

COMHAIRLE CHONTAE NA GAILLIMHE

**MINUTES OF MONTHLY MEETING OF GALWAY COUNTY COUNCIL
HELD AT ÁRAS AN CHONTAE, PROSPECT HILL ON MONDAY THE
24th November, 2008.**

CATHAOIRLEACH:

Cllr. P. Feeney

ILATHAIR FREISIN:

Baill:

Cllrs. W. Burke, S Canney, J. Conneely,
D. Connolly, M. Connolly, Comh.
O’Cuaig, Cllrs. J. Cuddy, M Fahy, M.
Finnerty, M Carey, M Hoade, P Hynes,
J. Joyce, C Keaveney, S Kyne, M.
Maher, T Mannion, J McDonagh, T
McHugh, M. Mullins, Comh. C. Ni
Fhatharta, Comh O Tuairisg, T. Reilly, S
Walsh, T Walsh, T Welby, B. Willers.

Oifigigh:

Ms. M. Moloney, County Manager;
Messrs. J. Cullen, P. Ridge, K. Kelly, J.
Morgan, F. Dawson, F Gilmore
Directors of Service; G, Mullarkey, Head
of Finance, B. McDermott, County
Secretary; P. Canney, Senior Executive
Engineer; Ml. Owens , Senior Executive
Officer, P. O’Neachtain, Oifigeach
Gaeilge; J. Keane, Staff Officer.

Thosnaigh an cruinniú leis an paidir.

RESOLUTIONS OF SYMPATHY

1893

A Resolution of sympathy was extended to the following:-

Mr. Martin J. Keary, Ballybrit, Galway
Mr. Packie Cooke, Cill Chiaráin, Conamara, Co. na Gaillimhe
The Quirke Family, Park View Drive, Tuam, Co. Galway
Mrs. Mary Smyth, Lemonfield, Oughterard, Co. Galway
Mr. Billy Nutley, Liscune, Ballymacward, Ballinasloe, Co. Galway
Mr. Colie Rock & Family, Garryland, Gort, Co. Galway
Mr. Johnny & Annemarie Higgins & Family, Ruanmore, Ardrahan, Co. Galway
The Glynn Family, Glynn’s Bar, Dunmore, Co. Galway
Mr. P.J. Hill, Oakmill Drive, Ballinasloe, Co. Galway

The Mayor, Members & County Manager extended sympathy to Mr. Gerard Mullarkey on the death of his father.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF MEETINGS

1894

The Minutes of Monthly Meeting held on the 20th October 2008 were approved by the Council and signed by the Mayor on the proposal of Cllr. Mullins and seconded by Cllr. Burke.

Arising from the minutes, the following issues were raised:

Cllr. D. Connolly proposed “that Galway County Council calls on the Minister for Agriculture and Food to reverse the Budget decisions which will have a hugely detrimental effect on agriculture in County Galway, namely the Installation Aid for young farmers, the Early Retirement Scheme, Suckler Cow Welfare Scheme, Disadvantaged Areas, Fallen Animal Scheme and the 1% Income Levy.”

The Members also wished to record their support of the correspondence issued to the Minister for Agriculture from the Border, Midland and Western Regional Assembly following their meeting in Ballaghdeerren on 14th November 2008, in relation to the proposed budgetary cuts in agriculture.

In response to issues raised by the Members regarding metered water charges and leaks Mr. Cullen stated that a leakage policy will be brought before the SPC on Wednesday next on the 3rd December and if approved will be brought to the full Council.

He confirmed that the meters being installed on domestic dwelling connections in GWSS's were for water conservation purposes as there was a high historical loss from group schemes served from the public supply. He confirmed that the Council was not entitled to charge for the domestic use of water.

In response to a query from Comh. O'Tuairisg, Mr. Morgan said that the submissions received in relation to Speed Limit Review had been sent to the NRA and Gardai and it is hoped that the speed limits review would be completed early in the New Year.

Cllr. Burke congratulated all those involved on the successful renovation of Portumna Bridge, however, he was disappointed he said that the Part 8 for Portumna car park was not on the Agenda.

Mr. Morgan in response said that he did not have the up-to-date position but he undertook to check it out.

In response to a query from Cllr. Canney & Comh. O' Cuaig, Mr. Cullen confirmed that the Part 8's for Milltown and Claregalway would be forwarded to the DOEHLG this week for consideration and the Part 8 for an Cheathrú Rua has been referred to the Conamara Electoral Area Committee for discussion.

