

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 08th MARCH, 2017 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: Ms. C. McConnell, A/Director of Service, Mr. J. Cullen, Director of Service, Mr. D. Mitchell, Senior Engineer, Mr. A. Headd, A/Senior Executive Engineer, Mr. M. Melody, Senior Executive Engineer, Mr. F. McEvoy, A/Senior Executive Engineer, Mr. P. McLynn, A/Assistant Engineer, Ms. A. Gardiner, Meetings Administrator, Ms. A. Monaghan, Staff Officer

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING OF THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF BALLINASLOE HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 15th FEBRUARY, 2017

MDB17011

With reference to MDB17005 Page 2, Cllr. D. Connolly stated that he wanted it recorded that his view was that the administration and operation of the Dunlo Recreational Park should take place in the offices of the Municipal District of Ballinasloe.

With reference to MDB17009 Page 4, Cllr. D. Connolly stated that he wanted it recorded that he was opposed to the differential rent scheme which had been approved.

The Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Municipal District of Ballinasloe held on Wednesday, 15th February, 2017 were approved by the Municipal District Members and signed by the Cathaoirleach on the proposal of Cllr. Finnerty, seconded by Cllr. Donohue.

Matters arising from the Minutes

In response to Cllr. Broderick with reference to MDB17005 Page 2 in relation to a costing received regarding the taking in charge of Glebe Road at Aughrim, Mr. Mitchell confirmed that a procedure exists for the taking in charge of private roads.

In response to Cllr. D. Connolly with reference to MDB17005 Page 2, Ms. McConnell advised that the management of the Dunlo Recreational Track was the responsibility of the Corporate Services Department of Galway County Council. Cllr. D. Connolly stated that his

opinion was that the Dunlo Recreational Track should be run by the staff of the Municipal District of Ballinasloe.

With reference to MDB17009 Page 4, Cllr. D. Connolly stated that the recent rent increases was due to the decision of the elected members of Galway County Council to raise an additional €450k. Cllr. D. Connolly referred to the February Monthly Meeting of Municipal District of Ballinasloe where he handed in a copy of a signed petition opposing the recent rent increases and he expressed dissatisfaction that no response had issued. Cllr. Broderick stated that he supported the differential rent scheme and stated that he felt everyone should pay their fair share. Cllr. M. Connolly stated that where tenants have built up rent arrears, the Council should show compassion in such cases.

With reference to MDB17005 Page 2, Cllr. Donohue expressed dissatisfaction with the response received from the HSE with regard the current status of the old St. Brigid's Hospital in Ballinasloe Town which he read as follows: "Thank you for your letter dated 20th February, 2017. I have referred the above matter to Mr. Tony Canavan, Chief Officer Community Health Organisation 2 which is the HSE service unit that manages the maintenance of St Brigid's. Galway County Council has nominees to the Regional Health Forum. I understand that it is normal practice for Local Authority nominees to raise such matters as questions in accordance with the standing orders of the Forum through that process and that they are welcome to do so". Cllr. Donohue advised that he previously raised this matter at a Regional Health Forum meeting and stated that he was not happy with the response he received. Following discussion, on the proposal of Cllr. Donohue, seconded by Cllr. M. Connolly, the following resolution was agreed: "I propose on foot of the reply by the HSE to the Ballinasloe Municipal District in relation to the current state of the St. Brigid's Hospital that they come to a Ballinasloe Municipal Meeting as soon as possible to address the elected members and officials on this issue."

In response to Cllr. D. Connolly and with reference to MD17005 Page 2, Mr. Mitchell advised that 3 employees retired in the last 18 months in the Municipal District of Ballinasloe and that 2 employees had been taken on during the same period.

UPDATE ON EAST GALWAY LANDFILL

MDB17012

Mr. Cullen and Mr. Melody provided an update to the members in relation to the East Galway Landfill.

Mr. Melody advised that the East Galway Landfill (EGL) commenced acceptance of waste on 8th August, 2016 and that the site has accepted 48,198 tonnes of municipal solid waste from 11 regional collectors and 4,212 tonnes of recovery materials from 4 collectors. Mr. Melody advised that the Waste Collectors delivering to EGL includes: Barna Waste, Walsh Waste, WERS, City Bin, Moran Refuse, Ballinrobe Waste, McGrath's, OCR, Oxigen, G & N Loftus, Clean Ireland, Miltown Compost, Galway Metal and Enva. Mr. Melody advised that the site was staffed with 9 Galway County Council employees, 2 contract staff and back office support from Galway County Council Liosbaun Office. Mr. Melody advised that the EPA carried out a site inspection on the 27th October, 2016 and that all observances were addressed. Mr. Melody also provided an update on the Capital Works Project. In this

regard he stated that it was expected that the tender for the construction works would be awarded in June, 2017 and that the approximate span of the construction works was 3 years 8 months.

