

**COMHAIRLE CHONTAE NA GAILLIMHE**  
**(Galway County Council)**

Oifig an Runai,  
Arus an Chontae,  
**GAILLIMH.**

16 Bealtaine, 1995.

**CHUIG GACH BALL DE'N CHOMHAIRLE/**

A Chara,

Iarrtar ort leis seo bheith i lathair ag cruinniú Miosiuil de Chomhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe a thionolfar ins na Foirgnithe Chontae, Gaillimh De Luain, an 22ú lá Bealtaine, 1995, ag tosnu ar a **3.30** a chlog sa trathnóna.

Mise, le meas,

**T. O CAOMHANAIGH,**  
**RUNAI.**

**CLAR**

1. Consideration of Minutes of the following Meetings:
  - (a) Minutes of Special Meeting held on 7th April, 1995.
  - (b) Minutes of Special Meeting held In Committee, on 10th April, 1995.
  - (c) Minutes of Special Meeting held on 10th April, 1995.
  - (d) Minutes of Monthly Meeting held on the 24th April, 1995.
2. To note miontuairisci cruinniú Coiste Gaeilge ar an 27ú Aibreán, 1995.

3. Material Contravention of the County Development Plan relating to Application for proposed Hotel and Sewerage Treatment system at Carrowmanagh, Oughterard. Applicant: D & M Fogarty. Planning Ref. No. 72227.
4. Address by Michael O Muircheartaigh, Cathaoirleach, Bord Na Gaeilge.
5. To Approve Overdraft Accommodation for the 6 months ending 31st December, 1995. Report Attached.
6. Sale of plot of land at Milestone, Kilcolgan to Maura & Sean Bindon, Milestone, Kilcolgan - Section 83 Notice dated 21st April, 1995 already circulated.
7. To fix date for Annual Meeting of the Council.
8. To fix date for meeting of Committee on Town and Village Government.
9. To adopt Resolution for extension of time for Review of County Development Plan.
10. To consider adoption of Higher Education Grants Scheme, 1995 (copy attached).
11. To consider letter from N.R.A. re Speed Limits.
12. To consider County Action Plan for Town and Village Renewal Grants Scheme.
13. Nomination of 4 delegates for D.O.E. Conference on Social Housing.
14. Planning for the Travelling Community 1995-2000 - to consider discussion document circulated.
15. Business submitted by the Chairman.
16. Business submitted by the County Manager.

COUNCILLORS NOTICES OF MOTIONS :

- Adjourned From Previous Meeting :

CLR. SEAMUS GAVIN  
- I will propose :

17

That repairs are carried out on the Home Farm Road in Moycullen and also on the nearby Tumnasragh Road (near Connells).

COUNCILLORS NOTICES OF MOTIONS :

- Other Motions Received :

CLR. JOE BRENNAN  
- I will propose :

18

That Galway County Council make provision for the supply of running water to the four Council houses in Clonfert beside Cathedral.

CLR. JOE BRENNAN  
- I will propose :

19

That the wall on the bridge between Addergoole & Killooney on the sinking river be rebuilt due to existing danger to children.

CLR. MICHAEL CUNNINGHAM  
- I will propose :

20

That Galway County Council seek funding to pay compensation to the Flood Victims of South Galway whose homes have been flooded as a result of the recent flooding tragedy.

CLR. MICHAEL CUNNINGHAM  
- I will propose :

21

That Galway County Council repair fencing around Punchbowl at Gort, as this is a great danger to livestock.

CLR. MICHAEL CUNNINGHAM  
- I will propose :

22

That Galway County Council provide Speed Limit from Sherry's Pub to Peterswell Cross including School. Also, to remove clay bank on both sides of the road from Sherrys to Cross road for safety of children coming and going to school.

CLR. MICHAEL FAHY  
- I will propose :

23

That Galway Co.Co. erect traffic national route lighting in village of Ardrahan where lighting is urgently required, and that FAS erect marketcross & pump in village, and village square requires to be tarmacked, and that FAS replace all sub-standard footpaths in the square.

CLR. MICHAEL FAHY  
- I will propose :

24

That Galway County Council request the Department of the Environment approve and sanction Grants for the Skehana - Peterswell Group Water Scheme.

CLR. MICHAEL FAHY

- I will propose :

25

That Galway County Council clean and erect signs at Commonage at Lisduff, Craughwell - where refuse dumping is occurring at a very serious nature.

CLR. SEAMUS GAVIN

- I will propose :

26

Has the County Council received any information regarding the investigation which was sought into the condition and water quality in the Ballyquirke Lake and surrounding water systems? Is the sewerage system for the area adequate to the continuing high levels of development in the Moycullen area?

CLR. MATT LOUGHNANE

- I will propose :

27

That the County Manager establish the up-to-date position on the plan for coastal protection at Tawin as agreed by the Council at the January Meeting.

CLR. MATT LOUGHNANE

- I will propose :

28

That the drains under the road at a location in the Athenry Electoral Area be replaced with pipes.

CLR. MATT LOUGHNANE

- I will propose :

29

That sight distance be improved at the junction of the Ballyminna Road with the N6 at Craughwell by the removal of scrub growth.

CLR. JIMMY MC CLEARN

- I will propose :

30

That Galway County Council take steps to alleviate the flooding which occurs on the road at Ms. Ita Shiel's house, Kylebrack, Loughrea, Co. Galway.

CLR. JIMMY MC CLEARN

- I will propose :

31

That Galway County Council carry out resurfacing to the Knockash Road, Kylebrack, Loughrea, Co. Galway.

CLR. JIMMY MC CLEARN

- I will propose :

32

That Galway County Council would make arrangements to clean the culverts on Mr. Michael Murphy's land at Newtowndaly, Loughrea, Co. Galway.

CLR. JARLATH MC DONAGH

- I will propose :

33

That Galway County Council erect extra and adequate sign post adjacent to Cregmore Bridge, Claregalway.

CLR. JARLATH MC DONAGH

- I will propose :

34

That Galway County Council would inform me of the current position regarding applicants who apply for Granny Flats in the rural environs of Co. Galway especially on the Turloughmore/Claregalway areas. I want to make specific reference to one application (details supplied) and wish to ascertain the position regarding this application.

CLR. PADDY MC HUGH

- I will propose :

35

That Galway County Council carry out road improvement works to alleviate recurring flooding problems at location specified below (details enclosed).

CLR. PADDY MC HUGH

- I will propose :

36

That Galway County Council provide new road sign (details enclosed)

CLR. PADDY MC HUGH

- I will propose :

37

That Galway County Council inform me of progress being made in relation to improvement works (details enclosed).

CLR. CONNIE NI FHATHARTA

- I will propose :

38

Go gcuirfidh Comhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe comhartha "No Camping" in airde ag Tra an Doilin, an Cheathru Rua.

CLR. CONNIE NI FHATHARTA

- I will propose :

39

Go ndeanfaidh Comhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe na driseacha ar an bothar reigiunach R336 a ghearradh.

CLR. CONNIE NI FHATHARTA  
- I will propose :

40 Go ndeanfaidh Comhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe Reilig Cuireal  
Leitirmeallain a meadu.

CLR. EAMONN O'CUIV  
- I will propose :

41 That draining be carried out on the Clifden Road in  
Tullyvoheen, Clifden on both the old road and the new road  
to stop flooding that is occurring there between the old  
bridge and the house of Ivor Duane.

CLR. EAMONN O'CUIV  
- I will propose :

42 That proposals be made to the National Roads Authority by  
Galway County Council regarding the provision of traffic  
route lighting through all villages on the N59 where the  
thirty mile speed limit applies, that have not had traffic  
route lighting provided for them to date.

CLR. EAMONN O'CUIV  
- I will propose :

43 That repairs would be carried out to the road as far as  
Glassislaun Beach in Renvyle, Co. Galway.

CLR. SEAN O'NEACHTAIN  
- I will propose :

44 That Galway County Council would improve this junction  
(details supplied) as to alleviate the danger associated  
with it.

CLR. SEAN O'NEACHTAIN  
- I will propose :

45 Go gcuirfeadh an Chomhairle Condae ar fail an uimhir  
mheanach den tracht laethiul an na boithre seo (sonraí  
leis seo).

CLR. SEAN O'NEACHTAIN  
- I will propose :

46 Go gcuirfeadh Comhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe cosan coisi  
ar fail idir Geata Theach an Spideal agus an ionad slainte  
an Spideil. Bíonn ar go leor daoine sean agus og an bothar  
seo a shiul go dtí an t-ionad slainte chun cuairt a  
thabhairt ar a n-doctor agus ta an bothar fíor  
chontuirteach doibh.

COUNCILLORS NOTICES OF MOTIONS :

- Other Motions Received :

CLR. PAT O'SULLIVAN  
- I will propose :

47

That immediate works be carried out on the Lenafin Road,  
Ahascragh.

CLR. EVELYN VARLEY  
- I will propose :

48

That Galway County Council provide a footpath from Church  
Road to Presentation College, Headford - Notice of Motions  
monies provided.

CLR. EVELYN VARLEY  
- I will propose :

49

That Galway County Council provide bottle and can banks  
for Headford.

CLR. EVELYN VARLEY  
- I will propose :

50

That Galway County Council provide a parking area at the  
Arch in Athenry (details supplied).

**COMHAIRLE CHONTAE NA GAILLIMHE**

**MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING OF GALWAY COUNTY  
COUNCIL HELD AT THE COUNTY BUILDINGS, GALWAY  
ON FRIDAY, 12TH MAY, 1995**

**Cathaoirleach:-** An Comhairleoir P. O'Tuathail.

**Baill:-** Councillors T. Byrne, J. Callanan,  
Deputy P. Connaughton, Councillors  
M. Cunningham, M. Fahy, M.  
Finnerty, S. Gavin, T. Hussey,  
M. Loughnane, J. Mannion, Senator  
J. McDonagh, Councillors P. McHugh,  
M. Mullins, C. Ni Fhatharta, S.  
O'Neachtain, M. O'Neill, P.  
O'Sullivan, K. Quinn, M. Regan, M.  
Ryan, E. Varley, and T. Walsh.

**Oifigigh:-** Messrs. D. Nelson, Deputy Co.,  
Manager, B. Callagy, S.E.E.,  
T. Connell, S.S.O., B. Ginnelly,  
C.T. and T. Kavanagh, County  
Secretary.

