

COMHAIRLE CHONTAE NA GAILLIMHE

Report of Oranmore Area Committee Meeting held at Áras an Chontae on the 24th September, 2009

I LATHAIR:-

Baill: Cllr. J. Cuddy (Chairperson)
Cllr. L. Carroll
Cllr. J. McDonagh
Cllr. M. Noone

Oifigigh:- Mr. A. Comer, A/Director of Service, Planning & Sustainable
Development
Mr. M. Dolly, Senior Engineer, Roads & Transportation
Mr. E. Gallagher, Executive Engineer, Roads & Transportation
Ms. Liadhan Keady, Assistant Staff Officer, Planning &
Sustainable Development

1. Minutes of meetings held 16th March 2009 & 27th July 2009

The minutes of the meeting held on the 16th March 2009 were proposed by, Cllr. McDonagh and seconded by Cllr. Noone.

The minutes of the meeting held on the 27th July 2009 were proposed by, Cllr. McDonagh and seconded by Cllr. Noone.

Matters arising from minutes of meeting 27th July 2009

On the 27th July 2009, it was requested by the Councillors that a definition of 'Periodic Speed Limits' be provided. Mr. Dolly proceeded to outline this to the Councillors stating that, the Roads Act 2004 Section 9(5) provides for Periodic Speed Limits and defines same. Mr. Dolly also stated that, Circular RST4 2005 from the department, provided for the Local Authority to make By-Laws regarding Periodic Speed Limits. Mr. Dolly informed the meeting that due to the associated costs of providing Periodic Speed Limits at schools i.e. €40,000 per school for civil works and signs, it would not be possible to provide them at each school. Mr. Dolly stated that he has a proposal sent to the

Department regarding the use of current flashing lights at schools and this is being considered.

The Chairman reiterated his concerns over Coldwood School and the speed limit at same. Mr. Dolly stated that, at the last County Council meeting it was agreed that, if the monies were available, the Roads Department would prioritise schools with a need for periodic speed limits and start working on them and Coldwood had been mentioned for consideration.

Mr. Dolly suggested that the Councillors should put a motion forward that a submission be made to the NRA for funding of €40,000 for Periodic Speed Limits at Coldwood School. This motion was proposed by, Cllr. O'Carroll and seconded by the Chairman.

Mr. Dolly also informed the meeting that the Councillors could make provision for Periodic Speed Limits at schools in the estimates for 2010 and the roads department will start installing them on a priority basis.

Mr. Dolly stated that flashing lights are at all schools at present and funding will not be needed for this next year, except for maintenance, i.e. €20,000, which would allow some money for the Periodic Speed Limits in the estimates.

Cllr. McDonagh thanked the Roads Department for their work with regard to ensuring flashing lights were presently placed at all schools.

2. Specific Improvement Road Grant requirements for 2010

Mr. Dolly outlined the guidelines received from the Department, regarding submissions under the Specific Improvements Road Grant requirements for 2010 and informed the meeting of the criteria set down in same, with respect to how the monies should be spent. Mr. Dolly stated that, with each submission made to the Department, the Local Authority must provide justification for same and in turn the decision would be based on this justification.

Mr. Dolly informed the meeting that the Department has stated that the allocation under this grant must not exceed that given in 2009, i.e. €2.745m of which would be split into two, i.e. €1.647m for East Galway and €1.098 for West. Mr. Dolly stated that Oranmore fell into the East and has 5% of the total road network in that area and therefore be entitled to 5% of the funding i.e. €82,000 under this grant allocation.

Mr. Dolly then went on to outline 3 proposals that have been put forward in the past and which should be considered for inclusion under this grant:

1. R339 Carnmore Cross to Belville
2. L8104 (Maree Road) Oranmore
3. R334 Headford to Cong Road

Another road worthy of proposal is the R348, Derrydonnell to Athenry Road.

