

**Minutes of the March Monthly Meeting of Clare County Council held in the
Council Chamber, Áras Contae an Chláir, New Road, Ennis, Co. Clare on
Monday, 10th March, 2014 at 3:45 p.m.**

Present:

Councillors J. Flynn, P. Murphy, S. Scanlan, P. Daly, T. Brennan, J. Breen, T. Mulqueen, T. McNamara, B. Meaney, B. Slattery, M. Hillery, R. Nagle, M. Kelly, J. Arkins, J. Cooney, P. Hayes, P. Burke, P. Fitzgerald, M. Begley, C. Crowe, C. Curtin, O. Garry, P.J. Kelly, P. Keane, B. Chambers, G. Keating, J. Crowe, P. McCarthy, P.J. Ryan, P. McMahan, G. Flynn.

- Mr. Tom Coughlan, County Manager.
- Mr. Michael McNamara, Meetings Administrator.
- Mr. Finbar Tuohy, Staff Officer.
- Mr. Ger Dollard, Director of Service.
- Ms. Bernadette Kinsella, Director of Service.
- Ms. Anne Haugh, Director of Service.
- Mr. Niall Barrett, Head of Finance.
- Ms. Siobhan Mulcahy, County Arts Officer.
- Mr. Niall O’Keeffe, Administrative Officer, Housing Section.
- Mr. Adrian Kelly, Chief Fire Officer.
- Ms. Angela Naughton, Senior Assistant Chief Fire Officer.
- Mr. Tom Tiernan, Senior Engineer.
- Mr. Gordon Daly, Senior Planner.
- Mr. Paul Moroney, A./Senior Engineer.

The Mayor, Cllr. Joe Arkins presided.

Item 12. Briefing by Chief Fire Officer at 3:00 p.m. regarding new Building Control Regulations.

Angela Naughton, Senior Assistant Chief Fire Officer and Adrian Kelly, Chief Fire Officer briefed the members on the new Building Control Regulations which came into effect on 1st March, 2014 and the main points were:

- The new requirements shall apply to the design and construction of a new building, the extension to a dwelling involving a total floor area greater than 40 square metres and works which require a Fire Safety Certificate
- 4 certificates will be required

- There are new roles and responsibilities for the Building Control Authority, the owner, the builder and the assigned certifier
- The assigned certifiers have to be either a registered architect, chartered engineer or a registered building surveyor. They must develop a site inspection plan of appropriate frequency and use professional judgement to consider type of building, complexity of construction method, work relating to fire etc. They must also inspect, record their findings and coordinate inspections with other sub certifier (electricians, plumbers etc.).

The Mayor thanked Ms. Naughton for her presentation and opened the debate to the floor. Members raised queries in relation to the meaning of “competent builder”, what is meant by training, experience and knowledge, will this impact on planning applications in process, is there any waiver scheme for voluntary organisations etc.?

In response Ms. Naughton stated that there is no one clear definition of the above and that judgement has to be used by the owner as to who is or is not competent and that the builder has to be willing to sign the documents (which are legal in nature) and state they are competent to carry out the works and have the relevant training, experience and knowledge to do so.

She also confirmed that there is no waiver scheme in place for voluntary organisations etc. in relation to these regulations.

The meeting was adjourned for ten minutes at 15:45 p.m. and upon resumption it was agreed to vary the business of the meeting in order to finish item 12.

Discussion continued at this stage and Mr. Kelly and Ms. Naughton responded to further queries raised by the members.

The Mayor stated that a submission on this issue had been sent from the relevant S.P.C. to the Minister and the following resolution signed by Cllrs. T. McNamara, P. Daly, P. McMahon, P. Keane, R. Nagle, M. Hillery, B. Chambers and P.J. Kelly was agreed by all members present.

“That this Council calls on the Minister for Environment, Phil Hogan, T.D., to amend the Building Control Amendment Regulations S.I. No. 9 of 2014 legislation and exempt one off private dwellings and extensions from same.”

Congratulations.

The Mayor congratulated the Fire Service on achieving the OHSAS 18001 certification and paid tribute to the Chief Fire Officer and his staff on achieving this status. He also congratulated the Planning Section in relation to the Shannon Town Green Infrastructure Plan 2012 winning in the Environmental & Sustainable Planning category at the 8th Annual National Planning Awards.

Votes of sympathy.

A Vote of Sympathy was extended to the family of Mary Ellen Daly, Kilnaboy – mother in law of Cllr. Pat Keane.

Item 1: Minutes of Council Meetings.

- a. Ar moladh Cllr. P. Fitzgerald
Cuidithe ag Cllr. B. Chambers agus glacadh leis

“That the Minutes of the February Meeting of Clare County Council held on 10th February, 2014 be adopted and signed.”

Item 2: Minutes of the Electoral Area Meetings.

- a. Ar moladh Cllr. B. Chambers
Cuidithe ag Cllr. C. Curtin agus glacadh leis

“That the Minutes of the Kilrush Electoral Area Meeting held on the 13th January, 2014 be noted.”

Item 3: Minutes of S.P.C. Meetings.

- a. Ar moladh Cllr. P.J. Ryan
Cuidithe ag Cllr. P. Daly agus glacadh leis

“That the minutes of the Community & Enterprise, Tourism and Emergency Services S.P.C. meeting held on 11th November, 2013 be noted”.

- b. Ar moladh Cllr. P. Fitzgerald
Cuidithe ag Cllr. B. Meaney agus glacadh leis

“That the minutes of the Environmental and Water Services S.P.C. meeting held on 18th November, 2013 be noted”.

- c. Ar moladh Cllr. P. McCarthy
Cuidithe ag Cllr. P. Murphy agus glacadh leis

“That the minutes of the Housing, Social and Cultural Services S.P.C. meeting held on 19th November, 2013 be noted”.

d. Ar moladh Cllr. M. Begley
Cuidithe ag Cllr. J. Cooney agus glacadh leis

“That the minutes of the Planning, Land Use and Transportation S.P.C. meeting held on 4th December, 2013 be noted”.

Item 4: Minutes of the Corporate Policy Group Meetings.

The members noted the minutes of the meetings held on 3rd February, 2014 as presented.

Item 5: Irish Language Grants Scheme 2014 – Grant Recommendations.

Report dated 5th March, 2014 from Michael McNamara, Senior Executive Officer, Corporate Services was circulated with the agenda. The report states that twenty one applications were received for Scéim Deontais na Gaeilge this year. Fifteen of them were successful. The report continues to state that the applications were assessed by a Committee consisting of the Chair of the Strategic Policy Committee, the County Librarian and the Meetings Administrator.

Ar moladh Cllr. P. Daly
Cuidithe ag Cllr. T. Mulqueen agus glacadh leis

“Pursuant to Section 66 of the Local Government Act, 2001 Clare County Council approves the payment of the following grants for organisations hosting an event which would in the opinion of the Council stimulate public interest in the Irish Language, provide a knowledge, appreciation and practice of the language or improve the standard of the language.

Coiste an Chláir C.C.E.	500
Tony Kirby	200
Coiste Forbartha Gaeltachta Chontae an Chláir	Nil
Coiste Forbartha Gaeltachta Chontae an Chláir	400
Coiste Forbartha Gaeltachta Chontae an Chláir	Nil
Inis Cathaigh Comhaltas Ceoltoiri Eireann	300
Grupa Fomhluire Gaeilge na hInse	200
Cumann Luthleas Gael an Chláir	400
Cnoc na Gaoithe Cultural Centre	300
Sean Ó Ceallaigh – Féile Scoildramaíocht an Chláir	300

Breandán Mac Fhionnghaile	400
Domhnail O’Loingsigh – Féile na hInse 2014	400
Bunscoil Sheanáin Naofa	250
Scoil Chríost Rí	500
Gael Co. an Chláir	350
Coiste Forbartha Gaeltachta Chontae an Chláir	Nil
Coiste Forbartha Gaeltachta Chontae an Chláir	Nil
Coiste Forbartha Gaeltachta Chontae an Chláir	Nil
Coiste Forbartha Gaeltachta Chontae an Chláir	200
Coiste Forbartha Gaeltachta Chontae an Chláir	Nil
Ennis Book Club Festival	300
	<u>5000</u>

Item 6. Assistance under the Arts Act Grants 2014 - Grant recommendations.

Report dated from Siobhan Mulcahy, County Arts Officer was circulated with the agenda. The report states that the Assistance under the Arts Acts Grants Scheme is intended to assist artists and organisations stimulating public interest in the arts, promoting the knowledge, appreciation and practice of the arts or in improving standards in the arts.

89 applications were received in total. 87 applications are eligible for assistance.

Ar moladh Cllr. M. Hillery
Cuidithe ag Cllr. P. McCarthy agus glacadh leis

“That pursuant to Section 6 (2) of the provisions of Assistance under the Arts Act, 2003, the Council approves of the following payments:

Assistance under the Arts Act, 2003

Pursuant to Section 6(2) of the provisions of Assistance under the Arts Act 2003, the Council approves the following payments.

