

COMHAIRLE CHONTAE NA GAILLIMHE

MINUTES OF THE TUAM AREA COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN ÁRAS AN CHONTAE ON Tuesday 23rd of June 2009

I LATHAIR:

Baill: Cllr. T. McHugh, Chairman.
Cllr. T. Walsh, Cllr. M Connolly, Cllr. S. Canney, Cllr. M. Hoade, Cllr. P. Roche, Cllr. C. Keaveney
T. Reilly- Mayor of Tuam.

Oifigh: Mr. J. Morgan, Director of Services, Ms. J. Brann, Senior Executive Officer, Mr. J. Eising, Senior Engineer, Mr. T. Collins, Senior Executive Engineer, Mr. M. Jones, Project Archaeologist, Mr. Eric Van Der Zee, Assistant Project Engineer, Ms. I. Martyn, Staff Officer, Ms. M. O' Malley, A/Staff Officer, Ms. M. Cunningham, Staff Officer.

Mr. F. Ryan and Mr. E. Daly (Halcrow Barry Consulting Engineers)

1. Presentation of Emerging Preferred Route for N17 Tuam Claremorris Road Scheme prior to second public consultation

Mr. Eamonn Daly from Halcrow Barry Consultants presented the Members with the details of the Preferred Route Corridor for the N17 Tuam to Claremorris Scheme. He gave a summary of how the route was selected and of the results obtained from the previous consultation.

Following a detailed analysis of the routes through the NRA Project Appraisal Guidelines, which analyses each of the routes using the criteria of economy, safety, environment, accessibility and social inclusion and integration, the preferred route-Route C was chosen.

Cllr. Connolly asked whether there was likely to be any changes to the preferred route corridor. Mr. Collins confirmed that while it was possible there would be changes to the route, the corridor would be unlikely to change.

Mr. Collins stated that the project team considered the Public Consultation process to be extremely useful to the design team as it facilitated landowners and members of the public in highlighting issues directly to members of the project team. It also allowed the project team to explain the thinking behind the route selection process to members of the public. Public consultation sessions were planned for Ballindine on the 24th June and Tuam on the 25th June from 11am to 8pm on both days.

Cllr. Walsh asked whether the potential division of a farm would be considered a reason to change the route. Mr. Collins stated that the project team would strive to achieve a reduction in the overall impact of the scheme. Cllr. Walsh asked whether

the landowners who would be affected by the route had been contacted. Mr. Collins stated that they had not. Cllr. Canney asked whether there were any houses affected by the present route. Mr. Collins stated that at the moment there was not, but that this could change as the design of side road bridges over the dual carriageway progressed.

Cllr. Canney enquired as to what quarter in 2010 the C.P.O would start. Mr. Daly stated that the preparation of the documents required would start in early 2010. Mr. Collins clarified that while the Council have the go ahead to design the route, permission will have to be sought before works can be started.

Cllr. Reilly asked whether the route would tie in directly with the Tuam Bypass and whether the Tuam Bypass was still part of the current PPP scheme. Mr. Eising confirmed that the Bypass was still part of the scheme.

Cllr. Keaveney sought clarification as to the difference between the proposed construction cost and the end cost of the project. Mr. Daly confirmed that the end cost included all costs other than construction and outlined these costs for the Members. Cllr. Keaveney asked if this would be a PPP scheme. Mr. Eising stated that the decision had not been made yet and would not be made in the near future.

Cllr. Keaveney enquired about the projected density of traffic and where the densities were considered to be the highest. Mr. Daly confirmed that the highest densities were north of Tuam and the lowest were between Ballindine and Milltown. Cllr. McHugh stated that the traffic projections were very conservative given the current levels of traffic and asked whether traffic counts had been done at different times and in different places. Mr. Collins stated that the last traffic count had been carried out in November 08 and that information regarding the traffic counts could be circulated to the Members if requested.

Cllr. McHugh asked whether the scheme was eliminating a section of the Tuam Bypass. Mr. Collins stated that this section would be built before work began on this scheme.

The Members queried as to whether the Part 8 required for the Tuam Bypass was for the whole Bypass. Mr. Collins confirmed that it was for the whole Bypass. Cllr. McHugh asked how the scheme could go to tender before the Part 8 was passed, Mr. Morgan confirmed that as long as the Part 8 had gone through by the September Meeting , the scheme could go to tender.

Cllr. McHugh asked whether additional land count was involved in the changes that necessitated the Part 8. Mr. Collins stated that there was not.

Cllr. McHugh stated that the Members were satisfied with the Preferred Route.

Chríochnaigh an cruinniú ansin