**DECLARATION OF ROADS TO BE PUBLIC ROADS – SECTION 11 OF
ROADS ACT 1993** **1895**

On the proposal of Cllr. McDonagh, seconded by Cllr. Cuddy, the Council approved the declaration of the following road to be a public road, the statutory procedure having been complied with:-

Road commencing at junction with Local Road L-71051 in the townland of Cartron and extending North West for a distance of 67 metres in the townland of Cartron and finishing at Conneely's house in the townland of Cartron.

Electoral Area: Oranmore

**DECLARATION OF ROADS TO BE PUBLIC ROADS – SECTION 11 OF
ROADS ACT 1993** **1896**

On the proposal of Cllr. McDonagh, seconded by Cllr. Cuddy, the Council approved the declaration of the following road to be a public road, the statutory procedure having been complied with:-

Road commencing at junction with Local Road L-21321 in the townland of Lackagh More and extending North East for a distance of 220 metres in the townland of Lackagh More and finishing at O'Shaughnessy's house in the townland of Lackagh More.

Electoral Area: Oranmore

**DECLARATION OF ROADS TO BE PUBLIC ROADS – SECTION 11 OF
ROADS ACT 1993** **1897**

On the proposal of Comh O'Tuairisg, seconded by Cllr. Welby, the Council approved the declaration of the following road to be a public road, the statutory procedure having been complied with:-

Road commencing at junction with Local Road L5345 in the townland of Doon North and extending West for a distance of 70 metres in the townland of Doon North and finishing at Michael O'Connor's house in the townland of Doon North.

Electoral Area: Conamara

**DECLARATION OF ROADS TO BE PUBLIC ROADS – SECTION 11 OF
ROADS ACT 1993** **1898**

On the proposal of Cllr. Willers, seconded by Cllr. Maher, the Council approved the declaration of the following road to be a public road, the statutory procedure having been complied with:-

Road commencing at junction with Local Road LT85601 in the townland of Keamsella and extending North West for a distance of 65 metres in the townland of

Keamsella West and finishing at Mr. Eoin Carr's house in the townland of Keamsella West

Electoral Area: Loughrea

DECLARATION OF ROADS TO BE PUBLIC ROADS – SECTION 11 OF ROADS ACT 1993 **1899**

On the proposal of Cllr. Willers, seconded by Cllr. Mullins, the Council approved the declaration of the following road to be a public road, the statutory procedure having been complied with:-

Road commencing at junction with Local Road LT85294 in the townland of Lissadoill and extending West for a distance of 110 metres in the townland of Lissadoill and finishing at Mr. Enda Mulkerrin's house in the townland of Lissadoil, Peterswell.

Electoral Area: Loughrea

DECLARATION OF ROADS TO BE PUBLIC ROADS – SECTION 11 OF ROADS ACT 1993 **1900**

On the proposal of Cllr. McDonagh, seconded by Cllr. Hoade, the Council approved the declaration of the following road to be a public road, the statutory procedure having been complied with:-

Road commencing at junction with Local Road L-7119 in the townland of Rathfee and extending South for a distance of 330 metres in the townland of Rathfee and finishing at end house (Hessions) in the townland of Rathfee.

Electoral Area: Oranmore

TO CONSIDER REPORT UNDER PART 8 OF THE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS 2001 – THE CONSTRUCTION OF A SINGLE RURAL HOUSE AND EFFLUENT TREATMENT PLANT AT CASHLA, ATHENRY, CO. GALWAY – LA34/07 – **1901**

Report dated the 17th October was already circulated to each member

It was proposed by Cllr. McDonagh, seconded by Cllr. Hoade, and agreed, that the construction of a single rural house and effluent treatment system be approved at Cashla, Athenry, Co. Galway be approved.

TO CONSIDER REPORT UNDER PART 8 OF THE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS 2001 - THE CONSTRUCTION OF A SINGLE RURAL HOUSE AND EFFLUENT TREATMENT PLANT LOWPARK, KILLORAN, BALLINASLOE, CO. GALWAY – LA05/08 – **1902**

Report dated the 6th November was already circulated to each member

It was proposed by Cllr. D Connolly, seconded by Cllr. Mullins, and agreed, that the construction of a single rural house and effluent treatment plant be approved at Lowpark, Killoran, Ballinasloe, Co Galway.