Arts Act Grants 2014	Events & Projects	€13,400 available	

Ref. No.	Name of Applicant	Activities	Amount Approved
2	Scariff Harbour Festival	Multidisciplinary Festival	700
8	Inis Artists	Painting	300
11	Ennis Players	Theatre	300
17	East Clare Musical Society	Stage Musical	700
20	Miltown Malbay Day Care Centre	Make recording of old people onto CD	390
21	Feile Brian Boru	Music / Drama & Performance	1,000
24	Ennistymon Choral Society	Musical	700
27	Clare Adult Education Service	Community Music Project - Music Lessons for Adults	385
30	Ennis Men Shed	Music Event - Art Project	390
31	Ennis Fringe Festival	Multi-disciplinary arts events	400
35	53rd West Clare Drama Festival	Drama	700
36	Shannon Gospel Choir	Choir	385
37	Shannon Musical Society	Musical Society	700
42	Ennis Musical Society	Musical Society	700
46	X-PO	Participative Arts	600
49	Playing with Sound	Purchase instruments for the Mol an Oige Samba band in Ennistymon	385
53	Tic Toc Puppets	Puppet performances in Ennis and throughout the	700

		county	
60	Sceal Eile	Ennis Based touring theatre company	385
65	Penelapaí Chung	Performance Workshop Series in East Clare	385
67	Obair After School Club	Dance and music workshop in Newmarket on Fergus	385
68	Obair, Youth Cafe	Brian Boru Film being made by young people in Newmarket	385
69	Banner Productions	Kilkee Playwrights Festival	385
72	Junkshun Productions	Community drama production at the West Clare railway	385
75	Clare Youth Service	Ukelele Orchestra - Music Project for 15-18 year old in Ennis	385
76	Keith McDonagh	Series of music concerts in Carrigaholt	385
81	Corofin Drama Society	Participation in drama circuit	385
83	Doonbeg Jazz Festival	Childrens Workshop	500
		Totals	€13,400

Arts Act Grants 2014		€6700 available	
Ref No.	Name of Applicant	Activities	Amount Approved
1	John Guilfoyle	Stone Carving, Sculptures –Ennis	100
4	Geraldine Dillon	Visual Artist – Caher	100
6	Robert Patrick Walsh	Landscape Artist / Creative Writing - Corofin	100

7	Mark Cronin	3D Street Art – Shannon	145
12	Jane Murtagh	Visual Art - Cratloe	230
15	Nathalie El Baba	Film & Graphic Art – Scariff	100
22	Fiona Woods	Ground Up Artists' Exchange - North Clare	230
23	Colette Glynn	Writer – Kilkee	140
29	Fiona O'Dwyer	Visual Art – Ennistymon	230
32	David O'Rourke	Painting / Sculpting – Ennis	145
33	Matthew (Mattu) Noone	Music / Traditional/Collaboration - East Clare	230
34	Maeve Collins	Visual Arts – Ennistymon	145
39	Siobhán Donnellan	Drama – Mountshannon	145
40	Caitriona Sheedy	Visual Art – Ennis	140
41	Philip Murphy	Music Artist / Recording Artist – Ennis	100
43	Martina Cleary	Photography, video, drawing – Crusheen	230
44	Shelagh Honan	Visual Art – Ennis	230
45	Lorraine Wall	Visual Art – Ennis	230
47	Carmel Doherty	Sculpture – Ennis	145
48	Will Gillchrist	Sculpture – Kilmaley	145
51	Deirdre O'Mahony	Visual Artist – Kilnaboy	230
52	Jackie Askew	Visual Artist – Ennistymon	145
54	Brendan Murray	Use projection tech & trad art forms to transform ordinary objects – Ennis	145
55	Marie Connole	Drawing, painting, digital media & sculpture – Liscannor	230
56	Ciara Malone	Writes scripts/filming - Spancil Hill	145
57	Senan Sheedy	Music (recording an E.P) – Ennis	100
58	Shane Gilmore	Sculpture – Ennis	145
59	Pat Hynes	Playwriting – Ennis	145

62	Tommy Kelly	Photography – Ennis	145
63	Maria Kerin	Hosts Art events from her home – Ennistymon	230
64	Fionna Greene	Ceramics/Stained Glass – Corofin	140
66	Jacintha Sheeran	Playwriting and Reading – Ennistymon	140
70	Anne Quinn	Photography/Graphic reproduction / Fine Art – Ballyvaughan	230
73	Jenny Walsh Bassett	Dance – Kilkee	145
74	Áine Phillips	Performance – Crusheen	230
77	Shona McGillivray	Visual Arts – Crusheen	100
78	Holly Mullarkey	Art Installation in Ennis Cathedral to coincide with WW1 anniversary	145
82	Astrid Adler	Creation of a music game – Kilrush	140
84	Kathleen Moroney	Exhibitions in Farmleigh and the Hunt Museum – Kilkishen	230
85	Maryann Worrell	Creation of sculpture garden at Burren College of Art – Ballyvaughan	140
87	Jim McKee	Artist – Bellharbour	140
		Totals	€700

Arts Act Grants 2014 - Traditional Arts			
	€6,700 available		
Ref No.	Name of Applicant	Activities	Amount Approved
3	Kilfenora Traditional Festival	Ceilis, Workshops, Singing Sessions, Set-dancing, Sheanós dancing & Trad Sessions	540
5	Consairtin	Concertina Festival in Ennis	540

9	Russell Memorial Weekend	Trad music, sean nós, set dancing, workshops, main concert etc	540
10	Willie Keane Memorial Weekend	Trad. Music, Song & Dance	540
13	Kilrush Trad. Music & Set Dancing Festival	Set Dancing Festival	350
14	Kilrush Music Feis	Music/Song/Dance Competition	200
16	Kilmurry Trad Group	Trad Music sessions for children	200
18	Tulla Trad Festival	Trad Music	540
19	Mountshannon Trad Festival	Trad Music	350
25	CCE East Clare	Music/Song/Dance Competition	200
28	Cnoc na Gaoithe Cultural Centre	Trad Music Concerts	330
38	Kincora Traditional Weekend	Trad Music, Song & Dance	350
50	Crotty Galvin Trad. Festival	Music, Song, Dance	540
61	Ballynacally Grupa Ceoil	Establishing trad music lessons and sessions for young people	200
79	Tulla Comhaltas	Bring young trad musicians to Boston on an exchange	200
86	Oidhreacht an Chláir	Concertina weekend in Miltown Malbay	540
88	Doran Tionól	Piping Festival	540
	Totals		6,700

Item 7. Draft Traveller Accommodation Programme 2014-2018.

Report dated 28th January, 2014 from Bernadette Kinsella, Director of Services, Housing, Cultural and Emergency Services was circulated with the agenda. The report states that by Circular Housing 23/2013 dated 2nd August, 2013 the Minister for Housing and Planning Ms. Jan O'Sullivan, T.D., directed that relevant housing authorities prepare a Traveller Accommodation Programme for the years 2014-2018, and specified 30th April, 2014 as the latest date by which the

Traveller Accommodation Programme must be adopted. The Circular also directs that a review of the adopted Programme should be carried out not later than 31st December, 2016.

The report before the meeting outlined that the Draft Traveller Accommodation Programme 2014-2018 will focus on 4 areas as follows;

- Provision of permanent accommodation to replace mobile home accommodation.
- Refurbishment of vacant accommodation where there is an identified demand
- Improvement and extension of accommodation and environs where there is a need and works are feasible
- Provision of occupational, educational and recreational facilities.

The following resolution was proposed by Cllr. J. Flynn and seconded by Cllr. C. Curtin.

“In light of requests made by the L.T.A.C.C., C.D.P. and Clare County Council requesting the Minister to defer the adoption date that pending clarification the Draft Traveller Accommodation Programme 2014-2018 not be adopted until after the Local Elections in May 2014.”

Ar moladh Cllr. P. McCarthy
Cuidithe ag Cllr. B. Meaney

“That the Traveller Accommodation Programme 2014-2018 be adopted pursuant to Section 11 of the Traveller Accommodation Act, 1998.”

The Mayor called a vote which resulted as follows:

In favour of adoption of the Plan: Cllrs. P. Murphy, P. Daly, T. Brennan, J. Breen, T. Mulqueen, T. McNamara, B. Meaney, B. Slattery, M. Hillery, R. Nagle, J. Arkins, J. Cooney, P. Hayes, O. Garry, P.J. Kelly, P. Keane, B. Chambers, G. Keating, J. Crowe, P. McCarthy, P.J. Ryan, P. McMahan, G. Flynn. (23).

Against: Cllrs. J. Flynn, C. Curtin. (2)

Abstentions: Nil.

The Mayor declared the Plan adopted subject to the wording on page 8 be changed from “managed regional approach” to “managed national approach”.

National Diaspora Centre.

The County Manager announced that Clare County Council intends to submit a bid to develop and operate the National Diaspora Centre which has been proposed by Government. The Council are examining a number of locations in the Bunratty area of Clare and are working in conjunction with Shannon Heritage on an overall bid proposal which was backed by the majority of the members present.

Item 8. Proposed Draft Clare Co. Renewable Energy Strategy 2014- 2020.

At the outset of this item Cllr. J. Flynn excused himself from the meeting due to a potential conflict of interest.

Report dated 3rd March, 2014 from Gordon Daly, Senior Planner was circulated with the agenda. The report states that one of the key objectives of the Clare County Development Plan 2011-2017 is to prepare a Renewable Energy Strategy. This will build on and support the Clare Wind Energy Strategy which already forms part of the County Development Plan. It is also an objective of the County Development Plan to promote County Clare as a low carbon county as a means of attracting inward investment.

The report before the meeting noted that the Renewable Energy Strategy complies with the requirements of the Habitats Directive and Strategic Environmental Assessment.

The report as circulated was noted by the members present. Mr. Daly outlined to the members that the Council will now commence the process of a Variation of the Clare County Development Plan 2011-2017.

Item 9. Planning and Development (Planning Enforcement) Policy Directive 2013.

Report dated 3rd March, 2014 from Gerard Dollard, Director of Services and Ennis Town Manager was circulated with the agenda. The report states that in May 2013, the Minister for Housing and Planning issued a Policy Directive under Section 29 of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended. The provisions of the Directive provide, inter alia, for the presentation of an Annual Report on enforcement activities to the Elected Members of the local authority and subsequently to the Minister. The Council has prepared the first such report to cover the year 2013.

The following was reported in terms of investigating complaints of unauthorised development for the period 1st January, 2013 to 31st December, 2013.

- The number of new complaints received over this period was 123.
- The number of actual warning letters issued over this period was 323. The total number of files from which these warning letters issued was 240. In some cases these warning letters relate to ongoing complaints received before 2013.
- The number of enforcement notices issued during 2013 was 105. The total number of files from which enforcement notices issued was 76. In some cases these enforcement notices relate to ongoing complaints received before 2013.
- During 2013, 107 cases were closed. These included complaints received during 2013 but the figure is also a reflection of efforts to satisfactorily resolve a backlog of cases.
- Court activity – 4 new cases were referred for legal proceedings for non-compliance with enforcement notices in 2013. However, the enforcement unit also continued to progress 7 cases and finalise 3 cases which had been initiated in previous years.
- Quarries – the total number of enforcement notices issued under 261A activity was 10. A large number of reviews were made to An Bord Pleanála on foot of Section 261A determinations and the enforcement unit are still awaiting the decision of the Bord on some of those files. In addition decisions of the Council/An Bord Pleanála are currently the subject of judicial review proceedings in three cases.

