

COMHAIRLE CHONTAE NA GAILLIMHE

Minutes of Tuam Area Committee Meeting held at Áras an Chontae on the 23rd February 2011

I LATHAIR:-

Baill: Cllr. Michael Connolly
Cllr. Mary Hoade
Cllr Peter Roche

Apologies: Cllr. Tiernan Walsh

Oifigigh: Mr. Kevin Kelly, Director of Services
Mr Martin Lavelle, Senior Engineer East
Mr John Leahy, Senior Executive Engineer Tuam
Mr Enda Gallagher, Executive Engineer Tuam West
Mr John Flesk, Executive Engineer Tuam East
Ms Nuala Heffernan, Administrative Officer
Ms Máire McGrath Senior Staff Officer

1. Minutes of the meeting held on 18th January 2011

On the request of Cllr Hoade it was noted that she had sent her apologies for her absence at the previous Tuam area meeting and that she wished for it to be recorded.

2. Tuam Local Area Plan

Mr Kelly explained that the Members had agreed most of the Tuam Local Area Plan 2011-2017 at the meeting of the Full Council on 24th January 2011. He added that the Members requested information on the numbers of live planning permissions on the lands proposed for phase 2 residential zoning (R2) and how these permissions were going to be dealt with under this proposed zoning.

Mr Kelly explained that the recommendations in the Manager's report on the submissions from the West Regional Authority and the Department of the Environment Heritage and Local Government indicated an approach taken by Galway County Council and that some textual amendments were required. These were now outlined in full.

Mr Kelly presented the Members with the textual amendments and referred to the amendments outlined in Section 2.2.3, Preferred Development Strategy – Option 3; He added that lands have been identified as R1 – phased for residential development within the lifetime of the plan and R2 – generally not developable during the lifetime of the plan.

He added that if required, residential development can be considered, in a phased manner on some R2 lands where it is apparent that R1 lands cannot or will not be developed within the plan period. The requirement for this will be dependent on the level of growth being experienced in Phase 1 lands and where required, consideration will generally be given to Phase 2 lands that are contiguous to existing residentially developed lands, lie within 800m of

the town centre; are within 400m of neighbourhood centres; are within 1500m of the town centre and; thereafter in remaining areas subject to normal servicing and planning considerations.

He explained that Residential R2 lands outside the Tuam Bypass or the route of the Inner Relief Road were not considered to be suitable for development within the lifetime of the plan as previously outlined.

He added that this will allow some degree of flexibility in situations where there are Extensions of the appropriate period requested on existing planning permissions and will allow for some development on Phase 2 residentially zoned lands.

Mr Kelly outlined the remaining textual changes in the document referring to the amendments to Objective DS1 and Policy RN3 and also explained that the maps had not changed from those agreed at the Full Council Meeting on January 24th.

Mr Kelly stated that it was hoped that this approach would accord with the legislative requirements regarding the Core Strategy etc.

He added that work on the Core Strategy was underway and that the population distribution throughout the County was currently being assessed.

3. The Shambles

This item was deferred to the next Tuam Area Committee Meeting.

4. Draft 2011 Road Works Programme

The Draft Road Works Programme was circulated and presented in detail by Mr Lavelle.

Cllr Hoade expressed her disappointment at the allocation for Shrulgrove pavement overlay and asked that it be prioritised for future funding, particularly near Murphys garage in Headford.

Cllr Connolly requested that Mr Lavelle contact landowners in Abbeyknockmoy regarding proposed land acquisitions.

Cllr Connolly stressed the importance of the work at Marnellsgrove Bridge. He said that there was anxiety in the area regarding the works to be done on the bridge due to weight restrictions. He requested that it be dealt with as a matter of urgency. This was seconded by Cllr Hoade. Mr Leahy said that the weight restriction on the bridge makes it safe and that a detour is available for heavier loads.

Cllr Hoade requested that she be informed of where the allocation of €50,000 for risk management is to be spent. Cllr Roche requested details of the budget for verge trimming for the period 2008 -2010. Mr Lavelle confirmed that there was no allocation in 2011 for the provision of new public lights.

Mr Lavelle advised that a total of €15.5million of the roads budget was being allocated to the Tuam Area.

On the proposal of Cllr Hoade, seconded by Cllr Roche the Roadworks Programme was adopted.

5. Any Other Business

Mr Lavelle confirmed that the Council is involved in ongoing discussion with the NRA regarding the provision of funding to repair roads which were severely damaged as a result of severe weather conditions in December and early January. He requested that the Councillors advise him of any particularly badly damaged sections of roads.

Criochnaigh an Chruinniu Ansin