

COMHAIRLE CHONTAE NA GAILLIMHE

**MINUTES OF ADJOURNED STATUTORY ESTIMATES
MEETING OF GALWAY COUNTY COUNCIL HELD AT
THE COUNTY BUILDINGS, GALWAY ON FRIDAY,
29th NOVEMBER, 1996**

Cathaoirleach:-

Councillor W. Burke

Bail:-

Cllrs. J. Brennan, J. Burke, T. Byrne, J. Callanan,
Deputy P. Connaughton, Cllrs. M. Cunningham,
M. Fahy, P. Finnegan, M. Finnerty, S. Gavin, T. Hussey,
M. Loughnane, J. Mannion, J. McClearn, Deputy P.
McCormack, Cllrs. P. McHugh, M. Mullins, C. Ni
Fhatharta, S. O'Neachtain, M. O'Neill, P. O'Sullivan, P.
O'Tuathail, K. Quinn, M. Regan, M. Ryan, E. Varley
& T. Walsh.

Oifigigh:-

Messrs. D. O'Donoghue, Co. Manager, D. Nelson,
Asst. Co. Manager, E. Power, A/Co. Secretary, J.
Crotty, A/Co. Engineer, E. Lusby, Finance Officer, R.C.
Killeen, A/Deputy Co. Engineer, J. Cullen & D. Barrett,
A.O.'s, & C. Greene, S.S.O.

Thosnaigh an crinniu leis an paidir.

RESOLUTIONS OF SYMPATHY

4031

A Resolution of Sympathy was passed with the following:-

Mrs. M. Mullins, Cooloo, Brierfield, Ballinasloe, Co. Galway.

Mrs. Myra Flynn, Abbey Trinity, Tuam, Co. Galway.

Mr. Tony Gavin, Milltown Road, Tuam, Co. Galway.

ESTIMATES 1997

4032

Opening the Adjourned Estimates Meeting the Chairman invited comments from the Members of the Council.

Referring to the recent sewerage scheme improvement works in Williamstown, Councillor Walsh requested that road and footpath restoration be provided for.

Councillor Finnerty requested that where private groups provide public lighting in areas, that these lights be taken over by the County Council.

Councillor Mullins welcomed the commitment for the elimination of demountable dwellings and the proposals for new headquarters. He stated that in the context of having the fourth lowest rate in the country and water supply provided at 38p per day, the proposed increases did not seem too excessive.

Councillor Finnegan stated that it was unfair that the commercial rate took no account of the actual level of business being carried out. Also the Council found itself in a situation of having to balance the estimates while service charges are likely to be abolished in the near future.

On the matter of refuse charges to private collectors, Deputy Connaughton stated that it was important that the Collectors would know in advance the level of charge and that it remain unchanged for a fixed period of time.

An Comhairleoir O'Tuathail referred to the allocation for housing maintenance and stated that very few housing repairs were being carried out in the South Connemara area. He referred also to recent heavy rainfall and the effect it was having on County Roads.

Councillor Callanan stated that the private collection of refuse was working well and that charges to Collectors needed to be determined and remain fixed.

Councillor McClearn stated that there were many positive aspects to the Estimates such as the Urban and Village Renewal for which the Council deserved credit.

Councillor Varley stated that some burial grounds are badly neglected and litter is becoming a major problem. However, she welcomed the recent Draft Litter Action Plan. On the matter of service charges, she stated that water and sewerage services had to be paid for.

Councillor J. Burke stated that there was a community-based element which was very noticeable in the Estimates. He stated that greater attention needed to be focused on derelict sites and litter prevention. On the matter of charges for private refuse collectors he stated that the Collectors must know in advance what the charges will be.

Councillor Byrne stated that there was very little room for changes in the Estimates as presented and it was unfortunate to have to seek increases in Rates and Service charges.

Councillor Finnerty complimented Mr. Colm Wallace in the Engineering Department for his work and in particular in relation to Councillor's Notice of Motion expenditure. The Chairman and all Members wished to be associated with the comments.

Responding to questions that had arisen earlier, the Finance Officer informed the Meeting that Galway County Council receives no compensation from the Department of Social Welfare in respect of waivers granted on service charges. Also, on the matter of housing rents, he stated that while a limited number of Social Welfare recipients can opt to have housing rents deducted from unemployment benefit, it would be of considerable benefit to Galway County Council if housing rents were deducted from Social Welfare entitlements at source and passed on to the County Council.