Mr. Dolly expressed the Road Departments preference regarding the R339 as this would allow this road to be brought fully up to standard and finished. A discussion took place regarding the proposals and Cllr. McDonagh proposed that, the R339 Carnmore to Belville should be included in a submission under this grant and this was seconded by Cllr. Noone.

4. AOB

Cllr. Noone asked Mr. Dolly if there was any update on the situation at Corrandulla Cross. In response, Mr. Dolly informed the meeting that Corrandulla Cross was being considered under the Safety Improvement Program 2010. Mr. Gallagher stated that yellow bars will be put on the approach to the junction from Corrandulla in the next month. The Chairman informed the meeting that a delegation from Corrandulla has requested a meeting with the officials of the Local Authority, and in response Mr. Dolly stated he had no issues with this being done through the Oranmore Area Committee meeting.

A discussion then took place regarding Route lighting in Claregalway and the Chairman proposed that a submission to the NRA be made for this. Cllr. McDonagh seconded this proposal.

Cllr. Cuddy expressed concern over the Maree Road, and after a brief discussion, Mr. Dolly stated that the Rinville West junction (road by Dr. Lydon's) would be considered for a Low Cost Accident Scheme.

The issue regarding the damage to roads in the areas of Lisheenkyle and Castlelambert were also raised by the Chairman. In response, Mr. Dolly informed the meeting that the NRA had provided €1.5m towards repairs to haul routes within the county and the Roads Department would be preparing a program of works regarding same to include provision for these areas.

Cllr. McDonagh requested an update on the status of filling potholes. Mr. Gallagher informed the meeting that staff had been involved in other works and would be back on the road filling potholes next week.

Cllr. McDonagh also enquired as to what the situation was with NOM's at present. Mr. Gallagher replied to this, that the issue was down to manpower but that he would hope to start these again in the coming weeks, as he wanted all work schedules for 2009 to be cleared by year end.

Cllr. O'Carroll requested an update on Casey's Cross. Mr. Gallagher informed the meeting that yellow bars would be placed on the Fury's approach and proceeded to give an update of works regarding the Cross as follows:

- Roevagh Junction: New Road Text, Stop Line and one sign upgrade
- Clarinbridge Approach: Solid White Line and tree to be removed
- Furey's Cross approach: New stop line and yellow bars

Cllr. O'Carroll expressed concern regarding the roundabout at the Community Centre in Oranmore, in so far as, from the approach of the Maldron Hotel to this roundabout you

travel on a dual carriageway, however, if then exiting onto the Limerick Road you enter a single carriageway, which seems to be causing confusion to drivers and requested that this could be investigated. Mr. Gallagher replied to this by saying, he would contact Lucy Curtis of the NRA Safety regarding same, to seek guidance.

Cllr. O'Carroll informed the meeting that works on a site in Oranhill owned by Mr. Ronnie Green had been started sometime ago and that the footpath had been taken away however at present nothing has been finished leaving an accident prone area. Mr. O'Carroll stated the owner had been brought to a hearing in June but that it had been adjourned. Mr. Comer replied that he was not familiar with the case but would look for an update from the Enforcement unit.

The Chairman also requested that Mr. Gallagher would investigate the lodging of water at the entrance of the Garraun Road. Mr. Gallagher replied that he would look at this.

Cllr. Noone requested a status regarding yellow boxes at the Housing Estate opposite the Claregalway School and Kiniska. Mr. Gallagher informed Cllr. Noone that the housing estate issue was being actively viewed and that the Kiniska junction was previously referred to Roads and an update would be sought.

Cllr. Noone informed the committee that drivers were having difficulty realising that the bus corridor in Claregalway Village, outbound towards Tuam, had finished and seemed to be straying onto the wrong side of the road. Mr. Gallagher told the meeting that he would visit the site and investigate same.

The next meeting of the committee was agreed for the 19th October 2009.

Criochnaigh an Chruinniu Ansin