Thosnaigh an crinniu leis an paidir.

**RESOLUTIONS OF SYMPATHY**

3028

A Resolution of Sympathy was passed with the following:-

Mrs. Josephine Glavery, Clooncun, Glenamaddy, Co. Galway.  
Mr. Sean Geoghegan & Family, Grannagh, Ardrahan, Co. Galway.

**CONFERENCE**

3029

On the proposition of Councillor Mannion, seconded by Councillor Hussey, it was agreed that the following Members be nominated for attendance at the following conference, details of the estimated cost of attendance at the conference having been circulated to each Member.

**Environmental Recognition Conference - Skelling  
Hotel, Dingle - 18-20th May, 1995**

Councillor Regan  
Councillor Mannion  
Councillor Peadar O'Tuathail

**REVIEW OF COUNTY DEVELOPMENT PLAN**

3030

Chapter 7 which deals with Rural Areas had been circulated to the members and Mr. Brian Callagy proceeded to read through the chapter and highlighted the changes which had been made to this revised edition. He stated that the development control area around Galway City had been reduced in size and was now in line with the Councillors requests. He also referred to the definition of essential housing need which had been amended. He then dealt with the new concept of clustered development which was part of this revised draft. Councillor Gavin requested to know how would enurement clauses apply to people who claimed an essential housing need. Mr. Callagy informed the Councillor that each application would be dealt with on its merits and would depend on seriousness of the situation. The Councillor stated that the implementation of enurement clauses was not being imposed uniformly and referred to a particular case where this occurred. Cllr. O'Neachtain stated that in relation to the area of special development control, he requested an indication as to what changes had been made. He added that he wished to look at the definition of essential housing need and pointed to the terminology of a farm-holder. He stated that he wanted a native of an area to be allowed build in his own locality. He believes that the term farm-holder is not a correct title. Referring to Connemara in particular, he added that a farm-holder is not a technical word that conveys the needs of the areas and he would like to see this definition looked at.

Mr. Callagy informed the meeting that this Chapter dealt only with the Environs of Galway City and did not cover the amenity areas. Cllr. Fahy requested to know if this chapter dealt with Clarinbridge and Moyveela where there had recently been a number of section 4 motions. He was informed that the Environs of Galway City did not go out as far as these townlands.

Mr. Callagy then spoke on the definition of ribbon development. He stated that the Planning Authority would deal with ribbon development by considering grants of permission solely for the development of single sites so that each application can be considered on its merits. He added that if the definition was removed altogether, then this would lead to planning applications being lodged for 6 or 7 houses in a row and added that it would be better to take each application singly and on its merits. Cllr. Callanan requested to know how this procedure would work and requested to know if an owner of land sold three sites to three different people, would permission be forthcoming. He added that it was not clear in the chapter. Mr. Callagy stated that the Council were trying to prevent housing estate type

development on a country road which in turn would lead to traffic and septic tank problems. Cllr. O'Neachtain stated that ribbon development had its faults but was there because people had to build on side roads and requested to know if there was an alternative to this type of development. He stated that he found it difficult to understand the alternative offered and he would like this topic to be discussed.

Cllr. Gavin stated that the Council members were looking at the present situation in a different perspective than the planners. They were looking at it from a representation point of view. He added that people were not in a position to pay £25,000 for a serviced site and as a result they want to build on County Roads. He requested to know how ribbon development policy can be explained to the ordinary person in such cases and added that it is money that matters to people and not planning. He stated he was trying to point out the problems in planning and referred to page 29 on the research document. He was only trying to change the plan because the feeling was that the last plan did not work.

Mr. Callagy stated that the majority of rural housing is second family dwellings and that each case is considered on its merits. Cllr. Gavin stated that he was just pointing out the problems that they had encountered. He stated that people liked living in the countryside and having the benefit of the City.

Cllr. O'Neachtain stated that he agreed that the County Development Plan cannot be an ideal plan. He added that the basic problem was that nothing had changed since 1963. He requested to know what was the interest of the common good as quoted in this particular legislation. He added that this Act is outdated and does not in fact consider the common interest. He does not agree that the national policy should come before local policy. He added that he could not see any solution to the problem of ribbon development other than creating a village format in a number of places. He stated that people want to live on their own holding.

Mr. Callagy then went through objective 3 which deals with backlands development. He stated that this type of development is undesirable and applies in the rural environs of Galway City. He added that it would depreciate the value of property. He then spoke on objective number 4 which deals with the capacity of the road system. He stated that most roads around Galway City are at capacity and if the level of development is allowed to continue, then there will be complaints as regards the capability of the road taking this extra burden.

Cllr. O'Neachtain referred to the damage which had occurred to roads. He stated the provision in this

chapter was a very positive one. He knows of roads which had been damaged by overweight trucks going and coming from building sites and added that the road in certain cases may be completely destroyed. He agrees with the proposal in the chapter to levy people responsible for damaging such roads.

The Chairman stated that in areas of high scenic amenity, the Council should try to identify areas which have been overdeveloped and release them to further development for instance allowing backlands development in such cases. In this way, this will take the pressure of other areas.

Cllr. Quinn required clarification on areas which are outside the development control area. The Councillor then stated that trees should be planted to improve the environment and that the construction of houses in a line should be discouraged. She stated that people cannot be taken out of rural areas and that it was important that houses were allowed in such areas. She stated that if young people were taken out of the country areas, this would lead to desolation of parts of the County.

She continued stating that people should be allowed build in rural areas and in this way to keep local facilities in place.

Mr. Callagy informed the members that the only real restrictions on ribbon development are in the Environs of Galway City and stated that the problem is only around urban areas particularly the city of Galway. He added that ribbon development was not a problem in rural areas and generally did not arise.

Mr. Callagy then spoke on objective number 5 which deals with traffic hazard. Deputy Connaughton stated that the Council had no problem on density of houses on a County road but access onto the main road from a County road was a problem. The Deputy then referred to a particular case where the Council would grant planning permission provided the access was improved. Such improvements would cost thousands of pounds.

Mr. L. Kavanagh, S.E.E. was aware of this particular case and replied to the Deputy. He stated that the proposed house was fronting onto a non-public road where three houses had already been permitted. The Council was aware that the junction was substandard at the initial granting of the first planning permission and were aware that further houses would make this situation worse. He added that in retrospect, permission should not have been granted for any house on this road. Deputy Connaughton stated that it was hard to argue with this statement but added that the cost of improving the junction was enormous to which Mr. Kavanagh stated there were standards set down for carrying out such improvement and minimum requirements required.

Deputy Connaughton stated that you would have to travel for miles to meet with these requirements. The Deputy added that using the criteria in this chapter one would hardly get a by-road up to the standard in the County. This criteria will apply to by-roads and will restrict development. He requested to know would there be a requirement for capital contribution to improve such junctions. Mr. Callagy stated that the Council must look at the public interest and not at the interest of one person. When dealing with a planning application, a planner must look at the public safety aspect when there is a problem with the junction. He added that the number of planning applications refused on traffic hazard reasons was quite small.

Deputy Connaughton stated that if access has to be brought up to such a standard, it will be too costly and will limit people building in certain areas. Mr. Callagy stated that you could not allow a bad situation to get worse and that each application will be looked at on their merits.

He then proceeded to go through objective 6 which deals with the assimilation of development. He stated that there was huge proliferation of badly designed development both domestic and commercial. The basic plan is that the houses should blend into the landscape and not the opposite. The design of buildings should reflect the character of the countryside it is situated in. Deputy Connaughton stated that people cannot understand why the use of red brick in building their houses and gable fronted houses are restricted.

Cllr. O'Neachtain then stated that an applicant had recently been refused planning permission for a thatched house to which the Chairman stated that there were other reasons for this particular refusal. One of the reasons relates to the location of the house adjacent to a lake. Mr. Callagy stated that there are principles set down on how buildings should blend into the landscape. There are provisions in the plan relating to the siting of houses and also the design guide-lines which are all available to the public.

Deputy Connaughton stated that he had no problem with landscaping but with this being a condition it is expensive and enquired if this condition could be complied with over a number of years. The applicants will comply with the condition but due to financial situations it would take a number of years. Mr. Callagy stated that the Council do not require it to be done immediately but a time scale should be set down in agreement with the Planning Authority.

Mr. Callagy then proceeded to go through objective number 7 which deals with signage. Senator McDonagh

referred to the present signage system and stated that where signs are needed for community projects, he proposed that such signs be allowed on National Routes particularly where such projects create employment. He then outlined a particular case relating to Lackagh Museum which had been refused permission for a sign. He proposed that the plan be changed for the operation of fingerpost signs to allow signage on National Routes which indicate community based projects and particularly where employment is created. This proposal was seconded by Cllr. Ryan. The Secretary stated that the Council cannot allow community projects favouritism. Senator McDonagh stated that the scheme should cater for this. Deputy Connaughton enquired if this objective related to layby advertising on the approach to towns. He added that people who invest heavily in businesses should be allowed one large sign on the road. Mr. Callagy stated that when talking about National Primary Routes, the traffic hazard element has to come into play. Deputy Connaughton stated that it was hard to look out for a fingerpost sign and that it was easier to see a large hoarding. Cllr. Regan enquired was it more dangerous to have a small sign rather than a large sign. Mr. Callagy stated that where one person was allowed a sign then everyone else would also require such a sign. Cllr. O'Neachtain stated that he took the opposite view and stated that the trail of advertising signs along our road network was visually obtrusive. He stated that international road signs were acceptable but you could not have signs for every village facility. He then referred to the language aspect in the signage and that the Gaeltacht areas should have signage in Irish. This provision should be incorporated into the plan. Cllr. Mullins stated that there were a lot of small businesses trying to eke out a living. He accepts that there are horrendous signs throughout the County both on buildings and shops. He felt that this was more important than road signs.

Cllr. Ni Fhatharta stated that there are no signs indicating that you are entering the largest Gaeltacht area in the Country. She stated that there are too many unauthorised signs and in this area certain guidelines need to be set down. All unauthorised signs should be removed. She welcomed the townland signage.