It was proposed by Councillor Gavin, seconded by Deputy Connaughton and agreed that Galway County Council should write to the Department of Social Welfare to seek compensation for waivers of service charges which had been granted and to seek the deduction of housing rents from Social Welfare entitlements.

The County Manager then replied to questions which had arisen over the course of the three meetings on the Estimates covering each of the eight Programme Groups. On the question of charges to private refuse collectors he informed the Members that the charges will be increased by £10 from 1st April 1997 and will then remain unchanged for the remainder of the year.

The Chairman, Councillor W. Burke complimented the Manager and Staff on the detail provided in the Estimates and recommended the adoption of the Estimates as presented.

ADOPTION OF ESTIMATE OF EXPENSES 1997 4033

It was proposed by Councillor Mannion, seconded by Councillor Gavin and resolved:-

“That Galway County Council hereby adopt, the Estimate of Expenses for the Financial Year ending 31st December, 1997, as presented and set out in Tables A, B1 and D of the said Estimate of Expenses as presented.”

The Chairman then declared that the Estimate of Expenses for the Financial Year ending 31st December, 1997 as presented, had been adopted by the Council.

**DETERMINATION OF THE RATES IN THE £ 4034
TO BE LEVIED FOR THE SEVERAL PURPOSES
SPECIFIED IN THE ESTIMATE FOR THE FINANCIAL
YEAR ENDING 31/12/1997**

It was proposed by Councillor Mannion, seconded by Councillor Ryan and resolved:-

“That Galway County Council hereby determine in accordance with the Estimate of Expenses for the financial year ending 31st December, 1997, as presented and as adopted, the rates set out in Column 13 of Table B1 and Column 7 of Table D, to be the rates in the £ to be levied for the several purposes as set out in Column 1 of Table B1

and in Table D for the financial year ending 31st December, 1997.”

The Chairman declared Councillor Mannion's proposal carried and declared that the rates in the £ to be levied for the several purposes specified in the estimate for the financial year ending 31st December, 1997 had been determined by the Council. The Prescribed Certificate was then signed.

**MAKING OF CHARGES FOR WATER SUPPLIED 4035
FOR DOMESTIC PURPOSES IN RESPECT OF THE
PERIOD COMMENCING 1ST APRIL, 1997 UP TO AND
INCLUDING 31ST MARCH, 1998**

It was proposed by Councillor Varley and seconded by Councillor Brennan and resolved:-

“That in accordance with Section 65(a) of the Public Health (Ireland) Act, 1878, as inserted by Section 7 of the Local Government (Sanitary Services) Act, 1962, as amended by Section 8 of the Local Government (Financial Provisions) (No. 2) Act, 1983 as applied by Article 4 of the County Management (Reserved Functions) Order, 1985 and having regard to the provisions of the Scheme for Waiving of Charges in accordance with the Local Government (Financial Provisions) (No. 2) Act, 1983, the following charges be made for water supplied by Galway County Council for Domestic Purposes in respect of period commencing 1st April, 1997 up to and including 31st March, 1998, such charge to be payable in two equal instalments, the 1st instalment payable on the 1st April, 1997 and the 2nd instalment payable on the 1st October, 1997.”

AMOUNT OF CHARGE

Charge for Water Supplied to any domestic premises where water is used for Domestic Purposes. £137

The Chairman declared this proposal carried.

**MAKING OF CHARGE FOR WATER SUPPLIED 4036
TO PRIVATE GROUP WATER SUPPLY SCHEMES
FOR DOMESTIC PURPOSES IN RESPECT OF THE
PERIOD COMMENCING 1ST APRIL, 1997 UP TO AND
INCLUDING 31ST MARCH, 1998**

It was proposed by Councillor Varley, seconded by Councillor Brennan, and resolved:-

“That in accordance with Section 65(a) of the Public Health (Ireland) Act, 1878, inserted by Section 7 of the Local Government (Sanitary

Services) Act, 1962 as amended by Section 8 of the Local Government (Financial Provisions) (No. 2) Act, 1983 as applied by Article 4 of the County Management (Reserved Functions) Order 1985 and having regard to the Provisions of the Scheme for Waiving of Charges in accordance with the Local Government (Financial Provisions) (No. 2) Act, 1983, the following charges be made on Private Group Water Supply Schemes for water supplied by Galway County Council to them for Domestic Purposes for each Domestic Premises in the said schemes in respect of the period commencing 1st April, 1997 up to and including the 31st March, 1998 such charges to be payable in two equal instalments, the 1st instalment payable on the 1st April, 1997 and the 2nd instalment payable on the 1st October, 1997."