The report as circulated was noted by the members present.

Item 10. Draft County of Clare (Presentation, Storage and Segregation for the Purpose of and in the Course of the Collection of Household and Commercial Waste) Bye-Laws, 2014.

Report dated 4th March, 2014 from Paul Moroney, Senior Engineer, Environmental & Water Services Directorate was circulated with the agenda. The report states that Clare County Council has finalised the process of updating the present bye-laws regulating the presentation and collection of waste within the County, which have been in place since 2007 and are known as the ‘County of Clare (Presentation and Collection of Household Waste and Commercial Waste) Bye-laws, 2007. The purpose of the existing bye-laws is to regulate the manner in which households and commercial premises store and present their waste for collection by authorised waste collectors.

The Draft Bye Laws have now passed the Public Consultation Stage and an update to the Draft was presented to the Strategic Policy Committee in November 2013. Clare County Council, having considered the Submissions on the current bye-laws regulating the presentation and collection of waste within the county, made a number of changes, mainly to definitions following this process.

The proposed draft bye-laws will be known as the ‘County of Clare (Presentation, Storage and Segregation for the Purpose of and in the Course of the Collection of Household and Commercial Waste) Bye-Laws, 2014 and will apply to all the administrative area of County Clare including the Town Council areas of Ennis, Kilrush, Kilkee and Shannon. Similar bye-laws were introduced by Limerick County Council in January, 2012 and have been in place for a number of years in County Leitrim and appear to be operating quite successfully.

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

“That the County of Clare (Presentation, Storage and Segregation for the Purpose of and in the Course of the Collection of Household Waste and Commercial Waste) Bye-Laws, 2014 be adopted pursuant to Section 35 of the Waste Management Act, 1996, as amended, and in accordance with Part 19 of the Local Government Act, 2001.”

In relation to the proposed “compulsion” clause for Household Waste Collection, queries were raised in relation to exemptions. In response Paul Moroney confirmed that the shared bin option still applies but evidence of same must be produced i.e. signed declaration by both parties and also if using the recycling facilities then receipts should be kept as proof.

Item 11. Funding for repairs and associated costs following Severe Weather.

The Mayor took items 11, 16, 17 and 36 in conjunction with each other and this was agreed by all members present.

Correspondence dated 27th February, 2014 from the National Directorate for Fire & Emergency Management, Department of Environment, Community & Local Government together with report from Tom Tiernan, Senior Engineer, dated 5th March, 2014 was circulated to the meeting.

The report states that the submissions made to the Department of the Environment already are as follows:

- Report which was issued at the special Council Meeting held on January 10th and reflected, in outline terms, details of the damage inflicted up to and including January 6th.

- Clarifications pertaining to 1 above.
- Report dated February 10th, 2014 which is an updated version of the report referred to at No. 1 above and reflects the additional damage caused by the storm of February 1st.
- Clarifications pertaining to 3 above.

The report continues to say that the allocation confirmed in the Department of the Environment's letter of February 27th is based on the information provided under Nos. 1 and 2 above. As is evident in the letter, allocations have been made in relation to our emergency response costs up to January 27th (€608,878), roads infrastructure (€2,094,925), piers and harbours (€73,000), tourism infrastructure (€79,200) and coastal protection restoration (€8,276,433). The element pertaining to coastal protection strengthening works (€12,128,860) which relates to coastal protection improvements we had proposed has been passed on to the OPW for further consideration. A sum of €4,582,079 is allocated in respect of Other Facilities.

Item 16. Weather related damage.

Ar moladh Cllr. P. McMahon
Cuidithe ag Cllr. R. Nagle, P.J. Ryan agus P. Daly

“In view of the fact that neither Government nor E.U. Assistance is expected to address the high costs to Clare County Council of recent weather related damage and that those events will recur on a frequent basis, that the Manager be requested to prepare a report on the impact of the Council finances for the next decade from weather related damage.”

Item 17. Repairs to storm damage.

Ar moladh Cllr. M. Hillery
Cuidithe ag Cllr. R. Nagle

“That the Manager would inform Clare County Council of the amount of funding County Clare will receive from the €70 million allocated by the Government nationwide for repairs to storm damage and the locations to benefit from it.”

Tom Tiernan, Senior Engineer, Transportation replied as follows to both motions:

“Councillors are aware of the letter dated February 27th last from the Department of the Environment which confirms the availability of an allocation of €6.206 m. in response to the Council's submission in respect of damage caused by storms in late December, 2013 and early January, 2014. A sum of almost €609,000 was also confirmed to cover the Council's response costs and the costs associated with implementation of immediate necessary works. Further consideration is being given in respect of a further €2.129 m. – a sum sought by the Council to cater for enhancement requirements of coastal protection infrastructure in some areas.

We have not yet received a response on foot of our application for funding to deal with the additional damage caused by the storms which occurred in February.”

Item 36. County Clare's Coastal Defences.

Ar moladh Cllr. G. Keating
Cuidithe ag Cllr. J. Arkins agus B. Slattery agus glacadh leis

“That Clare County Council request the Government to establish a multi annual funding programme for the restoration, upgrade and refurbishment of County Clare’s coastal defences, coastal roads, beaches and promenades and that the various departments would be coordinated by one Senior Department Official. This would facilitate prioritisation by the Council of the individual projects and the preparation of design and tender documents in an orderly manner having regard to the seasonality of the works and their impact on the Tourist Industry.”

Tom Tiernan, Senior Engineer, Transportation replied as follows:

“As Councillors are aware, a sum of more than €16.2m. has been made available recently to the Council in response to its application for funding to cover costs of damage inflicted on public infrastructure during the storms of December and early January. The Office of Public Works is presently giving consideration in respect of a further €2.129m. – a further component of the same application. Once clarification is received from Government regarding some queries in relation to the recently announced allocation which is very welcome, a draft programme of works will be prepared – taking account of priority, environmental factors, planning factors, tourism related factors, etc. It is envisaged that a multi-annual programme will evolve – the Council will be kept informed in this regard.”

The Mayor thanked Tom Tiernan for his report and opened the debate to the floor. Queries were raised in relation to whether consultation will take place with councillors prior to any decisions being made as to what is priority, will the programme need government approval, who has responsibility for the coastline and its protection, what is the criteria for priority projects, what is meant by “other facilities”?

In response it was stated that councillors will be consulted and kept up to date on an ongoing basis and at present it is at the very early stages of considering any programme and the council are still awaiting response from the department on certain issues. The main emphasis will be on public infrastructure but will support and facilitate others where possible. The council is still awaiting clarity on who is responsible for what in relation to things that are not public infrastructure as several agencies are involved.

As this item was not completed before the finishing time of 18:30 p.m. it was agreed to finish same at the adjourned meeting.

The following two items were agreed without discussion.

Item 21. Tree cutting.

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

“That Clare County Council allocate additional money to be spent on priority tree cutting in each electoral area”

Tom Tiernan, Senior Engineer, Transportation replied as follows:

“Clare County Council has been and where necessary is continuing to deal with trees in public areas which were blown down or compromised during recent storms – particularly the extreme high wind storm event of February 12th last. An application for recoupment of the Council’s envisaged costs in this regard is included with our application submitted to the Department of the Environment in respect of storm damage which materialised in February.

If additional money is to be allocated by Clare County Council to facilitate priority tree cutting in public areas, it will mean a further reduction to other important areas of roads maintenance budgets. Details of the proposed 2014 Roadworks Programme will be presented to the Council at the April meeting.”

Item 29. Broadband.

Ar moladh Cllr. J. Breen
Cuidithe ag Cllr. T. Mulqueen agus glacadh leis

“To ask this Council to contact the Minister for Communications, Pat Rabbitte, with a view to extending the current role-out of broadband to areas not on the current plan, such as West Kilnamona/Inagh.”

It was agreed by all members present to conclude the meeting at 18:30 p.m. and to have an adjourned meeting on Monday 24th March commencing at 15:45 p.m.

Item 38. Comhfhreagras.

Correspondence.

The following correspondence was circulated at the meeting:

- Training Seminar entitled “Retirement Entitlements and Taxation Benefits for Councillors” being held in the Celtic Ross Hotel, Rosscarbery, Co. Cork on 28th – 30th March, 2014.
- Training Seminar entitled “West Cork Tourism Seminar on Internet Marketing” being held in the Celtic Ross Hotel, Rosscarbery, West Cork on 4th – 6th April, 2014.
- Training Seminar entitled “M.A.B.S. and the Insolvency Service of Ireland” being held in the Celtic Ross Hotel, Rosscarbery, Co. Cork on 11th – 13th April, 2014.

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.

Training Seminar for Councillors entitled “Media Skills for Councillors” being held in Clifden Station House Hotel, Clifden, Co. Galway on 23rd – 25th January, 2014.

The Meetings Administrator informed the Members that the estimated average cost per Councillor attending this Conference was €528.98 including conference fee of €120.

It was agreed that Cllr. O. Garry attend this Conference.

“Conference entitled “Can Sport Build for a Shared Society?” being held in Lansdowne Court Hotel, Belfast on 23rd January, 2014.

The Meetings Administrator informed the Members that the estimated average cost per Councillor attending this Conference was €613.43.

It was agreed that Cllr. G. Keating attend this Conference.

Training Seminar entitled “Common Agriculture Policy, An overview of C.A.P. Reform” being held in Bewleys Hotel, Newlands Cross, Naas Road, Dublin 22 on 24th – 26th January, 2014.

The Meetings Administrator informed the Members that the estimated average cost per Councillor attending this Conference was €614.66 including conference fee of €95.

It was agreed that Cllr. G. Keating attend this Conference.

