

**Minutes of July Meeting of West Clare  
Municipal District held on 8th July , 2014  
at 4.00 p.m. in Council Chamber, Offices of  
the Municipal District of West Clare, Town  
Hall, Kilrush**

**Cathaoirleach sa Cathair:**

Cllr. P.J. Kelly,

**I Láthair:**

Cllr. C. Curtin, Cllr. R. Nagle, Cllr. B. Slattery, Cllr. I. Lynch, Cllr. M. Hillery, Cllr. B. Chambers, Cllr. G. Keating.

**Officials present:**

Ms. A. Haugh, Area Co-Ordinator & Director of Service,  
Mr. C. Feeney, A/Senior Executive Engineer ,West Clare Municipal District  
Mr. J. Corry, Administrative Officer & Meetings Administrator.

**1. Minutes of AGM of West Clare Municipal District held on 13th  
June 2014**

The Minutes were proposed by Cllr. Kelly & seconded by Cllr. Curtin. There were no matters arising.

**2. Standing Orders Amendments**

Cllr. Kelly indicated that there were two proposed amendments to the Standing Orders.

Standing Order 1 was amended such that Meetings of the Municipal District Members were to be held on the first Tuesday of every second month (except month of August).

Standing Order 43B was amended such that in the event of disorderly behavior of an elected member that the member named be suspended for one month as opposed to one meeting in compliance with legislation.

These amendments were proposed by Cllr. Keating & seconded by Cllr. Lynch.

The Meetings Administrator circulated a copy of the signed Standing Orders to each Member.

**3. Local Area Hackney Licence**

It was proposed by Cllr. Slattery & seconded by Cllr. Chambers that this item would be deferred to the next meeting.

#### **4. Nomination of two representatives to Board of Kilrush Amenity Trust Ltd**

J. Corry indicated that the AGM of Kilrush Amenity Trust was taking place the following morning & a decision was to be made at this meeting regarding the composition of the Board of the Amenity Trust. He added that it had been suggested by the Board that there would be two representatives from the West Clare Municipal District on the Board of Directors. It was proposed by Cllr. Curtin & seconded by Cllr. Hillery that Cllr. Keating & Cllr. Lynch would be the nominees to be considered by the Board of Directors.

#### **5. Nomination of one representative to Management Committee of Kilrush Sports Complex**

Cllr. Chambers & Cllr. Lynch were proposed as the nominees by Cllr. Curtin & seconded by Cllr. Keating. Cllr. Chambers was the existing representative on the committee & Cllr. Lynch indicated that he would like to be included on the committee if possible as he had taken a keen interest in this project & had worked on it previously. J. Corry indicated that he would propose same to the ESB legal reps who had proposed that the Committee be formed & the composition of same as part of the land lease agreement with Kilrush Town Council/Clare Co Council

#### **6. Nomination of one representative to Kilrush/Plousanne Twinning Committee**

Cllr. Lynch was proposed as the nominee by Cllr. Curtin & seconded by Cllr. Keating.

#### **7. Nomination of one representative to Kilrush Tidy Towns Committee**

Cllr. Keating was proposed by Cllr. Chambers & seconded by Cllr. Slattery.

It was agreed by the members to take item 20 next as there were members of the public present who had an interest in this matter.

#### **20. Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. Lynch**

**“That the signage on the N67 from Quilty located at the intersection of the R483 and the N67 be changed to indicate Kilrush via both the N67 and R483 with appropriate route distances”**

#### **This Motion was seconded by Cllr. Slattery**

In a written reply circulated C. Feeney, A/SEE, West Clare Municipal District replied that:-

*This matter was discussed at length at the January 2014 meeting of the Kilrush Electoral Area and previous to that at the September 2013 Kilrush Town Council meeting. I am satisfied that sufficient signage is in place to allow motorists make informed decisions as to the route they wish to take.*

