**Minutes of Strategic Policy Committee (SPC) for Roads and Infrastructure held on Monday 7th March, 2016 at 11:30 a.m. in Council Chamber**

**Present:**

Cllr. Clifford Kelly CCC (Chairman)

Cllr. Paddy Smith, CCC

Cllr. Paddy McDonald, CCC

Ms. Pauline Flood, Construction

**In attendance:**

Mr. Joe McLoughlin, DOS – CCC

Mr. Brendan Jennings, A/SE - CCC

Mr. Michael Mussi, AO - CCC

Mr. David Farrelly, SO - CCC

**Apologies:**

Cllr. Sean Smith, CCC

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1. **Minutes of Previous Meeting of 26th November 2015**

David issued a response from the RSA to the question regarding the wearing of seatbelts by schoolchildren on buses.

A discussion took place in this regard.

Minutes were proposed by Cllr Paddy Smith and seconded by Pauline Flood

1. **Road Works Programme 2016**

Joe went through the 2016 Road Works Programme and explained how we get funding. He explained that we have taken over the energy and maintenance costs of public lighting in a number of housing estates which has resulted in extra expenditure of €100,000 which reduced spending in other areas.

We have allocated €353,000 from Discretionary Maintenance to Winter Maintenance and €180,000 from Restoration Improvement (RI) to Community Involvement Schemes (CIS) which can be returned if the CIS’s are not taken up.

A general discussion took place about the allocation of funding, it’s distribution to the Municipal Districts and the way roads are chosen to be repaired/maintained.

1. **Severe Weather Allocation**

Joe advised the meeting that the Council had submitted an application to the Department for €4.9m for the repair of 83 roads damaged by flooding. He further advised that we got a first allocation of €2.6m and we hope to get more funding for national roads which were damaged. We will be re-examining the damaged roads and will advise the Municipal Districts of where the money will be spent.

Brendan told the meeting that this allocation was for road repair and not for drainage/flood relief.

1. **Greenways Update**

Brendan advised that we are involved in 4 Greenways Projects –

* Kingscourt - Meath – Meath Co. Co. is leading this project – no funding has been allocated and the preliminary design is complete.
* Ulster Canal – Monaghan Co. Co. is leading this project with a district in Armagh.
* Sligo - Leitrim – Leitrim Co. Co. is leading this project and seeking funding from Interreg. The route goes from Manorhamilton to Cavan and on to Enniskillen. We are currently working with affected landowners and hope to get Part 8 planning in May, 2016.
* Cavan – Leitrim – This route is Belturbet-Ballyconnell-Ballinamore-Drumod. Local Community Groups have done a lot of work on this scheme and we are currently doing surveys and meeting with landowners. We hope to have the preliminary design done by the summer and wait for the Department to run a competition for funding.

1. **AOB**

None

The Meeting concluded at 12.25 p.m.