

COMHAIRLE CHONTAE NA GAILLIMHE

MINUTES OF THE TUAM AREA COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN ÁRAS AN CHONTAE ON TUESDAY 14th OCTOBER 2008

I LATHAIR:

Baill: Cllr. T. McHugh, Chairman.
Cllr. T. Reilly, Cllr. C. Keaveney, Cllr. T. Walsh, Cllr. M Connolly, Cllr. S. Canney

Oifigigh: Mr. P. Ridge, Director of Services Planning, Mr. J Leahy, Senior Executive Engineer, Mr. P. Gavin Executive Engineer. Mr. Martin Lavelle Senior Engineer, Ms. M. Cunningham, Staff Officer.

Apologies from Mr. Frank Gilmore, Cllr. Sinead Connaughton

1. Consideration of Submissions for Tuam Inner Relief Road

Cllr. Reilly presented the members with a proposed amendment to the planned route of the Tuam Inner Relief Road. The submission was a suggested amendment to the termination of the proposed Eastern Relief Road at the new N17 Route. The submission was on behalf of Michael Mannion, Austin Connelly and John Mannion. Cllr. McHugh asked whether it was possible to consider amendments after the statutory period for submissions had passed. Mr. Ridge stated that the Members had the right to accept or amend the Manager's proposal and there was no clarity as to whether it was necessary to go through the Part 8 process again.

Mr. Lavelle stated that any amendment that required movement of the planned road into a floodplain was not possible due to environmental considerations. Cllr. Reilly expressed the view that if the route was not changed that the Connelly's farm would be destroyed. Mr. Lavelle stated that an underpass could be put in place in order to solve any problems with access to the farmland. Cllr. Reilly asked whether the underpass could support machinery. Mr. Lavelle said no but also stated that landowners could be consulted about access points on to the roads and the required gates would be put in. The Members stated that they would be satisfied with these changes.

The Members then discussed the changes proposed to the route at the entrance to the N17. Cllr. McHugh stated that the proposal put forward by Cllr. Reilly would necessitate a change in the designs for the N17 bypass. Mr. Lavelle added that the scheme for the N17 bypass were now with An Bord Pleanála. Mr. Lavelle then stated that the N17 bypass was being dealt with by the NRA, any decisions regarding it were the remit of the NRA and not the Roads Department and in any case the time for submissions was past.

Cllr. McHugh stated that there should be no interference with the current design for the Inner Relief Road, other than the amendment of an underpass and access points for landowners on the road. Cllr. Reilly stated that he would not support that and he stated that he wanted to bring the proposal before the full Council.

Cllr. Keaveney stated that this new proposal hadn't been presented during the time for submission. Cllr. McHugh asked for agreement on whether the original scheme should be the one brought forward with the appropriate amendments for the underpass and access points.

Cllr. Canney proposed that the Members adopt the Inner Relief road as presented at the previous meeting, with amendments for an underpass for land access, gates to suit landowners and an extra spur on the roundabout for land access. Cllr. McHugh seconded the proposal. Cllr. Reilly stated that he would support the amendments but was not willing to come to any agreement as to what proposal should go before the full Council until he had a chance to consult with the Connellys.

The Members with the exception of Cllr. Reilly all stated that agreement should be made before the meeting ended. Mr. Ridge stated that if the proposal brought forward by Cllr. Reilly was put in place it would jeopardize the N17 Bypass Scheme. No agreement was reached and the Members stated there would be a consultation before the full Council Meeting.

Chríochnaigh an cruinniú ansin