

## COMHAIRLE CHONTAE NA GAILLIMHE

### **Report of Oranmore Area Committee Meeting held at Áras an Chontae on the Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> September 2011**

#### **I LATHAIR:-**

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

**Oifigigh:** Mr. A. Comer, Senior Executive Officer, Planning &  
Sustainable Development Unit  
Mr. E. Molloy, Senior Engineer, Roads &  
Transportation Unit  
Mr. J. Leahy, Senior Executive Engineer,  
Tuam/Oranmore Area  
Mr. E. Gallagher, Executive Engineer, Tuam, Area  
Mr. J. Coyle, Executive Engineer, Oranmore Area  
Ms. Liadhan Keady, Assistant Staff Officer, Planning &  
Sustainable Development Unit

#### **1. Minutes of Meeting dated 17<sup>th</sup> June 2011**

The minutes of the meeting held on the 17<sup>th</sup> June 2011 were proposed for adoption by Cllr. Cuddy, and seconded by Cllr. Noone.

#### **Matters Arising:**

Cllr. Cuddy requested an update on the works to be carried out on the Baunmore Road. Mr. Gallagher stated that it appears the NRA has not included the project on their 2012 list. The NRA has forwarded a list of projects, requesting additional information from Galway County Council. The Oranmore office will highlight this location again in their returns.

#### **2. Election of Chairman & Vice-Chairman 2011-2012**

The Chairperson thanked everybody for their assistance during his year of office and called for a nomination to the position of Chair. Cllr. Noone was proposed for adoption by Cllr. Cuddy and seconded by Cllr. Carroll. Cllr. Carroll was proposed for adoption to the position of Vice-Chair by Cllr. Noone and seconded by Cllr. Cuddy.

Mr. Comer congratulated Cllr. Noone and Cllr. Carroll and thanked Cllr. McDonagh for his contribution over the last year. The Chairperson, Cllr. Noone, thanked all the present and stated his desire to do his best over the coming year.

### **3. NOM's**

Cllr. McDonagh expressed his concern over the fact that monies he had provided through NOM with regard to works at the Mystical Rose Nursing Home had still not been completed and would appreciate if they could be done. In response, Mr. Gallagher stated that due to a lack of manpower and the requirement to finish all Departmental scheme works before their expiry date, the focus was being placed on the Departmental works. Failure to complete works within the required timeframe, would result in the return of grant monies to the Department. When these were completed the works under NOM's would be done.

Cllr. McDonagh stated that representations had been made to him regarding flooding on the N17 side of the Parkmore Road at Ballybrit. Mr. Gallagher stated that flooding had occurred here previously due to a blockage; the surface water network would be checked to ensure there were no new blockages.

Cllr. Cuddy stated that while local people were willing to clear gullies themselves they could not gain access as they were being locked. In response Mr. Gallagher stated that this was a safety measure carried out so as to ensure children could not gain access to them. Cllr. Cuddy enquired whether it would be possible to provide a key to a responsible member of the community. Mr. Gallagher stated he would have no problem with this and would look into the matter if and when they were approached by a person.

Cllr. Carroll stated that there was a huge issue with flooding at the Community Centre in Oranmore. In response, Mr. Gallagher stated he would investigate same.

Cllr. McDonagh stated that representations had been made to him to provide funding for a playground in Lackagh. He added that he had discussed this with the DOS for Roads & Transportation, Mr. Frank Gilmore, who had agreed to allow NOM monies be spent here. Cllr. McDonagh proposed that he spend €5,000 of his NOM on this project. This was seconded by Cllr. Carroll.

Cllr. McDonagh stated that the recent vandalism of the new Cemetary in Lackagh had caused serious distress to the community and requested that the Councillors be allowed to allocate NOM's monies for lighting be placed at the cemetery so as to act as a deterrent. In response, Mr.

Gallagher stated that this request would have to go before the DOS for approval. Cllr. McDonagh added that it was important to give something back here as the Council had received the Cemetary ground for free. Cllr. Cuddy stated that it was important the DOS know that this had the full back of the 4 Councillors. In response, Mr. Gallagher stated he would bring the request to the DOS.

A brief discussion took place regarding hedge cutting and the provision of same on the old N6 dual carriageway and county roads in general. Mr. Leahy stated that the rates for Plant Hire in general are extremely competitive over the last 2 years, but the Safety element was exorbitant. Cllr. Carroll suggested that greater co-operation and agreement between the County & City Council regarding the issue on the N6 could solve the problem. In response Mr. Molloy stated that he was fully behind the idea of agreement with the City Council and he would be meeting them regarding this, however presently monies were being taken from the Road Maintenance Fund for these types of works which was leaving a shortage to carry out works in relation to potholes etc and long-term this could not continue. He added that he would carry out an overall examination of the situation and bring back a plan.

The Chairperson enquired as to whether the public could cut the hedges themselves. In response, Mr. Gallagher stated that it was a persons own business if they cut hedges on their own property. The Council are not in a position to check the safety statements and insurances of private contractors taken on by the general public.

#### **4. Sponsorship of Roundabouts**

Mr. Molloy informed the meeting that the current situation in relation to this was that a tender had been received from Liam Madden and a meeting was being organized with him to discuss his Insurance requirements and to put together a work plan. He added that he would have a progress report on this for the next meeting.

Cllr. Carroll congratulated the Oranmore Bring Banks who won the best in Ireland for their category.

#### **5. Oranmore Traffic Plan**

Mr. Coyle informed the meeting that 9 submissions had been received relating to the Traffic Plan some of which had no relevance to the plan but others requested amendments or additions to the proposed plan.

Mr. Gallagher suggested that Mr. Coyle put together a report and recommendations on the submissions received for approval at the next meeting of the Oranmore Area Committee. In response the Chairperson suggested that a special meeting be held on the 26<sup>th</sup> September @ 12noon to deal with this issue so that works could commence on the Traffic Plan. This was agreed by the meeting.

## **6. AOB**

Cllr. Carroll enquired as to whether the Material Contravention of the Local Area Plan for Oranmore which would allow Galway County Council grant planning permission for the Gaelscoil, had been included on the September meeting. In response Mr. Comer stated it had and he will ensure it appears high on the agenda.

Mr. Molloy provided a copy of the proposal being put forward to the Department for funding under the Specific Improvement Works 2012 and stated that while he hoped to receive the monies requested, the reality, based on the figure approved for 2011, would be that not all the monies would be received and therefore he asked the Councillors to prioritise the 2 options being given.

Cllr. Carroll proposed the works on the LP4101 Oranhill to Rinville as a priority. The proposal was seconded by Cllr. Cuddy and he added that it was vital that the curbing and the footpath be improved as part of these works as there is no lighting on this stretch and the path is extremely narrow for any users. Cllr. Cuddy requested an update as to the sightlines at Dr. Lydons. In response Mr. Gallagher stated that this had been included in the Low Cost Accident Scheme and they were awaiting a response.

Cllr. Cuddy requested an update on the works granted funding on the Ballynamanagh Road. In response, Mr. Coyle stated that the monies allocated were unfortunately spent elsewhere. Mr. Molloy suggested that a review of the Road Programme 2011 be carried out so as to see what works have been completed and which ones haven't so that when the list comes from the Department for 2012 we maybe able to provide monies to the jobs that lost out in 2011 i.e. Ballynamanagh, Casey's Cross, Coolarne etc.

## **Criochnaigh an Chruinniu Ansin**