

COMHAIRLE CHONTAE NA GAILLIMHE

**MINUTES OF LOUGHREA AREA COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD AT LOUGHREA REGIONAL OFFICES ON
TUESDAY, 7th SEPTEMBER 2010**

LLATHAIR

Baill:

Cllr. B. Willers, Chairperson
Cllr. J. McClearn
Cllr. P. Hynes
Cllr. M. Fahy
Cllr. P. Feeney
Cllr. M. Maher
Cllr. G. Finnerty

Oifigigh:

Mr. K. Kelly, D.O.S., Planning & Sustainable Development Unit
Mr. M. Lavelle, S.E., Roads & Transportation Unit
Mr. U. Finn, S.E.E. Ballinasloe & Loughrea Electoral Area
Mr. A. Raftery, E.E., Loughrea Engineering Area
Mr. C. Mitchell, E.E., Portumna Engineering Area
Mr. J. Costello, E.E., Gort Engineering Area
Ms. A. Power, S.S.O., Loughrea Regional Offices

Apologies: Mr. J. Cullen, D.O.S., Environment & Water Services Unit

DEPUTATION FROM GORT ROAD RESIDENTS RE: CONDITION OF GORT ROAD

The Chairperson welcomed Mr. Lohan and Ms. Mannion to the Meeting. The Deputation stated that they had requested to address the meeting to highlight the poor condition of the Gort Road, in particular from Statoil Filling Station out past Coscorrigh Housing Estate. They referred to the temporary surface put in place during the bad flooding and stated that this had effectively worn away in many areas and there were numerous bad potholes on this stretch of road. They explained the temporary road surface had melted during the fine weather and this had exacerbated the problem. It was stated that stones, tarmac and water was being strewn in to the front gardens of houses fronting this road from passing traffic. They also raised the issue of health and safety for pedestrians using this roadway. They explained that when the temporary surface was put in place the road was raised above the footpath and no provision was made for a footpath. They queried why it was taking so long for the works to commence and felt there was a lack of information available to the residents on what was happening. Mr. Lohan also raised the issue of cars parking on the

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roadway at the side entrance to his house which links the Old Galway Road to the Gort Road in order to avoid having to pay parking charges. He explained that his access had been blocked on numerous occasions and asked that the matter be addressed.

Mr. Lavelle apologised to the Deputation for the inconvenience caused to the locals because of the delay in the road improvements commencing on this road. He explained the process involved and why it had taken so long to get to this stage. He stated that tenders had been received for the works which were currently being analysed and once the Contractor had been appointed, it was hoped that works would commence quite soon. He explained that all works had to be complete by the end of November.

The Deputation then left the Meeting.

It was agreed that the Members would be informed of any update in relation to when works would commence on this road. In relation to the issue of blocking of side entrance on the link road, it was suggested that it was a matter for the Guards to enforce. Mr. Lavelle suggested that the Members would consider extending the parking system further out.

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On the proposal of Cllr. Maher, seconded by Cllr. McClearn, the Minutes of the Loughrea Area Meeting held on 21st July 2010 were confirmed.

Matters Arising from Minutes of 21st July 2010

Deputation from Peterswell N.S.

Cllr. Finnerty referred to a section of road outside Peterswell N.S. which he stated was sagging and would need reconstruction. He suggested that this be carried out in advance of continuous white line being installed. Mr. Costello stated that he would investigate same.

Verge Trimming

Cllr. Maher asked for an update on when verge-trimming would be commencing in Loughrea Engineering Area. Mr. Raftery informed him that work has commenced since 1st September and the hedge-cutter was currently in the Kilnadeema area. He explained that the budget was tight but that they would try to get as much done within available resources. Mr. Mitchell explained that in Portumna the hedge-cutting was currently taking place and would be finished by end of September. In relation to Gort, Mr. Costello explained that he was not carrying out widespread cutting throughout the area but it was being done on a priority basis. The Members stated that it was important that there be a

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justification for the hedge-cutting on the road being cut, i.e. road safety, etc. and a balance in the amount of hedge-cutting carried out throughout the Electoral area.

