

COMHAIRLE CHONTAE NA GAILLIMHE

GALWAY COUNTY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE CONAMARA ELECTORAL AREA MEETING HELD ON Friday, 17th of June 2011 IN ÁRAS AN CHONTAE.

I Láthair:

Baill Comh Tomás Ó'Curraoin, Cathaoirleach
Cllr. Thomas Welby
Cllr. Eileen Mannion
Cllr. Seosamh O'Laoid

Oifigigh: Mr. Ger Mullarkey, Head of Finance
Mr. Evan Molloy, Senior Engineer, Conamara
Mr. Tony Kelly, Senior Executive Engineer, Conamara.
Mr T.J Redmond E.E North Conamara
Mr. Kevin Finn E.E Roads & Transportation
Mr. Seán Groarke, Administrative Officer, Finance

1. Additional Funding-Road Restoration (Improvement) Program

Comh. T. O'Curraoin welcomed on behalf of the committee the additional funding of €3.38 million allocated by the Department of Transport to the Council in regard to the Road Restoration Improvement Program for 2011. He requested E. Molloy to make a presentation to the meeting in regard to the revised program. Mr E.Molloy explained that the €3.38 m was allocated to specific projects distributed throughout the County in accordance with the list of additional Regional & Local road schemes to be funded. He stated that some of the projects had already been included in the original 2011 Annual Road Program. Permission was granted by the Department of Transport and the NRA to reallocate funding for projects already included in the Annual Program to adjoining or nearby roads requiring attention within the same Engineering area. He presented the revised budgets for road restoration in regard to North & South Conamara to the meeting. He explained that 20% of this new allocation and 20% of the original allocation could be used for localised repairs on these road projects and on adjoining roads. This is intended to fund road maintenance and boost employment. The road maintenance budgets were depleted following the severe winter. He confirmed that this extra funding for road maintenance would be used to repair potholes. He requested the elected members to approve the revised road restoration programme appertaining to Conamara. The committee conducted a general discussion

in regard to the revised program and sought clarification in regard to some of the projects. The motion to approve the revised program was proposed by Cllr T. Welby and seconded by Cllr S. O'Laoidh.

Aon Ghnó Eile.

Mr E. Molloy advised the meeting that a report on the submissions received in regard to Kilronan Harbour were been prepared by Mr K. Finn and would be distributed to the elected members. He explained that there was no decision made to date in regard to the legal challenge in regard to Rossaveal. He stated that the Law Agent contacted the Principal Officer in the Department of the Marine and was advised that this legal action should not be an impediment to progressing the bye-laws for Kilronan Harbour. He explained that the construction was nearly complete and the main issues were the permits for the buses and the vessels as well as access for the buses. He outlined how a budget up to €200,000 would be required to run the Harbour on an annual basis and he explained the role of the Harbour Master. The new harbour development was a vital asset to the County and it was imperative that the relevant charges be introduced. He proposed to place this as an item on the next agenda as he wished to see it progress towards the full council meeting.

Comh T. O'Curraoin enquired about the access for currachs under Rusroe Bridge and the impact that the proposed Conamara Access Road could have on Furbo village. Mr K. Finn advised that he would raise the issue with the bridge with Mr S. Langan. Mr E. Molloy advised that he would request Mr F. McEvoy to present an update on the Conamara Access Road to the next meeting.

It was decided to hold the next meeting on Monday, the 27th of June 2011

Chriochnaigh an Cruinniú ansin.