Cllr. O'Neill stated that where a whole number of signs are put up, it becomes counter productive and leads to confusion. He also stated that it becomes very dangerous for someone trying to read those signs. He added that if proper directional signs were put in place, then unauthorised signs would be removed. Signs with international symbols would be of benefit. He added that when one gets to a village there should be directional signs in the village.

Cllr. Callanan stated that he supported Deputy

Connaughton on the provision of a communal sign hoarding adjacent to a town. He then added that he strongly objects to lights outside of houses and finds them a more serious hazard than signage.

Deputy Connaughton stated that he agrees that gaudy signs should be removed but if a premises is situated off the major route, they should be allowed a sign. He requested to know if communal notice boards could be incorporated into this chapter. Mr. Callagy stated that it could be put in as an objective but funds would have to be made available to erect such structures.

Mr. L. Kavanagh stated that there are guidelines for the erection of fingerpost signs for B & B's. These guidelines were brought in in 1985 under the previous plan. Prior to their implementation the Council had received complaints about the proliferation of signs. He stated that the Council had taken no action on the laybys which is an objective in the 1990 plan. He stated that instead of opening laybys, the Council were closing them down and that an alternative must be looked at. He added that there must be a fair and consistent policy in place to operate fingerpost signs. Where unauthorised signs have been erected the Council has taken legal proceedings and obtained prosecutions in certain cases. The fingerpost sign policy is in place to facilitate premises which are located off the major routes. He stated that now other projects were looking for exception on the major routes. He would be in agreement with towns and villages having an agreed signage system. With respect to Gaeltacht areas, the Council has specified that signs must be in Irish. Deputy Connaughton proposed that this section take note of communal notice boards. Senator McDonagh referring to page 12 of the document to which he wished to insert the following under paragraph 2 from top "at junction of National Roads". Cllr. Ryan seconded this proposal. Mr. Callagy stated that communal signboards would be included as an objective in Section 1 of the Plan. Cllr. O'Neachtain stated that advertising in the Gaeltacht areas should be in Irish with English subtitles and referred to the example of Wales in this case.

Mr. Callagy then went though objective number 8 which deals with environmental protection and objective number 9 on site requirements.

Cllr O'Neachtain spoke on the requirement of 100 ft. road frontage for development sites. He stated that there must be some flexibility in this requirement. He added that the problem arises in areas where land is scattered. The requirement of this minimum road frontage he agrees with in principle but there should be an allowance for exceptional cases and he asked that this be looked at. Mr. Callagy informed the Councillor that it has to go down to individual

cases. He stated that it would be impossible to regulate if you had exceptional cases and that there must be minimum requirements. Cllr. O'Neachtain spoke on frontage onto a public road. He requested to know why must it be a public road. He stated that permission should be granted in cases where the road is not public. He then referred to screening and set back requirements.

Cllr. Loughnane spoke on the requirements of road frontage and referred to a particular case. He stated that where planning permission was granted and a housing need existed, then the applicant should be allowed to renew the planning permission on the site.

Cllr. Callanan stated that there had been a lot of applications lodged for farm buildings and he wished to know if these applications could be dealt with as fast as possible. He then spoke on water test requirements and asked if these provisions could be included as a condition in a planning permission.

**CHRIOCHNAIGH AN CRUINNUI ANSIN**

Submitted Approved + Signed

*[Signature]*  
Chairman

26/6/95

Date



**COMHAIRLE CHONTAE NA GAILLIMHE**  
**(Galway County Council)**

Oifig an Runai,  
Arus an Chontae,  
GAILLIMH.

8 Bealtaine, 1995

**CHUIG GACH BALL DE'N CHOMHAIRLE/**

A Chara,

You are requested to attend a meeting of the Council In Committee to consider Review of County Development Plan which will be held at the County Buildings, Galway, on **Friday, 12th May, 1995**, commencing at **3.00 p.m.**

Mise, le meas,

**T. KAVANAGH,**  
Secretary.

**AGENDA**

1. Review of the County Development Plan.
- 

**COMHAIRLE CHONTAE NA GAILLIMHE**  
**MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING OF GALWAY COUNTY**  
**COUNCIL HELD AT THE COUNTY BUILDINGS, GALWAY**  
**ON FRIDAY, 5TH MAY, 1995**

**Cathaoirleach:-** An Comhairleoir P. O'Tuathail.

**Baill:-** Councillors J. Brennan, J. Burke, W. Burke, T. Byrne, J. Callanan, Deputy E. O'Cuiv, Councillors M. Cunningham, M. Fahy, P. Finnegan, M. Finnerty, S. Gavin, T. Hussey, M. Loughnane, J. Mannion, Deputy P. McCormack, Senator J. McDonagh, Councillors P. McHugh, C. Ni Fhatharta, P. O'Sullivan, K. Quinn, M. Ryan E. Varley, and T. Walsh.

**Oifigigh:-** Messrs. D. O'Donoghue, County Manager, D. Nelson, Asst. County Manager, J. Crotty, A/County Engineer, R.C. Killeen, A/Deputy Co. Engineer, T. Kavanagh, Co. Secretary, F. Gilmore, Project Engineer, B. Callagy, L. Kavanagh, S.E.E.'s, J. Eising, A/S.E.E., A. Comer, Assist. Planner, T. Connell, S.S.O., & A. Power, C.O..

Thosnaigh an crinniu leis an paidir.

**RESOLUTIONS OF SYMPATHY**

**3024**

A Resolution of Sympathy was passed with the following:-

Mr. Pat Hogan, Lought, Moylough, Ballinasloe.  
The Donnellan Family, Moate, Moylough, Ballinasloe.

**LOUGHREA BYE-PASS**

**3025**

The Secretary referred to discussion at Council Meeting on 24th April, 1995 at which Mr. Jack Eising gave a presentation on the revised bye-pass plan. At that meeting it was agreed that the Officials would make a presentation of the revised plan to the Local Committee in Loughrea at which the Members of the Loughrea Electoral Area would be present. The Secretary said that meeting took place in Loughrea on 28th April, 1995. He said the main discussion centred on the absence of roundabouts and Mr. Gilmore and Mr. Eising explained why they were not proposed.

In the end the Spokesperson for the group stated that they were not interested in a bye-pass unless it included roundabouts. The Secretary said that was the up-to-date position.

Opening the debate Councillor McClearn said that no other issue had been the subject of so many meetings. Everyone accepted the need for a bye-pass but the problem was the shape of it. He said that considerable progress had been made and management and the Design Team had taken on board the wishes of the Elected Members. The Plan now on display was a vast improvement on previous plans, including two grade separated junctions and three over-bridges. Unfortunately there was not agreement on it. The business people of Loughrea wanted roundabouts at each end of the bye-pass. They were vital to the well-being of the town and they were entitled to have their wishes recognised. Councillor McClearn proposed that the bye-pass plan submitted already to the N.R.A. be amended to provide for three over-bridges and two roundabouts at each end with easements into them and the deletion of the two grade separated junctions.

Councillor Regan seconded Councillor McClearn's proposal. He said that the people of Loughrea were very reasonable and they were entitled to get the bye-pass they wanted. This proposal would cost less and he asked all the Councillors to accept it.

Councillor Loughnane supported the previous speakers and acknowledged that a lot of progress had been made since last December. He said there would have to be further changes with further discussion and local input. If there was disagreement at this stage there could be objections down the road.

Deputy Connaughton said that he too would be supporting the Loughrea Councillors. He said the people of Loughrea believed that their interests would be best served with 2 roundabouts. He said that he could not understand why the N.R.A. would not allow roundabouts in Loughrea when they work elsewhere.

Councillor Fahy agreed with the previous speakers. He said that the people of Loughrea were entitled to roundabouts and there would be no compromise on it. If necessary the Loughrea Councillors should meet with the N.R.A.

Deputy McCormack asked how the costs of the bye-pass compared when the roundabouts are included. He said a lot of people would welcome a proper bye-pass for Loughrea. He was not confident that a plan including roundabouts would be approved by the N.R.A. and he was fearful that the funding could be lost.

Councillor W. Burke agreed with the previous

speakers. He said the absence of roundabouts was the main problem and Members were not given statistics of the dangers of roundabouts. He said that the interests of local people would have to be considered and he asked that roundabouts be included.

Senator McDonagh said he understood the fears of the local people and it was regrettable that the project was so protracted. He had seen roundabouts in many other towns. Councillor Byrne said he was supporting the proposal to provide two roundabouts. He didn't understand why vehicles had to travel at record speeds and roundabouts would help to control speed. Councillor Brennan asked that the design features at both ends of the bye-pass be explained.

The County Manager said that the need for a bye-pass has been identified for a long number of years. Provision is made for it in the current Operational Programme for Transport and it is very high in the priority of the N.R.A. He said it was a very important project for the future development of the county, being on the N6 national route between Galway and Dublin. Loughrea was known to be a bad bottle-neck and most people experienced long delays there, and this had an obvious impact on the industrial sector. If the bye-pass had been provided years ago we would now have another project on stream and the delay was effecting the future investment in the infrastructure of the county. Most of the improvements and amendments proposed by the Councillors had been taken on board.

The County Manager said that the decision to be made at today's meeting was a very important one. He said that roundabouts would not be recommended by the Council's Technical Staff and would not have their support. Roundabouts were not the safest option on high speed roads and constituted an obstruction to traffic. Previous reports indicated why the proposed grade separated junctions were much safer. As County Manager he regarded safety as a top priority and he could not recommend roundabouts. He appealed to the Members to give the matter careful consideration. He said that whatever resolution was passed would be forwarded to the N.R.A. but he was fearful that the inclusion of roundabouts could result in the loss of the project.

Mr. Eising then gave details of the up-to-date plan as displayed. He explained that the two roundabouts at the western end had been replaced by one roundabout and the slip-road to Galway was along the existing N6. At the eastern end the slip-road from Ballinasloe was also along the N6. Over-bridges were also included along the Raruddy Road and Caheronaun Road. He said that the inclusion of roundabouts at each end of the bye-pass would mean that local traffic would have to mix with through traffic. The provision of grade separated junctions meant that

local traffic would be separated from through traffic travelling at high speeds. The safety of all road users whether pedestrians, cyclists or vehicular traffic was the Council's main concern.

