

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 20th APRIL, AT 2.00 p.m.

CATHAOIRLEACH: Cllr. M. Finnerty

I LATHAIR FREISIN:

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

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

RESOLUTIONS OF SYMPATHY

Ms. Claire O'Brien, Ballinamore Bridge, Ballinasloe, Co. Galway.
Mr. David O'Connor, Brackernagh, Ballinasloe, Co. Galway.
Mr. Alfie Burns, 146 Vernon Drive, Clontarf, Dublin 3.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING OF THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF BALLINASLOE HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 9th MARCH, 2016

MDB16021

The Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Municipal District of Ballinasloe held on 9th March, 2016 were approved by the Municipal District Members and signed by the Cathaoirleach on the proposal of Cllr. D. Connolly, seconded by Cllr. Donohue.

Matters arising from the Minutes

With reference to MDB16020 Page 2, Cllr. Donohue welcomed the allocation of €96,849 from the OPW under the Minor Flood Mitigation Works & Coastal Protection Scheme.

In response to Cllr. D. Connolly and with reference to MDB16020 Page 2 regarding the request for funding from the Department of the Environment, Community & Local Government of which €6m had been received, Mr. Leahy advised that the Roads & Transportation Department were currently working on a second application for funding. Mr. Leahy asked all of the members to advise their Area Engineer of any schemes they wanted to include.

In response to a request from Cllr. Finnerty and with reference to MDB16020 Page 2, it was agreed that a Copy of the Proclamation would be erected in the Municipal District of

Ballinasloe Council Chamber. Cllr. D. Connolly asked that the Copy of the Proclamation erected in the Foyer would be moved to a more prominent position in the Foyer.

In response to Cllr. Broderick and with reference to MDB16020 Page 3, Ms. Gardiner advised that no response had been received to-date with regard to a January, 2016 resolution of the Municipal District of Ballinasloe "That the OPW works with the Engineers in the Municipal District with regards to the specifications that are required in cost benefit analysis projects. This especially applies to the specification for pipes and the opinion of the Local Office must be taken into account". Mr. Leahy advised that he would raise this issue with the OPW at the next joint Meeting.

SEVERE WEATHER ALLOCATION, 2016 – SCHEDULE OF WORKS

MDB16022

Mr. Leahy advised that the Severe Weather Allocation, 2016 – Schedule of Works for the Municipal District of Ballinasloe in the amount of €1.7m would be carried out as part of the Roadworks Programme and would be completed by October, 2016. Mr. Leahy advised that the Roads & Transportation Department were currently in the process of preparing an application for Tranche 2 funding from the Department of the Environment, Community & Local Government and that this application would be submitted within the next week.

Mr. Headd outlined the projects involved under the 2016 Schedule of Works and the mixed category of works in each project.

In response to Cllr. Donohue with regard to projects not included in the schedule presented, Mr. Leahy advised that these would be considered for inclusion under Tranche 2 submission.

All of the members welcomed the funding and Cllr. M. Connolly stated that he wanted to acknowledge the work of the Engineering Staff during the flooding crisis.

AGREE A DATE FOR OFFICIAL OPENING OF BALLINASLOE BRANCH LIBRARY

MDB16023

Ms. McConnell advised that the proposed date for the Official Opening of the Ballinasloe Branch Library was the 16th May, 2016 and that the time had to be agreed. Ms. McConnell stated that all of the members would be invited to the Official Opening. On the proposal of Cllr. M. Connolly which was seconded by Cllr. Donohue, it was agreed that former members of Ballinasloe Town Council would be invited to the Official Opening.

MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF BALLINASLOE DIRECTOR'S BUSINESS

MDB16024

No business arising.

MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF BALLINASLOE CATHAOIRLEACH'S BUSINESS

MDB16025

Cllr. Finnerty advised the members that Official Commemorations of the 1916 Rising would be held in Ballygar at 11.30 a.m. on Sunday, 24th April, 2016 and in Mountbellew at 12.30 p.m. on Sunday, 24th April, 2016.

Cllr. Finnerty advised that a Commemoration of the 1916 Rising would be held by St. Brigids Hospital Heritage Group on the 23rd April, 2016 starting at 3.00 p.m.

Cllr. Finnerty advised that he had received representations with regard to the upgrade of the Roundabouts leading into Ballinasloe Town and the issue of traffic calming at Creagh. Cllr. Finnerty commended Mr. Headd for his response to this matter.

On the proposal of Cllr. Finnerty, seconded by Cllr. Donohue, the following was agreed "We propose a vote of thanks to staff of Galway County Council and namely Mr. Michael Owens for the 1916 Commemoration Ceremony held in Athenry, Co. Galway on Easter Monday".

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

MDB16026

Cllrs. D. Connolly and M. Connolly expressed their disappointment with the response received from Leo Varadkar, TD Minister of Health regarding the unsatisfactory situation being experienced by Ballinasloe Social Services in their delivery of services.

In response to Cllr. Broderick regarding the unsightly appearance of St. Brigids Hospital, Ballinasloe Ms. McConnell advised that this was not a Planning issue as there has been no breach in Planning Regulations. Following discussion, on the proposal of Cllr. Broderick which was seconded by Cllr. M. Connolly the following was agreed that a letter would be sent to the HSE from the members of Ballinasloe MD seeking that "That the HSE commits to undertaking a facelift to the derelict St. Brigids Hospital Building, Ballinasloe regarded as the Gateway to the West, and the deplorable state that this building is being left in, has left a very poor impression on visitors passing through our Town and locals alike."

On the proposal of Cllr. M. Connolly which was seconded by Cllr. D. Connolly it was agreed that "We the Members and Staff of Ballinasloe Municipal District propose that we write to newly elected National President of I.F.A. Mr. Joe Healy of Greethill, Athenry. We congratulate Joe and wish him well in his new role."

In response to Cllr. D. Connolly, Mr. Headd advised that works at Deerpark River would be carried out in 2016.

Cllr. Finnerty advised that the Official Opening of the St. Vincent De Paul Building would take place on Friday, 29th April at 2.30 p.m.

All the members expressed their concerns with regard to the issue of homelessness in the County of Galway. Cllr. Broderick stated that the Housing Liaison Officers employed by Galway County Council are overworked and that there is a need to assign a specific Housing

Liaison Officer for Ballinasloe Town. Cllr. M. Connolly praised the work of the Housing staff and he stated that there was now a need for the timely provision of housing funding for Local Authorities.

CHRIOCHNAIGH AN CRUINNIU ANSIN

Submitted, Approved and Signed



(Cathaoirleach to sign here)

(Date)