AMOUNT OF CHARGE

Charge on Private Group Water Supply Scheme for each Domestic Premises in the scheme where water is used for Domestic Purposes.

- | | | |
|-----|---|------|
| (a) | Where the Group Water Supply Scheme is in existence for 10 years or less. | £70 |
| (b) | Where the Group Water Supply Scheme is in existence for over-10 years | £110 |

The Chairman declared this proposal carried.

**MAKING OF CHARGES FOR SEWERAGE SERVICES 4037
FOR DOMESTIC PURPOSES IN RESPECT OF THE
PERIOD COMMENCING 1ST APRIL, 1997 UP TO AND
INCLUDING 31ST MARCH, 1998**

It was proposed by Councillor Varley, seconded by Councillor Brennan and resolved:-

"That in accordance with the provisions of Section 2 of the Local Government (Financial Provisions) (No. 2) Act, 1983, as applied by Article 3 of the County Management (Reserved Functions) Order 1985 (S.I. No. 341 of 1985), and the Local Government (Sanitary Services) Acts 1878 - 1964, and having regard to the provisions of the Scheme for Waiving of Charges in accordance with the Local Government (Financial Provisions) (No. 2) Act, 1983, a charge of £50.00 be made in respect of each premises within the County of Galway in respect of sewerage services supplied for domestic purposes for the period from the 1st April, 1997 to the 31st March, 1998, such charge to be made on the owner and occupier of each premises, and such charge to be payable in two equal instalments, the first instalment payable on 1st April, 1997 and the second instalment payable on the

1st October, 1997.”

The Chairman declared this proposal carried.

**MAKING OF CHARGE IN RESPECT OF REFUSE 4038
COLLECTION FOR DOMESTIC PURPOSES FOR THE
PERIOD 1ST APRIL, 1997 UP TO AND INCLUDING
31ST MARCH, 1998.**

It was proposed by Councillor Varley, seconded by Councillor Brennan, and resolved:-

“That in accordance with the provisions of Section 2 of the Local Government (Financial Provisions) (No. 2) Act, 1983, as applied by Article 3 of the County Management (Reserved Functions) Order 1985, and the Local Government (Sanitary Services) Acts 1878 - 1964, and having regard to the provisions of the Scheme for Waiving of Charges in accordance with the Local Government (Financial Provisions) (No. 2) Act, 1983, the charge of 50p be made by Galway County Council (hereinafter called The Council) in respect of each label, details of which shall be specified by the Council and which shall be affixed to any bin, bag, box or similar container containing refuse which shall be left out for collection by the Council from any Domestic Premises along the Council’s Refuse Collection Routes. The set charge of 50p shall apply for the period 1st April, 1997 up to and including 31st March, 1998, and shall be payable in advance on the purchase of the said labels from the Council or from such other source as shall be approved by the Council from time to time.”

The Chairman declared this proposal carried.

**DEMAND ON BALLINASLOE URBAN DISTRICT 4039
COUNCIL**

It was proposed by Councillor Finnerty, seconded by Councillor O’Sullivan and resolved:-

“That the Statutory Demand on the Ballinasloe Urban District Council for the year ending 31st December, 1997 be Signed and Sealed.”

The Demand was then Signed and Sealed.

**ESTIMATED EXPENDITURE AND INCOME 4040
OUT-TURN FOR 1996**

The Council noted and approved the Estimated out-turn figures for 1996 as set out in the Book of Estimates.

SPECIAL MEETING - 29/11/1996

It was proposed by Deputy Connaughton, seconded by Councillor Finnegan, and resolved:-

"That the Council approve Expenditure Excesses, being the estimated out-turn figures for 1996 in excess of the Adopted 1996 Estimates, such excesses being funded by other expenditure reductions and income increases."

The Chairman declared the proposal carried.

CONFERENCES

4041

The following Members were nominated and approved to attend the conferences outlined below on the recommendations of the Finance Committee, on the proposal of Councillor Ryan, seconded by Councillor Hussey.

