

MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF BALLINASLOE

MINUTES OF MEETING OF MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF BALLINASLOE HELD AT ARAS AN CHONTAE, ROOM G01, PROSPECT HILL, GALWAY ON MONDAY, 9TH NOVEMBER at 2.00 p.m.

CATHAOIRLEACH: Cllr. Finnerty

I LATHAIR FREISIN:

Baill: Cllrs. T. Broderick, D. Connolly, M. Connolly, A. Donohue, D. Burke

Oifigigh: Ms. C. McConnell A/Director of Services, Ms. A. Gardiner, Meetings Administrator, Mr. J. Leahy, A/Senior Engineer, Mr. A. Headd, A/Senior Executive Engineer, Mr. F. McEvoy, A/Senior Executive Engineer, Mr. P. McLynn, Graduate Engineer, Ms. A. Monaghan, Staff Officer.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF BALLINASLOE HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 14TH OCTOBER, 2015 MDB14096

The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Municipal District of Ballinasloe held on the 14th October, 2015 were approved by the Municipal District Members and signed by the Cathaoirleach on the proposal of Cllr. Donohue, seconded by Cllr. Burke.

Matters arising from the Minutes

In response to Cllr. M. Connolly and with reference to MDB14089 Page 1, Ms. Gardiner advised that a response had been received from Mr. Brian Higgins, Private Secretary, The Office of Public works in letter dated 5th November, 2015 advising that Minister Simon Harris, T.D. would be pleased to visit Ballinasloe during his next regional visit to the area.

In response to Cllr. Finnerty and with reference to MDB14089 Page 2, Ms. McConnell advised that it was her understanding that the Town Clock at St. Johns Church, Ballinasloe was owned by Galway County Council and that the maintenance of the Town Clock was not the responsibility of Galway County Council. Ms. McConnell advised that there had been a lot of correspondence between Galway County Council and the Church of Ireland with regard to this issue over the years. Cllr. Finnerty stated that repair works had been carried out to the Town Clock by Ballinasloe Town Council in 1998. Ms. McConnell advised that an estimate of costs was previously undertaken for repair works to the Town Clock and that the estimated costs

were very high. Ms. McConnell stated that there were no available resources to carry out such work.

In response to Cllr. Broderick and with reference to MDB14091 Page 7, Mr. Leahy advised that the “RSD01/2015 - County Wide Review of Speed Limits” was underway.

In response to Cllr. D. Connolly and with reference to MDB14095 Page 9, Ms. Gardiner advised that no response had been received from Waterways Ireland with regard to automation of the Lock on the River Suck.

In response to Cllr. D. Connolly and with reference to MDB14095 Page 9, Ms. Gardiner advised that no response had been received from the Minister for Health, Mr. Leo Varadkar, TD regarding the unsatisfactory situation being experienced with Ballinasloe Social Services in their delivery of services.

In response to Cllr. D. Connolly and with reference to MDB14094 Page 9, Cllr. Finnerty advised that a review of the October Fair had taken place at the Ballinasloe Fair and Festival Co-ordinating Committee Meeting and that he would make the minutes of this meeting available to all members.

In response to Cllr. Broderick and with reference to MDB14095 Page 9, Mr. Leahy advised that Nutfield Cross was included under the 2016 Low Cost Safety Scheme. Mr. Leahy stated that once the funding was allocated, the project could be progressed.

TO CONSIDER AND IF DEEMED APPROPRIATE APPROVE THE DRAFTING OF REVISED ON-STREET PARKING BYE-LAWS FOR THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT, TO FACILITATE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROPOSAL, AS APPROVED BY MAJORITY VOTE OF PLENARY COUNCIL, AS FOLLOWS: “THAT ALL COUNTY TOWNS HAVE A TWO-HOURS FREE PARKING WHERE COUNCIL PARKING CHARGES APPLY AT ANY TIME DURING THE DAY. I REQUEST THAT THIS BE ON AN EXPERIMENTAL BASIS FOR A PERIOD OF TIME”.