Cllr. Lynch indicated that this matter had come up repeatedly at Town Council & County Council meetings. He said there was confusion over who was responsible for this matter

whether it was the NRA or the County Council. He said there were a no of issues with the signs that were up there. Firstly it was causing huge inconvenience for people who were looking for the shortest route to Kilrush by means of sat navs etc and were directed to Kilrush through Doonbeg & Kilkee. Secondly he argued that revenue was being lost as people were rushing through Doonbeg and Kilkee & not getting an opportunity to stop & spend in Kilrush as they were rushing to catch a ferry. Thirdly he argued that confusion had the potential to cause accidents owing to the confusion as he had witnessed cars stopping dead in the road at this junction. He suggested that the fairest way around this would be to indicate Kilrush on signage going on both routes, N67 & R483, & to indicate the route distances. He accepted that there was a small brown sign indicating alternative route to Kilrush but he felt that this was not sufficient. He made a comparison with signage in Killimer when you left the ferry that you were directed along a regional road into Ennis rather than to follow the National route into Kilrush & then on to Ennis. He argued that this contradicted what is being advertised at the sign in Clonadrum.

Cllr. Slattery indicated that he had raised this previously with G. Daly, Senior Planner & he had indicated that this was an NRA decision. He argued that people were missing the ferry over the fact that alternative sign not giving most direct route to the ferry. Cllr. Nagle supported the motion & indicated that a similar situation had occurred in Ballyvaughan & a compromise had been reached where two signs put up one giving an option by the coast road and one giving an option by Corkscrew hill. Cllr. Keating indicated that there should be one sign for the ferry. Cllr. Kelly supported the motion & he indicated that there was unanimous support from all the members but he suggested that an informed decision was based on the consideration of facts & he asked C. Feeney for his thoughts. C. Feeney indicated that this had been discussed previously at the Kilrush Electoral Area meeting in January 2014 & it had been agreed to leave alone. He explained that the NRA were responsible for the national secondary routes & they designed, developed & installed the new signage scheme on the N67. He added that the design practice indicate that you sign consistently to the end destination on the route which in this case is Killimer car ferry. He accepted that there may be confusion with sat navs however he felt that having signs signing the same destination on two different routes would equally be confusing. He added that it was statistically safer to travel on National Secondary routes & particularly for tourists etc. He added that the RSA recommend that commuters would allow sufficient time for travel. He argued that the N67 is also the proposed Wild Atlantic Way route and that argument could be made by people in Doonbeg, Kilkee etc that tourist traffic is being diverted away from them. He argued that locals will always use the shortest local option anyway. He added that he had measured both routes from this junction to Kilrush & by following the national secondary route your journey distance was 33.6km & would take 20 mins whereas by following the regional route the distance was 18.8km & it would take 14 mins. He referred to traffic from the ferry being directed to Ennis via the regional route as opposed to following the national secondary route that this was done in response to all the construction traffic travelling to Moneypoint. He added that specific european funding was received to upgrade this regional route at the time based on the circumstances & such funding would not be made available for the regional route from Clonadrum to Kilrush.

Cllr. Kelly acknowledged the technical skills and experience of Mr. Feeney but he said that the Cllrs were unanimously in favour of this proposal so he suggested that the proposal be conveyed to the NRA by C. Feeney & that his views would be expressed as well as the views of the Cllrs, pointing out that there was a precedent in North Clare and that no one is above making errors & that the Cllrs had unanimously supported this motion. This proposal was seconded by Cllr. Chambers.

**8. Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. Chambers**  
**“That Clare Co. Council replaces the kerbing on the footpaths in the village of Cooraclare. Also that a resurfacing be carried out on said footpaths”**

**This Motion was seconded by Cllr. Curtin**

In a written reply circulated C. Feeney, A/SEE ,West Clare Municipal District replied that:-

*We are not in a position to re-kerb and resurface the entire village footpath network. However under this years discretionary programme we will address the worst sections of footpaths and carry out the necessary repairs.*

Cllr. Chambers indicated that he was reasonably happy with the response

**9. Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. Chambers**  
**“That a portion of the road leading to the GAA pitch in Cooraclare be strengthened and sealed as it is in a very bad state. Furthermore that the Council would speak with local landowners regarding water running on to the road.”**

**This Motion was seconded by Cllr. Keating**

In a written reply circulated C. Feeney, A/SEE ,West Clare Municipal District replied that:-

*The road in question is not in the current Roads Programme. We will continue to maintain the road with the resources available. We will contact local landowners to see if we can address the issue of water flowing onto public roads.*

Cllr. Chambers indicated that this was a very busy road and the problem needed to be resolved.

