

## **MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF BALLINASLOE**

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF BALLINASLOE HELD AT BALLINASLOE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OFFICE, COUNCIL CHAMBER, BALLINASLOE, CO. GALWAY ON WEDNESDAY 12<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER, 2016 AT 2.00 p.m.**

**CATHAOIRLEACH:** Cllr. D. Burke

### **I LATHAIR FREISIN:**

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

**Oifigigh:** Mr. A. Farrell, A/Director of Services, Mr. D. Mitchell, Senior Engineer, Mr. F. McEvoy, A/Senior Executive Engineer, Ms. A. Gardiner, Meetings Administrator, Ms. A. Monaghan, Staff Officer

### **RESOLUTIONS OF SYMPATHY**

Mr. John Connell, 18 New Estate, St. Grellans Terrace, Ballinasloe, Co. Galway  
Mrs. Noreen Murray, River Street, Ballinasloe, Co. Galway.  
Ms. Olive Burke, 16 Deerpark, Ballinasloe, Co. Galway.  
Mrs. Terry Casey, 14 Knocknagreena, Ballinasloe, Co. Galway.  
Ms. Frances Kelly, Beechlawn, Ballinasloe, Co. Galway.  
Ms. Marina Downey, 4 Glentaun Close, Creagh, Ballinasloe, Co. Galway

On the proposal of Cllr. Michael Finnerty which was seconded by Cllr. D. Connolly it was agreed to adjourn the Meeting for a period of 5 minutes as a mark of respect for the late Mr. Joe Murray, R.I.P. and Mr. Stephen Connell, R.I.P. both former members of Ballinasloe Town Council and Mr. Ray Casey, R.I.P. former employee of Galway County Council who recently passed away. All of the members extended their sympathies to the bereaved families.

### **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF BALLINASLOE HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 14<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER, 2016**

**MDB16051**

**Minute No. MDB 16046 Confirmation of the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Municipal District of Ballinasloe held on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> July, 2016 – Matters arising from the Minutes – Page 2.**

Cllr. D. Connolly requested that the following be included as an amendment to the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Municipal District of Ballinasloe (with regard to the Ballinasloe Fair and Festival) held on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> July, 2016 – Matters arising from the Minutes, Page 2 : "Cllr. D. Connolly stated that he had encouraged all involved to work together to resolve outstanding issues."

The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Municipal District of Ballinasloe held on 14<sup>th</sup> September, 2016 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 Cllrs. Donohue and Broderick and with reference to MDB16047 Page 2, Mr. Farrell advised that 8 projects had been submitted for inclusion under the Town and Village Renewal Scheme 2016. Mr. McEvoy advised that Footpath Improvement Project on Station Road had been included for the Municipal District of Ballinasloe. Mr. Farrell said that owing to the time frame constraints, the projects selected were schemes that were ready to proceed. He advised that the Ballinasloe project had been brought forward in association with the community. In response to Cllr. Broderick, Mr. Farrell advised that it was his understanding that the promoters of projects that had not been put forward for funding had been notified and said that the Council would provide advice to communities with regard to their proposals and preparedness for future funding. Cllr. M. Connolly expressed concern about the tokenistic level of funding being provided to Local Authorities for these schemes. Cllr. D. Connolly welcomed the inclusion of the project on Station Road.

In response to Cllr. Broderick and with reference to MDB16046 Page 2, Mr. McEvoy advised that Mr. Kieran Coyne, Rapid Co-Ordinator, Community and Enterprise Department was in contact with the Contractor responsible for maintenance of the CCTV in the town and that issues with regard the maintenance contract are being resolved. Cllr. Broderick asked if it was possible for a status report on the CCTV's in Ballinasloe to be provided.

With regard to the Ballinasloe October Fair, all of the members commented on its great success for 2016 and paid tribute to the Staff for all of the work carried out in the organisation of the Fair. Cllr. Finnerty commended the cultural elements of the Fair.

In response to Cllr. D. Connolly and with reference to MDB16049 Page 3, Mr. McEvoy advised that funding had been secured for the project at Dunlo Recreational Track. Mr. McEvoy stated that the Contractor appointed has been asked to provide a Programme of Works and that the start date is due to be confirmed. Mr. McEvoy advised that work on the project would be weather dependent.

With reference to MDB16050 Page 3 and following a discussion, Cllr. Broderick proposed "That the Ballinasloe Municipal District will agree to no adjustment in the Ballinasloe Rate adjustment period and our 6 members will vote against any proposed change to the rate". This proposal was seconded by Cllr. D. Connolly. Following a further discussion in relation to this matter, on the proposal of Cllr. M. Connolly which was seconded by Cllr. Burke the following amended resolution was agreed: "The Councillors in this Municipal District will not allow Ballinasloe Rate to come in line with County Rate this year".

With reference to MDB16050 Page 4, Cllr. Donohue commended the river maintenance works at Deerpark.

In response to Cllr. D. Connolly and with reference to MDB16050 Page 4, Mr. Mitchell advised that a Planning Seminar was being organised by the Planning Department of Galway County Council, which he stated would bring more public awareness to pre-planning meetings.

**MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF BALLINASLOE DIRECTOR'S BUSINESS**

**MDB16052**

Mr. Farrell provided an update to the members in relation to Kilconnell Water Supply. Cllrs. Broderick expressed concern at the level of communication between Irish Water and local communities affected by Boil Water Notices. Cllr. M. Connolly stated that refunds were owed to customers by Irish Water. Cllrs. M. Connolly and Broderick asked that an update on Kilconnell Water Supply be provided at the November Meeting of the Ballinasloe Municipal District. Cllr. D. Connolly expressed concern with regard to the length of time the Boil Water Notice is in place.

Mr. Mitchell made a presentation to the members with regard to the Taking in Charge of Estates in Galway County Council. He advised that there are currently 561 Estates in the County of which 88 are located in Municipal District of Ballinasloe. He advised that 69 Estates had been taken in charge by Galway County Council since 2006. Mr. Mitchell stated that Galway County Council received €206,000 from the Department under the National Taking in Charge Initiative towards the completion of 12 Estates, of which 2 are located in the Municipal District of Ballinasloe. Mr. Mitchell stated that since the beginning of 2008, 119 TIC applications have been received of which 49 have been Taken in Charge. Mr. Mitchell stated that there are currently 70 Estates at various stages of the TIC process i.e. 30 awaiting snag list; 18 gone through snag list; 7 applications are at final stages and recommendations being prepared for TIC, 3 recent applications are in the early stages of processing and 12 files are in discussion with bank/receiver/liquidator or both where relevant. Mr. Mitchell advised that there are 18 estates being dealt with under the Bond Works Programme which he advised included a bond received in respect of Dun Esker, Ballinasloe for €144,000. Mr. Mitchell advised that the current €100k fund provided in the Budget for the past 2 years is having a significant impact on bringing estates to a standard for TIC and he advised that the IBRC Programme was another means of processing unfinished cases. Mr. Mitchell advised that in 2010 there were 88 unfinished housing estates in County Galway and that in 2015 there were 21 unfinished housing estates in the County. Mr. Mitchell advised that there was a lot of interaction between Developers, Receivers, Liquidators, Lending Agencies, Irish Water and Local Authorities.

All the members thanked Mr. Mitchell for his comprehensive update. Cllr. M. Connolly commended work carried out in respect to the Taking in Charge of an estate in Treanrevagh, Mountbellew, Co. Galway. In response to Cllr. Donohue, Mr. Mitchell advised that the position with regard the 21 unfinished estates was varied but he stated that it is hoped that the level of progress already achieved will continue. In response to Cllr. D. Connolly, Mr. Mitchell advised that there are safeguards in place with respect to ensuring stringent bond requirements.

Mr. Farrell advised that nationally €5m funding had been provided by the Department of Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht for the 2016 Rural Economic Development

Zones initiative (REDZ). He outlined the details of the scheme that had been received from the Department including the provision for a flagship regional scheme to the value of €400,000 in each region as defined by the Regional Assemblies as well as the medium and small schemes which were to the value of €200,000 and €100,000 respectively. Mr. Farrell advised that €3m had been provided by the Department of Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht for CLÁR 2016. Mr. Farrell advised that the closing date for both schemes is the 5th November. In response to Cllr. Broderick, Mr. Mitchell advised that the provision of school flashing lights would be eligible under the CLÁR scheme, however the maintenance of same would not be eligible. In response to Cllr. Broderick, Mr. Mitchell advised that the provision of Pedestrian Crossings would entail analysis of traffic and was not a straightforward process.

Mr. McEvoy referred to the proposed drainage works at Knocknagreine and advised that the Roads & Transportation Department were unsuccessful in acquiring a wayleave on private lands at this location which he stated would impact the Scheme.

Mr. McEvoy advised that the Low Cost Accident Safety Scheme at Menlough Commons will not be progressing as the Roads & Transportation Department are having difficulties in acquiring the necessary lands.

**MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF BALLINASLOE CATHAOIRLEACH'S BUSINESS**

MDB16053

Cllr. Burke commended the works carried out in the Remembrance Park, Ballinasloe.

**ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

MDB16054

In response to Cllrs. Broderick and Finnerty, Mr. Farrell advised that the Part 8 Planning Application for Garbally Drive was not on the agenda for the Municipal District and that it would be dealt with at the plenary Meeting of the Council. Cllr. D. Connolly advised that important issues had been raised by residents and had been taken on board by Galway County Council.

In response to Cllr. D. Connolly, Mr. Mitchell advised that Consultants have been appointed to undertake the Speed Limit Review.

Cllr. D. Connolly expressed concern that monies owed due to the backdating of the Rent Review was causing hardship to persons genuinely trying to pay rent.

In response to Cllr. D. Connolly, Mr. Mitchell advised that the appointment of a General Services Supervisor for the Municipal District of Ballinasloe was imminent and he advised that employees who retired within the District would be replaced.

In response to Cllr. D. Connolly, Mr. Mitchell advised that he would discuss the issue of preparing an audit on public lighting with Mr. Enda Mulryan.

In response to Cllr. M. Connolly, Mr. McEvoy stated that in advance of 10K Run in Moylough arrangements would be made to fill potholes.

Following discussion on the proposal of Cllr. Broderick, which was seconded by Cllr. D. Connolly the following resolution was agreed "I propose that the Municipal District of Ballinasloe members are furnished with hard copies of the Municipal District Budget, prior (3 days) to the Budget Meeting on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> October".

**CHRIOCHNAIGH AN CRUINNIU ANSIN**

Submitted, Approved and Signed



(Cathaoirleach to sign here)



(Date)