

**CHOMHAIRLE CHONTAE NA GAILLIMHE**

**MINUTES OF MONTHLY MEETING OF GALWAY COUNTY COUNCIL HELD  
AT THE BAILEY ALLEN HALL, NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF IRELAND, GALWAY,  
ON MONDAY 22<sup>nd</sup> SEPTEMBER, 2014.**

**CATHAOIRLEACH:**

Cllr. M. Hoade, Cathaoirleach of the County of Galway.

**I LATHAIR FREISIN:**

**Baill:**

Cllrs. T. Broderick, D. Burke, J. Byrne, N. Byrne, S. Canney, J. Charity, D. Connolly, M. Connolly, G. Cronnelly, Comh. S. Ó Cualáin, Cllrs. J. Cuddy, Comh. T. Ó Curraoin, Cllrs. S. Donnellan, A. Donohue, M. Fahy, P. Feeney, G. Finnerty, M. Finnerty, M. Fitzmaurice, T. Healy, P. Hynes, F. Kearney, P. Keaveney, M. Kinane, M. Maher, E. Mannion, J. McClearn, K. McHugh, T. McHugh, A. Rabbitte, P. Roche, N. Thomas, Comh S. Ó Tuairisg, Cllrs. S. Walsh, T. Welby

**Oifigigh:**

Mr. K. Kelly, Chief Executive, Interim; Messrs. J. Cullen, L. Gavin, P. Gavican, Directors of Service; Ms. C. McConnell, Acting Director of Service; Messrs. G. Mullarkey, Head of Finance; M. Owens, County Secretary & Meetings Administrator; P. O'Neachtain Oifigeach Gaeilge; Ms. G. Healy, Staff Officer.

Thosnaigh an cruinniú leis an paidir.

**RESOLUTIONS OF SYMPATHY**

**1842**

A resolution of sympathy was extended to the following:

- Ms. Marian Kenny, Woodlawn, Ballinasloe, Co. Galway
- Mr. Sean Madden, Rahally, New Inn, Ballinasloe, Co. Galway
- Mr. Michael Kelly, Streamfort, Woodlawn, Ballinasloe, Co. Galway
- Mr. Anthony Glennon, Carra, Bullaun, Loughrea, Co. Galway
- Mr. Sean McDonagh, Liscune, Ballymacward, Ballinasloe, Co. Galway
- Mr. Graham & Lorraine Hession, Cloonavadogue, Ballyglunin, Tuam, Co. Galway
- Mr. Pat McKeon, Knockdoe Beg East, Claregalway, Co. Galway
- Mrs. Madge Donnellan, Cregmore, Claregalway, Co. Galway
- Mr. Mickey & Moira Murphy, Ballinvoher, Turloughmore, Co. Galway

## **Minutes of Meeting held on 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2014**

- Mr. Michael Molloy, Gurraun South, Oranmore, Co. Galway
- Mr. Martin Hanley, Slievefinn, Claregalway, Co. Galway
- Ms. Geraldine Carr, Gortacleava, Claregalway, Co. Galway

The Cathaoirleach was joined by the Members in expressing sympathy to the following:

- Cllr. Jimmy McClearn on the death of his brother Joseph
- Mr. Willie Burke, former Member of Galway Co. Council, on the death of his son Daire
- The family of the late Mr. Albert Reynolds, former Taoiseach.

The Chief Executive joined in the expressions of sympathy to Cllr. Jimmy McClearn and Mr. Willie Burke.

The Cathaoirleach adjourned the Meeting for five minutes as a mark of respect to the deceased. The Meeting was then reconvened.

The Cathaoirleach welcomed Mr. Peter Gavican to Galway Council following his recent appointment as Director of Services. She also congratulated Mr. Liam Gavin on his recent appointment as Director of Services and Ms. Catherine McConnell on her appointment as Acting Director of Services.

## **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF MEETING**

**1843**

The Minutes of Monthly Meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> July, 2014 were approved by the Council and signed by the Cathaoirleach on the proposal of Cllr. T. McHugh, seconded by Cllr. Walsh.

## **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

In reply to Cllr. D. Connolly, Ms. McConnell said that it is hoped that a Report on the Development Contribution Scheme will be brought before the Strategic Policy Committee when convened in the coming months.

In reply to Cllr. Charity, Ms. McConnell said that she is confident that the current Development Contribution Scheme does not need to be revised as the scheme was clear as regards the 15km zone. Cllr. Charity said that it was reported in the Minutes of the July Monthly Meeting that if considered necessary legal advice would be obtained regarding the charging of development levies in accordance with the scheme as adopted by the Council. He said that if the Council is to veer from what was stated in the Minutes of the July Meeting, this should be reflected in the Minutes of the September Monthly Meeting.

Cllr. Fahy stated that the Shannon Airport Authority has confirmed to him that a representative from Shannon Airport Management will be available to address the Members at a forthcoming Meeting of the Council, once the County Secretary makes the necessary arrangements.

In reply to a query from Cllr. Cuddy regarding the issue of the washing of horses at the Weir at Kilcolgan and the Control of Horses Byelaws, Mr. Cullen said that the issue of the Control of Horses Byelaws for the Athenry/Oranmore Area will be placed on the Agenda for discussion at the October Meeting of the Municipal District. However, Cllrs. Cuddy, Kinane and Feeney said that these Byelaws should be a matter for discussion by the Plenary Council as it is a county-wide matter and Mr. Cullen confirmed that he would clarify which forum is the correct one to discuss these Byelaws.

In reply to Cllr. Broderick who asked if the Council has received notification from Central Government that the Local Property Tax will replace the Local Government Fund, Mr. Mullarkey said that it has been confirmed that the Local Property Tax will be the source of funding for local authorities going forward.

In reply to Cllr. D. Connolly, the Chief Executive said that following on from the dissolution of Ballinasloe Town Council, it is the intention of the Council to ensure that there is one process in place covering all housing tenants of the Council.

**REPORT OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR CONSIDERATION AND ADOPTION**      **1844**

The Report of the Corporate Policy Group Meeting held on 23<sup>rd</sup> June, 2014 was approved by the Council and signed by the Cathaoirleach on the proposal of Cllr. Maher, seconded by Cllr. Cuddy.