Conference entitled “Flood Risk Management” being held in Cobh, Co. Cork on 7th February, 2014.

The Meetings Administrator informed the Members that the estimated average cost per Councillor attending this Conference was €374.01 including conference fee of €75.

It was agreed that Cllrs. G. Keating and P. Murphy attend this Conference.

A.M.A.I. Spring Seminar 2014 being held at Great Northern Hotel, Bundoran, Co. Donegal on 14th & 15th February, 2014.

The Meetings Administrator informed the Members that the estimated average cost per Councillor attending this Conference was €92.24 including conference fee of €200.

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

Eleventh Irish National Radon Forum being held in Hotel Kilkenny, Kilkenny on 16th & 17th February, 2014.

The Meetings Administrator informed the Members that the estimated average cost per Councillor attending this Conference was €319.58.

It was agreed that Cllrs. G. Keating, S. McLoughlin and P. Murphy attend this Conference.

Training Seminar for Councillors entitled “Seanad Reform & the Councillor” being held in the Millrace Hotel, Bunclody, Co. Wexford on 20th – 22nd February, 2014.

The Meetings Administrator informed the Members that the estimated average cost per Councillor attending this Conference was €622.03 including conference fee of €120.

It was agreed that Cllrs. T. Brennan and P.J. Kelly attend this Conference.

Elected Members Training Seminar entitled “Improved protection for Consumers with New Building Regulations which come into effect on 1st March, 2014” being held in The Connacht Hotel, Old Dublin Road, Galway City on 21st & 22nd February, 2014.

The Meetings Administrator informed the Members that the estimated average cost per Councillor attending this Conference was €352.04 including conference fee of €150.

It was agreed that Cllr. G. Flynn attend this Conference.

25th Annual Tourism Conference entitled “Folklore – Heritage – Tourism” being held in the Falls Hotel, Ennistymon, Co. Clare.

The Meetings Administrator informed the Members that the estimated average cost per Councillor attending this Conference was €91.91 including conference fee of €25.

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

Conference entitled “Dealing with difficult times” being held in Bewleys Hotel, Naas Road, Dublin on 21st – 23rd February, 2014.

The Meetings Administrator informed the Members that the estimated average cost per Councillor attending this Conference was €600.95 including conference fee of €95.

It was agreed that Cllr. G. Keating attend this Conference.

Training Seminar for Councillors entitled “Local Elections 2014: Process: Proportional Representation System” being held in the Carlton Hotel, Church Road, Tyrrelstown, Blanchardstown, Dublin 15 on 27th & 28th February, 2014.

The Meetings Administrator informed the Members that the estimated average cost per Councillor attending this Conference was €30.67 including conference fee of €20.

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

Training Seminar for Councillors entitled “Budgets and Financing of Local Authorities” being held in the Talbot Hotel, Wexford on 28th February & 1st March, 2014.

The Meetings Administrator informed the Members that the estimated average cost per Councillor attending this Conference was €498.35 including conference fee of €20.

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

Association of County & City Councils Annual Conference being held in the Slieve Russell Hotel, Co. Cavan on 6th & 7th March, 2014.

The Meetings Administrator informed the Members that the estimated average cost per Councillor attending this Conference was €625.18 including conference fee of €130.

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

Elected Members Training Seminar entitled “Empowering Communities through Local Government Policy” being held in the Connacht Hotel, Old Dublin Road, Galway City on 7th & 8th March, 2014.

The Meetings Administrator informed the Members that the estimated average cost per Councillor attending this Conference was €352.04 including conference fee of €150.

It was agreed that Cllr. G. Flynn attend this Conference.

Training Seminar for Councillors entitled “Media Skills for Councillors” being held in the Great Northern Hotel, Bundoran, Co. Donegal on 11th & 12th March, 2014.

The Meetings Administrator informed the Members that the estimated average cost per Councillor attending this Conference was €16.86 including conference fee of €100.

It was agreed that Cllrs. T. Brennan and P.J. Kelly attend this Conference.

The meeting then concluded.

Signed: _____
Riarthóir Cruinnithe

Signed: _____
Méara

Date: _____

Minutes of the adjourned March Meeting of Clare County Council held in the Council Chamber, Áras Contae an Chláir, New Road, Ennis, Co. Clare on Monday, 24th March, 2014 at 3:45 p.m.

Present:

Councillors J. Flynn, P. Murphy, S. Scanlan, P. Daly, T. Brennan, J. Breen, T. Mulqueen, T. McNamara, B. Meaney, B. Slattery, M. Hillery, R. Nagle, M. Kelly, J. Arkins, J. Cooney, P. Hayes, P. Burke, P. Fitzgerald, M. Begley, C. Crowe, C. Curtin, O. Garry, P.J. Kelly, P. Keane, B. Chambers, G. Keating, J. Crowe, S. McLoughlin, P. McCarthy, P.J. Ryan, P. McMahon, G. Flynn.

- Mr. Tom Coughlan, County Manager.
- Mr. Michael McNamara, Meetings Administrator.
- Mr. Finbar Tuohy, Staff Officer.
- Ms. Bernadette Kinsella, Director of Services.
- Ms. Ann Haugh, Director of Services.
- Mr. Ger Dollard, Director of Services.
- Mr. Tom Tiernan, Senior Engineer.
- Ms. Deirdre O'Shea, Administrative Officer.

The Mayor, Cllr. Joe Arkins presided.

At the outset the Mayor stated that this was Bernadette Kinsella, Director of Services last meeting as she was retiring from Clare County Council. Cllr. J. Arkins paid tribute to Bernadette for her excellent advice and assistance to the elected members over the years and wished her and her family many years of happy retirement. This sentiment was echoed by all the members present.

The County Manager also took the opportunity to thank Bernadette for her years of dedicated service and again wished her all the best for the future.

Bernadette Kinsella thanked all for their kind remarks and stated that it was a pleasure to work with the Council over the past ten years.

Items 11, 16, 17 & 36

These items were carried over from the last meeting and Tom Tiernan, Senior Engineer detailed the most up to date position regarding funding, programme of works, timelines etc. and that further information should be available for the April meeting when the Roadworks Programme will be before the members.

Item 13. Public Liability and Employee Liability Claims.

Ar moladh Cllr. B. Meaney
Cuidithe ag Cllr. C. Curtin agus glacadh leis

“I request a case by case listing of all public liability and employee liability claims lodged, settled or in process against Clare County Council for the year 2012 and 2013. Reply to detail the amount sought and amount received (if any), and legal costs (if any) in each case.”

Michael McNamara, Senior Executive Officer, Corporate Services replied as follows:

“Attached are lists as required with details of public liability and employee liability claims for the years 2012 and 2013.

When a claim is lodged in the first instance, at that stage no amount is specified as being sought to settle the case.”

Public Liability Claims Received 2012

The following table outlines the details of public liability and employee liability claims for the years 2012 and 2013.

File No:	Location of incident:	Outcome:	Costs:	Status:
12/01	Pothole at Claureen	Settlement - €75.00	N/A	Closed
12/02	Pothole at Claureen	Settlement - €10.00	N/A	Closed
12/03	Property Damage Miltown Malbay	Settlement - €2,490.00	N/A	Closed
12/04	Pothole at Claureen	Settlement - €65.00	N/A	Closed
12/05	Pothole at Claureen	Settlement - €65.00	N/A	Closed
12/06	Pothole at Miltown	Settlement - €50.00	N/A	Closed
12/07	Pothole at Claureen	Settlement - €45.00	N/A	Closed
12/08	Collision with sign on N68	Liability Denied		Closed
12/09	Pothole at Claureen	Settlement - €70.00	N/A	Closed
12/10	Pothole at Claureen	Settlement - €340.00	N/A	Closed
12/11	Pothole at Claureen	Settlement - €65.00	N/A	Closed
12/12	Pothole at Kilmaley Road	Settlement - €230.00	N/A	Closed
12/13	Pothole at Claureen	Settlement - €10.00	N/A	Closed

12/14	Pothole at Claureen	Settlement for €175.00	N/A	Closed
12/15	Incident at C.W.M.F.	Settlement €15,495.00	€1,474.75	Closed
12/16	Personal Injury/Kilkee PL 11/74	M.H.P. nominated		Ongoing
12/17	Pothole at Kilnaboy	Settlement - €125.00	N/A	Closed
12/18	Personal Injury/Shannon	Settlement - €6,837.00		Closed
12/19	Pothole at Claureen	Settlement - €252.15		Closed
12/20	Pothole at Ardnacrusha	Not Liable		Closed
12/21	Pothole at Claureen	Settlement - €65.00		Closed
12/22	Personal Injury/Kilrush	Settlement - €10,464.82	€2.50	Closed
12/23	Personal Injury/Kilrush	Settlement - €10,464.81	€2.50	Closed
12/24	Damage to Property/Kilrush	Not Liable - 26/01/12		Closed
12/25	Pothole at Claureen	Settlement - €80.00		Closed
12/26	Personal Injury/Kilrush	Settlement - €12,687.00	€99.76	Closed
12/27	Damage to Vehicle/Doora	Not Liable - 02/02/12		Closed
12/28	Pothole at Ardnacrusha	Not Liable - 21/02/12		Closed
12/29	Pothole at Inch Bridge	Settlement - €90.00		Closed
12/30	Pothole at Moy Road, Lahinch.	Settlement - €60.00		Closed
12/31	Personal Injury - ShannonBanks	Awaiting proceedings		
12/32	Personal Injury - Westbury	M.H.P. nominated		Ongoing
12/33(a)	Blackwater, Ardnacrusha.	Not followed up by claimant		Closed
12/33(b)	Pothole at Drumcliffe	No Report Received		Closed
12/34	Pothole at Gowerhass	M.H.P. nominated		Ongoing
12/35	Personal Injury - Broadford/LK	Report sent to I.P.B.		
12/36	Personal Injury - Shannon	Indemnity recd from Zurich.		Closed
12/37	Pothole at Ardnacrusha	Not Liable - 21/02/12		Closed
12/38	Pothole at Quinspool North	Matter did not proceed		Closed

