

**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 13<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER, 2017 AT 2.00 p.m.**

**CATHAOIRLEACH:** Cllr. A. Donohue

**I LATHAIR FREISIN:**

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

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

**RESOLUTIONS OF SYMPATHY**

Ms. Ursula Connolly, Loughbawn, Ballinasloe, Co. Galway.  
Ms. Siobhan Quinn, 15 Greenhills View, The Pines, Creagh, Ballinasloe, Co. Galway.  
Ms. Maureen Colohan, Harbour Road, Ballinasloe, Co. Galway.  
Mr. Michael McCarthy, Sarsfield Road, Ballinasloe, Co. Galway.  
Michele & Jacqueline Goode, Mount Pleasant Avenue, Ballinasloe, Co. Galway.  
Mr. Pat Healy, Liscune, Ballymacward, Ballinasloe, Co. Galway.

**CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF BALLINASLOE HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 15<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER, 2017** **MDB17056**

The Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Municipal District of Ballinasloe held on Wednesday, 15<sup>th</sup> November, 2017 were approved by the Municipal District Members and signed by the Cathaoirleach on the proposal of Cllr. Finnerty, seconded by Cllr. Burke.

**Matters arising from the Minutes**

With reference to MDB17052 Page 2, Mr. Farrell stated that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Municipal District must provide an accurate record of the meeting in accordance with Standing Order and that they should include the record of attendance and decisions taken at the Meeting. Mr. Farrell said that while the Minutes should provide a record of the Meeting including an outline of general discussions which took place at the Meeting they could not be a transcript of what was said by each individual Councillor or staff member at the Meeting and that this was not the purpose of Minutes. Cllr. D. Connolly stated that it was important that comprehensive Minutes are recorded for all of the Meetings. Mr. Farrell said that the Executive servicing the Municipal District of Ballinasloe will ensure that the minutes are a proper record of the meeting and that a balance is struck in terms of the

level of detail but again advised that it is not possible or necessary to record all discussions or comments made.

In response to Cllr. Broderick and with reference to MDB17052 Page 2, Mr. Mitchell advised that no additional funding had been received by the Roads and Transportation Department since the decision of the Municipal District of Ballinasloe to reject the Draft Budgetary Plan 2018 for the Municipal District of Ballinasloe

In response to Cllr. Broderick with regard to the decision of the Municipal District of Ballinasloe to reject the Draft Budgetary Plan 2018 and the subsequent decision of the full Council to adopt the Council's overall Budget for 2018 without amendment, both Cllrs. M. Connolly and Burke stated that there were no other options available to the Members on day of the Budget Meeting other than to adopt the budget as no other solutions were provided by any side. Cllr. M. Connolly stated that Galway County Council's financial position is in dire straits due to the Council not getting its fair share of the Equalisation Fund. Cllr. M. Connolly explained that the Finance Committee in Galway County Council held numerous meetings to discuss the unequal distribution of the Equalisation Fund which included meetings with: Members of the Oireachtas, Minister Simon Coveney and the Leader of the Opposition all of which he stated were to no avail. Cllr. Burke stated that the Municipal District of Ballinasloe would have been in a much worse position had the Council's Budget not been adopted. Cllr. D. Connolly stated that he has never seen the Budget go through so fast and he further stated that he was disappointed that it did not get a better "airing".

With reference to MDB17052 Page 2, Mr. Headd advised that correspondence had issued to all the members regarding Winter Maintenance on the Cappataggle to Kilconnell Road.

With reference to MDB17052 Page 2, Mr. Headd advised that correspondence had issued to all the members regarding the loss of waste material from the back of trucks travelling to the landfill.

With reference to MDB17054 Page 5, Mr. Mitchell advised that no direction had been received from the Minister of Transport, Tourism and Sport with regard to proceeding with the Greenway Project.

With reference to MDB17053 Page 4, Mr. Farrell pointed out that 3 projects in Ballinasloe had been recommended for funding under the RAPID Programme 2017 and that these had been circulated to the Members by email as agreed at the last meeting. On the proposal of Cllr. Finnerty, seconded by Cllr. Burke it was agreed to formally ratify/approve the projects as circulated to the Members earlier in December, 2017.