TOURISM CONFERENCE - ENNIS - 29 & 30/11/96

Senator J. McDonagh
Councillor J. Callanan
Councillor M. Loughnane

PLANNING CONFERENCE - CORK - 14 & 15/11/96

Councillor M. Finnerty
Councillor J. Mannion
Councillor J. McClearn

ISLANDS DEVELOPMENT

4042

Mr. E. Power, A/County Secretary read out correspondence from Mr. Donal Carey, Minister of State concerning an additional allocation of £17,000 for the following projects:-

Inisboffin	-	Installation of aeronautical lighting to helipad	£ 3,000
Inismór}	-	Provision of cattle pens and loading boxes at piers (subject to planning permission being obtained)	£14,000
Inismaan}			
Inisboffin}			
Inisheer}			

The Acting County Secretary indicated that this allocation was in addition to the £60,000 already allocated for feasibility studies on a new deep water pier and the

SPECIAL MEETING - 29/11/1996

extension of the present pier and facilities at Inismór, the dredging of the harbour at Inisboffin and improvement works to Cleggan Pier.

A general discussion took place at which the Council expressed disappointment at the low level of additional funding now being made available to Galway County Council.

COUNTY COUNCIL HELD AT THE COUNTY
BUILDINGS, GALWAY ON MONDAY, 25th
NOVEMBER, 1996

CHRIOCHNAIGH AN CRUINNIU ANSIN

CATHAOIRLEACH

An Cathairleach

CLATHAIR FREISIN:

Bail

Cllrs. J. Burke, J. Callanan, Deputies

P. Cooney, E. O'Guay, Cllrs M.

P. Egan, M.

M. J. McKeown, Deputy P. McCormack,

P. McHugh, M.

S. O'Neachtain, M.

O'Tuohy, K. Quinn,

Mr. J. J. O'Connell, M.

Mr. D. O'Donoghue, Co. Manager, D.

Nelson, Asst. Co. Manager, T. Kavanagh,

Mr. E. Luby, Finance Officer,

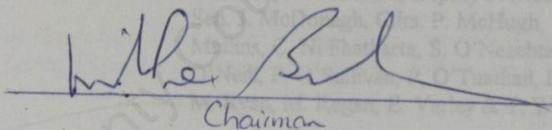
Mr. C. Killcey,

Mr. J. J. O'Connell, Engineer, L. Kavanagh, S.E.E.,

T. Connell & C. Wallace, S.E.O.'s and E.

Hourigan, A.S.O.

Submitted Approved + Signed:



Chairman

16/12/96

Date

Chriochnaigh an cruinniú leis an bailir.

The Council welcomed representatives from Teifis na Gaoidhe to the Meeting of Galway County Council and wished Teifis every success in their new venture.

RESOLUTIONS OF SYMPATHY

1998

The Members extended their deepest sympathy to the family of Senator Liam Naughton who died in tragic circumstances the previous week. The Members also conveyed wishes for a speedy recovery to his son who was also involved in the accident.

Resolutions of Sympathy were passed with the following:-

COMHAIRLE CHONTAE NA GAILLIMHE

MINUTES OF MONTHLY MEETING OF GALWAY COUNTY COUNCIL HELD AT THE COUNTY BUILDINGS, GALWAY ON MONDAY, 25th NOVEMBER, 1996

CATHAOIRLEACH:

An Comhairleoir W. Burke

I LATHAIR FREISIN:

Baill:

Cllrs. J. Burke, T. Byrne, J. Callanan, Deputies P. Connaughton & E. O'Cuiv, Cllrs. M. Cunningham, M. Fahy, P. Finnegan, M. Finnerty, S. Gavin, T. Hussey, M. Loughnane, J. Mannion, J. McClearn, Deputy P. McCormack, Sen. J. McDonagh, Cllrs. P. McHugh, M. Mullins, C. Ni Fhatharta, S. O'Neachtain, M. O'Neill, P. O'Sullivan, P. O'Tuathail, K. Quinn, M. Ryan, M. Regan, E. Varley & T. Walsh.

Oifigigh:

Messrs. D. O'Donoghue, Co. Manager, D. Nelson, Asst. Co. Manager, T. Kavanagh, Co. Secretary, E. Lusby, Finance Officer, J. Crotty, A/Co. Engineer, R.C. Killeen, A/Deputy Co. Engineer, L. Kavanagh, S.E.E., T. Connell & C. Wallace, S.S.O.'s and E. Hourigan, A.S.O.