Councillor Mannion proposed that the meeting adjourn for a short time. Councillor Hussey said that he was concerned about the Manager's statement in relation to the possible loss of the project. He suggested that no decision be taken pending consultation with the N.R.A. Councillor Walsh seconded Councillor Mannion's proposal to adjourn for a short period. The Chairman then declared the meeting adjourned until 4.45 p.m.

When the meeting resumed Councillor J. Burke said that he had to have regard to the Manager's statement and the safety aspect. He was concerned that if roundabouts were included, funding for the project could be lost and this would be a disaster for the whole county. He proposed the following amendment to Councillor McClearn's motion "that the bye-pass plan submitted by the Council to the N.R.A. following the Council Meeting on 19th December, 1994 be amended as follows:-

1. that the grade separated junction at the west of Loughrea be relocated to the western extremity of the bye-pass.
2. That the grade separated junction at the east of Loughrea be relocated from the Danesfort/Caheronaun Road to the vicinity of the Greeneragh Road.
3. The full access to and from Loughrea town be provided at both grade separated junctions.
4. That an over-bridge be provided for the Caheronaun/Danesfort Road.
5. That an over-bridge be provided for the Raruddy Road.

and that these amendments to the adopted plan be now submitted to the N.R.A."

Councillor Mannion seconded this proposal saying that Loughrea presented a serious bottle-neck and any further delay could result in losing the funding. A vote taken on Councillor's J. Burke's amendment resulted as follows:-

**AR SON:** Cllr. J. Burke, Mannion,  
Deputy McCormack & Cllr.  
O'Tuathail (4).

**IN AGHAIGH:** Cllrs. Brennan, W. Burke, Byrne,  
Callanan, Deps. Connaughton,  
O'Cuiv, Cllrs. Cunningham, Fahy,

Finnegan, Finnerty, Gavin, Hussey,  
Loughnane, McClearn, Sen. McDonagh,  
Cllrs. Mullins, Ni Fhatharta, O'  
Neachtain, O'Neill, O'Sullivan,  
Quinn, Regan, Ryan & Walsh (24).

The Chairman declared the amendment lost.

A vote was then taken on Councillor McClearn's motion and resulted as follows:-

**AR SON :** Cllrs. Brennan, W. Burke, Byrne,  
Callanan, Deps. Connaughton,  
O'Cuiv, Cllrs. Cunningham, Fahy,  
Finnegan, Finnerty, Gavin, Hussey,  
Loughnane, McClearn, Sen. McDonagh,  
Cllrs. Mullins, Ni Fhatharta, O'  
Neachtain, O'Neill, O'Sullivan,  
Quinn, Regan, Ryan & Walsh (24).

**IN AGHAIGH:** Cllr. J. Burke, Mannion,  
Deputy McCormack & Cllr.  
O'Tuathail (4).

The Chairman declared the motion carried.

#### **LEADER FUNDING**

3026

The County Manager informed the Members that the County had been successful in getting £2.83m in LEADER funding and he thanked the various groups for their support.

Rinne an Cathaoirleach comhghairdeas do cuile dhuine freisin. Chuir an Comhairleoir O'Neachtain agus na Comhairleoiri eile failte roimh an sceala seo. The Members welcomed the LEADER funding and hoped that the whole county would benefit and that there would be good co-operation and liaison between the various agencies.

#### **TAKING IN CHARGE OF ESTATE**

3027

Councillor Regan proposed that Rosen-Orbe Estate, Loughrea be taken in charge. This was seconded by Councillor Callanan. The Secretary said that this proposal would be investigated and a report submitted.

#### **CHRIOCHNAIGH AN CRUINNIU ANSIN**

Submitted, Approved & Signed:  
*Jedwards Tuathail*  
(Chairman)  
26/6/95  
Date

COMHAIRLE CHONTAE NA GAILLIMHE

(Galway County Council)

Oifig an Runaí,  
Arús an Chontae,  
GAILLIMH.

27th April, 1995.

CHUIG GACH BALL DE'N CHOMHAIRLE/

A Chara,

Iarrtar ort leis seo bheith i lathair ag cruinniú Speisialta de Chomhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe a thionolfar ins na Foirgnithe Chontae, Gaillimh, De h-Aoine, an 5u la Bealtaine, 1995, ag tosnu ar a 3.00 a chlog sa trathnóna.

Mise le meas,

T. KAVANAGH,  
County Secretary.

AGENDA

1. Loughrea By-Pass.
- 

COMHAIRLE CHONTAE NA GAILLIMHE

(Galway County Council)

Oifig an Runaí,  
Arús an Chontae,  
GAILLIMH.

27th April, 1995.

CHUIG GACH BALL DE'N CHOMHAIRLE/

A Chara,

You are requested to attend a meeting of the Council In Committee to consider Review of the County Development Plan, which will be held at the County Buildings, on **Friday, 5th May, 1995**, commencing at **3.30p.m.** or at the completion of the Special Meeting, whichever is the later.

Mise le meas,

T. KAVANAGH,  
County Secretary.

AGENDA

1. Review of the County Development Plan.

**COMHAIRLE CHONTAE NA GAILLIMHE**

**MINUTES OF MONTHLY MEETING OF GALWAY  
COUNTY COUNCIL HELD AT THE COUNTY BUILDINGS,  
GALWAY ON MONDAY, 24TH APRIL.**

1995

**CATHAOIRLEACH:-** An Comhairleoir P. O'Tuathail.

**I LATHAIR FREISIN:**

**Baill:** Councillors J. Brennan, J. Burke,  
W. Burke, T. Byrne, J. Callanan,  
Deputies P. Connaughton, E. O  
Cuiv, Councillors M. Cunningham,  
M. Fahy, P. Finnegan, M.  
Finnerty, S. Gavin, T. Hussey,  
M. Loughnane, J. Mannion,  
J. McClearn, Deputy P. McCormack,  
Councillors P. McHugh, M.  
Mullins, C. Ni Fhatharta, S.  
O'Neachtain, M. O'Neill, P.  
O'Sullivan, K. Quinn, M. Regan,  
M. Ryan, E. Varley and T. Walsh.

**Oifigigh:** Messrs. D. O'Donoghue, County  
Manager, J. Crotty, A/County  
Engineer, D. Nelson, Asst.  
Co. Manager, R.C. Killeen,  
A/Deputy Co. Engineer, E.  
Lusby, Finance Officer, F.  
Gilmore, Project Engineer, M.  
Dolly, P. Martin, S.E.E.'s,  
E. Power, A.O., C. Wallace,  
S.S.O. and T. Kavanagh, County  
Secretary.

Thosnaigh an crinniu leis an paidir.

**RESOLUTION OF SYMPATHY**

2978

A Resolution of Sympathy was passed with the following:-

The Waldron Family, Athenry, Co. Galway.  
Senator Frank Fahy & Family, Rakerrin, Gort, Co.  
Galway.

**CONGRATULATIONS**

2979

On the proposition of Councillor Mannion, the Council passed a vote of congratulations to Connemara Rugby Club on winning the Connacht Junior Cup.

**MINUTES**

2980

Ar mholadh an Comhairleoir O'Neachtain agus tachaiocht an Comhairleoir Ni Fhatharta, the minutes of Special Meeting of the Council held on 10th March, 1995 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

On the proposition of Councillor Mannion, seconded by an Comhairleoir Ni Fhatharta the Minutes of Monthly Meeting held on 27th March, 1995 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

The Minutes of the following Committee Meetings were noted:-

Connemara Area Committee Meeting held on 20th March, 1995.

Galway Area Committee Meeting held on 27th March, 1995.

Tuam Area Committee Meeting held on 27th March, 1995.

Ballinasloe Area Committee Meeting held on 28th March, 1995.

Loughrea Area Committee Meeting held on 24th March, 1995.

**ADOPTION OF ROAD WORKS PROGRAMME 1995**

2981

At the previous meeting the Members were advised of some amendments to the Road Works Scheme which had been agreed at Area Meetings. The Secretary stated that these amendments were incorporated in revised pages which were placed before them, they were page numbers 17(iii), 17(v), 18(ii), 18(iii), 21. The Secretary also read the following motions which had been proposed at the previous meeting:

1. Proposed by Councillor Sullivan, seconded by Councillor Callanan:

"that the Supplementary Grant be divided equally between the eleven engineering areas".

2. Proposed by Councillor Hussey, seconded by Councillor Finnegan:

"that the Minister for the Environment be asked to approve the borrowing of additional money to enable this Council to carry out the

the complete 1995 Programme of Work as outlined in the Council's Roads Development Plan 1995-1999".

3. Proposed by Senator McDonagh, seconded by Councillor Varley:

"that the Council seek an urgent meeting with the Minister for the Environment with a view to sourcing funds to allow the Council proceed with its Five Year Roads Plan".

4. Proposed by Deputy Connaughton, seconded by Councillor Joe Burke:

"that a surcharge on petrol be considered specifically for County Roads".

5. Proposed by Councillor Mannion, seconded by Councillor Hussey:

"that a decision on the Road Works Scheme for 1995 be deferred to the Monthly Meeting on 24th April, 1995".

Councillor Hussey said that the adoption of the Road Works Scheme had been deferred at the previous meeting in the hope that extra funds would be provided by the Department but this had not happened. He proposed that the Road Works Scheme as presented be rejected as it did not adequately cater for the required road improvements. Councillor McHugh seconded Councillor Hussey's proposal. He said the grants were totally inadequate with a drop of 11% on National Road Funding. Councillor Gavin said that while he accepted the need for additional funds, there was nothing to be gained by rejecting the Road Works Scheme. Councillor Byrne said that last year's grants were inflated because of Amnesty Money and if the scheme was not adopted, the work programmes and workers would be put in jeopardy.

Duirt an Teachta O'Cuiv gur cas prainneach cas na boithre. Duirt se go raibh gearradh £800,000. He supported Councillor Hussey's motion and said there would be no need to lay men off as a few selected schemes could be approved. Councillor Joe Burke proposed that the £30,000 Supplementary Grant Appendix G for Speed Limit Signs be transferred to the Tuam Inner Relief Road. He said that it was on this basis he was supporting the adoption of the Road Works Scheme and that the Inner Relief Road would be completed next year. Councillor O'Neachtain said that there was a very serious problem with county roads and the road at Spiddal was left in a bad state after the storm. He said that the only solution was

to go to the Minister for additional funds.