12/39	Personal Injury - Kilkee	M.H.P. nominated		Ongoing
12/40	Pothole at Leminagh	Settlement - €200.00		Closed
12/41	Main Street, Miltown Malbay.	M.H.P. nominated		Ongoing
12/42	Pothole at Cloonolia, Mountshannon.	Denied Liability		Closed
12/43	Incident at Decoursy Bridge	Not Liable - 29/02/12		Closed
12/44	Incident at Knockanean Road	Not Liable		Closed
12/45	Pothole at Knockalisheen Road	Not Liable - 03/04/12		Closed
12/46	Alleged assault at Cúl na Gréine	Referred to Law Agent - not covered by policy		Closed
12/47	Pothole at Clonlara	Non Feasance		Closed
12/48	Defective public litter bin - Shannon	Settlement - €10,912.00	€1,222.00	Closed
12/49	Personal Injury - Crossroads, Killaloe.	Declined I.B. assessment		
12/50	Personal Injury - Shannon	M.H.P. nominated		Ongoing
12/51	Damage to vehicle Quilty	Report sent to I.P.B.		
12/52	Pothole at Doonbeg Road, Kilmihil.	Closed as per I.P.B. 20/05/13		Closed
12/53	Incident at Rosmadda	Not Liable - 19/04/12		Closed
12/54	Incident at Moy, Lahinch.	Settlement - €77.49		Closed
12/55	Personal Injury - Millstream, Killaloe.	To be contested 23.05.13		
12/56	Pothole at Claureen, Ennis.	Settlement €250.00		Closed
12/57	Incident at Knockanean, Tulla Road.	Settlement - €150.00		Closed
12/58	Personal Injury - Church Dr., Clarecastle.	Settlement - €18,987.00	€1,075 (Plaintiffs costs)	Closed
12/59	Vehicle damage - Kilclaren/Bretts X	Denied Liability		Closed
12/60	Vehicle damage - Rockmount Inc.	Non Feasance		Closed
12/61	Personal Injury - Ennis	Relevant to Ennis T.C.		Closed

12/62	Debris on road at Ennis Rd. Etymon.	Not Liabile		Closed
12/63	Incident on road at Meelick	Settlement for €50.00		Closed
12/64	Personal Injury at Lisdoonvarna	Not Responsible		Closed
12/65	Personal Injury, Ballycasey, Shannon	M.H.P. nominated		Ongoing
12/66	Personal Injury, Shannon Walk, Corbally.	Liability Denied - Non Feasance - 29/11/2013		Closed
12/67	Personal Injury at Craglea, Killaloe.	Awaiting proceedings		
12/68	Incident at Portuma/Whitegate Rd and Mountshannon Road.	Not Liabile		Closed
12/69	Flooding of property at Ballysheen Sixmilebridge	Settlement - €26,686.79	CCC paid excess €12,600	Closed
12/70	Flooding of property at Brookville	Report sent to I.P.B.		
12/71	Pothole at Deerpark Ind Est, Etymn.	Settlement - €65.00		Closed
12/72	Personal Injury Cronan Grove, Shannon.	Closed as per I.P.B. 21/10/13		Closed
12/73	Personal Injury Station Rd., Lahinch.	M.H.P. nominated		Ongoing
12/74	Hit rock at Wood Road, Cratloe.	Not Liabile		Closed
12/75	Incident at Newtown, Clonlara.	Non Feasance		Closed
12/76	Personal Injury - Incident at Blackwater	M.H.P. nominated		Ongoing
12/77	Flooding of basement at Bindon Street property, Ennis.	Settlement - €749.10	€369.00 (Plaintiff) €615.00	Closed
12/78	Personal Injury - Incident at Church Drive, Clarecastle	M.H.P. nominated		Ongoing
12/79	Personal Injury - Incident at Shannon Banks, Corbally	M.H.P. nominated		Ongoing
12/80	Incident at Quinns pool	Non Feasance		Closed
12/81	Pothole at Lees Road, Ennis.	Not Liabile		Closed
12/82	Pothole at Kilmurry McMahon	Denied Liability		Closed

12/83	Pothole at Ballymacahill/Roslevan Rd.	Denied Liability		Closed
12/84	Incident at Clonfadda, Killaloe.	Report sent to I.P.B.		
12/85	Injury at Corofin Playground	Denied Liability		Closed
12/86	Injury at Main Street, Ennistymon.	M.H.P. nominated		Ongoing
12/87	Personal injury at Fana Glas, Sixmilebridge	Report sent to I.P.B. 02/08/13		
12/88	Injury at Carrigaholt Pier	Report sent to I.P.B.		
12/89	Incident at Ballymacahill cross	Non Feasance		Closed
12/90	Incident at Blakes Corner Etymon	Non Feasance		Closed
12/91	Incident at Sandpit X, O'Briensbridge.	Settlement - €34.71		Closed
12/92	Potholes near Cree Bridge	Non Feasance		Closed
12/93	Incident at Elmvale X, Kilnaboy.	Not Liable		Closed
12/94	Incident at Quilty	M.H.P. nominated		Ongoing
12/95	Pothole at Balabane, Kilfenora.	Settlement - €59.59		Closed
12/96	Personal Injury - Old Cratloe Road	M.H.P. nominated		Ongoing
12/97	Stone on roadside near Corofin	Settlement - €550.00		Closed
12/98	Property Damage at Connolly Villas	No Report Recd.		
12/99	Personal Injuries - Killaloe	M.H.P. nominated		Ongoing
12/100	Pothole at Spencilhill	Settlement - €100.00		Closed
12/101	Pothole at Spencilhill	Settlement - €4.99		Closed
12/102	Personal injury at McDonalds Shannon	M.H.P. nominated		Ongoing
12/103	Incident at Miltown - Kilrush Road	Settlement for €75.00		Closed
12/104	Incident at No. 15 Cronan Lawn, Shannon	Please see file Ref PL13/14		Closed
12/105	Pothole at Murtyclough, Bell Harbour.	Settlement - €94.36	€71.15	Closed

12/106	Pothole at Sraheen, Clooney.	Non Feasance		Closed
12/107	Personal Injury, Sixmilebridge.	Settlement - €25,467.00	€1,197.00	Closed
12/108	Personal Injury, Kilkee.	Indemnity sought from Ocean Cove Management		
12/109	Vehicle damage, Rockmount, Ennis.	Settlement - €300.00		Closed
12/110	Pothole at Cree, Kilrush.	C. Feeney investigated. Unable to determine locus		Closed
12/111	Potholes at Shannon	Area not in charge of C.C.C.		Closed

Public Liability Claims Received 2013

File No:	Location of incident:	Outcome:	Costs:	Status:
13/01	Pothole at Shyan/Leitrim Kilmihil	Settlement - €270.00		Closed
13/02	Incident at Ennis Road, Miltown.	Settlement - €13.50		Closed
13/03	Personal Injury at Lisdoonvarna	Settlement - €40,000	€600.00	Closed
13/04	Personal Injury outside Barefield N.S.			Ongoing
13/05	Pothole at Ennis/Quin Road	Liability Denied		Closed
13/06	Personal Injury at Clonlara	Defendants are Mourne View Properties		Closed
13/07	Pothole between Clonlara and Doonass	Non Feasance		Closed
13/08	Pothole between Kilfenora and Lemenagh	Settlement - €294.28		Closed
13/09	Pothole at Spencilhill - Tulla to Ennis Rd.	Settlement - €300.00		Closed
13/10	Pothole at Carrigaholt Road, Kilkee.	Non Feasance		Closed
13/11	Pothole at Kilkishen-Sixmilebridge Road	Settlement - 100.00		Closed
13/12	Personal Injury at Deliginis, Shannon.			Ongoing
13/13	Pothole at Kilmurry-Sixmilebridge Road	Settlement - €120.00		Closed

13/14	Damage to property at Cronan Lawn, Shannon.			Ongoing
13/15	Pothole at Danganbrack, Quin.	Non Feasance		Closed
13/16	Personal injury at Deilginish, Shannon.			Ongoing
13/17	Personal injury at Shannon			Ongoing
13/18	Personal Injury at Westbury			Ongoing
13/19	Outcropping rock on the road	Settlement - €130.00		Closed
13/20	Personal injury at Lissycasey Playground			Ongoing
13/21	Damage to property at Cúl na Gréine, Shannon			Ongoing
13/22	Pothole on Broadford-Kilkishen Road	Awaiting Report		Ongoing
13/23	Personal injury, damage, loss.			Ongoing
13/24	Personal injury at Danganella, Cooraclare.			Ongoing
13/25	Personal injury at Cliffs of Moher			Closed
13/26	Personal injury at Newmarket on Fergus	Awaiting Report		Ongoing
13/27	Pothole on Doonbeg to Kilrush Road	Not Liable		Closed
13/28	Personal Injury at Shannon Banks, Corbally.			Ongoing
13/29	Pothole at Monvana, Kilrush.	Within Kilrush T.C. boundary		Closed
13/30	Personal Injury at Deerpark, Ennistymon.			Ongoing
13/31	Alleged incident at Barefield, Ennis.	Not Liable		Closed
13/32	Alleged incident at Barrys Cross			Ongoing
13/33	Alleged incident at Finian Park, Shannon.			Ongoing
13/34	Alleged incident at Killow East roundabout	Not Liable		Closed
13/35	Alleged incident at Strand Line, Kilkee.	Settlement €39.00		Closed