TO CONSIDER REPORT UNDER PART 8 OF THE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS 2001 - THE DEMOLITION OF EXISTING DWELLING AND THE CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW RURAL DWELLING AAND ASSOCIATED SITE WORKS AT CLOONKEEN (DAVIES), NEWBRIDGE, CO. GALWAY – LA28/07 – 1903

Report dated the 6th November was already circulated to each member

It was proposed by Cllr. M Connolly, seconded by Cllr. Reilly, and agreed, that the demolition of an existing dwelling and the construction of a new rural dwelling and associated site works be approved at Cloonkeen (Davies), Newbridge, Co. Galway

TO CONSIDER REPORT UNDER PART 8 OF THE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS 2001 - THE DEMOLITION OF A SUBSTANDARD DWELLING AND CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW RURAL HOUSE AND ASSOCIATED SITE WORKS AT KILLASOLAN, MOUNTBELLEW, CO GALWAY. 1904

Report dated the 10th November was already circulated to each member

It was proposed by Cllr. Mannion, seconded by Cllr. Joyce, and agreed, that the demolition of a substandard dwelling and the construction of a new rural house and associated site works be approved at Killasolan, Mountbellew, Ballinasloe, Co Galway.

TO CONSIDER REPORT UNDER PART 8 OF THE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS 2001 – THE CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW RURAL DWELLING, SEWERAGE TREATMENT PLANT AND ASSOCIATED SITE WORKS AT KNOCKAUN, KILTORMER, BALLINASLOE, CO. GALWAY – LA04/08 – 1905

Report dated the 6th November was already circulated to each member

It was proposed by Cllr. Joyce, seconded by Cllr. Finnerty, and agreed, that the construction of a new rural dwelling, sewerage treatment plant and associated site works be approved at Knockaun, Kiltormer, Ballinasloe, Co. Galway

TO CONSIDER REPORT UNDER PART 8 OF THE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS 2001 – THE CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW DEMOUNTABLE DWELLING AT MONROE, CLAREGALWAY, CO. GALWAY – LA11/08 – 1906

Report dated the 6th November was already circulated to each member

It was proposed by Cllr. McDonagh, seconded by Cllr. Hoade, and agreed, that the construction of a new demountable dwelling be approved at **Monroe**, Claregalway, Co. Galway

TO CONSIDER REPORT UNDER PART 8 OF THE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS 2001 –CONSTRUCTION OF A RESERVOIR IN THE TOWNLAND OF DOONAREE, CAPPATAGGLE, CO. GALWAY, IN ORDER TO UPGRADE THE WATER STORAGE FACILITIES OF THE CAPPATAGGLE DISTRICT COMMUNITY GWS CO-OP SOCIETY LTD. – **1907**

Report dated the 14th November was already circulated to each member

It was proposed by Cllr. Mullins, seconded by Cllr. Joyce, and agreed that the construction of a reservoir be approved in the townland of Doonaree, Cappataggle, Co. Galway, in order to upgrade the water storage facilities of the Cappataggle District Community GWS Co-Op Society Ltd.

TO APPROVE REALLOCATION OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE COMMUNITY BASED AMENITY/ECONOMIC SCHEME 2008 **1908**

Report dated the 24th November was already circulated to each member.

On the proposal of Cllr. D. Connolly, seconded by Cllr. Mullins, the reallocation of the Community based Amenity/Economic Grants Scheme 2008 was approved.

In response to questions raised by the Members regarding the provision of bus shelters Mr. Dawson confirmed that a proposal to adopt an interagency partnership approach to the provision of bus shelters in rural villages had been discussed by the County Development Board and the prospect of shelters being provided through a joint venture between the Council, Rural Development companies and interested local communities would be progressed, as soon as the new companies become operational. He said that in relation to a bus shelter for Claregalway that the primary objective of the proposal is to provide shelters in rural communities rather than at locations on National Primary routes where the commercial prospects of their provision by licensed bus operations was more likely.

Mr. Dawson further confirmed that to his knowledge the town of Tuam was excluded from the new Rural Development Programme. Gateways and Hubs were excluded in order to avoid having the programme subjected to an OECD measure of rurality which may have resulted in many other areas being excluded. Mr. Dawson agreed to request Galway Rural Development to provide a map of the specific area of exclusion which in his view would be the area of Tuam Town Council.

REPORT ON BROADBAND PROVISION IN COUNTY GALWAY **1909**

Report dated the 18th November was already circulated to each member

A discussion took place in the context of the Report circulated. The Members expressed dissatisfaction at the level of broadband provision throughout the County.

