

aCOMHAIRLE CHONTAE NA GAILLIMHE

Report of Oranmore Area Committee Meeting held at Áras an Chontae on the 19th March, 2008

I LATHAIR:-

Baill: Cllr. J. Cuddy, Chairman.
Cllr. M. Hoade.
Cllr. J. McDonagh
Cllr. M. Carey

Oifigigh:- Mr. A. Comer, SEO Planning & Sustainable Development Unit
Mr. E. Gallagher, Executive Engineer Roads & Transportation
Mr. D. Croghan, Senior Executive Engineer, Roads & Transportation
Ms P. Kemple, A.S.O. Planning & Sustainable Development Unit
Ms. G. Clerkin, A.A.S.O. Planning & Sustainable Development Unit
Ms. A. Feeney, A.S.O. Roads & Transportation

1. Minutes of Meeting held on 11th March, 2008.

On the proposal of Cllr. Hoade, seconded by Cllr. Carey, the minutes of the meeting held on the 11th March, 2008 were agreed and adopted.

Cllr Hoade outlined the concerns of the Claregalway School Community and the serious concerns for public safety in the general vicinity of Claregalway NS at the N17/N18 junction.

Cllr Hoade requested an account of all development contributions in the Claregalway area, amount collected and where the monies were spent before the next meeting. Mr. A Comer stated that in order to get a full account of all contributions for the Claregalway area you would need to go through every application individually as contributions are assigned by electoral area.

Cllr Cuddy requested a ballpark figure and to have a copy of the new proposed development contribution scheme by next meeting.

Mr. Comer stated the Manager and Mr. Paul Ridge were still working on it and that it would need to go as a draft first.

Cllr Cuddy stated it was a matter of urgency and hoped the draft would be ready for the April meeting.

Cllr Hoade stated that a copy of the minutes would need to be circulated to Claregalway School.

Mr. Comer agreed a copy would be sent when they were adopted.

Cllr Hoade stated that the NRA had agreed to a meeting to be held with Paul Ridge, the Manager, Cllrs, representatives from Claregalway School and representatives from the Department of Education in relation to funding to overcome the concerns for public safety in the general vicinity of Claregalway NS. She hoped a meeting could be arranged as soon as possible.

Cllr Cuddy proposed to review the Oranmore Traffic Management Plan. He suggested that the Plan be brought forward before major development takes place in the Oranmore area which would inevitably lead to more traffic pressure. He requested the review of this Plan at the earliest opportunity.

Cllr Hoade supports Cllr Cuddys request and states a solution to the traffic problem is needed urgently.

Mr. Comer stated that Mr. Lavelle would have to review the situation and get back to them at the next meeting.

Cllr Cuddy stated that there is major development proposed for the Oranmore area that would add to the existing traffic problems and insisted on reviewing the Traffic Management Plan at the next meeting.

Mr. Comer stated it was not possible to review the Plan at the next meetings but that they could look at alternatives available.

Cllr Cuddy requested a response urgently to see exactly what actions can be taken and refused to wait until the review date of the Plan.

2. Public Lighting

Cllr McDonagh requested the exact cost for lighting and the erection of poles. He also enquired if monies allocated could be transferred from 2007 to 2008?

Mr. E Gallagher replied that he would send a copy of the exact costings to each member and that he would also clarify the situation with monies being carried over to the following year.

Cllr McDonagh enquired about the pole at Laghtgeorge?

Mr. Croghan stated that it was being dealt with by Community and Enterprise.

Cllr Cuddy questioned the whole policy relating to public lighting. Cllr Hoade stated they approved a draft document in relation to lighting but it was not adopted at full council meeting.

Mr. Croghan agreed that they were using the minutes the Cllrs approved as policy.

Cllr. Hoade stated that policy agreed in minutes is not legal and that policy relating to lighting would need to be agreed on at a full council meeting.

Cllr Cuddy stated he would raise it as Majors Business at next meeting.

Mr. Croghan stated he would also like the matter to be clarified.

3. Local Improvements Schemes

Cllr McDonagh queried the timeframe, was it still between 2-3years or had it improved?

Cllr Cuddy questioned allocation and requested clarification in relation to priority schemes.

Mr. Croghan agreed to get back with a timeframe and get a list of schemes from S. Farragher for the next meeting.

