

Municipal District of Tuam – 7th December 2020

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF TUAM HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, COUNTY HALL, PROSPECT HILL, GALWAY ON 7th DECEMBER 2020 AT 12 NOON

CATHAOIRLEACH:	Cllr. Joe Sheridan
I LÁTHAIR FREISIN	Cllr. Colm Keaveney, Cllr. Donagh Killilea, Cllr. Andrew Reddington, Cllr. Karey McHugh Farag, Cllr. M Hoade, Cllr. Peter Roche
AS LÁTHAIR	
BAILL OIFIGIH:	Mr. Jim Cullen, D.O.S., Infrastructure & Operations, Mr. John Coyle, A/S.E.E., Mr. Paul Connolly, E.E., Ms. Eibhlin Curran, Meetings Administrator, Ms. Jennifer O’Neill, A.S.O., Ms. Hazel Fox, Executive Planner, Mr. Mike Melody, S.E.E.

Cllr. Roche wished to offer his condolences to the family of Mr. Pat Moggan RIP. This was seconded by Cllr. Killilea.

MDT200046

Item no. 1 - Confirmation of the Minutes of the budget meeting of the Municipal District of Tuam held on 22nd October 2020

On the **proposal** of Cllr. Killilea and **seconded** by Cllr. McHugh Farag the minutes of the meeting of the Tuam Municipal District held on the 22nd October were **agreed**.

Matters Arising:

Cllr. Roche referred to the extra €1m which is to be allocated to the Municipal Districts and asked for clarification on how this would be divided out.

Cllr. Hoade stated that a portion of this funding was ear marked for the promotion of Tourism in County Galway and support the Tourism officer.

Mr. Cullen advised that this funding minus the figure agreed for Tourism support would be divided between the 5 districts and a discussion could take place regarding the distribution of this funding within each Municipal District. He advised that this funding is a once off and is not a recurring source of income.

Cllr. Keaveney queried if this money could be added to the existing NOM monies and if councillors in specific geographic areas could team up and allocate the funding collectively rather than on individual projects.

Cllr Roche suggested that Mr. Coyle and Mr. Connolly could also be consulted regarding where the funding could be distributed to.

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MDT200047

A motion was proposed by Cathaoirleach Cllr. J. Sheridan, seconded by Cllr. Keaveney, Cllr. Hoade, Cllr Killilea, Cllr. Reddington, Cllr. Roche & Cllr. K McHugh – Farag to;-

‘distribute the €2000 unused Town Twinning allocation from 2020 budget to the 5 no. community groups via the Community & Enterprise Unit’.

J. Cullen advised that that the budget item in question is not under his remit and will refer same to Corporate services and will revert.

MDT200048

Item no. 2. Confirmation of the Minutes of the meeting of the Municipal District of Tuam held on the 22nd October 2020.

On the **proposal** of Cllr. M. Hoade and **seconded** by Cllr. C. Keaveney the minutes of the meeting of the Tuam Municipal District held on the 22nd October 2020 were **agreed**.

Matters Arising:

Cllr. Killilea referred to the Ashthorn Estate in Headford and stated, the resident’s association has met many times and met with the executive regarding the poor condition to which the developer has left the estate. He stated that the Council have acquired 17 units within that estate and advised of his proposal that the Council should refrain from acquiring any further units in this unfinished estate.

Cllr. Keaveney request clarity with regard Part V Acquisitions and suggested that such acquisitions should only happen in estates that are taken in charge.

Cllr. Reddington stated that there was an issue with the sewerage in the estate and he had reported same to the Environment Section. He read out a reply he had received from the Director of Housing which states:

“I can only confirm as I did in September that like with all developments of this size there is a Part V of the Planning and Development Act 2000 to be adhered to and this is a condition of the planning permission of this development’.

We have no other agreement in place & in effect nothing has changed since that meeting.”

MDT200049

Cllr. D. Killilea proposed a motion, seconded by Cathaoirleach Cllr. J Sheridan that;-

‘Galway County Council will not purchase any properties in the Ashthorn Ave. estate in Headford and that Galway County Council will not purchase any new development that share the same access as the Ashthorn Ave. until such time that the estate is fully finished and taken in charge’.

Cllr. P. Roche referred to a case he heard of recently where in order to close the sale of his house a resident had to pay a portion of unpaid development contribution to the Council. He queried why the developer was not pursued for this payment and why this burden is being put on existing householders.

In response Mr. Cullen said he wasn’t aware of this case, but in normal circumstances each person had responsibility to comply with their conditions of planning.

MDT200050

Item no 3. To consider report under Part 8 of Planning & Development Regulations 2001 (as amended) for development of a burial ground at Ballyglooneen, file ref LA04/20

Mr. Michael Melody presented a proposal regarding the Burial Ground at Ballyglooneen which is located to the immediate north of the N63 National Secondary Road.

Cllr. Roche who extended his thanks to Galway County Council for gifting the land Cllr. K McHugh Farag commended all the work on this project.

On the **proposal** of Cllr. P Roche, **seconded** by Cllr. K McHugh, the the Part 8 planning for the development of a burial ground at Ballyglooneen, file ref LA04/20, was **adopted** by the members.

Mr. Melody thanked the members for passing this and said he will speak to the pastoral committee.

MDT200051

Item no. 4. Tuam Regeneration Masterplan - update

Ms. H Fox advised the meeting that there were a few amendments required to the plan and unfortunately was not ready to be brought before the members for its adoption at the meeting. However, she is willing to take any questions subsequent to the presentation given at the last meeting.

