

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 Loughrea Regional Office, 7th June 2018 @ 11 a.m.

I LATHAIR:

Cathaoirleach

Cllr. J. Byrne

Baill:

Cllr's M. Fahy, P Hynes, S Donnellan, G Finnerty, J. McClearn, I. Canning.

Oifigigh:

Mr J. Cullen, D.O.S. Roads & Transportation;
Mr E. Gallagher, Senior Executive Engineer;
Mr E Mulryan, A/S.E.E. Roads & Transportation;
Mr. B. Sheehy, A/Executive Engineer;
Mr. E. Mulvey, Tenant Enforcement Officer;
Ms. V. Loughnane, Senior Planner;
Ms. H. Fox, Assistant Planner;
Mr. P. Carroll, Meetings Administrator;
Ms. P. McHugo, Assistant Staff Officer.

Apologies

Apologies from Cllr. Maher who was unable to attend.

Confirmation of Minutes of Monthly Meeting of Municipal of Loughrea held on 10th May 2018

LMD 18031

The Minutes of the monthly meeting of the Loughrea M.D. held on 10th May 2018 were proposed by Cllr Canning, seconded by Cllr Donnellan and agreed and signed by the Cathaoirleach.

Arising from the Minutes, Mr Mulryan confirmed for Cllr Fahy that the transfer of lands at Thoor Ballylee car park was currently with the Law Agents. He also confirmed for Cllr Donnellan that access for wheel chair users at the Long Point would be extremely difficult to deliver due to financial constraints and also due to the environmental designation of the lake.

Responding to Cllr Hynes, Mr Cullen stated that the issue of fencing on the N67 to Kinvara was being finalised with the landowners and while a response would be sought from TII

regarding stone walls he could give no commitment that dry stone walls will be provided. The main objective here is to see the scheme going ahead. He also clarified that the Biogas Plant in Gort was the subject of a planning application, that the decision date would be mid-June 2018 and the public could make submissions in accordance with the planning process.

CCTV Cameras at Crowe Street, Gort

LMD 18032

Mr E. Mulvey, Tenant Enforcement Officer, Housing gave details of the CCTV cameras installed at Crowe Street, Gort in the first quarter of 2016 in accordance with Section 38 of the Garda Siochana Act, 2005 and operated strictly in accordance with the code of practice issued by the Dept of Justice, Equality and Law Reform. Since its installation it has proved to be a deterrent to unlawful behaviour and has helped significantly in the promotion of good estate management practice within the estates.

Cllr McClearn stated that a determination to enforce tenancy agreements by GCC should be adopted. At Cllr Finnerty's request, Mr Mulvey agreed to confirm to the Gardai in Gort that the CCTV was working and attend the next Neighbourhood Watch Meeting in Gort. Cllr's Byrne and Canning requested that every Council tenant's waste disposal contracts are verified and stricter enforcement of tenancy agreements adhered to.

CFRAMS & Flooding

LMD 18033

Mr Gallagher updated the meeting on progress to date. He advised that there are 47 Non-coastal Minor Works Applications that have been applied for in the Loughrea Municipal District. 13 of the schemes are falling within the remit of the South Galway Gort Lowlands Flood Relief Scheme. Detail was provided on the 21 ongoing schemes. He is to provide additional detail on the Rafarn and Sliabh Carran schemes at the next meeting. On the South Galway Flood Relief Scheme, the Constraints Study Report, which will contain details of the Public Information Day that was held in Sullivan's Hotel will be published before the next MDM. Trinity's model for the scheme is progressing well. The Engineering Consultant has finished extensive surveying within the catchment and awaits results from the Constraints Study. On the Dunkellin and Aggard FRS he advised that Ward & Burke are making good progress on the bridge at Kileely Bridge and are advancing preparation for the other two bridges. The OPW have nearly completed works on the bypass channel in Craughwell and will be commencing works on their three bridges in the next month or so.