Deputation from Athenry Road/Meadowbrook Court Residents

Cllr. Willers queried if there was any development on the swimming pool site. Mr. Kelly advised that planning permission for the pool had recently expired. He said that the Council would be seeking confirmation from the proposed developer that the swimming pool development was still going ahead but advised that they hadn't had a comprehensive reply from him as yet. He stated that it was their intention to bring it to a conclusion by the end of the year. He said that if the developer was not continuing the site would have to be reinstated to its original condition and that the hoarding would be removed and the site handed back to Galway County Council.

Bad Potholes

Cllr. Hynes referred to bad potholes in the townland of Kylegarriff near Jim Hynes' house and asked that they be repaired. Mr. Raftery took note of same.

Smarter Travel Bid Update

Cllr. Maher queried if there was any update in relation to Loughrea Smarter Travel Bid. Mr. Lavelle advised that no announcement has been made as yet.

DRAFT DEVELOPMENT CONTRIBUTION SCHEME 2010

Mr. Kelly outlined details of the Draft Development Contribution Scheme 2010 which had been circulated to the Members previously. The Members broadly welcomed the proposal for a 10% reduction in the charge of residential units and a 30% reduction in the charge for commercial development.

Cllr. Feeney complimented the work carried out by the Sub-Committee responsible for preparing the Draft Scheme. He referred to the local development contribution of €30m² that was imposed on all new development in Athenry in order that the Ring Road in Athenry could proceed. He said that it was now proposed that a further charge of €7.50 per m² for all houses be included for roads, footpaths and transportation and he queried if the €30m² could be reduced by €7.50m² so that Athenry would still be paying the €30m² in total (i.e. €22.50m² for Outer Relief Road charge & €7.50m² for roads/footpath/transportation charge) and would not be at a disadvantage in terms of charges compared to other towns. He asked that this would be considered.

The Draft Development Contribution Scheme 2010 was approved on the proposal of Cllr. Feeney, seconded by Cllr. McClearn.

PROPOSALS FOR SPECIFIC IMPROVEMENT WORKS ON REGIONAL & LOCAL ROADS FOR 2011

Report outlining proposals for Specific Improvement Works on Regional and Local Roads for 2011 was circulated to each Member.

On the proposal of Cllr. Fahy, seconded by Cllr. Willers the Members agreed that the following proposal be submitted for consideration for funding under Specific Improvement Works on Regional & Local Roads for 2011.

Road	Location	Euro
R351	Loughrea – Woodford (Ballinagar)	€256,000.00

DRAFT 2011-2013 MULTI ANNUAL ROADWORKS RESTORATION PROGRAMME

The Members went through the proposed submissions that had been circulated to each Member in advance of the Meeting.

Gort Engineering Area

After discussion it was agreed that the following are the proposals for 2011-2013 Multi Annual Roadworks Restoration Programme for the Gort Engineering Area:

2011

Road No	Townland Name	Works Type	Length of work (m)	Estimated cost of work
R347	Kinvara/Ardrahan/Craughwell	RR	1,400	€210,000
R353	Kilbeacanty-Derrybrien	RR	1,400	€210,000
L4501	Killeeneen-Craughwell	RR	1,200	€150,625
L8581	Caheradiveane-Ballynagran	RR	1,000	€90,000
L8540/41	Ballyglass-Emlagh	RR	1,500	€67,500
L8537	Issertkelly	RR	1500	€78,750

2012

Road No	Townland Name	Works Type	Length of work (m)	Estimated cost of work
R347	Kinvara/Ardrahan/Craughwell	RR	1,400	€210,000
R353	Kilbeacanty-Derrybrien	RR	1,400	€221,875
L4501	Killeeneen-Craughwell	RR	1,500	€180,000
L4520	Labane-Cregclare	RR	1,600	€195,000