All the members commended the Environment Section of Galway County Council on the operation of the landfill. Cllr. D. Connolly also commended Galway County Council in relation to the operation of the Landfill Site in his role as Chairperson of the Landfill Liaison Committee.

In response to Cllr. D. Connolly, Mr. Melody advised that the East Galway Landfill Facility only accepted non-hazardous waste. Mr. Melody advised that all material is tested and classified and for non prescribed material analysis is directed to the EPA for determination. In response to Cllr. D. Connolly, Mr. Melody advised that there was an unused capacity at takeover of 300k tonne of municipal solid (grey bin) waste. Mr. Cullen advised that the facility is expected to close in early 2019 and that the capping process has to be completed by 2020. In response to Cllr. Donohue, Mr. Melody advised that the capping is ongoing and will be spread out over 4 years. Mr. Melody advised that the landfill will be capped with approximately 100,000 cubic metres of soil. In response to Cllr. Donohue, Mr. Melody advised that the option of woodland upon capping would be considered and that the issue of gas emissions is being handled by a specialist company. In response to Cllr. Broderick, Mr. Melody advised that leachate was being taken to a number of facilities and that once the facility was capped he advised there would be a significant reduction in leachate removal. Mr. Melody also advised that monitoring of the facility with regard to leachate and other licensed emissions would be ongoing for 25 years after the closure of the facility. In response to Cllr. Broderick, Mr. Cullen advised that there was a cast iron guarantee in place with regard to the Bond. Mr. Cullen also advised that there is a good relationship between the Department of Housing, Planning, Community & Local Government and Galway County Council and that the Department were aware of future commitments necessary for maintaining the site. Mr. Cullen advised that the EPA has full responsibility for monitoring license compliance at the site. In response to Cllrs. D. Connolly and Broderick, Mr. Cullen advised that there was no financial disadvantage to Galway County Council as a result of taking over the running of the landfill facility. Mr. Cullen advised that to date the Council has dealt with two complaints.

Mr. Melody provided a Project Update on the Pollboy Integrated Constructed Wetland and advised that the most optimistic construction start is Quarter 1, 2018. In response to Cllr. D. Connolly, Mr. Cullen advised that a Public Information Evening with regard the Pollboy Integrated Constructed Wetland would be organized as soon as the project has been advanced further with the EPA.

MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF BALLINASLOE DIRECTOR'S BUSINESS

MDB17013

Mr. Headd provided detail to the members with regard new Engineering Area Divide for the Ballinasloe North Division.

MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF BALLINASLOE CATHAOIRLEACH'S BUSINESS

MDB17014

Cllr. Burke asked for the road from Banagher to Laurencetown to be assessed for gritting as part of the Winter Maintenance due to the high level of traffic volume on same and in response, Mr. Mitchell advised that consideration would be given to same. er same.

Cllr. Burke advised that resulting from the proposed RSA Site Inspection Site, residents in Aughrim had formed a Committee as they are concerned about aspects of the proposal and its impact on the village. Mr. Headd advised that the Councillors had been briefed on the proposal and that all relevant landowners had been contacted at the concept design stage. Mr. Headd advised that some locals had requested a design layout of the proposal and that he would issue same upon receipt of the final design layout from the Council's Consultants.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

MD817015

With reference to the February Resolution of the Municipal District of Ballinasloe on the issue of illegal dumping in the Ballinasloe area, Mr. Cullen advised that it was proposed to include Ballinasloe in the new Anti Dumping Initiative being rolled out by the Environment Department of Galway County Council.

Cllr. Donohue referred to the new Housing Repair & Lease Scheme which he advised is designed to make vacant private properties in need of renovation capable of being rented for social housing or to those in receipt of housing assistance payments (HAP) and stated that the Council should be proactive in relation this scheme.

Cllrs. M. Connolly and Burke stated that they were offended and took great exception to comments made by a member of Galway County Council to the Connacht Tribune with regard to the Part 8 Planning Application for Garbally Drive. Cllr. Burke clarified that the comments were not said by the Councillor at the Plenary Council Meeting but said by the Councillor outside of the Meeting and subsequently reported in the Connacht Tribune.

In response to Cllr. D. Connolly, Mr. Headd advised that the gates at Creagh Cemetery would be fixed when resources become available.

In response to Cllr. Broderick, Cllr. M. Connolly advised that he had been informed that there was funding available for Housing Aid/Mobility Grants from the Housing Department. Following discussion, it was agreed that the next Meeting of the Municipal District of Ballinasloe would take place on Wednesday 8th March at 2.00 p.m. in the Municipal District Offices of Ballinasloe.

CHRIOCHNAIGH AN CRUINNIU ANSIN

Submitted, Approved and Signed



(Cathaoirleach to sign here)

12/4/17

(Date)