The Report of the Corporate Policy Group Meeting held on 8th July, 2014 was approved by the Council and signed by the Cathaoirleach on the proposal of Cllr. G. Finnerty, seconded by Cllr. M. Connolly.

**TO CONSIDER REPORT UNDER SECTION 183 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2001 ON THE DISPOSAL OF 0.4414 HECTARES OF LAND AT GARBALLY DRIVE IN THE TOWNLAND OF GARBALLY DEMESNE, BALLINASLOE, CO. GALWAY.**      **1845**

Report dated 3rd September 2014 was already circulated to each Member

On the proposal of Cllr. D. Connolly, seconded by Cllr. Broderick, the disposal of 0.4414 hectares of land at Garbally Drive in the Townland of Garbally Demesne, Ballinasloe, as outlined in the Report, was agreed.

Cllrs. D. Connolly and M. Finnerty said that the transfer of this land by the Council to Scoil Uí Chearthearnaigh will be of huge benefit to the school for parking and amenity purposes.

**TO CONSIDER REPORT UNDER SECTION 183 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2001 ON THE DISPOSAL OF 0.2300 HECTARES OF LAND AT BAUNMORE, ATHENRY, CO. GALWAY.**

**1846**

Report dated 4<sup>th</sup> September, 2014 was already circulated to each Member

On the proposal of Cllr. Feeney, seconded by Cllr. Cronnelly, the disposal of 0.2300 hectares of land at Baunmore, Athenry, as outlined in the Report, was agreed.

Cllr. Feeney complimented Mr. Dermot Monaghan for co-operating with the Council on this land swap for the good of the community.

**TO CONSIDER REPORT UNDER PART 8 OF THE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS 2001 – CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW SINGLE-STOREY DWELLING, WITH A FLOOR AREA OF 105.82 M2 WITH A PROPRIETARY WASTEWATER TREATMENT SYSTEM AND A NEW SITE ENTRANCE IN THE TOWNLAND OF CALLOWFINISH, CARNA, CO. GALWAY.**

**1847**

Report dated 16<sup>th</sup> September, 2014 was already circulated to each Member.

On the proposal of Comh. Ó Cualáin, seconded by Comh. Ó Tuairisg, the proposed construction of a new single-storey dwelling with a floor area of 105.82 m2 with a proprietary wastewater treatment system and a new site entrance in the townland of Callowfinish, Carna, as outlined in the Report, was agreed.

**TO CONSIDER REPORT UNDER PART 8 OF THE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS 2001 – CONSTRUCTION OF A 2 BED BUNGALOW DWELLING HOUSE COMPLETE WITH ON-SITE WASTE WATER TREATMENT WORKS, PERCOLATION AREA AND ASSOCIATED SITE WORKS AT KILLEENHUGH, ARDRAHAN, CO. GALWAY.**

**1848**

Report dated 16<sup>th</sup> September, 2014 was already circulated to each Member.

On the proposal of Cllr. Fahy, seconded by Cllr. McClearn, the proposed construction of a 2 bed bungalow dwelling house complete with on-site waste water treatment works, percolation area and associated site works at Killeenhugh, Ardrahan, as outlined in the Report, was agreed.

**TO CONSIDER REPORT UNDER PART 8 OF THE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS 2001 – CONSTRUCTION OF A 4 BED BUNGALOW DWELLING HOUSE COMPLETE WITH ON-SITE WASTE WATER TREATMENT WORKS, PERCOLATION AREA AND ASSOCIATED SITE WORKS AT CAPPAGHMORE, KINVARA, CO. GALWAY.**

**1849**

Report dated 16<sup>th</sup> September, 2014 was already circulated to each Member.

On the proposal of Cllr. J. Byrne, seconded by Cllr. G. Finnerty, the proposed construction of a 4 bed bungalow dwelling house complete with on-site waste water treatment works, percolation area and associated site works at Cappaghmore, Kinvara, as outlined in the Report, was agreed.

**TO CONSIDER AN AGREEMENT WITH GALWAY CITY COUNCIL PURSUANT TO SECTION 85 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2001 – TUAM ROAD BUS CORRIDOR.** **1850**

Report dated 15<sup>th</sup> September 2014 was already circulated to each Member.

On the proposal of Cllr. K. McHugh, seconded by Cllr. Rabbitte, it was agreed to enter into an Agreement with Galway City Council pursuant to Section 85 of the Local Government Act 2001 regarding the Tuam Road Bus Corridor.

In reply to Cllr. Cuddy, Mr. Gavin said that once the preliminary design of the Tuam Road Bus Corridor is completed, the design proposal will be brought before the Oranmore/Athenry Municipal District Council for consideration.

**TO CONSIDER AN AGREEMENT WITH GALWAY CITY COUNCIL PURSUANT TO SECTION 85 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2001 – BEARNA GREENWAY.** **1851**

Report dated 15<sup>th</sup> September, 2014 was already circulated to each Member.

On the proposal of Comh. Ó Tuairisg, seconded by Cllr. Thomas, it was agreed to enter into an Agreement with Galway City Council pursuant to Section 85 of the Local Government Act 2001 regarding the Bearna Greenway project.

In reply to Comh. Ó Curraoin, Mr. Gavin confirmed that this project will be funded by the National Transport Authority and as soon as the design proposals together with map showing the proposed route are available, same will be brought before the Conamara Municipal District Council for consideration.

In reply to Cllr. Welby, he said that an appropriate assessment and possibly an environmental impact assessment will be required in relation to the project.

**TO CONSIDER AN AGREEMENT WITH GALWAY CITY COUNCIL PURSUANT TO SECTION 85 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2001 – MOYCULLEN GREENWAY.** **1852**

Report dated 15<sup>th</sup> September, 2014 was circulated to each Member.

On the proposal of Cllr. Thomas, seconded by Cllr. N. Byrne, it was agreed to enter into an Agreement with Galway City Council pursuant to Section 85 of the Local Government Act 2001 regarding the Moycullen Greenway project.

In reply to Cllr. Welby, Mr. Gavin confirmed that the Council will be consulting with the affected landowners as the project proceeds.

