

Minutes of the Municipal District of Tuam meeting held
on 10th September 2018

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF TUAM HELD AT ROOM
GO1, ÁRAS AN CHONTAE, PROSPECT HILL, GALWAY**

ON MONDAY 10th SEPTEMBER at 2.30PM

I LÁTHAIR:

BAILL:

Cllr Shaun Cunniffe

Cllr Mary Hoade

Cllr Des Joyce

Cllr Peter Keaveney

Cllr Billy Connelly

OIFIGIGH:

Ms Eileen Ruane, Director of Services, Planning, Environment & Emergency Services

Mr Damien Mitchell, Senior Engineer, Infrastructure and Operations Unit

Ms Rachel Lowe, A/Senior Executive Engineer, Municipal District of Tuam

Mr John Coyle A/Executive Engineer, Municipal District of Tuam

Ms Nuala Heffernan, Administrative Officer, Infrastructure & Operations Unit

Ms Paula Devaney, Clerical Officer, Infrastructure & Operations Unit

APOLOGIES:

Cllr Donagh Mark Killilea

Cllr Peter Roche

Cllr Tom Mc Hugh

Cllr Karey McHugh

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Confirmation of Minutes of Meeting of Municipal District of Tuam held on Monday 9th July 2018 **MDT18036**

On the proposal of Cllr Hoade and seconded by Cllr Conneely the minutes of the meeting of the Municipal District of Tuam held on the 9th of July 2018 were agreed and adopted.

Matters Arising from the Minutes

Cllr Cunniffe referred to the letter from Minister Shane Ross regarding Cycle Lanes in Tuam Town which was read out at the last meeting, which he was absent from. He noted that it was a missed opportunity to put cycle lanes in the town. He added the importance of one or two cycle way approaches to the town. Cllr Cunniffe proposed that all future overlay of roads, or re-designing of existing roads or developing of new roads be examined in relation to the provision of raised cycle lanes. He said that a cycle lane provision policy should be investigated and drawn up for every town in the County. This proposal was seconded by Cllr Hoade. Cllr Cunniffe proposed that this proposal be brought to the attention of the Roads and Transportation Strategic Policy Committee. This proposal was seconded by Cllr Connelly. Ms Ruane suggested that the proposal should also be brought to the attention of the Planning and Development Strategic Policy Committee for inclusion in the County Development Plan. This was proposed by Cllr Hoade, seconded by Cllr Connelly and agreed.

Cllr Hoade referred to how helpful it was for Councillors to now receive the on-call rota.

Municipal District of Tuam Cathaoirleachs Business **MDT18037**

Cllr. Hoade referred to the carpark situation in Headford and the grave concerns of businesses in the centre of the town. She noted the requirement for the provision of off street carparking in the centre of the town particularly for older people and those with children. She stressed the need to support the local community and businesses. Cllr Connelly said that he supported the proposal wholeheartedly. Ms Lowe stated that a lot of submissions were received from people who couldn't walk along the footpaths in Headford due to them being blocked with parked cars. She said the Community Warden had been around the town to discourage this practice, that it is a traffic offence to park on a footpath. She agreed with Cllr Hoade and Cllr Conneely about the need to explore if land is available in the centre of the town of Headford to provide a car park facility.

Cllr Hoade proposed Galway County Council engage with the businesses in Headford to provide off street car parking in the centre of the town, to protect business in the town centre. This was seconded by Cllr Connelly.

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Municipal District of Tuam Directors Business

MDT18038

Ms Ruane said that the timeframe for public consultation on the Tuam Local Area Plan, due to material amendments, had been extended up to 21st September 2018. She advised that the final draft plan would be prepared after this consultation period and would be on the agenda of the plenary Council meeting in October for the Councillors consideration and decision.

Any Other Business

MDT18039

Cllr Cunniffe referred to anti-social behaviour in Tuam town. He said while there are not many incidents but that when they do occur, it can be difficult to have them dealt with. He said that when An Garda Síochána are contacted regarding anti-social behavior incidents they advise the complainant to contact Galway County Council to deal with the issue, and do not record the incident as anti-social behaviour. When contacted, Galway County Council ask if a statement has been given to An Garda Síochána. He said that it appears that there is no specific policy for dealing with such incidents. He proposed that the Municipal District of Tuam meet with local members of An Garda Síochána on a quarterly basis, where a framework could be put in place as to how deal with such incidents. Ms Heffernan suggested that correspondence issue to the local Superintendent of Tuam Garda Síochána inviting them to attend the next meeting of the Municipal District of Tuam. It was agreed to issue this correspondence.