MDB14097

Mr. Leahy referred to the resolution which was passed at the Plenary Council “That all County Towns have a two-hours free parking where Council parking charges apply at any time during the day. I request that this be on an experimental basis for a period of time”. Mr. Leahy stated that this had now been passed to the Municipal Districts for information purposes and discussion with a view to preparing the draft Bye-Laws. Mr. Leahy advised that an initial meeting had taken place with regard to the drafting of the Bye-Laws and that the draft Bye-Laws when prepared would be brought before each Municipal District which he expected would be sometime in early 2016. Mr. Leahy stated that following on from this process, the Draft Bye Laws would then be brought before the Plenary Council for ratification. Mr. Leahy stated that a statutory process would be required with regard to implementation of the Bye-Laws. In response to Cllr. Broderick who asked for clarification with regard to the knock on of estimated shortfall of €130k in respect of the Municipal District of Ballinasloe due to proposed

changes in pay parking, Mr. Leahy advised that the shortfall would impact on the 2016 Local Road Maintenance Budget for the Ballinasloe Municipal District.

Cllr. Finnerty suggested an alternative proposal which he stated would alleviate concerns with regard to monitoring by the Community Wardens/Traffic Wardens and would result in very little loss of income to the Council. Cllr. Finnerty explained that his proposal would involve the calibration of the Pay Parking Machines to allow for the following:

Insert €0 .20 cent = 20 minutes paid parking + 2 hours free parking

Insert €0 .50 cent = 30 minutes paid parking + 2 hours free parking

Insert €1.00 = 1 hour paid parking + 2 hours free parking

Both Mr. Leahy and Ms. McConnell advised that Cllr. Finnerty's proposal was fundamentally a different proposal to the resolution passed by the Plenary Council which they stated was specifically for "two hours free parking where Council parking charges apply at any time during the day". Ms. McConnell advised that there is a mechanism in place which is set out in the Standing Orders whereby a motion to revoke or amend a resolution can be made. Ms. McConnell stated that notice would have to be inserted in an Agenda and that such notice would have to specify the resolution to be revoked or amended. Ms. McConnell stated that no such motion can be allowed to appear on the Agenda within six months of the date of the adoption of such resolution except where the appropriate protocols as set out in the Standing Orders were followed. On the proposal of Cllr. Donoghue which was seconded by Cllr. M. Connolly, it was agreed that this proposal would be brought to the next full Council Meeting as a Notice of Motion.

Cllr. Broderick queried if Free Parking for the Christmas Period 2015 would be put in place for Municipal District of Ballinasloe and Mr. Leahy advised that a decision with regard to this would have to be taken at the full Council Meeting.

MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF BALLINASLOE DIRECTOR'S BUSINESS

MDB14098

No business arising.

MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF BALLINASLOE CATHAOIRLEACH'S BUSINESS

MDB14099

In response to Cllr. D. Connolly, Mr. Headd advised that he would give an update to the members at the next monthly meeting of the Municipal District of Ballinasloe with regard to costs and timelines for the Town Enhancement Project.

In response to Cllr. Broderick, Mr. Headd advised that he would request Mr. Whelan, Resident Engineer to circulate to all the Councillors the revised Schedule of works proposed for Brackernagh – Part of Phase 1 of the Ballinasloe Main Drainage Advance Scheme. Cllr. D. Connolly stated that it was his understanding that a commitment had been given that works

would be moved near to the Civic Offices after the 4th December, 2015 in order to help businesses in the run up to Christmas 2015. Cllr. Donohue complemented the work undertaken to date on this Project including he stated work undertaken during the night which was with a view to reducing the impact of the works on daytime local business.

Cllr. D. Connolly asked that consideration be given to the delivery of additional services through the Civic Offices, Ballinasloe.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

MDB14100

In response to Cllr. D. Connolly, Mr. Headd advised that the Ballinasloe Traffic Management Plan would need to be amended in order to facilitate the provision of double yellow lines at the train station.

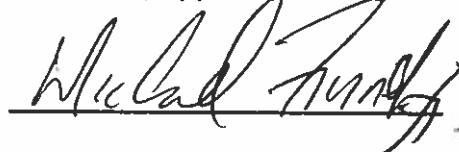
In response to Cllr. Finnerty, Mr. Headd advised that he was in discussion with the Environment Section with regard to the proposed extension works at Ballygar Graveyard. Mr. Head advised that a temporary fence and accommodation road would be provided as a matter of urgency.

In response to Cllr. Broderick, Mr. Leahy stated that where particular issues with regard to the spelling on signage for towns/villages on the Motorway Network were identified, they should be forwarded directly to the Roads & Transportation Department for assessment.

Cllr. Finnerty invited all members and staff to lunch on the 9th December, 2015.

CHRIOCHNAIGH AN CRUINNIU ANSIN

Submitted, Approved and Signed



(Cathaoirleach to sign here)

9/12/15 (Date)