With reference to MDB17052 Page 2, Mr. Farrell advised that it is expected that the Fire Station in Ballinasloe will be upgraded in 2018. Mr. Farrell advised that the Old Library in Ballinasloe is currently being used for training by the Civil Defence and that as far as he was aware a long term plan has yet to be put in place for the Old Library building. Cllr. D. Connolly stated that he welcomed the upgrading of the Fire Station in Ballinasloe and stated that he was concerned that the Old Library building in Ballinasloe would not be

allowed deteriorate. Mr. Farrell stated that he would raise this matter with Corporate Services Department.

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

**MDB17057**

Following discussion, on the proposal of Cllr. D. Connolly seconded by Cllr. Burke, it was agreed that each of the Councillors in the Municipal District of Ballinasloe would get an allocation of €30k from the €300k Kilconnell Landfill Fund with the remaining balance of €120k to be spent at the discretion of the Roads Department, Municipal District of Ballinasloe. Mr. Headd requested that each of the Councillors discuss their respective projects with the Area Engineer.

In response to Cllr. Broderick, Mr. Headd advised that the upgrade of Fahy Road, Kilconnell would be considered when preparing the Roadworks Programme 2018.

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

**MDB17058**

In response to Cllr. Donohue with regard the East Bridge Project, Mr. Headd advised that Consultants had been appointed to prepare a report on this Project. Mr. Headd also advised that discussions had taken place with the OPW and the Monument Service in relation to this Project and that Galway County Council are currently awaiting the recommendations of the CFRAM Study in relation to same.

**ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

**MDB17059**

Following discussion, on the proposal of Cllr. D. Connolly, seconded by Cllr. Broderick the following resolution was agreed: ""For next Cruinniú, I propose that on our Clár there will be an update on the Municipal Draft Budget for 2018 following the passing of the full County Budget"

In response to Cllr. D. Connolly with regard to Winter Maintenance, Mr. Headd advised on actions taken by Galway County Council. Cllr. M. Connolly and all the members complimented the Engineering Staff and Outdoor Staff for their work during the recent cold weather spell.

In response to Cllr. D. Connolly, Mr. Headd advised that it is expected that the Town Enhancement Scheme would commence in 2018 and that the provision of a Liaison Officer had been included in the Tender Documentation. Mr. Headd raised concerns as he stated that there was no Chamber of Commerce or Business Representative organisation in the town of Ballinasloe and he stated that there was a need to have business input/representation during the construction stage of the project and he suggested a maximum of 2 representatives per street. Mr. Mitchell confirmed that consideration was being given to a change of paving materials to be used on this project.

In response to Cllr. Broderick with regard to odour issues at Kilconnell Landfill, Mr. Headd stated that he would ask Mr. Melody to make direct contact with Cllr. Broderick regarding same.

In response to Cllr. Broderick, Mr. Mitchell advised that no Traffic Management Plans would be prepared in 2018 due to lack of resources.

Discussion took place with regard to issues raised at a Public Meeting regarding the Waste Transfer Station, Poolboy. Cllr. M. Connolly advised that he had recommended that a deputation with Mr. Cullen, Director of Services be sought by the public representatives involved. Following the discussion, on the proposal of Cllr. D. Connolly which was seconded by Cllr. M. Connolly, the following resolution was agreed: "I propose that Béal Atha na Slua Municipal District would ask Minister Denis Naughten, TD to evaluate the processes that a waste transfer site has received Planning Permission despite local people in Poolboy who objected through An Bord Pleanála, considering commitments by the former Ballinasloe UDC and a High Court ruling as well as documentation forwarded to Minister Naughten by local People".

Cllr. Finnerty advised that the transfer of Land to Scoil Uí Cheithearnaigh had been finalized and thanked all of the staff of the Municipal District of Ballinasloe for their work in relation to this matter.

Following discussion, it was agreed that the next Meeting of the Municipal District of Ballinasloe would take place on Wednesday, 17<sup>th</sup> January, 2018 at 2.00 p.m. in the Municipal District of Ballinasloe Office.

Mr. Farrell stated that he wanted to wish both the members and all of the staff of the Municipal District of Ballinasloe a very happy Christmas and stated that he was looking forward to working with them in 2018.

#### CHRIOCHNAIGH AN CRUINNIU ANSIN

**Submitted, Approved and Signed**

  
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(Cathaoirleach to sign here)

17/12/17  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)