Thosnaigh an crinniu leis an paidir.

The Council welcomed representatives from Teilifis na Gaeilge to the Meeting of Galway County Council and wished Teileifis every success in their new venture.

RESOLUTIONS OF SYMPATHY

3988

The Members extended their deepest sympathy to the family of Senator Liam Naughton who died in tragic circumstances the previous week. The Members also conveyed wishes for a speedy recovery to his son who was also involved in the accident.

Resolutions of Sympathy were passed with the following:-

Monthly Meeting - 25/11/1996

Family of Mr. Gerry Leyden, Former Galway City Engineer.
Mr. Frank Morris & Family, Carreens, Belclare, Co. Galway.
Mr. Thomas Burke & Family, Keelagues, Williamstown, Co. Galway.

The Manager, on behalf of the Staff and on his own behalf wished to be associated with the vote of Sympathy extended to Senator Liam Naughton and Mr. Gerry Leydon, having worked with them both over the years in Roscommon and Galway Corporation, respectively.

On the proposal of Councillor Ryan, seconded by Deputy McCormack, the Council agreed to adjourn the Meeting until 4.00 p.m. as a mark of respect.

VOTE OF CONGRATULATIONS

3989

The Council passed a Vote of Congratulations to the Pierces Camogie Club on their recent achievement on winning the All-Ireland Club Camogie Title.

RETIREMENT

On the proposal of Councillor Callanan, best wishes were conveyed to Mr. Richard Faherty, Former Senior Executive Engineer, Environment Section, on his retirement from Galway County Council.

MINUTES

3990

The Minutes of the Special Meeting held on 23rd September, 1996 were approved and signed by the Chairman on the proposal of Deputy Connaughton, seconded by Councillor Hussey.

The Minutes of Special Meeting held on 11th October, 1996 were approved and signed by the Chairman, on the proposal of Senator McDonagh, seconded by Councillor Hussey.

On the proposal of Councillor Hussey, seconded by Senator McDonagh, the Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on 18th October 1996 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

The Minutes of the Special Meeting held on 1st November, 1996 were approved and signed by the Chairman on the proposal of Councillor Finnegan, seconded by Councillor J. Burke.

On the proposal of Councillor Ryan, seconded by Councillor Hussey, the Minutes of Special Meeting held on 8th November, 1996 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

Monthly Meeting - 25/11/1996

The Report of the Loughrea Electoral Area Meeting held on 26th September, 1996 was considered. It was adopted on the proposal of Councillor McClearn, seconded by Councillor Regan.

The Report of the Connemara Electoral Area Meeting held on 30th September, 1996 was considered. It was adopted on the proposal of Councillor O'Neill, seconded by Councillor Ryan.

The Report of the Galway Electoral Area Meeting held on 4th October, 1996 was considered. It was adopted on the proposal of Senator McDonagh, seconded by Councillor McHugh.

The Report of the Ballinasloe Electoral Area Meeting held on 10th October, 1996 was considered. It was adopted on the proposal of Councillor Finnerty, seconded by Councillor Callanan.

The Report of the Tuam Electoral Area Meeting held on 11th October, 1996 was considered. It was adopted on the proposal of Councillor Finnegan, seconded by Councillor Hussey.

The Report of the Finance Committee Meeting held on 16th September, 1996 was considered. It was adopted on the proposal of Councillor Ryan, seconded by Councillor Fahy.

The Report of the Finance Committee Meeting held on 11th October, 1996 was considered. It was adopted on the proposal of Councillor Fahy, seconded by Councillor Ryan.

The Report of the Annual Meeting of the National Monuments Advisory Committee held on 10th September, 1996 was considered. It was adopted on the proposal of Councillor Gavin, seconded by Councillor Hussey.

The Report of the Employment Committee Meeting held on 17th September, 1996 was considered. It was adopted on the proposal of Councillor Fahy, seconded by Councillor Callanan.

MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES

Hearnsbrook Road

In the Report of the Loughrea Electoral Area Meeting held on 26th September, 1996 it was agreed that a proposal to request the N.R.A. to receive a deputation from Galway County Council with regard to strategy and funding for the Hearnsbrook Road be put before the Council. On the proposal of Councillor Regan, seconded by Councillor McClearn, the Council agreed to forward a letter to the N.R.A. requesting them to receive a deputation from Galway County Council.