**10. Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. Kelly**  
**“That the C.E.O of the county provide adequate administrative and technical staff to the West Clare Municipality”**

**This Motion was seconded by Cllr. Lynch**

In a written reply circulated E. Power, SEO, Human Resources replied that:-

*The new Local Government Structures as provided for in the Local Government Reform Act 2014 are now in place in Clare.*

*4 new Municipal Districts have been set up and the 4 Town Council's abolished. The Engineering Areas have been realigned to coincide with the Municipal District boundaries.*

*The transition from the old to the new structures at sub-County level has been completed, having regard to the Government guidance as set out in the 'Transition Framework for Sub- County/Municipal Re-organisation'*

*The Guidance note included the following statement;*

*'There will be a single county-wide executive or operational structure, without duplicate administrative or organisational overhead, with resources at the disposal of both the county and district elements of local government and deployment as efficiently as possible to implement decisions at both levels of jurisdiction and to perform the functions and services of local government generally with the county.'*

*Consequent on the abolition of the Town Councils services provided by these Town Councils within their administrative area transferred to Clare County Council. The change in local government structure has by its nature resulted in services being centralised and the staff associated with these services being reassigned.*

*The staffing levels in the West Clare Municipal District were determined having regard to the services transferred to the Council and the services to be delivered at Municipal District level. It must be remembered that the Government's embargo on recruitment in the public service is still in force. You are also aware that the numbers employed in the local government sector has reduced since 2008.*

*The focus of government policy in recent years has been to achieve a targeted reduction in public service numbers and to improve productivity through restructuring within and between public sector organisations. The extent of change in the public sector is very significant. Clare County Council is implementing changed work practices and organisational restructuring on an ongoing basis while at the same time the number of staff employed continues to be reduced and no recruitment can take place because of the public service embargo.*

*Given the prevailing circumstances Management assign staff having regard to business needs of the Council. Notwithstanding the constraints in terms of availability of financial and human resources there clearly is a need for flexibility in the organisation to enable Management to respond in a practical way to the ever changing working environment. This flexibility includes reviewing and revising service delivery options if necessary.*

*The management of staff including the assignment of staff is an Executive Function and the responsibility of the Chief Executive. In carrying out his functions he is obliged to have regard to the Council's statutory obligations, government policy and the delivery of service as efficiently and effectively as possible within budgetary provisions.*

*Cllr. Kelly indicated that there was presently inadequate staff members in the West Clare Municipal District in order to manage same effectively. He questioned that the assignment of staff was an Executive function as he argued that whereas staff are answerable to the Manager that the Manager was responsible to the Members. There*

followed a discussion on this matter & it was indicated that there had been a significant reduction in staff members in the area and that the embargo on staff recruitment needed to be lifted and that another Senior Executive Engineer needed to be appointed to the area.

A. Haugh, indicated that it was a challenge to maintain services within existing resources particularly in such a large Municipal District area. She added that the level of activity in the Municipal District Offices was being monitored & that time needed to be given to see how services are administered and there needs to be flexibility in order to get a service delivery that suits each area. She agreed that this presented a significant challenge owing to the staffing embargo.

C. Feeney indicated that hypothetically if the staff embargo was lifted that unless the funding for the roads programme was increased that the Council would not be able to afford to recruit staff.

Cllr. Kelly suggested that a letter would be sent to the Minister for the Environment, Community & Local Government & to the Chief Executive indicating that the West Clare Municipal District has half the road network of the county & one third of the population of the county, that the necessary amount of staff commensurate with their needs would be deployed to the West Clare Municipal District Area including another Senior Executive Engineer. This was seconded by Cllr. Curtin & agreed by the members.

#### **11. Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. Kelly**

**“That a Roads Restoration Plan be drawn up to correct road faults in distances up to 200 metres long”**

#### **This Motion was seconded by Cllr. Chambers**

In a written reply circulated C. Feeney, A/SEE, West Clare Municipal District replied that:-

*Clare County Council work under the Memorandum for Grants on Regional and Locals Roads issued by the Dept of Transport Tourism and Sport. It states that*

*“The minimum average length in any one year of individual road projects to be carried out under the Restoration Programme will be 1.0 km unless notified otherwise.” There is good economic sense and economies of scale in such a requirement. This does not lend itself to dealing with shorter 200m sections.*

*However under the discretionary programme we have funding allocated to deal with shorter section of defective pavement, drainage issues etc and we routinely carry out such works.*

Cllr. Kelly indicated that he was satisfied with the response.