Cllr. Hoade said she had many questions about the recent road works on the N84. She said she had some concerns and representations and had forwarded same to Mr Pender. She said she was aware at least one car had gone off the road, she queried if any further work was to be done with the road edging. Mr Coyle said he would check with the Resident Engineer on the project, Mr Frank Canavan. He said that the edges would probably be filled and embanked. He confirmed that he had identified where crash barriers needed to be installed on the improved road and would be meeting staff from Transport Infrastructure Ireland in the near future to discuss the matter. He advised that there is funding available for such works through Transport Infrastructure Ireland. In response to a request from Cllr Hoade, Mr Coyle agreed to advise, via e-mail, of the action to be taken. Cllr Hoade enquired about the possibility of works taking place at night time. Mr Coyle advised that this would significantly increase the cost of the works and that there could be health and safety concerns, in particular in relation to adequate lighting.

Cllr Cunniffe questioned the use of Notice of Motion monies to provide additional gullies. He asked that the Council ensured enough gullies were provided when roads are being reconstructed.

Cllr Connelly referred to anti-social behaviour in the town, impacting on business owners. He said he was aware of a business person in the town who was getting harassed and had reported

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to An Garda Síochána, but that there was no record of the complaint in the Garda station. Cllr Cunniffe noted that a landlord can be personally fined for anti-social behavior in his property.

Cllr Joyce enquired about the allocation for improvement works on the N60 road from Ballymoe to the County boundary and asked when it was proposed to commence the works. He also referred to the recent announcement of funding for rural towns and villages. He asked if smaller villages, which had not received funding previously, such as Williamstown, Creggs, Glinsk and Glenamaddy could be considered for such funding.

Mr Coyle said he would check with the relevant staff in the National Roads Project Office about the start date for work on the N60 and said that his understanding was that works would commence shortly.

Ms Ruane stated that the funding applications for the Rural Regeneration Scheme for rural towns and villages was being coordinated through the Community and Enterprise Unit, with a closing date of 28th September 2018 for applications. She advised that it had been advertised approximately four week ago, with two separate categories of schemes: Category 1 for schemes that were ready to go and Category 2 for schemes that required further planning, e.g. feasibility studies.

Cllr Hoade asked if there was an update on the provision of safety works on the N17 at Milltown National School. Ms Lowe said she had replied to the school via e-mail and that she would circulate same to Councillors. She stated there was a possibility of an entrance to the rear of the school. Mr Coyle said that the safety officer of Transport Infrastructure Ireland, Mr Philip Durkin, had advised that the periodic speed limit signs should be implemented first and that there should be a subsequent review in relation to additional signage. Cllr Hoade said she would have concern at school times. Mr Coyle said that the flashing lights at the school were currently inoperable and that they are undergoing repairs.

Cllr Keaveney asked about the commencement of the planned works in Dunmore. Mr Coyle said that he was meeting the contractors on site next Monday with a view to commence works immediately afterwards.

Cllr Joyce asked about the possibility of further funding for Local Improvement Schemes. Ms Heffernan replied that the drawdown for the first allocation had been submitted and that the Department had advised that there was a possibility of extra funding which would be allocated in order of priority, based on the prioritisation list submitted to the Department earlier in the year. Ms Heffernan reminded the Councillors of the email which she had circulated on the Community Involvement Scheme. She noted that there may be further funding made available for the scheme in October 2018.

Ms Heffernan advised that it was necessary to hold an additional Municipal District of Tuam meeting in October to discuss the three year roads programme and the speed limit review. It

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was agreed to hold the next meeting on 15th October 2018 at 3.00pm., with two deputations to attend beforehand at 2.00p.m.

CRÍOCHNAIGH AN CRUINNIÚ ANSIN.

Approved by:

Cllr Peter Keaveney

Cathaoirleach

Municipal District of Tuam