

COMHAIRLE CHONTAE NA GAILLIMHE GALWAY COUNTY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE CONAMARA ELECTORAL AREA MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 29th JULY, 2009, IN ÁRAS AN CHONTAE

ILÁTHAIR:-

Baill: Comh. S. Ó Cuaig, Cathaoirleach
Comh. S. Ó Tuairisg
Cllr. S. Walsh
Cllr. T. Welby
Cllr. E. Mannion
Comh. T. Ó Curraoin

Oifigigh: Mr. J. Morgan, Director of Services, Roads & Transportation Unit
Mr. M. Owens, Senior Executive Officer, Roads & Transportation Unit
Mr. S. Groarke, A.O. Roads & Transportation Unit
Mr. E. Molloy, Senior Engineer, Roads & Transportation Unit
Mr. T. Kelly, S.E.E. Conamara Area
Mr. F. McGillicuddy, Executive Engineer, Oughterard
Mr. K. Finn, E.E. Maritime Section

1. Election of Cathaoirleach – Conamara Electoral Area Committee

Comh. Ó Cuaig was elected Cathaoirleach on the proposal of Comh. Ó Tuairisg and seconded by Cllr. Walsh.

2. Election of Leas Cathaoirleach – Conamara Electoral Area Committee

Comh. Ó Curraoin was elected Leas Cathaoirleach on the proposal of Cllr. Walsh and seconded by Cllr. Welby.

3. Election of Cathaoirleach – Islands Committee

Comh. Ó Cuaig was elected Cathaoirleach on the proposal of Cllr. Walsh and seconded by Comh. Ó Tuairisg.

4. Election of Leas Cathaoirleach – Islands Committee

Comh. Ó Curraoin was elected Leas Cathaoirleach on the proposal of Cllr. Welby and seconded by Comh. Ó Cuaig.

5. Minutes of Meeting held on 15th June, 2009

On the proposal of Cllr. Walsh, seconded by Comh. Ó Tuairisg, the Minutes of the Meeting held on 15th June, 2009, were approved.

Matters Arising from the Minutes:

(a) R336 Bearna to Scríb

Comh. Ó Curraoin informed the Committee that approx. 150 local people were present at the public meeting in Indreabhán and that they were very much against the route identified along the Coast Road for the R336 Bearna to Scríb.

A lengthy discussion ensued regarding the routes identified for the R336 Bearna to Scríb Project. Mr. Molloy stated that the Council was required to adhere to the procedure laid down by Government legislation and regulations.

It was agreed to request RPS Consulting Engineers to attend a further meeting of the Committee with a view to addressing the various additional issues of concern that had arisen since their initial presentation. Thereafter, the Committee would consider raising the matter with Minister Ó Cuív, relevant government departments and the Members of the European Parliament with a view to addressing the regulatory issues and environmental constraints that may impact on the route selection process.

Mr. Morgan advised that it was necessary at this stage in the process to consider all possible route options in order to ensure that the final preferred route was selected based on a full and rigorous examination of all the alternatives.

6. Review of Speed Limits - Conamara Area

After some discussion it was agreed to proceed with the proposals for the amendment of the existing speed limits as presented to the July Monthly Meeting of Council.

It was agreed that the impact of the proposals at certain specific locations, as outlined by Cllr. Welby, on behalf of Cllr. Kyne, would be examined further to address any possible anomalies.

7. Harbour Byelaws

Mr. Finn referred the meeting to his report dated 27th July, '09, circulated to the Committee prior to the meeting. He informed the Committee that he is liaising with Senior Barrister, Colm Ó h'Óisín towards a final Draft of Harbour Bye-Laws for the County. It is hoped that all piers, harbours and landing places on the coastline will be mapped in the near future and when this process is complete, the Council will be in a position to go for public consultation.

A discussion ensued in relation to the provision in the draft bye-laws for the imposition of charges and fees and it was agreed that the final draft Bye-Laws would be presented to the Committee prior advancing to public consultation.

8. Aon Ghnó Eile

Comh. Ó Cuaig informed the Committee that Mr. Michael Martyn, ICT Unit was available to provide assistance in relation to the new email system for the Members.

Cllr. Mannion asked if there was any development on the removal of travellers from the public road near Clifden. Mr. Owens advised the meeting that the Council's legal authority under the Road Acts is restricted to public roads and not to private lands in regard to this matter.

Chríochnaigh an cruinniú ansin