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2013

Road No	Townland Name	Works Type	Length of work (m)	Estimated cost of work
R347	Kinvara/Ardrahan/Craughwell	RR	1,400	€210,000
R353	Kilbeacanty-Derrybrien	RR	1,400	€210,000
L4509	Kinvarra-Kiltartan	RR	1,500	€210,000
L8517/18/19	Peterswell-Bunnaglass	RR	1,500	€176,875

Loughrea Engineering Area

After discussion it was proposed that L-32001 Creggaun, Craughwell be moved from 2011 to 2012 and that L-8251 Issertkelly-Caherlinny be moved from 2012 to 2011 Programme. It was agreed to change L-71524 Cloonkeen to the 2013 Programme and that L-7155 Rahard be changed to the 2012 Programme. It was also agreed that the works proposed for R-350 Benmore, Brackloonbeg be carried out over a two year period, i.e. 2011 & 2012 and works proposed for L-8700 Lissalumma would be carried out over a three year period, i.e. 2011, 2012 & 2013.

The following are the proposals for 2011-2013 Multi Annual Roadworks Restoration Programme for the Loughrea Engineering Area:

2011

Road No	Townland Name	Works Type	Length of work (m)	Estimated cost of work
R347	Cullairbaun, Athenry	RR	750	€184,610
R350	Benmore, Brackloonbeg	RR	500	€88,260
L-8257	Ballygarraun, Woodville	RR	2,640	€219,893
L-8251	Issertkelly-Caherlinny	RR	800	€76,219
L-7183	Clashaganny	RR	800	€67,924
L-8700	Lissalumma	RR	1350	€101,757

2012

Road No	Townland Name	Works Type	Length of work (m)	Estimated cost of work
R-350	Benmore, Brackloonbeg	RR	500	€87,271
L-8251	Issertkelly-Caherlinny	RR	1182	€103,463
L-4219	Deerpark, Kilchreest	RR	1,385	€225,661
L-32001	Creggaun, Craughwell	RR	850	€76,738
L-8700	Lissalumma	RR	1400	€107,280
L-82241	Grallagh	RR	560	€44,014
L-7155	Rahard	RR	1,050	€94,236

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2013

Road No	Townland Name	Works Type	Length of work (m)	Estimated cost of work
L-8249	Castleboy	RR	1,050	€100,334
L-8700	Lissalumma	RR	1100	€97,404
L-85381	Ballymullen	RR	1,490	€123,734
L-71524	Cloonkeen	RR	900	€75,122
L-7214	Moyleen	RR	1,300	€112,229
L-42171	Sonnagh	RR	1,000	€82,588
L-8260	Clostoken	RR	219	€22,322
L-8253	Seefin	RR	1,100	€124,930

Portumna Engineering Area

After discussion it was agreed that the following are the proposals for 2011-2013 Multi Annual Roadworks Restoration Programme for the Portumna Engineering Area:

2011

Road No	Townland Name	Works Type	Length of work (m)	Estimated cost of work
LP4315-63-60-57-53-49	Gortnacooheen	RR	1,800	€70,470
R353-60-63-65	Cregg (Abbey Village)	RR	1,000	€84,500
LS8770-0-19	Rahyconor – Lisduff	RR	4,022	€174,957
LT43132-0-4	Kilcorban	RR	1,626	€63,414
LS8782-9-16-20	Killeen North	RR	2,375	€132,763
LS8783	Polltalloon West	RR	1,046	€40,794
LT43133-0	Kilcorban	RR	462	€18,018
LT43162	Creggeen	RR	211	€8,546
LT82093	Gortnakilla	RR	378	€14,742
LT87831	Killeen North	RR	865	€38,925
LS8227-0-4	Drumkeary West	RR	2,378	€107,010

2012

Road No	Townland Name	Works Type	Length of work (m)	Estimated cost of work
LP4303-35	Longford	RR	1,369	€78,307
LT87611-0	Curraghmore	RR	927	€37,404
R353-101-110	Cregg (Approach To Ballinakill Village)	RR	1,000	€71,500
LT43221-0	Eskerboy	RR	1,688	€65,832
LS8790-0-12-15-17	Abbeyville	RR	3,254	€126,906

