

COMHAIRLE CHONTAE NA GAILLIMHE

Ceantar Bardasach Bhaile Locha Riach *Municipal District of LOUGHREA*

Minutes of Monthly Meeting of the Municipal District of Loughrea held at County Hall, 8th June 2020 @ 11 am.

LATHAIR:

Cathaoirleach

Cllr M Maher

Baill:

Cllr's. G. Donohue, S. Curley, PJ Murphy,
J. Byrne, M. Kinane, I. Canning, J. McClearn,
P Hynes.

Oifigigh:

Mr J. Cullen, Director of Services;
Mr. G. Haugh, Senior Executive Engineer;
Mr. B. Sheehy, A/Executive Engineer;
Ms. A. Quinn, Meetings Administrator;
Ms P. McHugo, Assistant Staff Officer;
Ms A. Dolan, Executive Scientist.

Apologies from Cllr Finnerty who was unable to attend.

Confirmation of Minutes of Monthly Meeting of the Municipal District of Loughrea held on 11th May 2020 **LMD 20023**

The Minutes of the Loughrea MD meeting held on 11th May 2020 were proposed by Cllr Byrne, seconded by Cllr Curley and agreed and signed by the Cathaoirleach.

Arising from the Minutes, Cllr Kinane thanked the Environment Section for all their assistance regarding work at Clarenbridge BG which was now nearing completion.

Illegal Dumping/Bring Banks/CCTV

LMD 20024

Ms Dolan provided the members with a comprehensive report on Waste Management and enforcement in County Galway during the Covid 19 pandemic.

All Members welcomed the report but queried why there wasn't greater use of CCTV. Cllr. Canning said that the cost of CCTV would be a fraction of the cost of the clean-ups that must take place. Cllr. Donohoe said that part of the problem was the absence of waste collection services in certain areas and collectors should be required to collect in all areas rather than cherry pick routes. Cllr. Murphy said that in other countries waste collection is included in taxation and wider waste collection service is available in that model. Cllr. Kinnane said the

council should be able to use CCTV footage from businesses if that was available. Cllr. Byrne referred to the waste presentation byelaws and said these had not yet been fully implemented and that people should be required to account for the disposal of their waste. All councillors expressed the view that the waste presentation byelaws needed stronger enforcement so that households should be required to provide evidence of how their waste is managed. Ms Dolan stated that until the Data Commissioners review is complete, the Department has advised that Local Authorities are prevented from using same. Mr Cullen advised the Members that despite GCC's efforts both with limited staff and resources during the pandemic, littering throughout the County was a major problem. Once the Department clarifies the position regarding CCTV, it will be used to prosecute offenders. With regard to a civic amenity site, he stated that funding for same would also be an issue. Members could contact Ms Dolan directly with any further queries.

Directors Business

LMD 20025

Mr Cullen advised Members that the Council were currently in the process of submitting Part 8 Planning for a site in Kinvara for LA Housing. It is hoped to present to the Members at the September meeting.

Mr Cullen advised Members that Consultants have been appointed to progress the Galway – Athlone Greenway. A project office is being set up in Ballinasloe and there would be a strong emphasis on consultation with the public and Project Team. All options will be considered and the public's expectations managed in a sensitive manner. There is no pre-determined route and public consultation is scheduled for August 2020.

Cllr McClearn welcomed the information and the clarification that the project was starting afresh with no pre-determined routes. He stressed the importance of proper consultation and that full consideration be afforded to those who had genuine concerns about the impact of a greenway on them. This was supported by other councillors who requested that all route options be fully assessed with the greatest possible level of public engagement. Cllr Maher suggested that one option for consideration could be the R446 which is now a regional road.

Mr Cullen thanked the members for their contributions and confirmed that it was the case that the consultants were starting with a blank canvas. The first step in the process would be a consultation on a constraints study which would take place around August of this year.

Cathaoirleach's Business

LMD 20026

In response to Cllr Maher's query regarding an issue with gulleys on the Tynagh Road, following work completed last year, Mr Haugh will have the matter investigated.

Responding to Cllr McClearn's query regarding the new criteria for LIS applicants, Mr Cullen will request more information from the Department to clarify the matter.

In reply to Cllr Byrne, Mr Cullen stated that all business owners applications for on street furniture under the Planning & Development Act 2000, Section 254, would be dealt with as efficiently as possible. Mr Haugh advised that funding for a footpath at Gort Ri Estate and Gallaghers Lane would be an issue.

Mr Haugh confirmed for Cllr Curley that recent line marking carried out in Tynagh was funded by his NOM allocation of €2500. Responding to Cllr Donohue, Mr Haugh stated that he will discuss with the Regional Manager, NTA the issue of the bus stop outside Beatty's Jeweller Shop.

It was agreed that the next meeting of the Loughrea MD would take place in County Hall on Monday 13th July 2020 at 11 am.

CHRIOGHNAIGH AN CHRUINNIU ANSIN

**CLLR MICHAEL MAHER
CATHAOIRLEACH, LOUGHREA MD**