#### **12. Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. Kelly**

**“That a plan be drawn up to repair cul de sac roads which have been abandoned in recent years”**

#### **This Motion was seconded by Cllr. Chambers**

In a written reply circulated C. Feeney, A/SEE, West Clare Municipal District replied that:-

*Clare County Council through its annual roads programme has dealt with cul de sac roads over many years through the Local Improvement Scheme (LIS) , Community Road Scheme (CRS) and latterly the Community Involvement Scheme (CIS). The CIS scheme deals with approximately 25 roads on a county -wide basis annually which amounted to expenditure of €551,000 in the 2013 Roads Programme.*

Cllr. Kelly indicated that this item was raised by many individuals living on cul de sacs at election canvassing time. He said that the Municipal District members had the power to take in charge a road & make it public. Cllr. Hillery indicated in order for a road to be funded under the Local Improvement Scheme it needs to be taken in charge & it needs to have a road no. It was accepted that resources were an issue however it was also pointed out that people living on these roads should be treated equally as they were paying LPT etc.

It was agreed by Cllr. Keating that he would move Item 25 at this point as it was related.

### **25. Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. Keating**

**“That Clare County Council would take in charge a road at Carnacalla North, near Carnanes in Kilrush”**

#### **This Motion was seconded by Cllr. Curtin**

In a written reply circulated C. Feeney, A/SEE ,West Clare Municipal District replied that:-

*Since 2008 very significant changes have evolved in terms of funding, programme structure, expenditure management etc. Apart from the fact that overall funding levels have reduced considerably over the past five years, the severity of the 2009/10 and 2010/11winters very much exacerbated the situation and as a result weather related damage over the period set the county’s year on year programme back by approximately €10m in monetary terms.*

*This accentuates the realities that are challenging the Council in its endeavours to maintain and improve the network – therefore having regard to the foregoing Clare County Council is not in a position to take in charge the aforementioned road in the absence of necessary budget to maintain same.*

Cllr. Keating indicated that this particular road was in excellent condition. C. Feeney indicated that as it stands that we cannot maintain the 2,500km of road network within the Municipal District area & that they are only in a position to carry out restoration improvements to approximately 50km of roads each year with the current level of grant funding, manpower etc therefore by taking on more roads to be made public that you were compounding this problem. Following discussion on the matter it was agreed that the Municipal District members had the power to take in charge a road in accordance with the Local Government Reform Act 2014 however it was pointed out by the Executive that in order for same to occur that the road would have to go though the appropriate procedure ie S11 of the Roads Act 1993 & consideration would have to be given to available finances etc.

### **13. Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. Slattery**

**“In the interest of road safety, I am asking the Senior Executive Engineer to provide a pedestrian crossing from the Surf Shop on the Miltown Malbay road in Lahinch across to the old Promenade”**

**This Motion was seconded by Cllr. Keating**

In a written reply circulated C. Feeney, A/SEE , West Clare Municipal District replied that:-

*I have forwarded this request to our Road Design Dept to assess the requirement for such a crossing.*

Cllr. Slattery indicated that two thirds of the holiday homes are on this road & that there are a large no of caravans on this road also .He added that he had raised this Motion last year previously & he was looking for a possible time frame regarding same. C. Feeney indicated that any such crossing on a National Secondary road would require NRA approval. He added that they will need traffic count & pedestrian count figures & that they would have a very high threshold in order to approve same. Cllr. Slattery said there was a necessity for such a pedestrian crossing & that if same was not provided that an accident was likely to happen.

**14. Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. Slattery**

***“I am asking Clare County Council to clean up Cregg Beach, Lahinch, by pulling back the stones and gravel after the January storms to allow access for the general public onto the beach”***

**This Motion was seconded by Cllr. Keating**

In a written reply circulated C. Feeney, A/SEE , West Clare Municipal District replied that:-

*The beach in question is not a beach routinely maintained by Clare County Council. The beach is also situated on private property and therefore I do not believe the County Council have any remit to provide public access to it.*

Cllr. Slattery indicated that he was very surprised at the response as it was the first time that he had ever heard that the beach was private & he indicated that this was wrong. He said all that is required is a hi mac to pull back the cloher which has been levelled & to allow the public to access the beach. C. Feeney indicated that he had checked with land registry & the land was not registered to Clare Co Council & that no public right of way existed. He also added that this was not a blue flag beach. He added that he was very mindful of moving into private property & carrying out works. It was suggested that if it was privately owned that maybe the landowners would give permission for the works to be carried out. It was suggested that it would be raised at the next meeting & that C. Feeney would have details as to who the land was registered to.

