our County Development Plan has identified two routes and certainty is required for the adjoining landowners and the travelling public.” (M)

**Liam Conneally, Director of Economic Development replied as follows:**

“Both the Clare County Development Plan 2017-2023 (as varied) and the Shannon Town and Environs Local Area Plan 2012-2018 (as extended) support the provision of a rail link into Shannon Town and extending to Shannon International Airport through the identification of an Infrastructural Safeguard. In the preparation of the new County Development Plan we now have the opportunity to review the objectives for the provision of rail transportation in County Clare and in the interests of the long term mobility requirements of the County Clare and until we have clarification on the Government’s transport infrastructure priorities I recommend that the existing rail infrastructural safeguard be retained.

The Members will be aware that the Draft Limerick Shannon Metropolitan Area Transport Strategy is available and contains the National Transport Authority's (NTA) view on suburban rail provision and includes specific mention of the Shannon Rail link as per below. Clare County Council will continue to liaise with the NTA and relevant stakeholders in the conclusion of this Transport Strategy.

#### LSMA AND SUBURBAN RAIL NETWORK

The over-arching objective of the LSMA's rail network is to maximise development opportunities offered by the existing railway corridors in order to support a greater level of coordination between land use and transport planning.

As part of the Strategy development process, a suburban and metropolitan rail system was considered, including: new train stations within Limerick City, LSMA and wider Limerick and Clare County areas; dual-tracking of rail lines between Limerick Colbert, Limerick Junction Nenagh, and Ennis; and a new rail line spur to Shannon Town and Shannon Airport.

The assessment highlighted that the proposed land use growth and distribution does not support the provision of a significantly improved sub-urban and metropolitan area rail network, within the lifetime of the Strategy. The lack of Transit Oriented Development (TOD) around the proposed train stations, coupled with a lack of competitive journey times against bus-based proposals resulted in low patronage levels. The assessment highlighted that bus based public transport linkage between Limerick Colbert and Shannon Airport would have an 84% occupancy, whereas a rail-based linkage would have lower patronage and a 24% occupancy.

For any significant increase in rail provision and services, a focussed approach to land use distribution and consolidation is required. It is recommended that over the lifetime of the Strategy, the land use distribution be re-examined to achieve the necessary critical mass in the context of rail-based TOD.

#### OBJECTIVE RL4

##### Suburban Rail Network

It is the intention of the NTA and the local authorities to work in collaboration with Iarnród Éireann and other relevant stakeholders to:

- Promote the consolidation of development around stations.

Further to the content of this Notice of Motion I will arrange for correspondence to issue on behalf of the Council to the Minister for Transport setting out the current situation and calling on Government to clarify their plans on rail infrastructure provision and specifically the position on the Shannon Rail Link. The Government's position will directly impact the transport infrastructure content of the upcoming Draft County Development Plan and the remaining stages of the Limerick Shannon Metropolitan Area Transport Strategy preparation."

The elected members were in agreement that connectivity is key and that a rail link to Shannon Airport should be established, linking Shannon to towns and cities in the west of Ireland. The members also agreed that landowners along the rail line need clarity.

Liam Conneally, Director of Economic Development stated that he would like to get to the design stage of this project and agreed that preserving the line is difficult for landowners. Mr. Conneally stated that that Government funding should be provided to identify the exact line to extend the rail link to Shannon.

**Item 24. Streetscape Enhancement Grant Scheme 2021.**

Ar moladh Cllr. P. Murphy  
Cuidithe ag Cllr. C. Murphy agus glacadh leis

"Re Streetscape Enhancement Grant Scheme 2021, That Clare County Council call on Heather Humphries, Minister of Rural and Community Development to extend the date for works to be completed from November 5th 2021 to allow successful applicants sufficient time to complete same". This notice of motion to be forwarded to all other local authorities." (M)

**Leonard Cleary, Director of Rural Development replied as follows:**

"The Department of Rural & Community Development announced the following towns have been approved for the Streetscape Enhancement Initiative 2021. They are Tulla, Corofin, Scarriff, Kilrush, Clarecastle and Clonlara. The Rural Directorate and the Municipal District offices will work with the local communities and businesses to develop projects under this scheme. The project completion date is a matter for the Department of Rural & Community Development and Clare County Council will liaise with the Department once projects have been identified."