**TO CONSIDER, UNDER SECTION 12 OF THE PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT ACT 2000 (AS AMENDED), THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT ON THE SUBMISSIONS RECEIVED ON THE DRAFT GALWAY COUNTY DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2015 – 2021, THE APPENDICES (INCLUDING THE PROPOSED ADDITIONS TO THE RECORD OF PROTECTED STRUCTURES), THE ACCOMPANYING ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS/SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS AND THE STAGE 1 STRATEGIC FLOOD RISK ASSESSMENT REPORT, FOLLOWING THE PUBLIC DISPLAY PERIOD OF 28<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2014 – 9<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2014.**

**1853**

Report dated July 2014 was already circulated to each Member.

Cllr. McClearn proposed that this item be deferred to a Special Meeting of the Council to be held on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> September, 2014 at the Ard Rí House Hotel, Tuam, commencing at 10am. This proposal was seconded by Cllr. M. Connolly, and agreed.

**APPOINTMENT OF NOMINEES TO THE LOCAL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

**1854**

Report entitled “List of nominees to Local Community Development Committee” was circulated to each Member.

On the proposal of Cllr. Maher, seconded by Cllr. M. Connolly, it was agreed that the persons listed in the Report be nominated to the LCDC as follows:

State Agency Nominees: Ms. Catherine Cunningham, HSE Area Manager for Galway & Roscommon; Mr. Eoin Browne, Regional Manager, Department of Social Protection; Mr. David Leahy, Chief Executive Officer, Galway Roscommon Education and Training Board; Ms. Sonya Nic Lochlain, Head of Planning & Policy Division, Údaras na Gaeltachta.

Local & Community Development: Ms. Delia Colohan, Chief Executive Officer, Galway Rural Development; Ms. Terry Keenan, Chairperson FORUM Connemara; Ms. Majella Ní Chriochain, Chief Executive Officer, Comhar na nOileáin

Community & Voluntary Sector (Interim Nominations pending Nominations from the Public Participation Network): Mr. Martin Ward, Mr. Dan Dowling, Ms. Josephine Lally and Ms. Frances O'Reilly, Executive Committee Members of the Community & Voluntary Forum; Mr. Diarmuid Mulcahy, Chair of Community & Voluntary Forum.

Mr. Tom Turley, Connaught Regional Chairman of the IFA,  
Mr. Conor O'Dowd, Chambers Ireland.

Cllr. Broderick wished to have it recorded that he has serious reservations regarding the nomination onto the Local Community Development Committee of a representative from a certain state agency.

**TO CONSIDER VARYING THE BASIC RATE OF THE LOCAL PROPERTY TAX IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LOCAL PROPERTY TAX (LOCAL ADJUSTMENT FACTOR) REGULATIONS 2014**

**1855**

Report dated September, 2014 was circulated to each Member.

The Chief Executive presented the Report to the Members stating that the Report was prepared in accordance with the Local Property Tax (Local Adjustment Factor) Regulations (S.I. 296 of 2014). Under Section 20 of the Finance (Local Property Tax) Act 2012, as amended, a local authority may as a reserved function resolve to vary the basic rate of the Local Property Tax within its functional area by a maximum of +/- 15%. He informed the Members that the legislation provides that, in varying the rate, a local authority must take account of its financial position, and have regard to a number of factors:

1. The local authority's estimation of the income it will receive and the expenditure it will incur in the period for which the varied rate is to have effect
2. The financial position of the local authority
3. The financial effect of the varied rate, and
4. Feedback from any consultation held

The Chief Executive informed the Members in relation to these factors, as follows:

**Estimation of Income and Expenditure for the period for which the varied rate is to have effect:**

In 2015 the Local Property Tax (LPT) will replace the Local Government Fund as a source of funding for the local authority. The Department of the Environment, Community & Local Government (DECLG) has confirmed that 80% of the LPT collected will be retained locally and that in 2015 no local authority will receive any less income in total than they received in 2014 with any shortfall on locally retained LPT being made up from an equalization fund.

The total LPT expected to be collected in County Galway is €14.967m and of this €11.974m will be retained locally with an amount of €0.533m being provided from the equalization fund to leave the estimated LPT contribution for 2015 at €12.506m. The DECLG has indicated that no additional funding will be made available. He referred the Members to Schedule 1 of the Report which shows that the estimated income for the period including income from Commercial Rates, LPT, grants and subsidies and other income is €106m and the estimated expenditure on Payroll, Loan Interest and Principal Repaid, Social Benefits, Capital Grants and other expenditure is €106m.

He informed the Members that preliminary submissions from the various units of the Council on Budget 2015 show a demand for expenditure far in excess of the monies available. Therefore in the absence of any increased income for 2015, any additional or new areas of activity can only be achieved by a re-allocation of existing resources.

Financial Position of the Local Authority

He referred to Schedule 2 of the Report which shows the Council's Assets at 30<sup>th</sup> June, 2014 total €124,725,000 and the Council's Liabilities totaling €105,925,000, the ratio of Loans Payable to Revenue Income at 51% and the ratio of Current Assets to Current Liabilities at 2.1 : 1. The cumulative deficit to the end of June 2014 stands at €2m with an anticipated additional net deficit at the end of 2014 arising from vacant/uncollectable rates.

Financial effect of the varied rate

He outlined the financial effect of the varied rate to the Members and said that if the Council were to propose the maximum reduction of 15% to the base rate for financial year 2015, this would result in a reduction of €2.25m in available funding which would mean that a balanced budget could not be achieved without significant cuts to all services and the cessation of many services. Such a reduction would result in a saving of €13.50 per annum for 33% of households, €34 per annum for 33% of households and €47 per annum for 24% of households.

If the Council were to increase the property tax by 15%, the additional amounts payable by each household would be €13.50 / €34 / €47 with 90% of households paying less than an additional €3.15 if the rate was increased by 1%. Such an increase would result in an additional income of €150,000 for the Council while a 15% increase would result in an additional €2.25m income.