It was proposed by Cllr. Joyce, seconded by Cllr. Conneely and agreed “that Galway County Council vigorously pursue the development of broadband services throughout the County and that this matter be taken up by the County Development Board and adopted as a priority in the forthcoming Strategy Review.”

REPORT ON THE 2008 ALL-IRELAND PRIDE OF PLACE COMPETITION

1910

Report was already circulated to each member.

The Mayor congratulated all the groups involved in the competition particularly Milltown, Portumna and Inis Mor who had won awards.

Cllr. Joyce said that the constant littering at recycling centres was resulting in the Tidy Towns Committees having to clean up their areas and he asked if the Council could introduce CCTV to these areas.

Mr. Cullen said that there were fixed cameras at some locations which had resulted in a number of successful prosecutions. He also said that it is proposed to introduce a mobile CCTV system on a pilot basis to target litter black spots.

It was proposed by Cllr. Mullins, seconded by Cllr. Keaveney, and agreed that the Standing Orders be suspended to allow the Meeting to proceed after 6p.m.

APPROVAL TO BORROW €25 MILLION FROM THE HOUSING FINANCE AGENCY PLC FOR THE PROVISION OF MORTGAGES UNDER THE HOME CHOICE LOAN SCHEME

1911

Report was already circulated to each member

On the proposal of Cllr. Joyce seconded by Cllr. Keaveney, approval was given to the borrowing of €25million from the Housing Finance Agency PLC for the provision of mortgages under the Home Choice Loan Scheme.

In response to queries raised by the Members Mr. Gilmore confirmed that: you can apply for an Affordable House or Home Choice Loan but not both; the Home Choice Loan applies to self builds as well as the purchase of new houses.

Cllr. Keaveney asked what additional resources would be provided to the Housing Section to deal with the new scheme.

The County Manager said that the Council had sought additional resources for the administration of the scheme from the Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government.

**DRAFT RIVER BASIN MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE WESTERN RIVER
BASIN DISTRICT –** **1912**

Report dated the 24th November was already circulated to each member.

Mr. P. Canney, Senior Executive Engineer made a presentation to the Members following which a number of issues were raised:

- The timeframe involved for the plan i.e. time of local elections and the changing of democratic representation.
- Funding availability

Mr. P. Canney in response said that the structured nature of the approach for the necessary environmental infrastructure now being taken ensures that all aspects of water quality are brought together. While the issue of finance is an issue, progress must still be made he said. It is a challenging plan given the change in public representation during 2009 he stated.

Mr. Cullen said that it will be a requirement of all plans e.g. County Development Plan to be compatible with the River Basin District Plan. He said it will have implications for agriculture, rural housing and the local authorities themselves.

MANAGERS BUSINESS **1913**

There was no Managers business.

MAYORS BUSINESS **1914**

Cllr. Canney said he wished to acknowledge the success of the Corofin Senior Football team on winning the Connacht Club Championship.

Cllr Keaveney enquired as to the updated position regarding the Tuam By-pass given that the N18 Oranmore to Gort dual carriage way has now been shelved.

Mr. Morgan said that the Council had not received any official confirmation that the Tuam By-pass had been shelved and the 2009 Roads Programme notification is awaited.

Cllr. D Connolly said that he wished to acknowledge Mr. Morgan's presentation at a recent meeting with the NRA in relation to the M6.

Cllr Cuddy asked if there was any commitment by the contractors on the new M6 to repair the damage caused to the existing N6 road network.

Mr. Morgan said that if there were any further breaches that he should be notified and he will pass on the details to the NRA.

Mr. Cullen in response to a query from Cllr Reilly confirmed that the contracts for the € 23m Tuam Main Drainage scheme would be signed early in the New Year .

NOTICE OF MOTIONS

NOTICE OF MOTION NO 22 – COMH. C. NI FHATHARTA 1915

The following reply was given:-

“Is mian liom a chur in iúl go ndéanfar scrúdú ar na droichid i gCeantar na Oileán go luath i 2009. Bíonn soitheach mara ag dteastáil chun é seo a dhéanamh.”

NOTICE OF MOTION NO 23 – COMH. C. NI FHATHARTA 1916

The following reply was given:-

“Tá an phróiseas dlíthiúil do fháil an tsuímh ó Údarás na Gaeltachta ar siúl agus tá an Chomhairle ag críochnú aighneacht do mhaoiniú don Roinn Comhshaoil, Oidhreacht agus Rialtais Áitiúil faoi láthair.”