Deputy Connaughton said that while the grants were not adequate, the grant of £5.9m for non-national roads was significant. He said the Councillors should put up the best possible case for additional funds and voting against the Road Works Scheme was not the way to go about it. Councillor Loughnane said that the Council had only received funds sufficient to allow a 55% of year 1 of the Five Year Roads Plan to be implemented. This was totally inadequate. Councillor Finnegan said that the Council couldn't accept the grants offered and he would have no hesitation in rejecting the scheme. Councillor Mannion asked the County Manager to comment on the situation.

The County Manager said that the preparatory work for the Roads Programme commences at Estimates time. The next stage is the notification of the Road Grants which were notified over a month ago. In order to avail of the good weather and get value for money it was necessary to start work immediately. He said that he wanted to start works earlier in the year than heretofore. This would allow road grants to be claimed which would help the cash-flow and would avoid doing such works during the winter period. He said that the Department was carrying out a study on non-national roads and to his knowledge no extra funding was available at present. He strongly recommended the adoption of the Road Works Scheme.

Councillor Ryan said that many meetings had been held to discuss the scheme. He proposed an amendment that the scheme be adopted subject to the transfer of the £30,000 Supplementary Grant to the Tuam Inner Relief Road and subject to the amendments circulated. This motion was seconded by Deputy McCormack.

Councillor Brennan referred to page 2 of the Minutes of the Ballinasloe Area Committee Meeting held on 28th March, 1995 and he proposed that £50,000 from the Supplementary Improvement Grant be allocated to the Mountbellew Area, £20,000 to the Portumna Area and £12,000 to the Ballinasloe Area to relieve flooding in those areas. Councillor Callanan said that the motions proposed at the previous meeting should be put to the Members. The Chairman said that he was taking a vote on Councillor Ryan's amendment to which Councillor Callanan and other Members objected.

The Secretary explained that the matter on the agenda was the adoption of the Road Works Programme for 1995. Other than Councillor Hussey's motion, none of the others were finite motions dealing with that question. Councillor Ryan's amendment to Councillor

Hussey's motion was a valid amendment and it was in order to put it to the meeting. A vote was then taken on Councillor Ryan's amendment which resulted as follows:-

**AR SON:** Cllrs. J. Burke, W. Burke, Byrne, Dep. Connaughton, Cllrs: Finnerty, Gavin, Mannion, McClearn, Dep. McCormack, Cllrs. Mullins, O'Neill, O'Tuathail, Ryan, Varley & Walsh. (15)

**IN AGHAIDH:** Cllrs. Callanan, Dep. O'Cuiv, Cllrs. Cunningham, Fahy, Finnegan, Hussey, Loughnane, McHugh, Ni Fhatharta, O'Neachtain, O'Sullivan, Quinn, & Regan. (13)

**GAN VOTAIL:** Cllr. Brennan. (1)

The Chairman declared the amendment carried and declared the Road Works Scheme for 1995 adopted as amended.

**SALE OF HOUSE AT WATERVIEW, TURLOUGHMORE TO MS. 2982**

**ENA MORRIS COLLINS**

On the proposition of Deputy McCormack, seconded by Councillor McHugh, it was resolved that the Council approve of sale of house at Waterview, Turloughmore to Ms. Ena Morris Collins, under Section 90 of the Housing Act 1966 as substituted by Section 26 of the Housing (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act in 1992 and in accordance with Notice under Section 83 of the Local Government Act 1946 which had been circulated to each Member.

**SALE OF SITE AT NO. 11 ARD AOIBHINN, ATHENRY TO 2983**

**SEAN & MARION HYNES**

On the proposition of Deputy McCormack, seconded by Councillor McHugh, it was resolved that the Council approve of sale of site at No. 11 Ard Aoibhinn to Sean and Marion Hynes in accordance with Notice dated 30th March, 1995 under Section 83 of the Local Government Act 1946, which had been circulated to each Member.

**ABSTRACT OF ACCOUNTS OF GALWAY COUNTY COUNCIL 2984**

**FOR YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 1994**

Report of Finance Officer dated 18th April, 1995 was circulated with the agenda. The report included full details of receipts and expenditure on revenue and capital accounts for the year. On the proposition of Councillor Finnerty, seconded by Deputy Connaughton the Council approved of the expenditure and receipts for each of the Programme Headings listed.

**LOUGHREA BYE-PASS 2985**

The Secretary referred to his report dated 21st April, 1995 which had been circulated. It said that the Council last discussed the project at its meeting on 27th March, 1995. It was further discussed at a meeting of the Members of the Loughrea Electoral Area on 4th April, 1995 at which a number of amendments were suggested. A Deputation from the Loughrea Bye-pass Committee met officials of the Council's Design Office on the 6th April, 1995. He stated that at the Council Meeting on 27th March, 1995 a bye-pass plan prepared on behalf of the Loughrea Bye-pass Committee was handed in. That plan included roundabouts at the western and eastern ends of the bye-pass. He then read letter dated 20th April, 1995 from the N.R.A. which stated that while the N.R.A. had no objection in principle to roundabouts, in the circumstances pertaining at Loughrea, the provision of roundabouts would not be appropriate. He concluded by saying that at a meeting of the Members of the Loughrea Electoral Area that morning (24/04/1995) the Committee proposed that no decision be made at this Council meeting to enable the revised plan to be considered.

Mr. Jack Eising then gave a presentation on the revised bye-pass plan. He explained that the two roundabouts at the western end had been replaced by one roundabout and the slip-road to Loughrea was along the existing N6. At the eastern end the slip-road from Ballinasloe was also along the N6 and no dead-end road. Overbridges were also included along the Raruddy Road and Caheronaun. He said that the N.R.A. would not accept roundabouts on the bye-pass. When asked about the cost of the revised plan he said that a rough estimate would be £9m.

The County Manager said that he had already emphasised the importance of the project to the county. He said that Loughrea was a major bottle-neck on the Galway/Dublin route. Provision for the bye-pass was included in the Operational Programme. The bye-pass should have been provided 10

years ago and if this had happened, the county could be benefiting from another major project at this time.

The revised plan was welcomed by many Members. However, it was felt that the local people should be given an opportunity to study it. Following discussion it was agreed that the officials would make a presentation of the revised plan to the local Committee in Loughrea at which the Members of the Loughrea Electoral Area would be present. It was agreed that a final decision would be made on the day of the Special Planning Meeting on the 5th May.

#### **REFORM OF TOWN LOCAL GOVERNMENT**

2986

##### **- APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEE**

The Secretary stated that the Council had agreed to set up a Committee consisting of two Members from each electoral area. He said that the Ballinasloe Area had selected Councillor Callanan and Brennan. At the previous meeting the following Councillors were proposed by Councillor Hussey:

Tuam Area - Councillor Finnegan  
Loughrea Area - Councillor Fahy  
Galway Area - Councillor McHugh  
Connemara Area - An Comhairleoir Ni Fhatharta

Councillor Mannion proposed the following Members:

that the Chairman be ex-officio  
Loughrea Area - Councillor Byrne  
Galway Area - Councillor Varley  
Tuam Area - Councillor J. Burke  
Connemara Area - Councillor Mannion  
Ballinasloe Area - Councillor Mullins

The above nominations were agreed and it was also agreed that Councillor Regan be added to the Loughrea area.

##### **CONFERENCE**

2987

On the proposition of Councillor Mannion, seconded by Councillor Hussey, it was agreed that the following Members be nominated for attendance at the following conference, details of the estimated cost of attendance at the conference having been circulated to each Member at the Meeting:-

Woodlands Seminar - Hodson Bay Hotel Athlone -  
27/28th April

Senator McDonagh  
Cllr. Varley  
Cllr. P. O'Sullivan

#### **COUNTY COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1994**

2988

A draft of the 1994 Annual Report had been circulated with the agenda. The Secretary stated that it was decided to circulate the draft report in case Members may wish to make any corrections. He said that some corrections would have to be made in the Irish text. The final report will include photographs and would be properly bound. Deputy McCormack asked that Members telephone numbers be included and also the Christian names of the staff. The Secretary informed Councillor O'Neill that the names of the sponsors of the Arts Awards would be included. Councillor Walsh asked if Glenamaddy could be mentioned as one of the towns.

#### **COASTAL EROSION/PROTECTION WORKS**

2989

Report of County Secretary dated 20th April, 1995 was submitted. The report gave the background to the proposed coastal protection works to be funded from structural and local funds. As agreed at a previous Council meeting four projects had been submitted to Roinn na Mara, Roundstone, Inisboffin Island, Tawin Island, Inishmore. Roinn na Mara had since requested more information and survey data and knowing that this would take some time to put together, the Department asked for the information to be submitted in respect of the top two projects initially, to be followed with information on the other two. He said that the County Engineer recommended Inisboffin and Tawin Island as the top two projects and the required information was now ready for submission on these. He requested the Council's approval to this.

Deputy McCormack said that he was concerned about the storm damage to Gorteen and Dogs Bay Beaches and was informed that Roundstone was one of the four schemes submitted. Chair an Comhairleoir O'Neachtain failte roimh na moillte. Dúirt se go raibh iontas nach raibh Inishmeain agus Inishmore luaite. He said that the Tra at Inisheer was in danger and also the water source. Mr. Crotty informed Councillor Fahy that some discretionary grant funds were included in the 1995 Road Works Programme for Aughinish, Galway. The report was approved by the Council.

#### **REVIEW OF SPEED LIMITS ON NATIONAL ROADS**

2990

County Secretary's report dated 19th April, 1995 in



relation to Speed Limit Revisions on national roads was submitted. Attached to the report was a schedule showing the Council's proposed speed limit revisions on national roads and the response of the N.R.A. thereto. The Secretary stated that the N.R.A. had only approved extending the 30 mile limit in a small number of cases. Instead it recommended a 40 mile per hour limit in many cases and most of the Council's recommendations for 40 miles per hour speed limits were approved for shorter distances. The Secretary also read letter dated 4th April, 1995 from the N.R.A. in relation to the speed limits.

