

Minutes of the Municipal District of Tuam meeting held
on 09th July 2018

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF TUAM HELD AT TUAM
COUNCIL OFFICES HIGH STREET TUAM ON MONDAY 9TH JULY AT 2.30PM**

I LÁTHAIR:

BAILL:

Cllr Donagh Mark Killilea

Cllr Mary Hoade

Cllr Des Joyce

Cllr Peter Roche

Cllr Tom Mc Hugh

Cllr Peter Keaveney

Cllr Billy Connelly

Cllr Karey McHugh

OIFIGIH:

Mr Jim Cullen, Director of Services Infrastructure and Operations

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

Mr Paraic Carroll, Administrative Officer, Planning, Environment and Emergency Services

Ms Jennifer O'Neill Assistant Staff Officer, Municipal District of Tuam

APOLOGIES:

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

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

Mr Jack Houlihan, Assistant Engineer, Municipal District of Tuam

Ms Nuala Heffernan, Administrative Officer, Roads, Transportation, Marine and General Services Unit

Cllr Shaun Cunniffe

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Confirmation of Minutes of Meeting of Municipal District of Tuam held on Monday 21st May 2018 **MDT18030**

On the proposal of Cllr T McHugh and seconded by Cllr Killilea the minutes of the meeting of the Municipal District of Tuam held on the 21st of May 2018 were agreed and adopted.

Confirmation of Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of Municipal District of Tuam held on Monday 21st May 2018 **MDT18031**

On the proposal of Cllr. Killilea and seconded by Cllr. T. McHugh the minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Municipal District of Tuam held on the 21st of May 2018 were agreed and adopted.

Minor Flood Relief Schemes – update **MDT18032**

Mr Cullen circulated an updated list of the Office of Public Works non-coastal minor work schemes applications.

Cllr Joyce referred to the application at Millford Creggs and queried why this was refused as it has permission from the land owners to go ahead. Mr Cullen advised that he would raise this query with the Infrastructure and Operations staff dealing with these applications and revert back with a response.

Cllr Roche referred to the scheme at Feagh East and, he added that €79,650 was not enough and queried what provisions were made for unforeseen costs, and that more information is needed. He thanked Mr Cullen for the information supplied.

Cllr Killilea referred to Millstream Park and queried why this had been refused adding that €5,500 would be money well spent as there are 8 houses at this location and perhaps this funding could come from a separate capital fund.

Cllr McHugh referred to the works at Beagh (on N83), in reply Mr Coyle said that the contractor was lined up for the works on the crossing on the N83 and advised that the Council would do further works at this location.

Cllr Hoade mentioned the works at Pat Concannon's house and Kilkeel, Headford and asked for an update to the status which states they are referred to the area office.

Mr Cullen said that he would follow up on the matters and raised and revert to the members with further relevant information.

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Mr Cullen outlined the various funding streams available, including the Office of Public Works - CFRAM, minor remedial works, and Galway County Council's own revenue funding.

Cllr T McHugh noted that the Claregalway Flood Relief scheme benefited the Tuam area immensely by taking pressure off the Clare River.

Cllr Joyce asked if the funding under Minor Work Schemes would be available again and if further submissions for funding could be made. In reply Mr. Cullen said this application process is not closed and submissions can be made but the defined criteria must be met to be successful.

CFRAMS – update

MDT18033

Mr Cullen gave a presentation on the Catchment Flood Risk Assessment and Management (CFRAM).

He advised that CFRAM in Ireland had commenced in 2004 with the appointment of the Office of Public Works as the state body with responsibility for flooding. He outlined that the CFRAM programme has been developed around the 7 River Basin District Areas which are divided further into Units of Management for which Flood Risk Management plans have been developed.

There are 3 main measures;

Prevention: Planning, Land use management, Flood risk mapping.

Protection: Arterial and drainage district schemes, flood relief Schemes, Minor works

Preparedness: Flood forecasting, Real time data, Emergency plans, Individual property protection.

CFRAM programme involved detailed analysis of 300 communities in 2012 as they were the ones most likely to be impacted by flooding. These were the areas for further assessment and are included in the Flood Risk Management Plans.

An initial tranche of funding has been announced to allow 50 new projects to proceed to detailed project level design and construction. Those identified for Galway are Clifden, Ballinasloe and Portumna. These are in addition to the schemes already underway such as the Clare River, Dunkellin and the Gort Lowlands.