He reminded the Members that there will be no increase in income for the Council in 2015 over and above that of 2014 while there are additional areas of new/increased activity such as Economic Development, Local Enterprise Office (LEO), Local Community Development Committee (LCDC), Public Participation Network (PPN), proposed National Differential Rents Scheme, Housing Assistance Payment Implementation and specific issues such as the proposed Fire Station in Conamara.

The Chief Executive pointed out that the Council's budget has been reduced from €165m in 2008 to €106m in for 2015 with a corresponding reduction in staffing levels of 35% during that period. The Council has been successful in achieving efficiencies and savings since 2008 and will continue to strive for further efficiencies. Any reduction in LPT, even without the new requirements outlined, would mean an automatic cut in discretionary spending in areas such as arts and amenity grants, local contribution to housing maintenance, street cleaning etc. Significant reduction in the LPT rate would mean the removal of some services entirely. Also, the Council would lose out on certain projects where co-funding is required, i.e. 80% funding by DECLG, requiring 20% co-funding from the Council in order to proceed.

Mr. Kelly confirmed that even without a reduction in the LPT, it would be difficult to maintain current service levels given the additional demands in 2015.



**Feedback from Public Consultation**

A period of 30 days was provided for written submissions commencing on 18<sup>th</sup> July, 2014 and closing on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> August, 2014. A total of 4 no. submissions were received with two submissions suggesting that there should be no reduction in the LPT and 2 no. submissions taking the converse view, as summarized in the Report.

The Chief Executive concluded by saying that the message he would like to give the Members in considering varying the LPT rate, is that a reduction in the LPT will mean a reduction in existing service provision, while there is significant pressure, in light of existing funding, to bring a balanced budget for 2015 before the Members for consideration.

The Cathaoirleach thanked the Chief Executive and the Head of Finance for the Report.

A discussion took place and Members made the following points:

Cllrs. M. Connolly said that since 2008, it has been very difficult for the Council to retain services due to the reduction year on year in funding from the Government. It will not be possible for the Council to retain the same level of funding in 2015 as in 2014, if the LPT rate is lowered. Therefore, while he would like to reduce the LPT rate, he feels that the Members have no choice but to leave the rate as it stands if they do not wish to reduce the services being provided to their constituents.

Comh. Ó Tuairisg said it would be preferable if the Council could retain 100% of the LPT received in the County, however he recognizes that this is a decision made at Government level and the Council has no say in the matter. He asked why is Galway only getting back approximately €500,000 in the equalization fund.

Cllr. Cuddy said he would be guided by the Executive on this matter. He felt that monies received from each Municipal District should be put back into that District as income.

Cllr. Ó Curraoin said that the condition of roads in some parts of the County is much worse than in others and it is difficult to expect everybody to pay the same rate when they feel that they are not getting a fair share of the services.

Cllr. J. Byrne said that it is important that the Council's funding for 2015 is not reduced and for that reason he does not wish to reduce the LPT. He said that the Council should communicate to the public how monies collected are being spent, outlining the works being done and the works the Council proposes to carry out.

Cllr. Feeney said that the LPT is a means by which the Council can have some control on the services being provided in the County rather than Central Government allocating the funding and this should be looked on as a positive rather than negative step.

Cllr. Welby asked if there are any costings regarding the areas of new/increased activity such as Economic Development, LCDC, LEO etc. as outlined in the Report. The only new

activity listed which is being pushed by the Council is the new Fire Station for Conamara while the remainder are initiatives of the Government, with no extra funding being made available. How will these be financed and how will the deficit of over €2m be financed. Is there any mechanism to go back to Central Government to get funding if there is a shortfall.

Cllr. McClearn said that the maximum that will be put back into people's pockets is €47 per annum if the LPT is reduced by the full 15% and people might not be happy about this if services are cut. This is the first year since 2008 that the Council's funding will remain the same. Increasing demands on the Council's resources is nothing new and is something we must manage. Every Member would like their constituents to have more disposable income but this is not the role of the Council, rather it is to ensure that the people of the County can be given the best services possible, within available resources.

The Chief Executive said that the Council's understanding is that all of the LPT collected will be redistributed to Local Authorities. Some Local Authorities are in a better position financially so they are getting less back in the equalization fund than counties in a worse off position. The funding framework will leave Galway Co. Council in the same position as in 2014.

He pointed out that it is important that the Council considers the County as a whole, rather than allocating out funding by Municipal District, in order to develop the County equally.

He assured the Members that they will be provided with the greatest level of information possible as regards spending on the provision of services.

He said that the anticipated deficit at the end of 2014 of over €2m will be managed consistent with resources available.

In reply to Cllrs. Charity and Cunniffe, the Chief Executive said that although the Council will receive additional funding from the NPPR charge in 2014 and 2015, the amounts involved need to be determined as well as their use in the context of the deficit and additional expenditure requirements, but that this will be dealt with at budget time. He said it is not possible to off-set the LPT by means of the NPPR.

In reply to Cllr. Cronnolly, the Chief Executive said that the LPT is a 3-year evaluation with the charge static for 3 years so there will be no addition in 2015 or 2016 even if house values increase.

Cllrs. Welby and Ó Curraoin said that the Government has foisted the new activities outlined in the Report on the Local Authority with no indication of how they will be funded

The Chief Executive said that the new areas of responsibility listed are not meant to be a full list of activities for 2015. It must be understood that the functions of local authorities are changing and it is intended that our future role will include economic, social and community development. The more resources the local authority puts into these areas, the more

successful we will be. Therefore, at budget time, the Council will allocate as much funding as possible into economic, social and community development in order to advance activity in this regard.

Mr. Kelly also confirmed that the charge for LPT in respect of local authority houses would be recouped from tenants and arrangements in this regard were being made for 2014.

Cllr. Healy said that the Council should endeavor to achieve more efficiencies, for instance in the area of printing costs in order to improve our finances. He also said that there is a lack of support given to local authorities from Central Government and he expressed the view that the Members should make a request to the Government to sell off bonds in order to provide much needed funding to local authorities so that we can budget into the future and reduce the LPT on the people.

The Chief Executive replied that the Council will continue to take initiatives to reduce spending and to achieve greater efficiencies.

In reply to Cllr. Broderick, Mr. Mullarkey said that the DECLG has informed the local authority that if the LPT is reduced, this will not result in an increase in the amount we receive from the Equalisation Fund.