During the debate which followed Members were very critical of the N.R.A.'s response. Members unanimously proposed that the recommendations of the N.R.A. be rejected. They said that the revisions proposed by the Council were expertly drawn up. They had been drawn up in consultation with the Gardai, Council Engineers and Councillors using proper criteria. Several accidents had occurred at locations proposed for revision and the N.R.A.'s recommendations did not make sense. It was finally agreed that an official from the N.R.A. be asked to address a Council Meeting to explain why the Council's proposals were not approved.

#### **URBAN AND VILLAGE RENEWAL GRANTS SCHEME**

2991

Report of County Secretary dated 20th April, 1995 on the Urban and Village Renewal Scheme was submitted. The County Manager said that the proposed scheme would give the Council an opportunity over the next five years to improve the physical appearance of towns and villages. The programme provides for a scheme of grants through the Department of the Environment to assist with environmental improvement measures and will operate mainly through the local authorities. There must be an economic focus to help the local economy. The grants would be subject to local funding being provided. The Council would have to prepare an action plan for the whole county and Ms. Mary Flynn, Executive Planner had been assigned full-time to the job. Details of the scheme would be given at the forthcoming Community Seminar in Loughrea on 27th April and at a seminar to be arranged at Maam Cross. He said that the action plan had to be prepared urgently and hopefully it would be ready for the May Meeting. A notice would appear in the local papers giving details of the scheme and inviting submissions. An Comhairleoir O'Neachtain said that the time frame was very restricted and that there could be difficulties with matching funds.

#### **STRATEGIC PLANNING**

2992

The Secretary stated that at a recent meeting the Council had been advised that it was proposed to prepare a Five Year Strategic Plan for the Council. The Institute of Public Administration was assisting with the preparation of the plan and would like to have a discussion with the Members in relation to it. He said that a half day seminar could be arranged for Friday, 28th April.

As this date was not suitable for many Members, it was agreed to seek an alternative date.

#### **NOTICES OF MOTIONS**

##### **N.O.M. NO. 17 - IMPROVEMENT WORKS - CLLR. P. MCHUGH**

2993

The following written reply was given to Councillor Gavin:-

"This is a matter for the landowner involved. I enclose herewith copy of notice recently inserted in the local newspapers advising landowners of their responsibility in relation to public roads including drainage for your information."

##### **N.O.M. NO. 18 - REMEDIAL WORKS - DEP. O'CUIV**

2994

The following written reply was given to Deputy O'Cuiv:-

"There are no funds available at present to carry out remedial works at above location. However, this situation will be reviewed towards the end of the year and it may be possible to carry out some works at that stage."

##### **N.O.M. NO. 19 - CAR PARKING - CLLR. M. O'NEILL**

2995

The following written reply was given to Councillor O'Neill:-

"The above location would have to be surface dressed prior to the provision of markers. However, no provision has been made for this in the 1995 Roadworks Programme. We will however erect a no parking sign to the section of pier beyond the pier bar."

##### **N.O.M. NO. 20 - LIGHTING - CLLR. M. CUNNINGHAM**

2996

The following written reply was given to Councillor

Cunningham:-

"It was not possible to include the above work in the 1995 Public Lighting Programme due to lack of funds.

The local Community Council have paid a contribution of £2,000 towards the provision of school flashing warning signs and these signs will be erected in due course."

**N.O.M. NO. 21 - ROAD - CLLR. M. CUNNINGHAM**

2997

The following written reply was given to Councillor Cunningham:-

"This work will be carried out under the 1995 Roadworks Programme."

**N.O.M. NO. 22 - ROAD WORKS - CLLR. M. CUNNINGHAM**

2998

The following written reply was given to Councillor Cunningham:-

"Repair works will be carried out to the above location later on in the year under the 1995 Roadworks Programme."

**N.O.M. NO. 23 - ROADS - CLLR. M. FAHY**

2999

The following written reply was given to Councillor Fahy:-

"A number of roads in the Gort engineering area have already been raised. It is proposed raising road from Cregclare to Claddaghduff and Rathorpe when existing floods recede."

**N.O.M. NO. 24 - HOUSING - CLLR. M. FAHY**

3000

The following written reply was given to Councillor Fahy:-

"The Council are currently investigating a site for a rural house having regard to building and planning regulations. Further progress on Mr. Kearn's housing application will be dependent on a suitable site being available and also on Mr. Kearn's housing priority."

**N.O.M. NO. 25 - WALL & DUMP - CLLR. M. FAHY**

3001

The following written reply was given to Councillor Fahy:-

"This matter is being investigated and a further report will be submitted as soon as possible."

**N.O.M. NO. 26 - ROAD - CLLR. P. FINNEGAN**

3002

The following written reply was given to Councillor Finnegan:-

"It was not possible to include the above work in the 1995 Roadworks Programme due to lack of funds. The road at 40 Acres, Williamstown is still flooded. A detailed estimate will be prepared when the flood recedes."

**N.O.M. NO. 27 - ROAD REPAIRS - CLLR. P. FINNEGAN**

3003

The following written reply was given to Councillor Finnegan:-

"It was not possible to include the above road in the 1995 Roadworks Programme due to lack of funds. However, routine maintenance was recently carried out."

**N.O.M. NO. 28 - WILLIAMSTOWN G.W.S. - CLLR. FINNEGAN**

3004

The following written reply was given to Councillor Finnegan:-

"The schedule of water charges payable during 1995 was adopted by the elected members of the Council at the Estimates meeting of 2nd December, 1994. With regard to charges for future years, consideration can be given to amending the existing schedule in order to accommodate different categories of group schemes. However, any such proposal can only be considered in the context of maintaining the total yield from water charges, and accordingly any reduction in charges for one group of consumers would have to be offset by increased charges to other consumers."

**N.O.M. NO. 29 - ROAD REPAIRS - CLLR. S. GAVIN**

3005

The following written reply was given to Councillor Gavin:-

"This matter is being investigated and it is hoped to have a reply available for the next meeting."

**N.O.M. NO. 30 - SPEED LIMITS - CLLR. S. GAVIN**

3006

The following written reply was given to Councillor Gavin:-

"A budget of £30,000 has been provided in the 1995 draft Roadworks Programme for provision of speed limits throughout the County.

Arrangements are in hand for the provision of such signs during the coming weeks."

**N.O.M. NO. 31 - N 59 ROUTE - CLLR. S. GAVIN**

3007

The following written reply was given to Councillor Gavin:-

"A meeting is to take place shortly at engineering level regarding the location and type of work to be carried out under the 1995 grant already notified between the County Council and the National Roads Authority and you will be informed of developments in due course."

**N.O.M. NO. 32 - FLOODING - CLLR. M. LOUGHNANE**

3008

The following written reply was given to Councillor Loughnane:-

"Remedial works have been carried out at the above location."

**N.O.M. NO. 33 - ROAD - CLLR. M. LOUGHNANE**

3009

The following written reply was given to Councillor Loughnane:-

"There are no funds provided in the 1995 Roadworks Programme for the carrying out of improvement works at above location."

**N.O.M. NO. 34 - WALL - CLLR. M. LOUGHNANE**

3010

The following reply was given to Councillor Loughnane:-

"An application for funding under Coastal Protection Programme was submitted to the Department of Marine on 30th January, 1995. See report on item 10 on Agenda."

**N.O.M. NO. 35 - ATHENRY WATER SUPPLY - SEN. J.**

3011

**MC DONAGH**

The following written reply was given to Senator J. McDonagh:-

"The Council has prepared a proposed scheme to supply Athenry from Oranmore/Derrydonnell, and site investigation contract documents are currently with the Department of the Environment awaiting approval. It is not possible for the Council to provide improved storage facilities from its own resources, and the implementation of the proposed scheme referred to above will ensure that water capacity problems do not arise in Athenry."

**N.O.M. NO. 36 - SIGNS - SEN. J. MCDONAGH**

3012

The following written reply was given to Senator McDonagh:-

"Delineator posts will be provided at the above location as soon as possible."

**N.O.M. NO. 37 - ROAD WORKS - SEN J. MCDONAGH**

3013

The following written reply was given to Senator McDonagh:-

"An application for the carrying out of work at above location under Community Involvement in Roadworks Scheme has been received and is being examined by our Technical Staff at present."

**N.O.M. NO. 38 - GRUP SCEIM UISCE - AN COMH.**

3014

**NI FHATHARTA**

Seo leanas an freagra a tugadh do'n Comhairleoir Ni Fhatharta:-

"Nil a dothain airgead ag an Chomhairle i mbliana chun grup sceim uisce a thogail ar laimh."

**N.O.M. NO. 39 - BOTHAR - AN COMH. NI FHATHARTA**

3015

Seo leanas an freagra a tugadh do'n Comhairleoir Ni Fhatharta:-

"Ta an t-airgead ann ghann i gCeanntar Chasla i mbliana agus da bhri sin ni bheidh muid indhon moran den chinneal seo oibre a dheanamh ach deanfaidh muid

ar ndicheall driseacha a ghearradh ag dha bhothar ag an lathar thuas luaite."

**N.O.M. NO. 40 - "FLASHING SCHOOL LIGHTS" -**

3016

**AN COMH. NI FHATHARTA**

Seo leanas an freagra a tugadh do'n Comhairleoir Ni Fhatharta:-

"Beidh muid ag scrudu an cas seo in eineacht le cinn eile nuair an bheidh muid ag cur an clar "flashing school lights" 1995 le ceile."

**N.O.M. NO. 41 - SOILSE POIBLI - AN COMH O'CUIV**

3017

Seo leanas an freagra a tugadh do'n Comhairleoir O'Cuiv:-

"Ni raibh muid indhan an solas seo a chur sa chlar soilse poibli i mbliana toisc ganntanas airgid."

**N.O.M. NO. 42 - COUNCIL HOUSE - DEP. E. O'CUIV**

3018

The following written reply was given to Deputy O'Cuiv:-

"The Council are currently investigating a site for a rural house having regard to building and planning regulations. Further progress on Mr. Coyne's housing application will be dependent on a suitable site being available and also on Mr. Coyne's housing priority."

**N.O.M. NO. 43 - STREET LIGHTS - DEP. E. O'CUIV**

3019

The following written reply was given to Deputy O'Cuiv:-

"It was not possible to include the above location under the 1995 Public Lighting Programme, which was approved by the County Council earlier in the year, due to lack of funds."