**15. Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. Slattery**

***“I am asking the Senior Executive Engineer to provide a pedestrian crossing and some form of traffic calming measures to slow down traffic at Quilty Village, in the interest of road safety”***

**This Motion was seconded by Cllr. Hillery**



In a written reply circulated C. Feeney, A/SEE , West Clare Municipal District replied that:-

*I have forwarded this request to our Road Design Dept to assess the requirement for such a crossing. However the area is in a 50km/h zone and excessive speed is a matter for the Gardai to enforce.*

Cllr. Slattery indicated that he had received complaints that people in Quilty were very concerned at the volume & speed of traffic coming around the bend opposite O' Dwyers, crossing over to the shop & he wondered if something could be done about this. C. Curtin mentioned that a traffic count may have been previously carried out at this location. C. Feeney said the first thing that the NRA would look for would be accident statistics, coupled with the relevant pedestrian/traffic counts in order to justify traffic calming measures. Cllr Kelly suggested that driver education is an issue regarding pedestrian crossings where a lot of drivers, particularly rural drivers are not aware of the Rules of the Road regarding same.

**16. Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. Hillery**

***“That the Maurices Mills road L4222-0 be tarred in 2014 as it is in a poor state of repair”***

**This Motion was seconded by Cllr. Curtin**

In a written reply circulated C. Feeney, A/SEE , West Clare Municipal District replied that:-

*A section of the L4222-0 at Ballyashea and the L-1096 at Garvillaun Maurice Mills (continuation of the L-4222) are included in the 2014 Road Programme.*

Cllr. Hillery thanked C. Feeney for the response & queried as to when the works might be carried out. C. Feeney indicated that same would take place in the next two to three months.

**17. Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. Hillery**

***“When will work commence on the provision of a footpath from the Crosses of Annagh Carpark to Annagh School in the interest of safety”***

**This Motion was seconded by Cllr. Nagle**

In a written reply circulated C. Feeney, A/SEE , West Clare Municipal District replied that:-

*We are currently preparing the required land dedication maps , wayleaves etc. Once they are all agreed and signed we will be in a position to programme the works. Currently subject to agreement I would anticipate that works would begin in October.*

Cllr. Hillery indicated that he was satisfied with the response.

**18. Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. Hillery**

***“When will work start on the Quilty / Seafield / Tromera / Cloughaninchy Coastline to protect dwelling houses, roads and farmland before the coming winter”***

**This Motion was seconded by Cllr. Curtin**

In a written reply circulated C. Feeney, A/SEE , West Clare Municipal District replied that:-

*There is no firm date for works to start in the Quilty / Tromera and Cloughaninchy coastline. We are currently awaiting a response from central government in relation to the February storm damage assessment and coastline protection works. When this response is received we will be able to progress with a fully resourced programme of coastline repair work for the entire county.*

Cllr. Hillery indicated that over €16 million had been approved in funding for storm works however works were effectively being stalled as no funding had been provided for the second storm in February or for remediation works. He added that Clare Co Council required over €36 million in funding & it was a shame that Clare Co Council were not in a position to carry out such works with the good weather etc. He accepted that the problem was at national level & that Clare Co Council had done as much as they could at this moment in time. He added that he was extremely disappointed that the Government hadn't yet made a decision to fund damage caused by the second storm. He added that he hoped that the Oireachtas members would have good news when they updated the Council the following Monday. He suggested that a letter be written to the Minister for the Environment, Community & Local Government, expressing disappointment at the allocation which had been made to date. Cllr. Slattery said that he was very annoyed that the Oireachtas members were not coming back to the Members on the matter. He added that they had met with the Chief Executive & the Mayor yesterday on the matter & that they would come back to them with an update once the Cabinet reshuffle had taken place. Cllr. Lynch emphasized that it was a disgrace that the Government were not coming back to the Council on the matter 6 months down the road.

