

COMHAIRLE CHONTAE NA GAILLIMHE

Minutes of Ballinasloe Area Committee held at the Civic Offices, Ballinasloe on Tuesday, 22nd September, 2009.

I Láthair:

Báill: Cllr. T. Broderick
Cllr. P. Connaughton
Cllr. D. Connolly
Cllr. T. Mannion
Cllr. M. Mullins

Oifigigh: Mr. M. Dolly, Senior Engineer
Mr. U. Finn, Senior Executive Engineer,
Mr. E. Mulryan, Executive Engineer,
Ms. M. Gilchrist, Staff Officer

Apologies: Mr. K. Kelly, Director of Services

1. Consideration and Adoption of Minutes of Meeting held on 24th July, 2009.

Minutes of Meeting held on 24th July, 2009 were adopted on the proposal of Cllr. Mullins seconded by Cllr. Mannion.

2. Matters Arising

Staff Complement

Cllrs. Connolly and Mullins requested an overview of the staff complement for the Electoral Area for the next meeting of the Committee including changes in the past year.

Mountbellew County Council Office

Members requested that the County Manager be informed that it is the view of the Area Committee that the Mountbellew County Council Office be retained.

N.6. Construction

All Members expressed disappointment at the €1.5M provided in 2009 for repairs to haul routes damaged by N.6. Construction. Cllr. Mullins expressed concern over recent flooding at Bullaun and again stated that the new M.6. should not be allowed open until the Council is satisfied with proposals for the restoration of existing routes damaged by construction works. Cllrs. Connolly and Mannion outlined difficulties experienced by landowners accessing their lands. Cllr. Broderick stated that it is important that the Council are not left to fund a problem caused by the construction company.

Cllr. Connolly requested that a schedule of all roads damaged due to the construction of the New N6 be compiled and circulated to Members. Mr. Dolly stated that a list of roads in need of repair is currently being prepared.

Revised Electoral Area Boundaries

In reply to Cllr. Mannion Mr. Dolly stated that boundary revisions will be finalised before the Budget and proposed changes will be presented to Area Committees.

3. Proposals for Improvement Works on Regional & Local Roads 2010

Mr. Dolly outlined the criteria for funding under the scheme and stated that 2010 is the last year of the programme in its current format. The following roads were listed for consideration:

Ballinasloe East:

L - 3416	Cappataggle to Kilconnell	€300,000
R - 359	Eyrecourt	€200,000
R - 358	Ahascragh to Ballinasloe	€200,000
L - 3408	Killure to Ballinasloe	€100,000

Ballinasloe West:

R - 339	Monivea to Menlough	€300,000
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Mr. Dolly stated that a sum of €60,000 was required under this programme to pay outstanding commitments to the HSE for lands acquired for works on the R357. It was agreed to apply for funding of €300,000 for the L 3416 – Cappataggle to Kilconnell and include €60,000 for the R357 on the proposal of Cllr. Connolly, seconded by Cllr. Broderick and on the understanding that funding for the other roads will be sought under Low Cost Remedial Scheme and Road Restoration Programme.

4. Any Other Business

Regional & Local Roads

Members expressed opposition to Minister Dempsey's decision regarding N.R.A. responsibility for Regional and Local roads. Cllr. Mannion stated that discretion must be left at local level, with local engineers and not centralised.

Restoration Improvement Grants

Cllr. Broderick requested a copy of the Multi-Annual Roadworks Programme 2008 to 2010.

Greenstar Landfill Liaison Committee

It was proposed by Cllr. Mannion, seconded by Cllr. Connaughton and agreed that Cllrs. Broderick, Connolly and Mullins will represent the Local Authority Elected Members on the Greenstar Landfill Liaison Committee. Cllr. Broderick requested a copy of the "terms of reference" for the Liaison Committee.

Government Funding

It was proposed by Cllr. Connolly seconded by Cllr. Connaughton and agreed that a letter issue to the Minister seeking re-instatement of RAPID and Clár funding for Ballinasloe.

Hedgecutting

Cllr. Connolly raised the issue of the provision of N.O.M. funding for hedgecutting. Following discussion members requested that details of the number of hours engaged in hedgecutting in 2009 for Ballinasloe East and Ballinasloe West be made available for the next meeting.

Criochnaigh an Chrinniu ansin