

COMHAIRLE CHONTAE NA GAILLIMHE

**MINUTES OF LOUGHREA AREA COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD AT LOUGHREA REGIONAL OFFICES ON
MONDAY, 8th FEBRUARY 2010**

LLATHAIR

Baill:

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

Oifigigh:

Mr. J. Cullen, D.O.S., Environment & Water Services Unit
Mr. M. Lavelle, S.E., Roads & Transportation Unit
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

REVISION OF ROAD RESTORATION GRANTS 2010

Report dated 5th February 2010 and proposed Early Starts for the 2010 Restoration Improvement Programme for Regional and Local Roads for Loughrea Electoral Area were circulated to each Member. Mr. Lavelle explained to the Meeting that Restoration Improvement Programme and Early Starts Programme were prepared in November 2009 based on the priorities that existed at that time. However, subsequent to that and as a result of the severe weather, the regional and local road network had experienced significant and widespread deterioration. He advised that as no additional funding was made available to address this, it was necessary to review the 2010 Restoration Improvement Programme, in order to ensure that available funding was used to best effect to address the priority requirements for remedial works. He said that in the interim, in order to allow the Council to undertake urgent and essential remedial works, a revised Early Starts Programme had been prepared. This Programme has been limited to a max. of five/six schemes for each area, in order to allow essential works to proceed, whilst maintaining the maximum amount of flexibility to prepare a revised Restoration Improvement Programme following notification of the 2010 Grant Allocations. He circulated to the Members a revised Early Starts Programme for consideration by the Members. He advised that the works would be commencing on the approved Early Starts

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within a week or so. He further advised that he would be coming back to the Members with a revised Programme when budgets are allocated by the Department.

Cllr. Feeney queried what impact this revised programme would have on the programme initially agreed by the Members. Mr. Lavelle stated that would be based on the allocations that are made available. He said that the budgets are 10% down on last year. He explained that they had to deal with the severe deterioration of the roads arising from the recent extreme weather conditions and had to look at the repair works as a priority. Cllr. Feeney referred to the Tuam Road, Athenry which is in a deplorable state and highlighted that it was not on the list of proposed Early Starts and requested it be included in the Revised Programme to be presented to the Members at a later stage. Cllr. Willers queried if there was any extra funding arising out of damage caused to certain roads in Gort during the bad flooding and had a request being made to the Department for same. Mr. Lavelle stated that no indication had been made by the Department as to whether extra funding would be made available.

On the proposal of Cllr. Fahy, seconded by Cllr. Feeney, the following Early Starts for the 2010 Restoration Improvement Programme for Loughrea Electoral Area were agreed by the Members:-

Gort

Road No.	Townland Name	Length of Road (M)	Total Area of Road (Sq M)	Estimated cost of Work
R353	Derrybrien	1,500	7,500	€200,000
L8525	Castletown	1,000	4,000	€160,000
L4520	Cregclare	800	3,200	€120,000
L8542	Golf Course	600	2,400	€75,000
L4508/4507	Tiernevin/Killina	700	2,800	€90,000
			Total	€645,000

Loughrea

Road No.	Townland Name	Length of Road (M)	Total Area of Road (Sq M)	Estimated cost of Work
L8219	Ballyknock	830	2,490	€45,000
L71821	Killarriv	730	2,555	€80,000
L7182	Killariv-Kiltullagh	450	1,800	€55,000
R350	Cosmona	470	3,266.50	€120,000
Old N6 (R446)	Newgrove, Kilmeen, Craughwell Village	185	462.50	€14,300
L4300	Mullagh-Kilreekil	200	500	€16,500
			Total	€330,800

Portumna

Road No.	Townland Name	Length of Road (M)	Total Area of Road (Sq M)	Estimated cost of Work
L4309	Mullagh	180	720	€24,480
L4208	Drumkeary West	250	100	€34,000
L4322	Killimor Village @ Salmons Shop	180	720	€24,480
L8795	Clonmoylan-Srah Road	175	700	€23,800
R353	Abbey to Kylemore	150	825	€28,050
R351	Curra	75	413	€14,025
			Total	€148,835

Cllr. Feeney queried if there was a pothole repair programme in place in each engineering area. Mr. Lavelle stated that they were currently looking at the policy in relation to pothole repair and would advise the Members further when this had been finalised. Cllr. McClearn requested that they receive some sort of timeframe as to when repairs will be carried out so that they would be in a position to advise the public of same. Mr. Lavelle stated that he would give them an indication when the Early Starts would commence and as soon as the allocation came from the Department they would advise the Members when they would be starting. The Members requested that they would be informed on a weekly basis what pothole repairs works it was anticipated to be carried out in a particular week. Mr. Lavelle stated that there were crews specifically working on pothole repairs in each area but it was difficult to give a specific time-frame as to when pothole repairs would be done. He stated that he would try and bring forward a system that routine patching would be carried in each area twice a month. Mr. Lavelle suggested that each week each Area would prepare a list of works it intended to do for that week and the Members could contact the Office to enquire what areas were being covered. However, he said that there was no guarantee that would be done in the week if some other emergency arises. Cllr. Finnerty queried if a system could be put in place whereby the Council supplies Clause 804 stone to areas where roads were badly affected by potholes and locals would fill the worst effected pothole themselves. He acknowledged that it was only a temporary measure but it would help and they would be prepared to do the works. In response, Mr. Lavelle stated that it would not be possible to do this as the funding was not available.

NOMINATION OF 2 MEMBERS TO LOUGHREA SMARTER TRAVEL FORUM

On the proposal of Cllr. McClearn, seconded by Cllr. Feeney the following Members were nominated to the Loughrea Smarter Travel Forum:

- Cllr. Michael Maher (Chair)
- Cllr. Bridie Willers

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Review of Engineering Area Boundies

Cllr. Feeney asked if there was an update on the revised engineering area boundaries and queried when it was proposed to take place. Mr. Cullen advised that target date for both the electoral area boundary adjustment and proposals to separate the operation and maintenance of water services from roads was 1st March but co-operation at industrial relations level would determine whether this target could be met. He said that discussions were ongoing and the Members would be kept informed of any update on same. It was agreed that Mr. U. Finn, S.E.E., Ballinasloe would be requested to attend any future Area Meetings.

Chrochnaigh an Cruinniú ansin