13/36	Alleged incident adj to Tradaree Court, Shannon			Ongoing
13/37	Blocked sewer at Corrib Drive, Shannon.	This is not an insurance case.		Referred to Area Office for attention
13/38	Pothole at Shyan, Kilmihil.	Settlement - €75.00		Closed
13/39	Rock sticking out on roadside - Lees Road	Awaiting Report		Ongoing
13/40	Dip in the road at Ballyknock, Kilnamona.	Not Liable		Closed
13/41	Alleged incident at Main Street, Kildysart.	Settlement - €1,600		Closed
13/42	Alleged accident at Finian Park, Shannon.			Ongoing
13/43	Alleged accident at Bunratty Bridge			Ongoing
13/44	Alleged incident at Newtown, Killaloe.			Ongoing
13/45	Alleged accident at Smiths Gdns, Kilkee.	Awaiting Report		Ongoing
13/46	Alleged accident at Promenade, Lahinch.	C.C.C. paid €100.00		Closed
13/47	Alleged personal injuries at Shannon	Awaiting Report		Ongoing
13/48	Alleged fall from bicycle at Parteen x – Westbury			Ongoing
13/49	Alleged incident outside Bay View, O'Curry Street, Kilkee.			Ongoing
13/50	Pothole on Ballydineen Road	Non Feasance		Closed
13/51	Pothole at Jimmys Hill, Kilkee.	Settlement - €40.00		Closed
13/52	Alleged incident at Carrigaholt Road roundabout, Kilkee. (syringe)	Awaiting further contact from claimant		Ongoing
13/53	Alleged fall on steps at Spanish Point			Ongoing
13/54	Alleged incident at Clarehill, Clarecastle.	Awaiting report		Ongoing
13/55	Alleged incident at Corrib Drive, Shannon.	Not Liable		Closed

13/56	Pothole at Lispuckaun, Kilmaley.	Non Feasance		Closed
13/57	Pothole at Fanore Coast Road	Settlement - €3,369.24	€142.31	Closed
13/58	Alleged fall at Millstream, Killaloe.			Ongoing
13/59	Alleged fall at Áras Contae an Chláir			Ongoing
13/60	Alleged vehicle damage at Gort Road, Ennis.	Settlement - €262.47		Closed
13/61	Alleged incident at Convent Hill, Killaloe.	Liability Denied		Closed
13/62	Alleged incident at Doolin Pier	Awaiting Report		Ongoing
13/63	Alleged incident at The Quays, Clarecastle.			Ongoing
13/64	Alleged incident at Cluain Airne, Shannon.			Ongoing
13/65	Alleged incidents on the Bog Road, Spanish Point.	Non Feasance		Closed
13/66	Alleged incident at Scarriff Road, Killaloe.			Ongoing
13/67	Alleged accident at Salt Barns, Ennis.			Ongoing
13/68	Damage to property at Arbutus Grove, Quin.	Awaiting Report		Ongoing

Cllr. B. Meaney raised queries in relation to the costs incurred on potholes in Claureen and Fanore and the defective litter bin in Shannon and it was agreed that these details would be made available to Cllr. B. Meaney in due course.

Item 14. Tourism in Clare.

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

“In light of the importance of employment in tourism in Clare and the launching of the Wild Atlantic Way through the county that Clare County Council commit to pass on resultant cost savings as envisaged in the 2014 Local Government Reform programme to all businesses, including hotels and Accommodation providers, in the form of reduced Commercial Rates.”

Gerard Dollard, Director of Services replied as follows:

“The Council very much welcomes the launch of the Wild Atlantic Way and has worked very closely with Fáilte Ireland to ensure that the project can be maximised for the benefit of the county. The Council is convinced that such a major tourism initiative marketed on an international basis offers a very strong platform to promote economic activity and create enterprise, particularly in the tourism sector.

The Council has adopted its overall Budget for 2014 and, as the Members will be aware, the securing of a balanced Budget was not without difficulty. In the preparation of each Budget, all savings that can be made are taken into account and, in this regard, there has been a very significant reduction, particularly on the payroll side in recent years. These savings have greatly assisted in meeting the shortfall in income resulting from the reduction in grants and other income sources. As such, all cost savings to date have been taken into account in the budgetary process.

It is difficult to envisage where further cost savings can be made while at the same time the Council is taking on new areas of activity arising from the Local Government Reform Programme.”

Item 15. Development contribution.

Ar moladh Cllr. J. Flynn on behalf of Cllr. S. McLoughlin
Cuidithe ag Cllr. G. Flynn agus glacadh leis

“I am asking this council to reduce the development contribution by 50% to stimulate investments and developments as this will create jobs in the county.”

Gerard Dollard, Director of Services replied as follows:

“Clare County Council adopted a revised Development Contribution Scheme in September 2013 following an extensive public consultation process.

There is a full exemption from development levies for:

- new aviation related enterprises at Shannon Airport and adjoining lands. Such enterprises include Airport operational activity and uses complimentary to the operation of the Airport.
- a complete exemption for marine related industry on strategic sites along the Shannon Estuary.

The scheme, as adopted, also contains the following provisions:

- a 33% reduction in the normal rate of development contributions for new businesses grant-aided or supported by I.D.A./Enterprise Ireland with job creation potential.
- a 33% reduction in the normal rate of development contributions to encourage industrial development is applicable to permissions for expansion to existing manufacturing or industrial facilities.

- a 33% reduction in the normal rate of development contributions is applicable to non-residential and living over the shop residential developments to support town centre development.
- a 33% reduction also applies to renewable energy projects that do not supply electricity to the National Grid.

Any amendments to the Development Contribution Scheme require an extensive public consultation process and consideration by the Elected Members. The Scheme, as adopted by Council in 2013, provides for reduced rates of development levies and at the same time further significant reductions (in some cases a full waiving of any charge). These provisions are designed to stimulate and promote investment and developments that will result in job creation within the county.”

Item 18. Staff Nos. within the Council.

Ar moladh Cllr. C. Curtin
Cuidithe ag Cllr. J. Flynn agus O. Garry agus glacadh leis

“That the Director of Services, Human Resources, provide an inventory of current staff Nos. within the Council with a profile of their job specification and retirements within particular categories of post since 2008.”

Deirdre O’Shea, Administrative Officer, Human Resources replied as follows:

“Set out below in Table 1 are the details of staff numbers within Clare Local Authorities, to include the Town Councils, since 2008 based on Job Categories defined by the Department of Environment, Community and Local Government Quarterly Staff Returns:

Staff numbers within Clare Local Authorities

The following table outlines details of staff numbers within Clare Local Authorities to include the Town Councils

Staff Numbers 2008 to February 2014							
Category	31-Dec-08	31-Dec-09	31-Dec-10	31-Dec-11	31-Dec-12	31-Dec-13	28-Feb-14
Permanent *Managerial	6	6	6	5	5	5	5
Permanent *Clerical/Administrative	310	303	303	307	306	300	296
Permanent *Professional/Technical	115	112	111	122	123	123	120
Permanent *Outdoor	377	356	337	338	339	325	322
Permanent Full-Time Firefighter	1	1	1	1	1	1	1

Permanent Incentivised Career Break	0	2	8	8	1	0	0
Sub Total on Permanent	809	780	766	781	775	754	744
Temporary Contracts and Supernumeries	104	90	80	40	16	15	15
*Temporary/Seasonal	49	14	13	12	9	20	12
Sub Total on Permanent and Temporary	962	884	859	833	800	789	771
Retained Firefighters	82	77	80	78	76	72	72
Non Department of Environment, Community & Local Government (Clare Local Authority Employees related to other Government Departments)	8	6	6	6	6	6	6
Overall Total	1052	967	945	917	882	867	849

*Key Notes:

***Contract Posts** = temporary appointments >2 years

***Temporary/Seasonal** = temporary appointments < 2 years

***Clerical / Administrative** = Administrative Officer, Archivist, Arts Officer, Assistant Librarian, Assistant Staff Officer, Biodiversity Officer, Branch Librarian, Caretaker - Traveller Accommodation, Clerical Officer, County Librarian, Development & Research Officer, Environmental Awareness Officer, Estates Management / Liaison Officer, Executive Librarian, Executive Technician, FOI Officer, IS Analyst Developer, IS Network Support Officer, IS Project Leader, IS Technical Support Officer, Library Assistant, Marketing & Development Officer, Museum Curator, Print Room Attendant, Receptionist, Senior Executive Librarian, Senior Executive Officer, Senior Library Assistant, Senior Staff Officer, Staff Officer, Storekeeper, Town Clerk

***Managerial** = County Manager, Director of Services, Head of Finance,

***Non-DOEHLG** = Chief Veterinary Officer, Civil Defence & Water Safety Officer, Veterinary Inspector

***Outdoor** = Assistant Facilities Manager, Assistant Foreman, Assistant Regional Caretaker, Attendant Recycling Centre, Canteen Attendant, Caretaker & Cleaner, Caretakers, Carpenter, Cleaner, Craftworker, Drivers, Driver Attendant, Driver / General Operative, Environmental Attendant, Electrician, Environmental Patrol Warden, Facilities Management Attendants, Fitness Instructors, Fitter Mechanic, Fitter Plumber, Foreman, General Manager Ennis Leisure Complex, Ganger, General Operatives, General Services Supervisor, Gym Manager, Heavy Vehicle Mechanic, Library Attendant, Lifeguard - ELC, Lifeguard Instructor - ELC, Light Equipment Operator, Mechanical Foreman, Museum Attendant, Patching Unit Operative, Pool Manager, Recycling Assistant, Regional Caretakers, Sports Facility Attendant, School Wardens, Senior Fitter / Mechanic,

Senior General Services Supervisor, Sports Facilities Manager, Station Officer, Storekeeper, Supervisors Recycling Centres, Supervisor Gardening Section, Theatre Attendant, Traffic /Litter Warden, Town Foreman, Traffic Wardens, Waste Water Inspector, Water Services Supervisors

***Professional / Technical** = Assistant Chief Fire Officer, Assistant Engineer, Assistant Fire Officer, Assistant Planner, Assistant Scientist, Burren Project Manager, Chief Fire Officer, Chief Technician, Clerk of Works / Building Inspector, Conservation Officer, Energy Agency Manager, Executive Architect, Executive Engineer, Executive Planner, Executive Scientist, Executive Technician, Financial Accountant, Head of Information Systems, Health and Safety Officer, Heritage Officer, Housing Welfare Officer, Management Accountant, Senior Exec Health and Safety Officer, Senior Assistant Chief Fire Officer, Senior Engineer, Senior Executive Architect, Senior Executive Chemist, Senior Executive Engineer, Senior Executive Planner, Senior Executive Scientist, Senior Executive Technician, Senior Planner, Senior Resident Engineer, Technician Grade 1 and 2, Waste Enforcement Officer

Set out below in Table 2 are the details of the number of Retirements with a profile of their category since 2008:

Number of retirements

The following table sets out the number of retirements with a profile of their category since 2008.