Plans were adopted at national level and the Galway County Council executive are recommending that the Council adopt this plan at the July 2018 meeting.

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Cllr Killilea queried the management of the levels of the Corrib and whether CFRAM addresses how controls are addressed when at another flood risk. He added he was disappointed regarding Ballygaddy where dredging has not been done for years. He enquired if there was any update on dredging plans for this area.

Cllr Roche added that land was submerged at Ardskeaghmore and Bullan and a lot of this flooding was due to lack of channel maintenance, and he queried if the CFRAM programme has considered obstacles like lack of maintenance, overgrown vegetation and debris and consultation with other bodies.

Municipal District of Tuam Directors Business

MDT18034

Mr Carroll read out a letter re: Cycle Lanes – Tuam Town, from Minister Shane Ross, Minister for Transport Tourism and Sport which was in reply to correspondence from Cllr. Shaun Cunniffe. The letter stated that following construction of the Tuam bypass, the section of road through Tuam Town has reverted to local road status and in accordance of the Roads Act 1993 this section of road is within the remit of the Council to consider the provision of cycle lanes in Tuam Town and advised the Council to approach Transport Infrastructure Ireland.

Mr Cullen said the letter doesn't include reference to the cycle lane to Kilcloghans Road and it is intended to construct 250m of a cycle lane to connect with demesne cottages which would require major design, and that in the meantime, the Council will resurface the pavement in Tuam town.

Cllr K McHugh queried the delay in completing the resurfacing in Tuam Town and if this was held up and she said the funding was available and queried if the works would be commencing soon.

Cllr T McHugh acknowledged the good work done at Kilcloghans Roundabout regarding the trimming and the additional works.

Cllr Roche requested that Galway County Council engage with the contractors working on the N63 alignment. The works totaling 3.2km in length have been ongoing for 18 months with numerous problems including faulty traffic lights and unacceptable customer service phone lines and he requested that 2 lanes be opened at this location as soon as possible.

Cllr K McHugh agreed with Cllr Roche and said the frustration for commuters has reached fever pitch and that there is very little communication from the contractors and asked if there any finish date in sight. She added that there had also been numerous problems with interrupted water supply to houses on this route.

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Cllr Roche stated that the pedestrian macadamed walkway from Annagh Hill to Abbey is not lined up, and is stopping short, that there should be a continuous pedestrian footpath from Abbey to the roundabout at Brooklodge church.

In reply, Mr. Cullen said there was an issue on Saturday evening where the lights were out of sequence, and he was disappointed that no contractor was available especially for traffic management issues. He agreed that this was a difficult job involving lots of land owners and he was aware that there had been problems along Culligh GWSS where connections were suspended and re-connected and said that he will deal with these issues this week and get an update of progress and completion date.

Cllr K. McHugh queried what the update was regarding Browns Field. Cllr Roche replied stating that the council is awaiting a reply from the GAA legal representatives.

Cllr Killilea referred to the construction of the new fire station and asked what the timescale was for the relocation of fire services. He queried if the current fire station, when vacated, could be re developed and if this site could be zoned as mixed commercial and residential use. He added that housing agencies may be interested in this site.

Mr Cullen replied that the finish date for the re location of the fire station was approximately the end of September/October and that it was also the intention of Corporate Services to engage with an architect to come up with a design to maximize the value of the current building.

Any Other Business

MDT18035

Cllr Killilea said he wished to compliment the Tuam Tidy Towns committee on the great work carried out along the access path to the railway line, all the members agreed that this work was welcome and wished to congratulate the committee on this achievement.

Cllr K McHugh proposed congratulations and best wishes to Cllr Killilea and his wife on the birth of their baby daughter Tess. This was seconded by Cllr Hoade and all the members added congratulations to the couple.

Cllr Hoade queried if the on-call rota could be made available to Cllrs as she recently had difficulty in contacting the correct personnel regarding an emergency. Mr. Cullen said he would discuss this with the local engineers with a view to forwarding same.

Cllr Roche complimented Cllr Keaveaney on his first meeting as Caithaoirleach

Cllr Des Joyce extended good wishes to Mr John Heneghan on his recent retirement from Galway County Council adding that he had always been extremely helpful.

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Approved by:

Cllr Peter Keaveney

Cathaoirleach

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