Also in reply to Cllr. Broderick, the Chief Executive said that consideration of varying the rate of the LPT is a matter for the Plenary Council and he would not be of the view that it should be discussed at Municipal District level. The timeframe is that the local authority must communicate its decision on the LPT rate to the Revenue Commissioners by 30<sup>th</sup> September, 2014.

Cllr. Fitzmaurice said the reality is that the Government policy has resulted in the Council's budget being cut by €59m since 2008 figures and they are now taking 20% of the LPT away from Galway Co. Council's funds. He said that people are not being treated fairly as everybody does not get equal services, depending on where they live in the County, and they are expected to pay the same charges. He asked if the cost of the water services function is being taken away from local authorities.

Mr. Cullen replied that the Galway Co. Council is administering the Water Services function on behalf of Irish Water. The full cost of this function is paid by Irish Water, i.e. salaries, wages etc, and central management charges as an overhead.

The Chief Executive accepted the Members suggestion that they are being asked to consider the matter of varying the LPT rate at an early stage when it is not possible to have full information on income and expenditure, however he advised that it was clear that a cut in the LPT would require a cut in services.

Cllr. McClearn proposed that there would be no variation of the Local Property Tax rate and this proposal was seconded by Cllr. T. McHugh.

Cllr. D. Connolly referred to Notice of Motion No. 27 on the Agenda and he made a counter proposal as follows “that Galway County Council uses its powers under current legislation to reduce the Local Property Tax by 15%”. This proposal was seconded by Cllr. Cronnelly.

The Cathaoirleach called for a vote on the Motion of Cllr. D. Connolly and the following was the result of the vote:

**For:** Cllrs. Broderick, Canney, Charity, D. Connolly, Cronnelly, Comh. Ó Curraoin, Cllrs. Fitzmaurice, Healy, Welby **[9]**

**Against:** Cllrs. Burke, J. Byrne, N. Byrne, M. Connolly, Comh. Ó Cualáin, Cllrs. Cuddy, Cunniffe, Donnellan, Donohue, Fahy, Feeney, G. Finnerty, M. Finnerty, Hoade, Kearney, Keaveney, Kinane, Maher, Mannion, McClearn, K. McMcHugh, T. McHugh, Rabbitte, Roche, Thomas, Comh. Ó Tuairisg, Cllr. Walsh **[27]**

**Abstained:** Nil **[0]**

As a result of the vote, the Cathaoirleach declared the motion put forward by Cllr. D. Connolly, seconded by Cllr. Cronnelly defeated.

She therefore declared the proposal of Cllr. McClearn, that there would be no variation of the Local Property Tax rate, seconded by Cllr. T. McHugh, carried.

**TO CONSIDER, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 48 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2001 (AS AMENDED) AND GUIDELINES ISSUED UNDER SECTION 54(2) OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2001 (AS AMENDED) SUBMISSIONS ON THE DRAFT STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE AND ADOPT A SCHEME FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF THE STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE SYSTEM.**

**1856**

Report dated 12<sup>th</sup> September, 2014 was already circulated to each Member.

On the proposal of Cllr. T. McHugh, seconded by Comh. Ó Tuairisg, the Members agreed to adopt the Scheme for implementation of the Strategic Policy Committee system.

**TO CONSIDER AND IF DEEMED APPROPRIATE APPROVE A CONTRIBUTION TOWARDS THE OPERATION OF IRISH WATER SAFETY IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 67 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2001.**

**1857**

Report dated 16<sup>th</sup> September, 2014 was already circulated to each Member.

On the proposal of Comh. Ó Tuairisg, seconded by Cllr. G. Finnerty, the Members agreed to approve a contribution towards the operation of Irish Water Safety in accordance with Section 67 of the Local Government Act 2001.

**TO APPOINT 15 ELECTED MEMBERS TO THE COUNTY GALWAY JOINT POLICING COMMITTEE.**

**1858**

Report dated 16<sup>th</sup> September, 2014 was already circulated to each Member.

Mr. Owens referred to the Revised Guidelines 2014 for the operation of Joint Policing Committees (JPC) approved in accordance with Section 35(4) of the Garda Síochána Act 2005, which replace all previous Guidelines.

He said that in order to progress the establishment of the new County Galway Joint Policing Committee in accordance with the revised Guidelines, fifteen nominations of elected members were required for appointment to the JPC, with a minimum of 2 Members from each of the Municipal Districts.

**First Vacancy**

A nomination from the following group of Councillors nominating Comh. S. Ó Cualáin was handed to the Cathaoirleach.

The group consisted of: Cllr. T. Welby, Comh. T. Ó Curraoin, Comh. S. Ó Cualáin **[3]**

The Cathaoirleach ruled that the nomination was valid and she accordingly declared Comh. S. Ó Cualáin appointed as a Member of the County Galway Joint Policing Committee.

**Second Vacancy**

A nomination from the following group of Councillors nominating Cllr. S. Cuniffe was handed to the Cathaoirleach.

The group consisted of: Cllrs. T. Broderick, M. Fitzmaurice and S. Cuniffe **[3]**

The Cathaoirleach ruled that the nomination was valid and she accordingly declared Cllr. S. Cuniffe appointed as a Member of the County Galway Joint Policing Committee.

**Third Vacancy**

A nomination from the following group of Councillors nominating Cllr. J. Charity was handed to the Cathaoirleach.

The group consisted of: Cllr. K. McHugh, J. Cuddy and J. Charity **[3]**

The Cathaoirleach ruled that the nomination was valid and she accordingly declared Cllr. J. Charity appointed as a Member of the County Galway Joint Policing Committee.

**Fourth Vacancy**

A nomination from the following group of Councillors nominating Cllr. T. Healy was handed to the Cathaoirleach.

The group consisted of: Cllrs. D. Connolly, G. Cronnelly, T. Healy [3]

The Cathaoirleach ruled that the nomination was valid and she accordingly declared Cllr. T. Healy appointed as a Member of the County Galway Joint Policing Committee.