Staff Numbers 2008-date								
Category	31-Dec-08	31-Dec-09	31-Dec-10	31-Dec-11	31-Dec-12	31-Dec-13	28-Feb-14	Total Retirements 2008 - Feb 2014
Managerial	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	3
Clerical/Administrative	10	12	10	10	8	7	1	58
Professional/Technical	2	9	2	0	4	0	2	19
Outdoor	13	27	25	17	20	15	3	120
	26	49	37	28	32	22	6	200

It should be noted that the provisions of the Public Sector Recruitment Embargo as set out in Circular Letter LG (P) 1497 of the 27th March 2009, still remain in place.”

Item 19. Council Plant Depots.

Ar moladh Cllr. C. Curtin
Cuidithe ag Cllr. O. Garry agus glacadh leis

“That the Directors of Services, Infrastructure and Corporate Affairs list the Council Plant Depots among the 23 listed in the County at the January meeting which have E.S.B. and Water Supplies together with permanent storage capacity and the plans to provide similar facilities at the remaining depots to facilitate their enhanced role with the delivery of services in the new Municipal Districts and in this context an up-date be provided on the current planning for the amended structure arising from the implementation of the Local Government Reform Act 2014.”

Tom Tiernan, Senior Engineer, Transportation replied as follows:

“The 23 depots referred to are listed in the table below along with details pertaining to their capacity for storage and indicating whether or not they have power and/or water supplies. Note that while all depots have capacity for storage of materials (outdoor only in some cases) 12 have a power supply installed and 15 have water supply. Notwithstanding the fact that it is likely that the boundaries of the new Roads Areas will correspond with the new Municipal District boundaries, it isn’t envisaged that the role of depots will change significantly – for the present at least. They are spread reasonably well around the county and by and large they are adequately serving the purpose they are intended to serve. In the past the practice has been that individual depots are upgraded in whatever manner appropriate as particular needs may arise in the areas where they are located. No decision has been made to change the role of depots arising from the introduction of the MD structure and therefore there is no overall plan to invest in them at present. This situation can be reviewed once Municipal Districts are operating for a period.

Council Depots.

The 23 depots are listed in the table below along with details pertaining to their capacity for storage and indicating whether or not they have power and/or water supplies.

DEPOT LOCATION	ENGINEERING AREA	E.S.B.	Water Supply	Permanent storage Capacity
Beechpark	Ennis	Yes	Yes	Yes
Gort Road Industrial Estate	Ennis	No	No	Yes
Keevagh	Ennis			

		No	Yes	Yes
Bodyke	Killaloe	Yes	Yes	Yes
Tulla	Killaloe	No	No	Yes
Clonlara	Killaloe	Yes	Yes	Yes
Shannonbanks	Killaloe	No	No	Yes
Kilkee	Kilrush	No	No	Yes
Kilrush	Kilrush	Yes	Yes	Yes
Quilty	Kilrush	No	No	Yes
Kilmihil	Kilrush	Yes	Yes	Yes
Cliff Quarry	Kilrush	Yes	Yes	Yes
Doolough	Kilrush	Yes	Yes	Yes
Connolly	Kilrush	No	No	Yes
Crusheen	Ennistymon	No	No	Yes
Kilnaboy	Ennistymon	No	Yes	Yes

Hilarys Quarry	Ennistymon	No	Yes	Yes
Ennistymon	Ennistymon	Yes	Yes	Yes
Miltown	Ennistymon	Yes	Yes	Yes
Inagh	Ennistymon	No	No	Yes
Shannon	Shannon	Yes	Yes	Yes
Sixmilebridge	Shannon	Yes	Yes	Yes
Cratloe	Shannon	Yes	Yes	Yes

Item 20. Irish Water.

Ar moladh Cllr. B. Meaney
Cuidithe ag Cllr. P.J. Kelly agus P. Burke agus glacadh leis

“That the Service Level Agreement between Irish Water and Clare County Council be made available to the Elected Members of this Council.”

Anne Haugh, Director of Services replied as follows:

“The Service Level Agreement with Irish Water was signed by the County Manager on 23rd December 2013 and became effective from 1st January 2014.

Arrangements will be made to circulate the Service Level Agreement in soft copy to all Members.”

Item 22. Roadside trees.

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

“That Clare County Council put a policy in place that all road side trees are checked, limbed and removed if necessary in the interests of road safety.”

Tom Tiernan, Senior Engineer, Transportation replied as follows:

“The vast majority of roadside trees are located in the roadside boundary structures or inside private properties adjacent to the public road – in both cases the responsibility for checking and managing such trees lies with the relevant property owners – this is clearly set out under Section 70 of the 1993 Roads Act. Therefore, with regard to trees which are located near public roads and are the responsibility of private property owners, there is no need for a policy as the law is clear in this regard and this notice of motion serves as a timely reminder to property owners in this regard.

With regard to trees in public areas which may be compromised, the Council has similar responsibilities and where it is aware of public or road safety issues associated with any such trees, arrangements are put in place to deal with same as a matter of urgency.”

Item 23. Tenant’s Handbook.

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

“With reference to the Clare Local Authorities Tenant's Handbook, and the categorisation of repairs and the appropriate response times I wish to receive the following information:

- a) Are the contractors aware of when these calls are logged and the appropriate response times?
- b) Are the contractors monitored on their performance with regard to responding to a call and completing the works required?
- c) How are these works allocated to a given contractor, ie, is there a lottery system in place?
- d) Do contractors ever lose a job allocation due to not meeting the appropriate response times?”

Siobhan McNulty, A/Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

“a) The severity and nature of the maintenance call is relayed to the appointed Contractor. The responsibility for ensuring that response times are achieved rests with the Local Authority and not the Contractor. We are not aware of any maintenance call that has not been responded to within the allotted response times as outlined on page 21 of the Tenants Handbook.

b) Clare Local Authorities have a Framework in place for Building Contractors and are in the process of finalising the Frameworks Agreements for Plumbers and Electricians. These framework agreements provide for performance evaluations, which are undertaken at least annually. At present there is no formal system to monitor and evaluate response to maintenance calls, however, if a Contractor persistently failed to respond to calls, or carried out substandard works, Clare County Council would not re-engage a Contractor who was not delivering the required service.

The present system of allocation of work with a value of less than €1,000 to Building Contractors is by rotation from the established Framework Agreements. At present response maintenance for Plumbers and Electricians is from a panel however the Frameworks Agreements for Plumbers and Electricians is due to be finalised by the 14th March 2014 and then participants will be called off in rotation.

d) The Clerk of Works for the area monitors Contractors performance and outcomes. If a Contractor fails to attend a job the Clerk of Works can and will redirect the call. I am not aware of a situation in the recent past when this issue may have arisen.”

Item 24. Damage to public roads.

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

“That the County Solicitor present a legal opinion detailing the options open to the Council to recover cost of damage done to public roads by third parties or their agents.”

Item 25. Cumann na mBan.

Ar moladh Cllr. C. Crowe
Cuidithe ag Cllr. P. Hayes agus B. Chambers agus glacadh leis

“On this year, the year of the 100th Anniversary of Cumann Na mBan we call on the council to name currently unnamed public buildings, roads or parks after Cumann na mBan or a member of Cumann na mBan from this county. It is fitting and appropriate that the council recognise the role of women in Irish life and those women of Cumann Na mBan who played such a vital role in the struggle for independence.”

It was requested that the words “as appropriate” be added to this motion and this was agreed by all members present. Cllr. McCarthy stated she did not support the naming of buildings after people. A query was also raised in relation to a previous motion regarding the Magdalene laundries and whether this has been progressed or not.

Item 26. Shannon Airport.

Ar moladh Cllr. P. McMahon
Cuidithe ag Cllr. P. McCarthy agus glacadh leis

“That Clare County Council examine the implications for Shannon Airport and this county of the new Regional Structures which could cut off either Galway or Limerick from the Airport Region.”

Cllr. P. McMahon and other members expressed concern at the proposed composition of the new Regions. The County Manager stated that Limerick-Clare-Galway should be in the same region and act as a counterbalance to Dublin and the east coast.

It was requested that this be an agenda item at the April meeting.

Item 27. Funding to repair roads.

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

“That this Council request the Minister for the Environment to provide extra funding to repair roads recently damaged by adverse weather conditions and also funding to remove unstable trees from the road side.”

Tom Tiernan, Senior Engineer, Transportation replied as follows:

“The submissions made to the Department of the Environment within the past two months regarding the storm damage have included within them a funding application to cover repairs/reconstruction of public roads adjacent to the coast which were damaged by coastal storms. Also included is a provision to deal with a number of non-coastal roads which are submerged and where as a result vehicular access has been or continues to be denied to residents. In addition, the same submissions have within them a request to cover the Council’s costs in dealing with trees in public areas which were knocked or compromised during the storms particularly by the high winds of February 12th. “

Item 28. Irish Water.

Ar moladh Cllr. P. McCarthy
Cuidithe ag Cllr. B. Meaney agus glacadh leis

“That Clare County Council, concerned at the implications for a number of projects in the County e.g. Shannon River Walks, seek clarification from Irish Water on its commitment to and obligations on the % for Arts Scheme.”

Anne Haugh, Director of Services replied as follows:

“The percent for Arts Scheme applied to Capital Projects which were funded by the Department of Environment, Community and Local Government.

Now that Water Services Capital Projects are no longer funded by the Department, a query has been raised at national level with Irish Water to determine whether or not the scheme will continue to operate under the new arrangements.”

Item 30. Job Creation in the Mid West.

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

“I call on Clare County Council to call on the Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation Minister Richard Bruton to review the Governments current policy with regard to Job Creation in the Midwest due to the high levels of unemployment and emigration in the region.”

Item 31. National Flag of Ireland.