Collinamuck Polling Station

An Comhairleoir O'Neachtain stated that he opposed the proposed closing of the Collinamuck Polling Station. He stated that this area will grow in numbers in years to come. On the proposal of an Comhairleoir O'Neachtain, seconded by Councillor Gavin, the Council agreed that the Polling Station at Collinamuck should not be closed.

National Monuments Advisory Committee - Tullykynne Castle

Councillor Gavin stated that the local Historical Society in Moycullen has requested that work be done to restore this building, if possible.

The County Secretary, Mr. Kavanagh, said that he would request the Office of Public Works to investigate the possibility of carrying out this work, and inform the Members accordingly.

**MATERIAL CONTRAVENTION OF DEVELOPMENT 3991
PLAN FOR THE SCHEDULED TOWN OF CLIFDEN
APPLICANT: KILCOOLE PROPERTIES
PLANNING REF: 96/1343**

Mr. L. Kavanagh, Senior Executive Engineer went through the following report which had been circulated with the agenda:-

PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT: The proposed houses shall be comprised of 9 no. single storey, 20 no. dormer type, 8 no. semi detached 2½ storey and it is proposed that the entrance to the estate be from the main Clifden/Westport Road.

LOCATION: The site is located on the Westport Road in the town of Clifden.

PLANNING HISTORY: On the 30th May, 1995 a planning application for the construction of 57 holiday cottages with ancillary roads, play areas and parking facilities was lodged on a larger site under planning reference number 95/2400. The application was withdrawn on the 11/6/96.

ZONING: The site lies within the development plan boundary of the scheduled town of Clifden and is largely zoned for agricultural use.

ASSESSMENT: The two principal constraints to the previous application for 57 no. holiday cottages were:

- (A) Contravention of Zoning
- (B) Deficiency of Sanitary Services

These constraints are also relevant to the present application.

COMHAIRLE CHONTAE NA GAILLIMHE

MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING OF GALWAY COUNTY COUNCIL HELD AT COUNTY BUILDINGS, GALWAY ON FRIDAY, 11th OCTOBER 1996

Cathaoirleach:-

Councillor W. Burke

Baill:-

Cllrs. J. Brennan, J. Burke, T. Byrne, J. Callanan, Cllrs. M. Cunningham, M. Fahy, P. Finnegan, S. Gavin, T. Hussey, J. Mannion, J. McClearn, Deputy P. McCormack, Senator J. McDonagh, Cllrs. P. McHugh, M. Mullins, C. Ni Fhatharta, S. O'Neachtain, M. O'Neill, P. O'Sullivan, P. O'Tuathail, K. Quinn, M. Ryan, E. Varley and T. Walsh.

Oifigigh:-

Messrs. D. O'Donoghue, Co. Manager, D. Nelson, Asst. Co. Manager, T. Kavanagh, Co. Secretary, B. Callagy, S.E.E., T. Connell, S.S.O. & A. Whelan, C.T.

Thosnaigh an crinniu leis an paidir.

RESOLUTION OF SYMPATHY

3928

A Resolution of Sympathy was passed with the following:-

Mr. Thomas Reynolds, Arda, Glinsk, Ballymoe, Co. Galway.

RÚN COMHGHAIRDIS

3929

Mhol an Comhleoír Ní Fhatharta rún comhghairdis do fhoireann peile an Cheathrú Rua as ucht an bua a bhí acu i gCraobh peile sinnsear an Chontae. . Fuair an foireann an thacaíocht o mhuintear Connamara uilig agus bhí gach éinne an bhrodúil astu. Chuidigh an Comhairleoir O Neachtain agus Comhleoirí eile leis an Rún.

Congratulations were also extended to the Galway U-21 Hurling Team, Galway Junior Hurling Team and Senior Camogie Teams on their All-Ireland successes.

Summary

The principal constraint to the proposed development is the zoning of the site largely for agricultural use. As the development concerned would materially contravene the Scheduled Town Plan of Clifden, the procedure as set out in the Local Government (Planning & Development) Act 1963 as amended has been implemented.

STATUTORY CONSIDERATION: A decision to grant permission cannot be made unless a resolution is passed by the members, requiring that such a decision be made in accordance with Section 26(3) of the 1963 Planning Act as substituted by Section 39(d) of the 1976 Planning Act, as amended by Section 45 of the Local Government Act 1991.

