

## COMHAIRLE CHONTAE NA GAILLIMHE

### MINUTES OF THE TUAM AREA COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN ÁRAS AN CHONTAE ON Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> of March 2009

#### I LATHAIR:

**Baill:** Cllr. T. McHugh, Chairman.  
Cllr. T. Reilly, Cllr. T. Walsh, Cllr. M Connolly, Cllr. S. Canney.

**Oifigigh:** Mr. F. Gilmore, Director of Services, Mr. M. Dolly, Senior Engineer, Mr. J. Leahy, Senior Executive Engineer, Mr. P. Gavin, Executive Engineer, Mr. M. Flesk, Executive Engineer, Mr. S. Groarke Administrative Officer, Ms. M. Cunningham, Staff Officer.

#### **1. Minutes of Meeting of the 18<sup>th</sup> of February 2009**

The minutes of the last meeting of the 18<sup>th</sup> of February 2009 were proposed by Cllr. Reilly and seconded by Cllr. Walsh.

Cllr. Reilly followed up on the minutes by raising the question as to whether there had been any further developments on the proposed upgrade of the junction on the Weir Road. Cllr. McHugh stated that there was no question of any additional land being acquired for this. Mr. Gilmore stated that it was not possible to provide a full access junction at this location as there was not enough distance between Ballygaddy Road and Weir Road. Mr. Gilmore also stated that the Part 8 for this project was very specific and if further lands were acquired outside the site specified on the Part 8, then a supplementary Part 8 would have to be carried out for that land outside the specified site.

#### **2. Draft Roads Programme 2009.**

Mr. J. Leahy and Mr. M. Dolly presented the Draft Roads Programme 2009 to the Members in advance of the full Council Meeting.

Cllr. Connolly enquired as to where the €20,000 allocated for traffic calming in Moylough would be used. Mr. Leahy replied that it would be used to complete the job currently underway.

Mr. Dolly informed the Members that there had been a query from the Department of the Environment and Local Government regarding projects committed to but not begun. Mr. Dolly confirmed that works at the R328 Cloonkell Bridge and the R332 Kilbannon had begun but that works at the R333 Castlehackett had not yet started. Cllr. Canney asked when the works at Castlehackett would begin. Mr. Leahy stated that land searches had been carried out and a design was been drawn up and that it was hoped to begin works within the next few months.

Mr. Dolly informed the Members that the budget for maintenance for local roads had been reduced and that this would have serious implications. Mr. Dolly suggested a report recommending that speed limits be reviewed only in those areas with developments already in place and not in any other areas. The report would outline the cost savings resulting from this. Cllr. Reilly stated that such a report would be welcome and that all of his proposals to do with speed limits had been made entirely on the basis of safety. Cllr. Reilly also wished to state that a proposal for a speed limit review on the Dunmore road had come from the residents of Fortyacres. The Members expressed general agreement with the proposal.

Cllr. Connolly asked for clarification on the shortfall in the maintenance budget. Mr. Dolly stated that the budget was €1.9 million less than last year. Cllr. Reilly enquired as to whether the method of filling potholes could be changed. Cllr. McHugh stated that while he agreed that a more permanent method of filling potholes would be preferable, Galway County Council was obliged to keep the roads in trafficable condition at all times.

Mr. Dolly clarified that Discretionary Improvement Grants were allocated in this programme on the basis of priority needs, and not per area.

Mr. Dolly informed the Members that he had received a deputation regarding a bridge at Cloondahamper. Mr. Dolly stated that this bridge is considered structurally sound and is thus not included on the program for 2009.

Mr. Dolly stated that consideration should be given to allocating Notice of Motion monies for local road maintenance. Cllr. Walsh stated that it would be useful to be given estimates of how much works cost. Mr. Dolly stated that every effort would be made to provide such estimates where needed.

Cllr. McHugh enquired as to the completion of works at Brownsgrrove. Mr. Dolly stated that funding had been refused from the NRA and that the €30,000 allocated in the Programme was for completion of the works, including completion of the wall and fencing off the green area.

Cllr. Walsh asked whether all Notice of Motions money provided for lighting had been used up. Mr. Dolly stated that the monies allocated in this programme were part of a provision for new lights under a previous Road Works Programme.

Cllr. Connolly asked whether there was any part of the Programme that could be adjusted so that extra funds could be put towards maintenance for local roads. Mr. Dolly replied that the only scope was within the Speed Limit review.

Cllr. Reilly enquired as to whether the funds allocated for surface dressing on the Dublin Road could be used at Airglorney. Mr. Leahy replied that the allocation would be used for that section of the road.

Cllr. Reilly proposed the Draft Road Works Programme be accepted. This was seconded by Cllr. Connolly.

*Chríochnaigh an cruinniú ansin*