### **19. Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. Lynch**

***“To ask the Senior Executive Officer, Corporate Services for an update on the leasing of Kilkee Dive Center including proposed services offered and time scale of these services also a cost break down of works complete prior to leasing”***

### **This Motion was seconded by Cllr. Curtin**

In a written reply circulated M. McNamara, SEO, Corporate Services replied that:-  
*In May 2013 the Council advertised in the local media for expressions of interest from persons interested in leasing the Dive Centre at Kilkee following the non-renewal of the Lease with the previous occupier.*

*3 No. responses were received from the following:*

- *Gary Kiely, Landscape & Leisure Ltd. Ennis Road, Kilrush.*
- *Derek Guziuk, Nenagh, Co. Tipperary.*
- *Dave Neville, Nevsail Watersports, Kilkee.*

*Mr. Neville subsequently withdrew his submission.*

*The other submissions listed above were assessed and the submission of Gary Kiely was the preferred submission.*

*The property has been in use as a Dive Centre since the late 1990's and to bring the property into a usable condition, it was necessary for the Council to carry out electrical/plumbing and painting works to the exterior of the building over recent weeks.*

*Costs in the region of €20,000 are being incurred on these works – works only being completed in recent weeks and payments yet to be made. Quotations were sought from a number of Contractors for all works carried out so as to ensure best value was obtained.*

*Mr. Kiely proposes to provide the following facilities in the centre and had to undertake works to the building to facilitate these proposals.*

*Activities/facilities.*

- *Try dives, discover scuba and snorkling courses*
- *Dive gear storage*
- *Showers and changing room facilities*
- *Providing Dive Courses*
- *Class room facilities available for courses/classes*
- *Providing air fills*
- *Air cylinder rentals also available*
- *Sandwiches, tea, coffee and other refreshments.*

*The proposed Leasee has already commenced operations at the Centre over the past week or so. The Council has been under pressure from a number of groups in Kilkee to have the Centre open for business at the earliest possible date.*

*Subject to satisfactory usage of the building by the proposed Leasee in the current season, it is proposed to enter into a Lease for a number of years commencing prior to 2015 season and full details of the proposals in this regard will be brought before the members at that time.*

Cllr. Lynch congratulated Mr. Kiely & indicated that he hoped that this might resolve some of the issues with access. He added that the dive season helped contribute over €250k to the local economy & that this was a massive resource & that Clare Co Council would need to market this as well going forward to maximize potential.

#### **21. Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. Lynch**

***“That this authority agree the resolutions passed by Kilrush Town Council in relation to funds accrued through prudent budgeting throughout the life time of the Council”***

It was agreed that this item would be deferred until the Members had more information on the matter.

#### **22. Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. Curtin**

***“As the County Council is now at centre stage in relation to local enterprise in the county with the establishment of the new Local Enterprise Office in Áras an Chláir, that the West Clare Municipal District members enlists its support together with an invitation to all relevant agencies to participate in a joint-programme of new***

***possible initiatives in the area of Enterprise & Economic Development within the West Clare Electoral Area”***

**This Motion was seconded by Cllr. Keating**

In a written reply circulated B. Devanney, Senior Enterprise Development Officer replied that:-

*In reply to the above Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Christy Curtin I wish to reply as follows:*

*The Local Enterprise Office (LEO) Clare was established in the offices of Clare County Council, Áras Contae an Chlair, Ennis on 15th April, 2014 following the dissolution of the Clare County Enterprise Board Ltd. under the County Enterprise Boards Dissolution Act, 2014. It now sits within the local authority structure under a Service Level Agreement with Enterprise Ireland. Combining the resources of the Clare County Enterprise Board and Clare County Council’s business support unit, the Local Enterprise Office (LEO) Clare is one of 31 LEOs around Ireland that is tasked with delivering services and support to businesses within a framework set by the Department of Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation and overseen by Enterprise Ireland.*

*LEO Clare is a first stop shop to provide support and services to help start, grow and develop micro and small business. It provides financial supports, management development, mentoring and business skills training for businesses in County Clare. It is also a single point of contact through which all information on State supports for small and micro business can be accessed. It will build on the significant achievements of the Clare County Enterprise Board Ltd. and will continue to offer an expanded range of supports through LEO Clare.*