Public notice of the Council's intention to consider deciding to grant permission was given on 27th September, 1996 and the notice invited members of the public to submit representations or objections if they so wished.

If a resolution is passed requiring that a decision to grant permission be made, such a decision will issue encompassing suitable conditions, otherwise a decision to refuse permission must issue.

The latest date for a decision on this application is the 26th November, 1996."

The Chairman stated that if any Councillors have an interest in this development they should declare same.

Deputy McCormack questioned as to who would be responsible for maintaining the sewerage treatment plant and when are the proposed improvements to the water and sewerage schemes to take place. Councillor O'Neill stated that the initial application was for 57 no. tourist accommodation houses. He stated that he had reservations in respect of this planning application. A meeting was held recently with the local residents and they were not in favour of this development, as the reason the original application was changed was because the developer would not get planning permission. The difficulties with the water and sewerage schemes are extremely relevant. Councillor O'Neill proposed that the Council should first establish whether there is a need for this development, whether the house costs will be within the local people's range. Councillor Gavin agreed with Councillor O'Neill.

Councillor Mannion asked whether the Planning Officer is satisfied that this development is residential and not a tourist development. An Comhairleoir O'Neachtain queried the constraints that may be applied, the zoning and deficiency of existing sanitary services, and whether the solutions offered are for this development alone or the town of Clifden. Deputy O'Cuiv stated that Councillors in Connemara are totally opposed to granting permission for holiday homes. He asked whether the Planning Officer examined the plans submitted to ensure that the houses will be residential, and that no building should commence without the approval of the Local Authority and the applicant should prove that there is an adequate water supply in place. Councillor Fahy proposed that a grant of permission in respect of this

IN AGHAIDH: Cllrs. W. Burke, S. Gavin & M. O'Neill. (3)

The Chairman declared the Resolution carried.

SALE OF LAND AT CARROWNAGARRAUN, DUBLIN 3992 ROAD, TUAM

On the proposal of Councillor Finnegan, seconded by Councillor McHugh, the Council approved the sale of land at Carrownagarraun, Dublin Road, Tuam to Mr. Peter Moran, c/o J.M. Hession & Co., Solicitors, Dublin Road, Tuam, in accordance with Notice dated 12th November, 1996, under Section 83 of the Local Government Act, 1946, which had been circulated to each Member.

ALLOWANCE FOR SENIOR FIRE OFFICERS 3993

The Secretary referred to Report dated 20th November, 1996 which had been circulated with the Agenda and stated that agreement had been reached at national level between Management and Unions regarding an allowance for rostering of Senior Fire Officers. This will guarantee the availability of Senior Fire Officers on a twenty-four hour basis throughout the year.

The Members complimented the Members on the excellent fire service that is currently provided for the County. Deputy Connaughton questioned the cost involved to the Council for this service. Councillor Regan requested that, where possible, an area outside each fire station should be a designated parking area restricted to fire-fighters to avoid delays in answering fire calls. The Manager stated that he would investigate same and inform the Members accordingly. On the proposal of Deputy Connaughton, seconded by Councillor Ryan, the Council approved the payment of an allowance for Senior Fire Officers for availability on rostering system, in accordance with details outlined in report dated 20th November, 1996, which was circulated to each Member.

CONNEMARA ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECT 3994

Mr. D. Nelson, Assistant County Manager gave a brief outline of the main elements of the Application for EU Cohesion Funding which was submitted to the Department of the Environment under the title of the "Connemara Environmental Project". A Report dated 11th October, 1996 which was circulated to each Member summarised the project and gave a break-down of the total estimated costs involved.

An Comhairleoir O'Neachtain welcomed the report and Mr. Nelson's views on the "Connemara Environmental Project". He stated that the applications for funding from the Cohesion Fund itself exceed the amount of the fund, and it must be borne in mind that the Cohesion Fund ceases in 1999. He queried whether it is intended to carry out the work in stages or as a whole, and whether the whole plan or just sections were forwarded to the Commission by the Department of the Environment. He requested

that Galway County Council make representations to the Commission to ensure that this project is implemented in its totality. At present, large towns and cities need to improve their waste water treatment facilities and as a result smaller towns and villages will not be included on the priority list. He requested that the Council write to our M.E.P.'s, the Commission in Brussels, the Committee of the Regions, to ensure that this plan receives priority under the present Cohesion Fund.