Ar moladh Cllr. T. Mulqueen
Cuidithe ag Cllr. G. Flynn agus glacadh leis

“Call on the Department of An Taoiseach to instruct the relevant staff at all Government Buildings, Court Buildings, Local Authority Buildings on the correct guidelines and protocol regarding the use of the National Flag of Ireland.”

As the time approached 18:30 p.m. it was proposed by Cllr. C. Curtin to extend the meeting in order to complete the agenda and this was seconded by Cllr. P. Daly and agreed by all members present.

The Mayor took item 34 in conjunction with item 32 as they were similar motions.

Item 32. Irish Postmasters Union.

Ar moladh Cllr. P. Hayes
Cuidithe ag Cllr. R. Nagle agus glacadh leis

“That this Council condemns the Government parties for their refusal to support the Irish Postmasters Union in their efforts to sustain the Post office network”.

There were a number of dissenters in relation to the wording of this motion and after a show of hands the motion was carried with 9 voting for the motion and 6 voting against the motion.

Item 34. Irish Postmasters Union.

Ar moladh Cllr. R. Nagle
Cuidithe ag Cllr. P. Hayes agus glacadh leis

“That Clare County Council calls on the Minister for Communications, Energy and Natural Resources to adopt and implement the action plan as outlined by the I.P.U. (Irish Postmasters Union)”.

Item 33. Iarnród Éireann.

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

“That Clare County Council calls on Iarnród Éireann to provide a proper lift at Ennis Station so that disabled persons can cross independently from one side of the platform to the other without having to suffer the ignominy of being pushed over a slipway on the line, and that pending the installation of a lift, platform 1 should be used for all embarking and disembarking passengers in the interim – and that Bus Éireann make level entry buses available for wheelchair users at the station.”

Item 35. Motorway from Gort to Tuam.

Ar moladh Cllr. P. Daly
Cuidithe ag Cllr. O. Garry agus glacadh leis

“I request Clare County Council to make contact with the Minister for Transport, Leo Varadkar, T.D., with a view to getting a definite confirmation date for the start of the motorway from Gort to Tuam via Galway City, particularly as its commencement is long overdue.”

Item 37. Disadvantaged Agricultural Areas.

Ar moladh Cllr. G. Keating
Cuidithe ag Cllr. P. Hayes agus glacadh leis

“That Clare Council call on the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine to amend the 7 month rule on stocking density to 6 months on farms in severely disadvantaged areas and in particular on wetlands where the grazing season is limited to 6 months.”

Item 38. Comhfhreagras.

Queries were raised and responded to in relation to correspondence received.

The following correspondence was circulated at the meeting:

- Training Seminar entitled “Planning is more than Policy” being held in the Maldron Hotel, Portlaoise, Co. Laois on 4th – 6th April, 2014.
- Training Seminar for Councillors entitled “Tourism in local Communities” being held in the Talbot Hotel, Wexford on 11th – 12th April, 2014.
- Training Seminar entitled “Environmental and Cost Effective Solutions to Waste Water Treatment” being held in Ramada Viking Hotel, Waterford, Co. Waterford on 11th – 13th April, 2014.
- Training Seminar for Councillors entitled “The Local Government Arts Service” being held in the Clybaun Hotel, Clybaun Road, Knocknacarra, Galway on 12th – 13th April, 2014.

The following correspondence was circulated with the agenda:

1. Letter dated 4th February, 2014 from the Department of Health concerning private health insurance.
2. Letter dated 4th February, 2014 from the Data Protection Commissioner in relation to the circulation of Managers Orders.
3. Letter dated 10th February, 2014 from the Department of Health concerning staffing at Ennis General Hospital.
4. Letter dated 12th February, 2014 from the Office of the Minister for Education and Skills in relation to admission policies in schools.

5. Letter dated 13th February, 2014 from Shannon Airport Authority in relation to visitor attractions within the region.
6. Letter dated 17th February, 2014 from An Taisce in relation to the Green Schools Travel Programme.
7. Letter dated 20th February, 2014 from the Department of Environment, Community and Local Government in connection with Irish Water.
8. Letter dated 21st February, 2014 from the Office of the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade concerning United States immigration reform.
9. Letter dated 24th February, 2014 from the Office of the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport in relation to the retention of the Community Involvement Scheme (CIS) in 2014.
10. Letter dated 21st January, 2014 from the Irish Kidney Association acknowledging the proceeds of Clare County Councils Christmas card allowance.
11. Letter dated 19th February, 2014 from the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform in relation to the embargo on the recruitment of core staff in the local authority.
12. Letter dated 18th February, 2014 from the Office of the Taoiseach in relation to request that the Cabinet meet in County Clare in 2014 to mark the millennium of Brian Borus death.
13. Letter dated 14th February, 2014 from the Department of Finance in relation to commercial rates.
14. Letter dated 12th February, 2014 from the Department of Environment, Community and Local Government in connection with the introduction of a Rural Alarm Scheme.
15. Letter dated 12th February, 2014 from the Office of the Minister for Justice and Equality in relation to Governance of Charity & non-for-profit organisations sector.
16. Letter dated 12th February, 2014 from the Department of Environment, Community and Local Government in connection with the responsibility of various agencies responding to storm and flood damage.
17. Letter dated 11th February, 2014 from the Department of Environment, Community and Local Government in connection with the recoupment of money expended on storm damage.
18. Letter dated 23rd December, 2013 from the National Transport Authority in relation to Local Area Hackney Licence.
19. Information on Padraig Pearse Award 2014.
20. Resolution from Edenderry Town Council in relation to Student Service Charge on apprentices while undergoing the education module of their apprenticeship training in Institutes of Technologies.
21. Resolution from Donegal County Council in relation to Irish Water.
22. Resolution from Limerick City & County Council in relation to top-ups and bonuses where tax payers money is involved.
23. List of upcoming Seminars and Training Opportunities from BG Seminars.
24. Road Safety Authority International Conference on Driver Distraction being held in the Main Conference Hall, Dublin Castle, Dublin 2 on 20th March, 2014.

25. Conference entitled “Social Inclusion for Older People – E.U., National & Local Policy” being held in Listowel, Co. Kerry on 20th – 21st March, 2014.
26. Training Seminar entitled “Meeting Management Principles & Best Practice” being held in Celtic Ross Hotel, Rosscarbery, Co. Cork on 21st – 23rd March, 2014.
27. Training Seminar entitled “Changes to the Construction Contracts Act 2013 for Local Authorities” being held in the Four Seasons Hotel, Carlingford, Co. Louth on 21st – 23rd March, 2014.
28. Training Seminar entitled “Making Communities Heart Safe with Council’s Help” being held in Gleeson’s Town House, Roscommon, Co. Roscommon on 21st – 23rd March, 2014.
29. Role of Ombudsman Conference being held in Scotts Limerick, Ashbourne Avenue, South Circular Road, Limerick on 21st – 22nd March, 2014.
30. Councillors Conference entitled “An overview of the Local Property Tax” being held in Bewley’s Hotel, Newlands Cross, Clondalkin, Dublin 22 on 28th – 30th March, 2014.
31. Training Seminar entitled “Water Fluoridation in Ireland – The Facts” being held in the Maldron Hotel, Portlaoise, Co. Laois on 28th – 30th March, 2014.
32. National Alcohol Conference being held in the National Convention Centre, Dublin on 2nd April, 2014.
33. 12th Carlow Tourism National Conference being held in the Talbot Hotel, Portlaoise Road, Carlow Town on 3rd – 5th April, 2014.
34. Dundalk Chamber to host major Cross Border Tourism Conference entitled “The Greenway Forward for Tourism, Health & Sport” being held in the Ballymascanlon House Hotel, Dundalk, Co. Louth on 9th April, 2014.
35. Better Building Conference being held in Croke Park, Dublin on 9th April, 2014.
36. National Planning Conference 2014 being held in Limerick Strand Hotel, Limerick City on 20th – 11th April, 2014.
37. Elected Member’s Training Seminar entitled “National Register of Health Services Provider Identifiers” being held in the Connacht Hotel, Old Dublin Road, Galway City on 11th – 12th April, 2014.
38. Training Seminar entitled “5 Week Countdown to Local Elections 2014” being held in the Silver Tassie Hotel, Letterkenny, Co. Donegal on 19th – 20th April, 2014.
39. Elected Member’s Training Seminar entitled “Social Clauses in Public Procurement” being held in Westport Plaza Hotel, Castlebar Street, Westport, Co. Mayo on 25th – 26th April, 2014.
40. 5th Annual Laurentic Conference entitled “Technology, a People and the Ocean” being held in Inishowen Gateway Hotel, Buncrana, Co. Donegal on 2nd May, 2014.

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.

Training Seminar entitled “An overview of Jobsbridge & Back to Work Scheme” being held in Bewleys Hotel, Newlands Cross, Naas Road, Dublin 22 on 7th – 9th February, 2014.

The Meetings Administrator informed the Members that the estimated average cost per Councillor attending this Conference was €25.57 including conference fee of €5.

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

Training Seminar entitled “Local Government Law Update: 2014” being held in the Four Seasons Hotel, Carlingford, Co. Louth on 21st – 23rd February, 2014.

The Meetings Administrator informed the Members that the estimated average cost per Councillor attending this Conference was €37.21 including conference fee of €10.

It was agreed that Cllr. S. Scanlan attend this Conference.

Training Seminar for Councillors entitled “Budgets and Financing of Local Authorities” being held in the Talbot Hotel, Wexford on 28th February & 1st March, 2014.

The Meetings Administrator informed the Members that the estimated average cost per Councillor attending this Conference was €98.35 including conference fee of €20.

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

Training Seminar entitled “Making Communities Heart Safe with Council’s Help” being held in Gleeson’s Town House, Roscommon, Co. Roscommon on 21st – 23rd March, 2014.

The Meetings Administrator informed the Members that the estimated average cost per Councillor attending this Conference was €60.94 including conference fee of €50.

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

The meeting then concluded.

Signed: _____
Riarthóir Cruinnithe

Signed: _____
Méara

Date: _____