**N.O.M. NO. 44 - WATER QUALITY TESTING - CLLR.**

3020

**S. O'NEACHTAIN**

The following written reply was given to Councillor O'Neachtain:-

"The results of tests on public water supplies are at

present available either from the local area office of the Council, or from the Environment Section in the County Buildings. In the event that any results indicate the existence of serious risk to public health, arrangements are immediately put in place to notify those affected. Testing of public supplies is undertaken at periodic intervals, in accordance with Drinking Water Regulations, and additional testing is undertaken if the Council becomes aware of a problem with water quality. It is not proposed to amend the existing testing system, as only persons who are qualified to undertake testing can be authorised to do so."

**N.O.M. NO. 46 - COSAINT - AN COMH. S. O'NEACHTAIN**

3021

Seo leanas an freagra a tugadh do'n Comhairleoir O'Neachtain:-

"Ni mheasann an Comhairle Condae go bhfuil ga an obair seo a dheanamh ag an bpointe seo. Beidh muid ag coinneal suil ar an gcas."

**N.O.M. NO. 47 - REMEDIAL WORKS - CLLR. P. O'SULLIVAN**

3022

The following written reply was given to Councillor O'Sullivan:-

"It was not possible to include the above road in the 1995 Roadworks Programme due to lack of funds. The £600 Notice of Motion money allocated by you will be used for pot-hole repairs in due course."

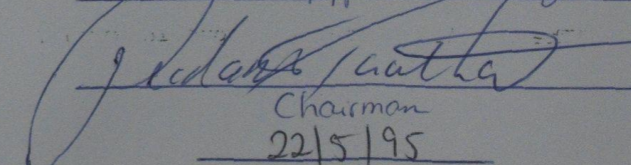
**N.O.M. NO. 48 - REMEDIAL WORKS - CLLR. P. O'SULLIVAN**

3023

"It was not possible to include the above location in the 1995 Roadworks Programme due to lack of funds. However, routine maintenance will be carried out in due course."

**CHRIOCHNAIGH AN CRUINNIO ANSIN**

Submitted Approved Signed:

  
Chairman  
22/5/95  
Date:

**COMHAIRLE CHONTAE NA GAILLIMHE**  
**(Galway County Council)**

Oifig an Runai,  
Arus an Chontae,  
**GAILLIMH.**

18 Aibreain, 1995.

**CHUIG GACH BALL DE'N CHOMHAIRLE/**

A Chara,

Iarrtar ort leis seo bheith i lathair ag cruinniú Míosiúil de Chomhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe a thionolfar ins na Foirgnithe Chontae, Gaillimhe De Luain, an 24ú lá Aibreain, 1995, ag tosnu ar a **3.00** a chlog sa trathnóna.

Mise, le meas,

**T. O CAOMHANAIGH,**  
**RUNAI.**

**AGENDA**

1. Consideration of Minutes of the following Meetings:
  - (a) Minutes of Special Meeting held on 10th March, 1995.
  - (b) Minutes of Monthly Meeting held on the 27th March, 1995.
2. To Note Minutes of Connemara Area Committee Meeting held on 20th March, 1995, Galway Area Committee Meeting held on 27th March, 1995, Tuam Area Committee Meeting held on 27th March 1995, Ballinasloe Area Committee Meeting held on 28th March 1995, and Loughrea Area Committee Meeting held on 24th March 1995.
3. Adoption of Road Works Programme 1995.

4. Sale of house at Waterview, Turloughmore to Ms. Ena Morris Collins, Waterview, Turloughmore - Section 83 Notice dated 30th March, 1995 already circulated.
5. Sale of site at No. 11, Ard Aoibhinn, Athenry to Sean & Marion Hynes, 57, The Moorings, Malahide - Section 83 Notice dated 30th March, 1995 already circulated.
6. To note Abstract of Accounts of Galway County Council for year ended 31/12/1994.
7. Loughrea Bye-Pass.
8. Reform of Town Local Government - appointment of Committee.
9. Adoption of draft Annual Report for 1994.
10. Coastal Erosion/Protection Works.
11. Review of Speed Limits on National Roads - Response from N.R.A.
12. Urban and Village Renewal Grants Scheme.
13. Strategic Planning - date for Seminar.
14. Progress Report - Sanitary Services Schemes.
15. Business submitted by the Chairman.
16. Business submitted by the County Manager.

COUNCILLORS NOTICES OF MOTIONS :

- Adjourned From Previous Meeting :

CLR. PADDY MC HUGH  
- I will propose :

- 17 That Galway County Council carry out improvement works at entrance to dwellinghouse and yard (details enclosed) in order to eliminate water flowing onto this property from the public road.

CLR. EAMONN O'CUIV  
- I will propose :

- 18 That remedial works be carried out to the "Western Way", near Finisglen, Recess, Co. Galway.

CLR. MICHAEL O'NEILL  
- I will propose :

- 19 That areas on the approach to the pier at Cleggan be marked for car parking in order to ensure that services to boats will not be blocked by visitors cars parked on the pier during the summer months.

COUNCILLORS NOTICES OF MOTIONS :

- Other Motions Received :

CLR. MICHAEL CUNNINGHAM  
- I will propose :

- 20 That Galway County Council, at the request of Ballindereen Community Council, would include street lighting at the Village and flashing lights at the National School in the 1995 Works Programme in the interest of safety.

CLR. MICHAEL CUNNINGHAM  
- I will propose :

- 21 That Galway County Council raise portion of road at Coolfin, Ardrahan which is affected by flooding.

CLR. MICHAEL CUNNINGHAM  
- I will propose :

- 22 That Galway County Council examine Bridge and Road at Poulatagle, Gort, near the residence of Willie Weekes and carry out necessary repairs.

CLR. MICHAEL FAHY  
- I will propose :

- 23 That Galway County Council provide funding for all County Roads that have been flooded in South Galway for the past 2 months, so that these County Roads be raised to prevent further flooding next winter.

CLR. MICHAEL FAHY  
- I will propose :

- 24 That Galway County Council erect a Local Authority dwellinghouse for Mr. Martin Kearns, Castletaylor, Ardrahan, this year - as the Kearns Family have to presently live in deplorable accommodation.

CLR. MICHAEL FAHY  
- I will propose :

- 25 That Galway County Council remove a rat-infested dump and build a wall at the back yard of Mr. Michael Kenny's house, 43 Crowe Street, Gort.

CLR. PATRICK FINNEGAN  
- I will propose :

- 26 That repairs be carried out to the Briarforth - 40 Acres Road, Williamstown which has recently been flooded and is in a very bad condition.

CLR. PATRICK FINNEGAN  
- I will propose :

27 That the Gurteenbawn Road (Dunmore) be properly repaired as it has been in a bad condition for a long time.

CLR. PATRICK FINNEGAN  
- I will propose :

28 That Galway County Council introduce a new category of Water Scheme payments to cater for schemes where practically all of the work is carried out by groups (e.g. Williamstown G.W.S.)

CLR. SEAMUS GAVIN  
- I will propose :

29 That repairs are carried out on the Home Farm Road in Moycullen and also on the nearby Tumnasragh Road (near Connells).

CLR. SEAMUS GAVIN  
- I will propose :

30 That the up-to-date position regarding speed limits in the county be made known. When can the re-positioning of signs as agreed in March 1993 be carried out? There is an urgent need for this work and many groups are feeling very disappointed and frustrated about the matter.

CLR. SEAMUS GAVIN  
- I will propose :

31 That what sections of the N 59 National Secondary Route is it planned to carry out works on this year and what type of work will be done with the monies allocated?

CLR. MATT LOUGHNANE  
- I will propose :

32 That steps be taken to prevent flooding at a specified location, details of which are attached.

CLR. MATT LOUGHNANE  
- I will propose :

33 That the turn at a specified junction be widened (details attached).

CLR. MATT LOUGHNANE  
- I will propose :

34 That the Council rebuild the wall recently knocked during a storm near Tawin Village.

COUNCILLORS NOTICES OF MOTIONS :

- Other Motions Received :

CLR. JARLATH MC DONAGH  
- I will propose :

35 That Galway County Council establish facilities for at least one days water storage in the town of Athenry in place of the current two hours storage which is totally unacceptable for a town of this size.

CLR. JARLATH MC DONAGH  
- I will propose :

36 That Galway County Council endeavour to highlight the entry towards two important locations (details supplied). May I point out that the entry to both these roads are very obscure at the moment particularly after dark.

CLR. JARLATH MC DONAGH  
- I will propose :

37 That Galway County Council remove clay-banks and create inlets for cars to meet and generally improve busy school road from Corofin Cross to Clough Junction.

CLR. CONNIE NI FHATHARTA  
- I will propose :

38 Go dtogfaidh Comhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe Grúpa Sceim Uisce Leic/Curryulka (Leitir Moir) ar laimh. Ba mhaith le muintir na haite go mbeadh an Comhairle chontae freagrach as an sceim uisce.

CLR. CONNIE NI FHATHARTA  
- I will propose :

39 Go ndeanfaidh Comhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe na driseacha ar na boithre sios ag na tranna ar an gCeathru Rua a ghearradh.

CLR. CONNIE NI FHATHARTA  
- I will propose :

40 Go ndeanfaidh Comhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe "flashing school lights" a chur ar fail do S.N. Sailearna, Indreabhan. Bíonn go leor tracht ar an mbothar reigiunach seo.

CLR. EAMONN O'CUIV  
- I will propose :

41 Molaimse go gcuirfear solas ag Caibh an Mhais, i gCarna, mar go mbaintear go leor usaide as an gCeibh seo i crith na bliana ar fad.

CLR. EAMONN O'CUIV  
- I will propose :

42 That Galway County Council would proceed immediately with the building of a new council house for Mr. Thomas Coyne, Doonreaghan, Cashel, Connemara, who is in urgent need of housing.

CLR. EAMONN O'CUIV  
- I will propose :

43 That extra street lights would be provided in the village of Cashel, Connemara, Co. Galway.

CLR. SEAN O'NEACHTAIN  
- I will propose :

44 Go mbeadh an talamh seo ata i seilbh an Chomhairle Condae cartha ar fail don Phobal aituil mar ionad chun spoirt a imirt (sonraí leis seo).

CLR. SEAN O'NEACHTAIN  
- I will propose :

45 That the results of recent water testing at this location be made available to alleviate local concern. That future water-testing facilities be made available to authorised personnel locally so that testing can take place more regularly and immediately when problems are apparent.