*It is intended to meet with the four Municipal Districts including the West Clare Municipal District over the coming months as an information forum on initiatives around supporting and developing small medium enterprises (SMEs). It is also intended to link in with all the relevant stake-holders in this area. However, it is not possible at this time to give a definite date of a meeting as there are a number of staffing vacancies in the LEO. Only one staff member at Clerical Officer level transferred from the former Clare County Enterprise Board Ltd. Department approval has been sought to fill the positions of Head of LEO, Senior Enterprise Development Officer and Business Adviser and this approval is still awaited. This is impacting on the delivery of the functions of the LEO.*

Cllr. Curtin said it was very important that all the job creating agencies came on board with the West Clare Municipal District members so that they could feed in with the LEO. He invited the LEO to attend the September meeting of the Municipal District. He also indicated that the staffing of the LEO was totally inadequate compared with LEO’s in other Local Authority Areas.

**23. Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. Curtin**

***“That the Acting Senior Executive Engineer arrange for the immediate inspection of safety road markings & other supporting safety features at the following junctions in the area:- Cahermurphy Cross, The Hand, Six Crosses & Knocklisrane Cross & to carry out the necessary remedial work.”***

**This Motion was seconded by Cllr. Keating**

In a written reply circulated C. Feeney, A/SEE , West Clare Municipal District replied that:-

*Cahermurphy cross. The junction needs to be resurfaced before appropriate lining works can take place. This will be done later in the year under the discretionary programme. The Hand. We are still waiting for land issues to be formalized before proceeding with works.*

*I will arrange to have road markings and required signage installed at Six crosses and Knocklisrane cross.*

Cllr. Curtin indicated that he was satisfied with the response

#### **24. Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. Curtin**

***“That the re-surfacing of the link road from Kiltumper to Scoil Mhichíl, Cahermurphy be completed together with electrical repairs to the flashing lights at the school to accommodate the increased activity arising from its amalgamation with Cloneygulane N.S.”***

**This Motion was seconded by Cllr. Hillery**

In a written reply circulated C. Feeney, A/SEE , West Clare Municipal District replied that:-

*The road in question is not in the current Roads Programme. We will continue to maintain the road with the resources available. I will arrange to have the school flashing lights repaired.*

Cllr. Curtin indicated that he was reasonably satisfied with the response.

#### **26. Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. Keating**

***“That Clare County Council call on the NRA to introduce safety measures at Scivileen Bridge at Mountrivers, Doonbeg following recent accidents at above location as a matter of urgency”***

**This Motion was seconded by Cllr. Hillery**

In a written reply circulated C. Feeney, A/SEE , West Clare Municipal District replied that:-

*We have requested the National Roads Authority to give consideration to Scivileen bridge at Mountrivers for a future low cost safety scheme and are awaiting their response.*

Cllr. Keating indicated that he was satisfied with the response.

#### **27. Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. Keating**

***“That Clare County Council would maintain the relief roads at Kiltrellig, Kilcredaun and Doonmore which were used as emergency access during the storms in January and February”***

**This Motion was seconded by Cllr. Hillery**

In a written reply circulated C. Feeney, A/SEE , West Clare Municipal District replied that:-

*There is an onus on Clare County Council to maintain all public roads subject to resources being available. Unfortunately the roads at Kilcredaun and Doonmore are not public roads and therefore it will not be possible to include them in the annual maintenance programme.*

Cllr. Keating indicated that this was not a public road but was used as such during the recent storms & that if further storms/flooding were to occur in the future it may be required. C. Feeney indicated that we can't maintain our existing road network so that if we were to add further roads to our road network that this would compound the problem & by agreeing to maintain these roads could by default could make them public roads

## **28. Any other Business**

Cllr. Lynch proposed that a letter of congratulations would be sent to Fionnuala Walsh on her recent achievement of swimming around Manhattan Island following her previous achievements in swimming the English Channel and in California.

Cllr. Keating proposed that photos of the Cllrs would be taken at the Sept meeting.

Cllr. Curtin indicated that there was still clarification required of the role of Cllrs in the new Municipal Districts.

Cllr. Slattery indicated that the members would require clarification on the Budget process. A. Haugh indicated that this would be on the Agenda for the full meeting of the Council.

J. Corry circulated copies of the signed, adopted Standing Orders to the Members

As there was no further business the meeting then concluded.

**Signed :**

**Cllr. P.J. Kelly**  
**Cathaoirleach**

**Signed :**

**J. Corry**  
**Meetings Administrator**

**Dated this the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of September 2014.**