**Fifth, Sixth, Seventh, Eighth and Ninth Vacancies**

It was proposed by Cllr. M. Connolly and seconded by Cllr. G. Finnerty that the following Members be appointed:

Cllrs. N. Thomas, D. Killilea, M. Kinane, M. Noone and M. Hoade.

As there was no further proposal in respect of these vacancies, the Cathaoirleach declared Cllrs. N. Thomas, D. Killilea, M. Kinane, M. Noone and M. Hoade appointed as Members of the County Galway Joint Policing Committee.

**Tenth Vacancy**

It was proposed by Cllr. D. Burke and seconded by Cllr. G. Finnerty that Cllr. M. Connolly be appointed

As there was no further proposal in respect of this vacancy, the Cathaoirleach declared Cllr. M. Connolly appointed as a Member of the County Galway Joint Policing Committee.

**Eleventh, Twelveth and Thirteenth Vacancy**

It was proposed by Cllr. J. McClearn and seconded by Cllr. J. Byrne that Cllrs. A. Donoghue, J. Byrne and E. Mannion be appointed

As there was no further proposal in respect of these vacancies, the Cathaoirleach declared Cllrs. A. Donoghue, J. Byrne and E. Mannion appointed as Members of the County Galway Joint Policing Committee.

**Fourteenth Vacancy**

It was proposed by Cllr. G. Finnerty and seconded by Cllr. F. Kearney that Cllr. A. Rabbitte be appointed

As there was no further proposal in respect of this vacancy, the Cathaoirleach declared Cllr. A. Rabbitte appointed as a Member of the County Galway Joint Policing Committee.

**Fifteenth Vacancy**

It was proposed by Cllr. J. McClearn and seconded by Cllr. T. McHugh that Cllr. P. Roche be appointed

As there was no further proposal in respect of this vacancy, the Cathaoirleach declared Cllr. P. Roche appointed as a Member of the County Galway Joint Policing Committee.

As a result of the foregoing, the following are the 15 Members appointed to the County Galway Joint Policing Committee:

- (1) Comh. S. Ó Cualáin
- (2) Cllr. Shaun Cuniffe
- (3) Cllr. James Charity
- (4) Cllr. Tom Healy
- (5) Cllr. Noel Thomas
- (6) Cllr. Donagh Mark Killilea
- (7) Cllr. Martina Kinane
- (8) Cllr. Malachy Noone
- (9) Cllr. Mary Hoade,
- (10) Cllr. Michael Connolly
- (11) Cllr. Joe Byrne
- (12) Cllr. Aidan Donohue
- (13) Cllr. Eileen Mannion
- (14) Cllr. Anne Rabbitte
- (15) Cllr. Peter Roche.

**TO CONSIDER AND IF DEEMED APPROPRIATE TO AUTHORISE THE ATTENDANCE AT CONFERENCES IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 142(5) OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2001 (AS AMENDED)** **1859**

Report dated 18<sup>th</sup> September, 2014 was circulated to each Member.

It was proposed by Comh. Ó Tuairisg, seconded by Cllr. Maher and agreed, that the attendance of the Members named hereunder, at the Irish Planning Institute Autumn Conference to be held at the Gibson Hotel, Point Village, Dublin 1, on 10<sup>th</sup> October, 2014, as per the Report, be authorised:

Cllr. M. Hoade, Cathaoirleach,

Cllr. T. Broderick

**TO CONSIDER AND IF DEEMED APPROPRIATE TO AUTHORISE THE ATTENDANCE AT TRAINING IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 142(5A) OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2001 (AS AMENDED)** **1860**

Report dated 18<sup>th</sup> September, 2014 was circulated to each Member.

It was proposed by Cllr. Maher, seconded by Cllr. T. McHugh and agreed, that retrospective authorisation in accordance with Local Government Circular LG 21/2014 dated 20<sup>th</sup> August 2014, be given for the attendance of the Members named hereunder, at the A.I.L.G. Finance

## Minutes of Meeting held on 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2014

Training Course held at the assigned location i.e. Carrickmacross, Co. Monaghan, on 9<sup>th</sup> September 2014, as per the Report:

Cllrs. T. Welby, S. Cunniffe, P. Hynes, M. Fahy, T. Ó Curraoin.

It was proposed by Cllr. Maher, seconded by Cllr. T. McHugh and agreed, that retrospective authorisation in accordance with Local Government Circular LG 21/2014 dated 20<sup>th</sup> August 2014, be given for the attendance of the Members named hereunder, at the A.I.L.G. Finance Training Course, held at the alternative locations, as per the Report:

Cllr. M. Kinane. Location: The Grande Hotel, Malahide, Dublin. Date: 18<sup>th</sup> September, 2014

Cllr. F. Kearney. Location: The Seven Oaks Hotel, Carlow. Date: 16<sup>th</sup> September, 2014.

It was proposed by Cllr. Broderick, seconded by Cllr. N. Byrne and agreed, that attendance of the Members named hereunder, at the AILG Housing Training Course to be held at the Kilmore Hotel, Cavan on 21st October, 2014, as per the Report be authorised:

Cllrs. K. McHugh, S. Ó Cualáin, P. Hynes, S. Cunniffe, M. Maher, N. Thomas, M. Fahy, T. Ó Curraoin, A. Rabbitte, M. Hoade (Cathaoirleach), S. Donnellan, T. Welby, G. Cronnelly, T. Broderick, S. Ó Tuairisg.

### **TO CONSIDER IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 225(D)(6) OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2001 (AS AMENDED) A PROPOSED CHANGE IN THE CONSTITUTION OF THE ASSOCIATION OF IRISH LOCAL GOVERNMENT.**

**1861**

Report dated 16<sup>th</sup> September, 2014 was already circulated to each Member.

On the proposal of Cllr. Welby, seconded by Cllr. Feeney, the proposed change in the Constitution of the Association of Irish Local Government, as detailed in the Report, was agreed.

### **TO FIX A DATE AND TIME FOR THE OCTOBER MONTHLY MEETING OF PLENARY COUNCIL**

**1862**

On the proposal of Cllr. G. Finnerty, seconded by Cllr. McClearn, it was agreed that the October Monthly Meeting of Plenary Council be held on 24<sup>th</sup> October, 2014 commencing at 11am, at a venue to be determined.