CLR. SEAN O'NEACHTAIN  
- I will propose :

46 Go ndeanfaidh cosaint a chur suas idir an fharráige agus an bothar ag an Tra in Inis Oirr chun creimiu talun a sheachaint. Tá contuirt ann go mbrisfidh an fharráige isteach ar thaoille ard agus farráige laidir. Bheadh foinsé agus uisce an oileain i gcontuirt da dtarlóidh se seo.

CLR. PAT O'SULLIVAN  
- I will propose :

47 That remedial works be carried out on the Killurebeg Road, Ballinasloe and repair the surface of said road.

CLR. PAT O'SULLIVAN  
- I will propose :

48 That immediate works be carried out on the Kilmacshane Road, the surface of which is in serious need of urgent attention.

## COMHAIRLE CHONTAE NA GAILLIMHE

### MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING OF GALWAY COUNTY

COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY, 10TH APRIL, 1995 TO

CONSIDER THE ROAD WORKS SCHEME FOR 1995

Cathaoirleach:- An Comhairleoir P. O'Tuathail.

Baill:- Councillors J. Brennan, J. Callanan, Deputy E. O'Cuiv, Councillors M. Cunningham, M. Fahy, P. Finnegan, M. Finnerty, S. Gavin, T. Hussey, J. Mannion, J. McClearn, Deputy P. McCormack, Senator J. McDonagh, Councillors P. McHugh, M. Mullins, C. Ni Fhatharta, S. O'Neachtain, P. O'Sullivan, K. Quinn, M. Regan, E. Varley, and T. Walsh.

Oifigigh:- Messrs. D. O'Donoghue, County Manager, D. Nelson, Asst. County Manager, J. Crotty, A/County Engineer, R.C. Killeen, A/Deputy County Engineer, E. Lusby, Finance Officer, C. Wallace, S.S.O., and T. Kavanagh, County Secretary.

### ROAD WORKS SCHEME FOR 1995

2977

The debate which had taken place at the meeting in-committee continued. Mr. Killeen explained the origin of the Supplementary Improvement Grant. He said that it came out of a special fund of £5m which was divided between approximately 16 counties with bad roads. He said that the Connemara roads were a major factor in helping Galway receive a portion of the grant and it was expected by the Department of the Environment that the grant would be spent on reasonably large projects. This was the first time that part of the grant was taken for spending elsewhere and if any more was taken the Clifden, Oughterard and Costelloe areas would suffer.

Councillor Joe Brennan said that all areas had suffered from the bad weather and the Supplementary Grant should be allocated to all areas. He said the roads in the Caltra area were extremely bad. Councillor Finnegan said that a further £50,000.00 should be found for the Tuam Inner Relief Road in



order that it could be opened for traffic. He said that roads in the Gurteen area and Dunmore were very bad. Councillor Gavin said that the Council was being left seriously short of funding and a case would have to be made for additional monies. He said that the Council had only 26% of the funds required. Councillor McHugh said that he supported the proposal to transfer £75,000.00 from the Supplementary Grant for the Tuam Inner Relief Road. He said that the Council grants were down £1.2m on last year and he supported the idea of a deputation to the Minister. He said that the cycle of surface dressing and strengthening were getting seriously out of line and would have huge implications in the years ahead. He said that no funds had been made available for the Galway/Headford road or the road at Lydican.

Deputy Connaughton said that the Council had never received adequate funds for roads. He said that last year a sum of £10m from the Tax Amnesty was available for distribution but no such sum was available this year. He said that a major job needed to be done on the roads in the county and he suggested that a surcharge on petrol be considered specifically for county roads. Councillor Ni Fhatharta said that the storms and flooding had caused serious road damage in Connemara. She said that the county roads were very important in Connemara but these had been allowed to deteriorate over the years. It was because of the bad roads in Connemara that the Council received the Supplementary Grant and she objected to using it elsewhere.

Councillor O'Sullivan proposed that the Supplementary Grant be divided equally between the 11 engineering areas. This was seconded by Councillor Callanan. Deputy McCormack questioned whether the Council was getting good value for money through direct labour works and said the public tender method would have to be seriously considered. Councillor Fahy said that he was very unhappy with the grant allocations. The people in South Galway had suffered great hardship because of the flooding and now the roads were in a deplorable state. He said that there should be a special allocation for South Galway.

Councillor Hussey said that the reduced road grant was the cause of the problem. He then proposed the notice on the agenda that the Minister for the Environment be asked to approve the borrowing of additional money to enable the Council to carry out the complete 1995 Programme of Works as outlined in the Council's Road Development Plan 1995 - 1999. This was seconded by Councillor Finnegan. Senator McDonagh said that the General Council of County Councils had looked for extra money for county roads. He proposed an amendment to Council Hussey's motion that the Council seek an urgent meeting with the Minister for the Environment with a view to sourcing funds to allow the Council proceed with its Five Year

Roads Plan. This was seconded by Councillor Varley who outlined the urgency of carrying out improvements to the Curraghline Road and the need to maintain an adequate work-force in all the areas.

Councillor Joe Burke said that he would not support Councillor Hussey's borrowing motion. He said there was subsidence at the road at Kilclooney Burial Ground and it needed to be looked at urgently. He said the Councillors agreed last year that Tuam would get a fair allocation but there would not be enough money to purchase materials based on the scheme as proposed. He said that Deputy Connaughton's proposal regarding a petrol tax was worth considering and seconded the motion. Deputy O'Cuiv said that the N.R.A. had forgotten their responsibility for national secondary roads as the Curraghline Road was a disgrace. He said that the N.R.A. would have to be asked to produce a roads plan with a reasonable allocation for national secondary roads. He also mentioned the Clifden to Westport Road. He supported Councillors Hussey's motion saying that the Five Year Roads Plan was minimal. He said that the Minister should be asked to allow the Council proceed with the Five Year Plan and reimburse the Council in 1996. He said that he would oppose any proposal for a tax on petrol. Councillor O'Neachtain said that the basic problem was under-funding for roads. He said that too much money was going to the Dublin area which strictly was not an objective one area. Councillor O'Neill said that prior to 1993 the road funds were allocated having regard to the number of employees and this had always left a short-fall in the Connemara area. He said that Councillor O'Sullivan's proposal would have serious implications for the Connemara area and he proposed that the Supplementary Grant be adopted as circulated in the Road Works Scheme. Councillor Byrne said that he would not agree with Councillor Hussey's motion as any money borrowed would have to be repaid with interest and he said that it was reasonable to ask the Minister for extra funding.

Councillor Mullins said that he was against borrowing money for roads but would support the sending of a deputation to the Minister requesting funds to allow the Council proceed with its Five Year Roads Plan. Councillor Walsh said that he was not satisfied that the Tuam area was getting a fair allocation or if the Supplementary Grant was being distributed according to the greatest need. He said that the proposal for petrol tax would need greater study. Councillor McClearn said that the Members should be aware of the consequences of borrowing money. He said that he was not happy with the way the Supplementary Grant was being distributed and said that the problem on national secondary roads would have to be seriously addressed and gave Hearnbrook as an example.

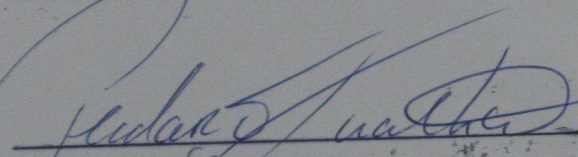
Councillor Mannion said that the east of the county

was getting two thirds of the E.U. Grants for non national roads and one third of the Supplementary Grant. He said that the poor condition of the roads in Connemara was responsible for the Council getting the Supplementary Grant. He proposed that a decision be deferred for two weeks to the Monthly Meeting, the meeting to commence at 3.00 p.m.

The County Manager said that there were 6,500 km of road in the county and it was important that they be properly maintained. He read an extract from the Dail Debates of the 9th March, 1995 which stated that the Government was undertaking a comprehensive review of non-national roads. Referring to the Council's Five Year Roads Plan, he said that the Council was well armed to go on a deputation to the Minister and the N.R.A. He said he would not recommend borrowing for road works.

Councillor Hussey seconded Councillor Mannion's proposal and the meeting then ended.

Submitted, Approved + Signed:

  
(Chairman)

22/5/95  
Date

**COMHAIRLE CHONTAE NA GAILLIMHE**

**MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING OF GALWAY COUNTY  
COUNCIL HELD IN COMMITTEE ON MONDAY, 10TH  
APRIL, 1995 TO CONSIDER THE ROAD WORKS SCHEME  
FOR 1995**

**Cathaoirleach:-** An Comhairleoir P. O'Tuathail.

**Baill:-** Councillors J. Brennan, J. Callanan, Deputy E. O'Cuiv, Councillors M. Cunningham, M. Fahy, P. Finnegan, M. Finnerty, S. Gavin, T. Hussey, J. Mannion, J. McClearn, Deputy P. McCormack, Senator J. McDonagh, Councillors P. McHugh, M. Mullins, C. Ni Fhatharta, S. O'Neachtain, P. O'Sullivan, K. Quinn, M. Regan, E. Varley, and T. Walsh.

**Oifigigh:-** Messrs. D. O'Donoghue, County Manager, D. Nelson, Asst. County Manager, J. Crotty, A/County Engineer, R.C. Killeen, A/Deputy County Engineer, E. Lusby, Finance Officer, C. Wallace, S.S.O., and T. Kavanagh, County Secretary.

Thosnaigh an crinniu leis an paidir.

**ROAD WORKS SCHEME FOR 1995**

2976

The Road Works Schemes for National Roads and Non-National Roads had been circulated to all the Members. The Secretary informed the Members that meetings of the five area committees had been held, some areas had two meetings. Because of the non-discretionary factor in relation to the national roads, practically all of the discussion had centred on the non-national road works schemes. He said that there had been general agreement in all the areas except the Tuam area. The Ballinasloe area had also proposed a re-distribution of the Supplementary Improvement Grant of £450,000.00.

Mr. Killeen then gave details of the following amendments that had been agreed:-

Page 17(iii) Appendix D Strengthening Gort Area Road at Aughinish Causeway to be included at a cost of £18,000.00. Expenditure on Leagh North -