NOTICE OF MOTION NO 24 – COMH. C. NI FHATHARTA 1917

The following reply was given:-

“Is mian liom a chur in iúl nach bhfuil aon airgead ann faoi láthair chun bóthar Leitir Móir i dtreo Leitir Caladh a dheisiú. Déanfar oibreacha cothabháil ar an mbóthar, mar is gá, de réir airgeadú a bhéas ar fáil.”

NOTICE OF MOTION NO 25 – CLLR. J. MCDONAGH 1918

The following reply was given:-

“The Council will advise Eircom of the potential hazard presented by the Eircom pole located on the roadside in Lackaghbeg.”

NOTICE OF MOTION NO 26 – CLLR. J. MCDONAGH 1919

The following reply was given:-

“The Council is currently actively seeking a funding stream to facilitate the widening of the road and the provision of footpaths from Renville Golf Club to the Sailing Club.”

NOTICE OF MOTION NO 27 – CLLR. J. MCDONAGH 1920

The following reply was given:-

“The signage at this location will be inspected and replaced if necessary.”

NOTICE OF MOTION NO 28 – CLLR. J. CUDDY 1921

The following reply was given:-

“A study of the flooding in the Derrydonnell and Claregalway areas is being undertaken by the Office of Public Works and the Council await developments in this regard.”

NOTICE OF MOTION NO 29 – CLLR. J. CUDDY 1922

The following reply was given:-

“This proposal will be considered together with all other such proposals in the context of allocating roads funding received by the Council under the recently adopted Development Contribution Scheme.”

NOTICE OF MOTION NO 30 – CLLR. J. CUDDY 1923

The following reply was given:-

“The Council sought to purchase lands at this location on a number of occasions with a view to improving sightlines at the junction, however to date agreement has not been reached with the relevant landowners. Improvements in lineage and signage have been undertaken on the Corrandulla Road.”

NOTICE OF MOTION NO 31 – CLLR. M. FAHY 1924

The following reply was given:-

“Funding available for access works under the Councils Disability Action Plan is restricted to Council owned and /or occupied buildings which have been access audited. As the Church of Ireland building is not in the ownership of the Council, we can not allocate funding from this source. Funding to mark the 200 year anniversary may be available under the Councils Amenity Grants Scheme administered by the Community & Enterprise Unit subject to submission of a funding application in line with the guidelines for the Scheme.”

NOTICE OF MOTION NO 32 – CLLR. M. FAHY 1925

The following reply was given:-

“Routine maintenance will be carried out as necessary within the limits of available funding.”

NOTICE OF MOTION NO 33 – CLLR. M. FAHY 1926

The following reply was given:-

“This proposal will be examined and a report shall be issued in the near future.”

NOTICE OF MOTION NO 34 – CLLR. M. MAHER 1927

The following reply was given:-

“There is currently no funding available to undertake works at this location. This project was not included in the proposals as approved by Council and submitted to the Department of Transport for the 2009 Specific Improvement Grant Scheme. Accordingly, in the absence of funding it is not possible to give a timeframe for the completion of the works.”

NOTICE OF MOTION NO 35 – CLLR. M. MAHER 1928

The following reply was given:-

“The necessary works will be completed in the current year if the area work programme allows, alternatively the works will be completed under the 2009 Roads Programme.”

NOTICE OF MOTION NO 36 – CLLR. M. MAHER 1929

The following reply was given:-

“The feasibility of providing a right turning lane at this location will be examined.”

NOTICE OF MOTION NO 37 – CLLR. P. HYNES 1930

The following reply was given:-

“Woodford Sewerage Scheme is included in the Water Services Assessment of Needs undertaken in 2009. The proposal is to upgrade the Sewerage treatment Plant and the network. This scheme will be considered and brought forward for consideration when the Water Services Investment Programme is being reviewed with the DOEHLG during 2009.”

NOTICE OF MOTION NO 38 – CLLR. P. HYNES 1931

The following reply was given:-

“In the event that remedial works are deemed necessary for this section of road, such works will be undertaken, subject to the necessary funding being made available.”

NOTICE OF MOTION NO 39 – CLLR. P. HYNES

1932

The following reply was given:-

“The Council has been in contact with the Builder of the above estate, who has arranged for an electrician to repair the two lights on the main road which had not been working.”

Criochnaigh an Cruinniu Ansin