**TO CONSIDER THE MANAGEMENT REPORT – SEPTEMBER 2014 IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 136(2) OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2001 (AS AMENDED)** **1863**

Report dated September 2014 was already circulated to each Member

The Chief Executive presented the Report to the Members stating that Section 136 (2) of the Local Government Act 2001 as inserted by Section 51 of the Local Government Reform Act 2014 requires that the Chief Executive prepare a report in relation to the performance of his executive functions during the preceding calendar month, including implementation of policy or other matters required by the Council in the exercise of its reserved functions, and the provisions of services by the Council. He said that the Report was already presented to the Corporate Policy Group as required under the legislation. The DECLG may review reporting and complete Guidelines in this regard.

It was proposed by Cllr. Canney, seconded by Cllr. Cuddy and agreed that the Management Report will issue with the Agenda and documentation which issues for the Ordinary Meetings of the Plenary Council.

A discussion took place regarding the Management Report.

In reply to Comh. Ó Tuairisg and Comh. Ó Cualáin, Mr. Cullen said that the necessary pipework for the Costello Regional Water Supply Scheme is almost complete. Plans for the Treatment Plant are being reviewed by Irish Water and it is hoped that further information will be available for the October Monthly Meeting.

In reply to concerns expressed by Cllr. E. Mannion and Cllr. Healy regarding the method being used by the Council for setting up the Public Participation Network (PPN), Ms. McConnell said that the Council is adhering to DECLG Guidelines in this regard. She said that the PPN will be established by means of the Community & Voluntary Groups making a decision as to who they wish to be nominated to the PPN. The Council proposes to hold public information sessions on the setting up of the PPN in each of the Municipal District areas between 23<sup>rd</sup> September and 2<sup>nd</sup> October, 2014. She said that ongoing dialogue has taken place with the Community & Voluntary Forum since June regarding the PPN. The Community & Voluntary Forum has 250 – 300 in its membership but the Council cannot assume that this is all encompassing. She said the Council must take the correct approach to establishing the PPN in line with the Guidelines.

The Chief Executive said that the Council does not wish to fill positions on the PPN without the necessary public participation in the process, but the Council will continue working with the Community & Voluntary Form to progress the establishment of the PPN.

On the proposal of Cllr. Canney, seconded by Cllr. Cuddy, the Members agreed to note the Management Report for September, 2014.

**FINANCIAL REPORT ON THE ACCOUNTS OF GALWAY COUNTY COUNCIL FOR THE PERIOD  
ENDING 30<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2014**

**1864**

Report dated 12<sup>th</sup> September, 2014 was already circulated to each Member.

The Financial Report on the Accounts of Galway County Council for the period ending 30<sup>th</sup> June, 2014 was noted by the Members.

Cllr. Canney asked why the Financial Report was posted to each Member in hardcopy rather than by email.

The Cathaoirleach said that this is in compliance with legislation.

Cllr. Canney suggested that the Agendas for Meetings and supporting documentation should be sent in soft-copy.

The Cathaoirleach asked the County Secretary to organize that a Questionnaire be circulated seeking the Members views as to whether they are willing to receive documentation in soft-copy only.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S BUSINESS & CORRESPONDENCE**

**1865**

There was no matter to report under Chief Executive's Business

**CATHAOIRLEACH'S BUSINESS**

**1866**

Mr. Gavin circulated details of public information sessions to be held at various locations around the County regarding the Western cFram's and he said he would encourage the Members to attend these information meetings. He said that the Council is progressing towards a point where flood maps will be available in relation to the Western cFram's.

In reply to Cllr. E. Mannion, Mr. Gavin confirmed that staff of the Council will be in attendance at the information meetings, together with OPW staff.

In reply to Cllr. G. Finnerty who expressed disappointment that the OPW had not attended the Monthly Meeting as invited, Mr. Gavin said he will clarify with the OPW when they intend to address the Members at a Meeting of the Plenary Council.

In reply to a query from Cllr. Broderick, Mr. Kelly confirmed that he was not aware of any recent changes made in relation to former tenants of Ballinasloe Town Council as regards rent payments.

In reply to a query from Cllr. Fitzmaurice regarding the form received by the public from Irish Water for completion and return, Mr. Cullen said that if a person is on a group water supply scheme, they should tick the box to indicate that they are. He said that there is a list of group water schemes ready to be taken in charge by the Council and these will be taken in charge as soon as possible.

**NOTICES OF MOTION**

**NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 25 – CLLR. A. DONOHUE**

**1867**

*The following reply was given:-*

“The Airport site was purchased for the purpose of advancing the economic development of the area and it is intended that the future development of the site either in the short or long term will be for economic related activity. The deadline for submission of tenders for the Galway Airport study is September 19<sup>th</sup> 2014. The terms of reference for the tenderers specified that:

The study should consider the former & current aviation activities of the site as well as examining potential uses of the facilities and the overall site in the short, medium and long term. A broad range of options ranging across all development sectors which have the potential to maximise economic development for the region should be examined. These may include but are not limited to; Manufacturing activity R&D/ Academic R&D activity, Aviation activity, Entertainment activity, Recreation and sporting uses, ICT activity, Tourism activity, Renewable energy activity, Marine activity, Agricultural activity, Food production activity, Public services, Logistics Creative sector, Film industry.”

**NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 26 – CLLR. D. CONNOLLY**

**1868**

*The following reply was given:-*

“In 2011, a total of 24 houses were constructed/ purchased with five in the Ballinasloe area, five in the Loughrea area, two in the Oranmore area, two in the Connemara area and ten in the Tuam area.

In 2012, a total of 23 houses were constructed/ purchased with sixteen in the Loughrea area, two in the Connemara area and five in the Tuam area.

In 2013, a total of 20 houses were constructed/ purchased with three in the Ballinasloe area, seven in the Loughrea area, two in the Connemara area and eight in the Tuam area.”

**NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 27 – CLLR. D. CONNOLLY**

**1869**

*The following reply was given:-*

“This item is an Agenda item for the September Meeting.”

**NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 28 – CLLR. G. FINNERTY**

**1870**

*The following reply was given:-*

“The Ennis Road in Gort is Regional Road No. R458 with a speed limit of 80kph outside the town.”

**NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 29 – CLLR. G. FINNERTY**

**1871**

*The following reply was given:-*

“The existing sign indicates that the mobile unit can be located anywhere on the stretch of road and it is important that they be present at this location as it is close to a number of schools.”

**NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 30 – CLLR. J. CHARITY**

**1872**

*The following reply was given:-*

“Galway County Council is committed to achieving value for money by utilizing procurement methods which are compliant with the EU directive 2004/18/EC and National guidance such as that contained in Circulars 16/13 and 10/14. Galway County Council also fully recognises the importance of supporting and promoting the SME sector and in this regard it is committed to applying the guidance as outlined in Circular 10/14 and all council employees have been informed.

Please see attached spreadsheets

1. **REVENUE EXPENDITURE – 2009 – 2013 – Non Pay:** This is a full breakdown by PO/Product/ Sub Total by Supplier – 2009 -2013 for **GCC** (Galway County Council) **BTC** (Ballinasloe Town Council) and **Stores** (Central Stores in Galway County Galway)

**Revenue Expenditure 2009 – 2013 Summary by Supplier:** This is a summary by Supplier for each year for GCC, BTC and Stores.”

**NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 31 – CLLR. J. BYRNE**

**1873**

*The following reply was given:-*

“Yeats Tower at Thoor Ballylee is currently in the ownership of Fáilte Ireland who have advised that they do not operate tourism attractions. They have recently advised that considerable investment in the region of €400,000, which is exclusive of VAT, design team fees, furniture, audio visual equipment and other elements is required to bring the building up to the required standard.

While the Council would like to see Yates' Tower maximised as a tourist attraction and historical building, the capital capacity/funding necessary to carry out the required works to the property or to provide for the ongoing management/maintenance of same is not currently available internally. The issue of recurring flooding and associated costs with same is also of concern and must be borne in mind with regard to any plans for the future use of the Tower at Thoor Ballylee. The fact that Fáilte Ireland spent €200,000 in 2012 in weather-proofing the building is evidence of the impact the location has on same. While this investment should pay dividends in terms of protecting the building, it is likely that the Tower will continue to flood as witnessed again this year.

Over the last year or so the Council has been engaging with representatives of Fáilte Ireland and a local committee with regard to the future of Yates' Tower. The discussions which are very much at a preliminary stage assumed that funding towards the capital works would be forthcoming from other sources as the Council do not have capital money available. It is also the position of the Council that we do not have the capacity to provide for the ongoing management/staffing of the building. Some discussions took place at the committee with regard to this issue and how the Tower might be managed by an amalgam of local volunteers, supported by various organisations, but nothing definitive has been put forward at this stage. Any plans devised must be on the basis of having a sustainable proposal in place that will provide for the management, maintenance and staffing of the building as well as providing for the capital costs associated with the works that must be carried out."

**NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 32 – CLLR. J. BYRNE**

**1874**

*The following reply was given:-*

"This refers to the N18. Galway County Council will make contact with the NRA in regard to the works."

**NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 33 – CLLR. J. BYRNE**

**1875**

*The following reply was given:-*

"The Council contacted Irish Water on 15<sup>th</sup> September 2014 at both regional and national level for comment in relation to this Notice of Motion and to date no response has been received."

**NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 34 – CLLR. M. FAHY**

**1876**

*The following reply was given:-*

"The Council wrote to the Scheme on 12<sup>th</sup> March 2014 advising that the scheme needs to consider a long term strategy due to the vulnerability of the source. In the same letter, the Council asked for the scheme to obtain three quotations for proposed works to undertake

short term upgrade of the current treatment system. As you are aware from the Council's letter to you on 29<sup>th</sup> August 2014 the Council awaits a reply."

**NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 35 – CLLR. M. FAHY**

**1877**

*The following reply was given:-*

"We have a proposed location for a controlled pedestrian crossing in Church Street in the Traffic Management Plan for Gort, along with proposed crossings in Crowe Street, Bridge Street, Loughrea Road and Georges Street at the School, but no funding has been provided by the NRA for their installation."

**NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 36 – CLLR. M. FAHY**

**1878**

*The following reply was given:-*

"Yeats Tower at Thoor Ballylee is currently in the ownership of Fáilte Ireland who have advised that they do not operate tourism attractions. They have recently advised that considerable investment in the region of €400,000, which is exclusive of VAT, design team fees, furniture, audio visual equipment<sup>6</sup> and other elements is required to bring the building up to the required standard. While the Council would like to see Yates' Tower maximised as a tourist attraction and historical building, the capital capacity/funding necessary to carry out the required works to the property or to provide for the ongoing management/maintenance of same is not currently available internally. The issue of recurring flooding and associated costs with same is also of concern and must be borne in mind with regard to any plans for the future use of the Tower at Thoor Ballylee. The fact that Fáilte Ireland spent €200,000 in 2012 in weather-proofing the building is evidence of the impact the location has on same. While this investment should pay dividends in terms of protecting the building, it is likely that the Tower will continue to flood as witnessed again this year.

Over the last year or so the Council has been engaging with representatives of Fáilte Ireland and a local committee with regard to the future of Yates' Tower. The discussions which are very much at a preliminary stage assumed that funding towards the capital works would be forthcoming from other sources as the Council do not have capital money available. It is also the position of the Council that we do not have the capacity to provide for the ongoing management/staffing of the building. Some discussions took place at the committee with regard to this issue and how the Tower might be managed by an amalgam of local volunteers, supported by various organisations, but nothing definitive has been put forward at this stage. Any plans devised must be on the basis of having a sustainable proposal in place that will provide for the management, maintenance and staffing of the building as well as providing for the capital costs associated with the works that must be carried out."

**NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 37 – CLLR. S. DONNELLAN**

**1879**

*The following reply was given:-*

“While the proposal has good merit there are a few areas of concern, namely the continued maintenance of the community boards to prevent them becoming unsightly and management of the boards (who would decide what information is and is not suitable).”

**CHRIOCHNAIGH AN CRUINNÍÚ ANSIN**