4. Draft Road Works Programme 2008

Mr.D Croghan presented a copy of the Draft Roads Programme 2008 to the meeting.

Cllr McDonagh queried the 300,000 allocated for Laghtgeorge last year and if the funding had been lost? Mr. Croghan stated the monies allocated last year would roll over into this year. He stated that works would start in the next few months on the Kiniska Junction to N63.

Cllr Cuddy expressed the need for traffic calming measures at Laghtgeorge and the need for footpaths from Laghtgeorge into the Claregalway village.

Mr. Croghan stated that works will be completed as part of the Bus Corridor from Kiniska Road to Cregboy Junction on the N17.

D.Croghan informed the meeting that there is a new Category on National Primary Maintenance listed as 'Special Maintenance' and most of this money will be spent on treating ragwort. J Cuddy also noted that €25,000 will be deducted from both National Primary & National Secondary Surface Dressing to cover the cost of quality control & cost of standing charges.

The Councillors noted that the allocation for Restoration Improvement is the same as last year. It was also noted that Coosaun Cross was not included for completion on the Specific Improvement Grant for this year.

Cllr Hoade welcomed the allocation for Cloonboo Village Lighting but expressed her disappointment that the Corrandulla School had not been included for safety measures this year and proposed that it be included in next years programme.

Cllr. Carey expressed his disappointment as to why the Lumnagh Headford road was not included as it is an extremely dangerous stretch of road and in need of realignment.

Cllr. Cuddy raised the issue of footpaths. He queried how certain areas could get funding yet other areas lobbying for footpaths are being refused. He expressed his disappointment in the inconsistency.

This was seconded by Cllr. Carey

Cllr. Cuddy enquired about the Caherteemore Road and what was the present situation? He stated that the road from Caherteemore to Athenry was in need of repair and that he had received several complaints in relation to the condition of the road.

Cllr. McDonagh stated the road from Caherteemore to Coolarne was also in need of repair.

Mr. Croghan stated that both roads would be looked at.

Cllr. Hoade expressed her disappointment that the Currandrum – Aughclogheen Road was not included for this year and proposed that it would get priority in next years programme of works.

This was seconded by Cllr. Cuddy

Cllr. Carey stated that the signage at Headford near Claren Church would need to be replaced and maybe relocated as a matter of urgency.

Cllr. Cuddy raised the issue of Cregmore Bridge and how it was a major concern for locals and that it was major traffic hazard. He expressed his disappointment that improvement works at Cregmore Bridge are not included in this years Road Programmes.

Mr. Croghan stated that the bridge would need to be widened which would be very expensive.

Cllr. McDonagh stated that the Cregmore Bridge should be included in next years programme of works.

This was seconded by Cllr. Cuddy

Cllr. Cuddy enquired about Speed Limits, he had heard that there maybe a delay and wanted clarification on what the present situation was by the next council meeting.

Mr. Croghan stated that Mr. John Morgan would need to be contacted in relation to the issue of Speed Limits.

Cllr. McDonagh stated that Speed Limits were on the agenda for the next Council Meeting.

Cllr. Cuddy asked for clarification in relation to Gaeltacht funding. He stated a lot of roads in the Oranmore EA were in the Gaeltach area. He stated gaeltacht funding should not just be given to CLAR or RAPID areas.

Cllr. Carey agreed with Cllr. Cuddy that other areas should not be discriminated against just because they are not CLAR or RAPID areas.

Mr. Croghan agreed that he would get clarification on whether non CLAR/RAPID areas could receive Gaeltacht fundings.

On the proposal of Cllr. Hoade, seconded by Cllr. McDonagh, the Draft Roads Programme 2008 was adopted.

5. Any Other Business

Cllr. Carey enquired about the flooding at Michael Farraghers – Oranmore.

Mr. Maloney stated he would email clarification on the matter and that the works would be done as soon as possible.

Cllr. McDonagh stated the Rathfee Road was in an appalling condition and needed work done urgently. With an estimated cost of 25,000 euro.

Cllr. Cuddy requested that Mr. Croghan assess the situation and come back with a new figure for the Rathfee Road works.

Mr. Croghan stated he would assess the situation and revert back in due course.

It was agreed to hold the next meeting on Monday 28th April, 2008 at 10:00 a.m.

Criochnaigh an Cruinniú Ansin