He presented background information on CRFAMs and details of allocations that were announced by Minister Kevin 'Boxer' Moran TD in May 2018. Under the 10 year programme, three schemes are to progress in County Galway: Ballinasloe, Clifden and Portumna. Detailed design and environmental assessments are to progress immediately for Ballinasloe and Clifden under Tranche 1 of the funding. No specifics have been provided for the commencement dates of the remaining 68 schemes

Discuss deferral of Notices under Section 20 3(a) (i) and (ii) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 as amended in respect of the Gort Local Area Plan, for a period of not exceeding five years (i.e.) 5 years from 25th June 2018

LMD 18034

Ms Valerie Loughnane, Senior Planner introduced the deferral notice which would be before Plenary Council on the 25th June 2018, Gort being within the District of Loughrea, Officers were presenting the deferral in advance of that Full Council meeting. Ms Loughnane explained since the Gort LAP 2013-2019 was adopted there had been minimal development on zoned lands. A review of available development land including Residential phase 1, Residential Phase 2, Business and Enterprise and Industrial land has been carried out, this demonstrates there is adequate zoned land available for development. Members were asked to consider deferring the review of the Gort LAP 2013-2019 for a period of not more than 5 years, until the finalising of the Regional Economic & Spatial Strategy which would include new population allocations for settlements.

Cllr Finnerty agreed that the Council should finish off existing estates and not waste resources updating the plan when there was plenty of land available. Cllr Fahy stated that the Council must ensure that there is enough residential land allocated as there will be a huge influx of people into Gort post-Brexit. Cllr. Byrne asked if local area plans moving forward would focus less on zoning maps & what was happening with towns & villages with expired LAPs?

Ms Loughnane explained the LAP's moving forward included opportunity sites, Town Centre Management Plans and proposals for pedestrian linkages, that they were refocused to enhance local centres. She clarified that it was intended (subject to appropriate resources) to produce local plans for serviced settlements within the new County Development Plan 2021-2027, these would cover areas such as Kinvara and Oughterard.

Roads Funding

LMD 18035

Cllr Finnerty requested that the issue of funding which is required urgently be kept on the Agenda until a favourable response is received from the Department. Mr Cullen and Mr Mulryan stated that they were both still hopeful that further funding would be received but to date no response had been received from GCC's application.

Cathaoirleach's Business

LMD 18036

Cllr Donnellan paid tribute to the Council staff, Loughrea Chamber of Commerce and Ms Ursula Marmion for completing the application for the lighting project at Corry's Field which was well under way. Cllr Donnellan also said that the Dog Fouling Campaign which was launched in May was proving to be successful and a marked improvement was noticed around the town. In response to Cllr Donnellans query regarding the delays at the lights at the Westbridge, Mr Mulryan stated that during the week, the diversion from the works on the roundabouts on the by-pass was causing a traffic back log. The lights operate on the Mova system which is the best available technology for the junction and allows traffic to filter through as quickly as is possible.

In response to Cllr McClearn, Mr Mulryan confirmed that over €200,000 was received in CIS funding in the Loughrea M.D. The work on the Portumna side of Kilmeen Cross will commence shortly and the Loughrea side is going through procurement. Mr Mulryan also confirmed that procedures were developed in GCC giving due regard to health and safety of

clean up groups on public roads. Cllr McClearn also expressed his concerns regarding the deterioration of our national monuments throughout the county due to strict regulations regarding their repair/clean up.

Mr Mulryan confirmed for Cllr Finnerty that he would have Courtney's Lane, Gort inspected. Mr Mulryan already requested the ESB for an additional electric charger in Gort at Cllr Finnerty's request.

Mr Carroll confirmed for Cllrs Canning and Byrne that CCTV for the Bottle Banks in Portumna and Gort were not yet finalized.

Mr Cullen replied that he had received correspondence from Cllr Byrne on a Bayside walk at Kinvara. He agreed that it seemed a good proposal but that the Council couldn't resource progressing it at this time and that it would remain available for consideration when resources became available.

Mr Mulryan confirmed for Cllr Byrne that he is liaising with T.I.I. regarding the footpath at Dungaluaire, Kinvara.

It was agreed that the monthly meeting of the Loughrea MD would take place on Thursday 12th July 2018 at 11 am.

CHRIOGHNAIGH AN CHRUINNIU ANSIN