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LS8226-0-8-15-19	Burrouge	RR	2,976	€135,408
LP4201-0-16-17-19	Derrygoolin South	RR	3,694	€156,072
LS8789-0-2-14	Easterfield	RR	2,542	€82,615

2013

Road No	Townland Name	Works Type	Length of work (m)	Estimated cost of work
LT87701-0	Kilnamullaun	RR	163	€6,357
LT43161	Gorteenphadder	RR	247	€10,374
LT42052	Commons East	RR	821	€34,482
LS8788-0	Kylemore	RR	1,609	€67,578
LS8773-0-6-12	Lissanard East	RR	1,610	€62,790
LS8787-0-3-12	Coolfin	RR	1,841	€77,322
LP4300-39-47	Mullaghmore	RR	1,280	€69,888
LS8215-41-63	Kylebrack East	RR	3,800	€197,600
LT43031-0	Corballymore	RR	1,077	€45,234
LP4204-0-18	Loughatorick	RR	3,990	€181,545

It was proposed by Cllr. McClearn, seconded by Cllr. Fahy and agreed by the Members.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Signage

Cllr. Hynes requested further signage be erected at Mount Carmel Road/Mount Carmel Crescent junction directing traffic to Town Centre as a lot of traffic was going up towards Abbey Street in error.

Cllr. Willers stated that all the Members had received correspondence from Pallas Karting, Tynagh who have been served enforcement proceedings preventing them from advertising in private lands off the motorway. They have also indicated that there is no signage for Tynagh as you enter the town and they have asked that this matter be addressed as their business would be seriously affected. Cllr. McClearn stated that the matter of unauthorised signage off the Motorway was discussed at a recent Planning SPC meeting where it was agreed that the town of Loughrea was badly advertised on the motorway. He said that there was a need for some kind of policy to be brought forward as a matter of urgency as small businesses such as Pallas Karting would be adversely affected. Cllr. Feeney stated that Craughwell has been devastated since the motorway has opened and they were still awaiting signage to be put in place.

Regulation of Temporary Dwellings/Parking – Kinvara Pier

Report dated 7th September 2010 was circulated to each Member.

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Cllr. Willers referred to a Deputation from Kinvara Residents that had been received at the November Meeting regarding an ongoing problem with campervans using the quay in Kinvara as a caravan park. It was asked that the Council would look into the matter and come back with recommendations as to how to deal with this problem. Mr. Owens referred to report circulated and outlined the main legislative provisions that are available to the Council to facilitate the regulation of parking including the parking of temporary dwellings. He suggested that the best option of dealing with this particular problem would be the issuing of a Prohibition Order which would be dealt with by the Environment Section. He outlined the procedure involved and stated that it would need to be agreed where the prohibition order would apply to, i.e. the Quays, Kinvara Town and the hours that it is to be applied, i.e. overnight, etc. He explained that once the order was made it comes into force after 30 days. Cllr. Feeney stated that they needed to be clear on what they were trying to achieve here and Kinvara was a town that depends a lot on tourism and if there was passing trade they didn't want to cut that off completely. He agreed that the overnight parking was a problem and was causing most concern.

It was agreed that it needed to be established where the Prohibition Order would apply to and also the hours that it will be applied.

Dunkellin Flood Study Report

Cllr. Willers stated that a public meeting was being held on Wednesday, 15th September at 7.00 p.m. in relation to the Dunkellin Flood Study Report.

Traffic exiting off Motorway into Junctions

Cllr. Feeney referred to concerns expressed to him in relation to traffic exiting the motorway that are coming into junctions at very fast speeds, he referred particularly to the junction at Kiltulla. He asked if anything could be done to try and reduce the speed, such as the possibility installing speed limits on these approach roads. He said that it was an issue for people living close to the junctions and suggested that the erection of warning signs would also be a help. He asked that it be put on the agenda for the next meeting.

Chrochnaigh an Cruinniú ansin