The elected members welcomed the Streetscape Enhancement Initiative funding stream announced recently for qualifying businesses in Tulla, Corofin, Scarriff, Kilrush, Clarecastle and Clonlara. The members felt that the timeframe is very short as quotations are required and it is difficult to obtain quotations as contractors are busy. The members felt that the 5<sup>th</sup> November deadline is completely impractical as it is difficult to get contractors to complete the work within this timeframe and the difficulty in obtaining building materials was also noted. The members agreed that applicants need reasonable time to deliver the project and called on the Minister to extend the date for completion of the works.

**Item 25. Comhfhreagras/Correspondence.**

- P. Dowling, Chief Executive informed the members that the 11<sup>th</sup> October is the next scheduled date for a Council meeting and the proposed timeline for a reduction in restrictions is due shortly after that date. Mr. Dowling stated that the Council may be in a position to offer a blended meeting for the November Council meeting for any member wishing to attend either remotely or in person. Mr. Dowling stated that members will be kept up to date in relation to this.
- Cathaoirleach, Cllr. P.J. Ryan conveyed congratulations to Leonard Cleary, Director of Rural Development on his recent ordination to the Permanent Diaconate for the Diocese of Cloyne.

## **Correspondence.**

### **The following correspondence was circulated with the agenda:**

1. Correspondence dated 8<sup>th</sup> July, 2021 from the Department of Transport in relation to Shannon Airport and the Irish Aviation sector.
2. Correspondence dated 13<sup>th</sup> July, 2021 from the Department of Transport in relation to Shannon Airport and the Irish Aviation sector.
3. Correspondence dated 16<sup>th</sup> July, 2021 from the Office of the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment in relation to Shannon Airport.
4. Correspondence dated 8<sup>th</sup> July, 2021 from the EPA in relation to waste water treatment plant at Kilkee.
5. Correspondence dated 8<sup>th</sup> July, 2021 from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage in relation to proposal on a “Broadford Pilot Wastewater Scheme”.
6. Correspondence dated 9<sup>th</sup> July, 2021 from the Department of Health in relation to media allegations concerning the compilation of dossiers on children with autism involved in special education needs litigation.
7. Correspondence dated 29<sup>th</sup> July, 2021 from the Department of Health in relation to the Fair Deal Scheme.
8. Correspondence dated 23<sup>rd</sup> July, 2021 from the Department of Health in relation to the National Immunisation Programme in Ireland.
9. Correspondence dated 19<sup>th</sup> August, 2021 from the Department of Health in relation to menopause care.
10. Correspondence dated 15<sup>th</sup> July, 2021 from the Department of Health in relation to defibrillators and training.
11. Resolution circulated by Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council.
12. Correspondence circulated by Senator Robbie Gallagher in relation to the service level agreement with Irish Water.
13. Resolution circulated by Fermanagh & Omagh District Council.
14. Resolution circulated by Limerick City & County Council.
15. Correspondence circulated to all local authorities in relation to campaign for motorhome aires Ireland.
16. Resolution circulated by Fermanagh & Omagh District Council.
17. Resolution circulated by Wicklow County Council.
18. AILG training webinar for local authority members entitled “On and offshore renewables” taking place on Friday, 24<sup>th</sup> September, 2021.
19. Conference entitled “Health & Safety in the Workplace” taking place in O’Donovan’s Hotel, Clonakilty, Co. Cork on 24<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> September, 2021.
20. Conference entitled “The Fair Deal Scheme” taking place in the Four Seasons Hotel, Carlingford, Co. Louth on 1<sup>st</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> October, 2021.

21. Conference entitled “Mental Health & Wellbeing” taking place in O’Donovan’s Hotel, Clonakilty, Co. Cork on 8<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> October, 2021.
22. Conference entitled “A Practical Guide to Budget 2022” taking place in the Four Seasons Hotel, Carlingford, Co. Louth on 15<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> October, 2021.

The meeting then concluded.

**Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Riarthóir Cruinnithe**

**Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Cathaoirleach**

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_