Cllr. Keaveney referred to the chronic nature of the traffic in Tuam and the difficulties faced by pedestrians and emphasized the need for a traffic management plan for the town. He asked could the Tuam Master Regeneration plan be done in conjunction with the Traffic Management Plan.

Ms. H Fox advised that the master plan is aspirational and that any projects coming from this will need a detailed design including a detailed analysis of traffic management and will be aligned with traffic management requirements.

Cllr. K. McHugh Farag asked if the most important aspects of the plan had been identified, adding that she was keen to see some progress happen soon so the people of Tuam can see things are being delivered.

Ms. H. Fox said the plan would include an action plan that would identify priority projects, relevant funding streams and what could be advanced at the outset.

MDT200052

Item no. 5. Municipal District of Tuam Cathaoirleach's Business

The members wished to express their gratitude to the Executive, the Director and all the engineering and administrative staff along with outdoor staff for all their hard work during 2020.

The members also wished to extend thanks to all frontline workers, Teachers, Community response, family resource centres and Solas who all worked so hard during this very difficult and challenging year and would like to wish the very best to all Traders who were returning to business.

6. Municipal District of Tuam Directors Business

Mr. J. Coyle gave an update on the progress of the N83 Dunmore Regeneration project. The scheme was launched earlier this year with a first phase of public consultation where the views of the community were sought.

A second phase of public consultation is now underway with the public invited to view the proposed plan online, with a dedicated website set up for the project. Mr. J. Coyle told the meeting that the deadline for receipt of submissions was the 16th December 2020. After considering the feedback received, the consultants identified 5 different options.

The preferred option that has emerged from the process so far is to widen Bridge street, with the buildings to the east, on the righthand side as you face Dunmore National School, being demolished. A pedestrian footbridge would also be required over the sinking river.

The project will come back before Tuam Municipal District to consider Part 8 planning in the first quarter of 2021 with tender documents by late spring and potential construction Q4, 2021. Mr. J. Coyle added that funding is available through Rural Regeneration Ireland and Transport Infrastructure Ireland, but a cost analysis of the scheme was necessary to see if it is affordable and then funding will be applied for.

Mr. J Cullen stated that when advancing any project, one must define the objective and review the options. There is a rationale behind a preferred option. With regard land acquisition, it is preferable to acquire by agreement. However, there may be issues with regard title, there might be agreement by majority, but one may not agree which in turn could force a CPO. The aim at present is to conclude the public consultation and progress to Part 8 planning.

Item no. 7 – Any other Business

Cllr. P Roche referred to previous discussions regarding the Data Commissioner and the use of CCTV with regard the illegal dumping and if there was any clarity received with regard same.

Mr. J. Cullen stated that he would follow up with regard the data commissioner decision of CCTV usage with respect to illegal dumping and will revert.

In response to comments made on flood relief works at Feigh East, Mr. J. Cullen acknowledged the assistance from the O.P.W. and the excellent partnership with Galway County Council in order to carry out minor flood relief works. Such works would not be possible without the collaboration of OPW and the input of the area office staff.

Cllr. K. McHugh Farag raised the issue of proposing a policy with regard the taking in charge of private roads, which was also raised the meeting of the Conamara Municipal District.

Mr. J Cullen stated that such an issue should have been dealt with by the Roads & Transportation Strategic Policy Committee. He reiterated that Galway County Council is shockingly short of funding for the public road network as it is and that taking more roads in charge is increasing our liability. Nonetheless, the taking in charge of a road is a reserved function and as members you are obliged to consider the financial implications of such.

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It was agreed by the member that this would be included on the Roads & Transportation SPC due to be held on 16th December 2020 for consideration.

MDT200055

Cathaoirleach Cllr. J Sheridan proposed a motion, seconded by Cllr. D. Killilea that:-

‘a pre-meeting reception at our March meeting of a civic reception to honour the life’s work of Mr. Frank Glynn (an ex member of the chamber) for his this week’s National Volunteer award and also last month’s National Heritage award to Ms. Pauline Connolly for their huge and ongoing work in progressing Milltown as a Jewel in the Crown of the West’.

E. Curran, Meetings Administrator advised that due to Covid19 Pandemic, this will be dependent on the level of restrictions in place at the time.

MDT200056

Cllr. A. Reddington proposed a motion, seconded by Cllr. Killilea that:-

‘Galway County Council to contact Irish Water to investigate and find a permanent solution to the issues of burst pipes between Carheens and Calbro Cross which left thousands without water again at the weekend’.

MDT200057

Cllr. D Killilea proposed a motion, seconded by Cllr. P Roche that:-

‘the Tuam Municipal District invite a representative from the social schemes in the district area to give a an overview of where scheme members stand and future plans.’

E. Curran, Meetings Administrator advised that due to Covid19 Pandemic, this will be dependent on the level of restrictions in place at the time of next meeting but will retain the proposal for inclusion at a future meeting.

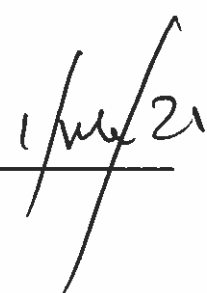
Chríochnaigh an cruinniú ansin

Approved by:



Cllr. J. Sheridan
Cathaoirleach

Date:



1/12/21