An Comhairleoir Ni Fhatharta reiterated the importance of this project, which was discussed recently at a meeting between Udaras na Gaeltachta and Galway County Council. An Comhairleoir Ni Fhatharta proposed that a deputation of Councillors and Officials from both Udaras na Gaeltachta and Galway County Council meet Officials from the Department with a view to going to Europe to promote this scheme as it is restricting development within the area due to lack of proper water and sewerage facilities, and this was seconded by An Comhairleoir O'Neachtain. Deputy O'Cuiv supported this motion and stated that it is the only viable plan for the people of Connemara. He proposed that meetings be arranged to inform and get the support of the people of Connemara for the proposals outlined in the plan, and this was seconded by Councillor Gavin.

The County Manager agreed with the Members' suggestions for progressing the scheme. Meetings will be arranged in early 1997 to explain the details of the scheme to the people of Connemara as requested. The Council will seek a deputation as requested.

TAKING OVER OF LOCAL IMPROVEMENT SCHEMES 3995

The present situation regarding Local Improvement Schemes was outlined in report dated 19th November, 1996 which was circulated to each Member. The County Secretary, Mr. Kavanagh stated that in accordance with the Roads Act, 1993, there is a provision requiring Local Authorities to take into account the financial implications of declaring roads to be public roads and a statutory requirement that the road must be of general public utility. The report stated that many of the private roads which are improved under the Local Improvement Scheme serve a small number of houses and the question of whether the road is of general public utility arises. The County Secretary said that given the current shortage of funds, it is recommended that the roads improved under Local Improvement Schemes be not taken in charge.

Councillor Quinn expressed her disappointment at the Council's recommendation not to take these roads in charge. She stated that some of these roads which are used on a regular basis, have been improved recently and will not require maintenance for a number of years. Councillor Gavin praised the work carried out under the scheme. He stated that the amount of money allocated to the scheme has dropped considerably over the last 2/3 years. The situation as it now stands is that the number of applications for works under the scheme is increasing each year, and approx. 20 applications can only be dealt with each year based on the allocation received. There is now a backlog of applications going back to eight years approx., which makes it extremely difficult for the Council staff to deal with same. Councillor Quinn put forward a proposal to request additional funding from the Department of the

Monthly Meeting - 25/11/1996

Environment to deal with the present backlog in applications. This motion was seconded by Councillor Gavin.

Deputy O'Cuiv stated that people living in rural Ireland and on the Islands contribute towards their water supply and roads, and rely on Local Improvement Schemes for improvements to their roads. The increased cost of insurance has prevented people from maintaining roads leading to their homes. Deputy O'Cuiv stated that people are only seeking basic services, the cost of providing same is relatively small in national terms. He also stated that where roads satisfy the statutory requirements that they be taken in charge and maintained and proposed an amendment to Councillor Quinn's proposal that where a L.I.S. road serves a house that there will be no prohibition in taking same in charge. Councillor Quinn had no objection to adding this amendment to her proposal, and Councillor McHugh seconded same.

The Members supported the motion to request increased funding from the Department for L.I.S. schemes. In regard to the taking over of L.I.S. roads, Councillor O'Tuathail requested that a report outlining list/maps of the roads currently in charge of Galway County Council be drawn up, together with a list of the roads, number of houses served by such roads, that require to be taken in charge be presented to the Council, Roinn na Gaeltachta roads to be included in same.

The County Manager stated that the Council would prepare a detailed submission to the Department requesting an increased allocation of money for L.I.S. for 1997. A Report will be prepared of roads which have been improved under L.I.S.

REGIONAL WASTE STRATEGY & SPEED LIMITS 3996

The Members agreed to defer the above items to the next Meeting.

MANAGER'S BUSINESS 3997

Post of County Engineer

The Manager informed the Members that the Local Appointments Commission had recommended the appointment of Mr. John Collieran for the post of County Engineer with Galway County Council. Mr. Collieran is the present County Engineer with Monaghan County Council.

Galway Transportation and Planning Study

Mr. O'Donoghue said that the Consultants appointed for the Study will address the Members at the early stages of the work. A date for this presentation is to be agreed.

CHAIRMAN'S BUSINESS

3998

Cardiac Facilities in Galway

Councillor Ryan, the present Chairman of the Western Health Board, requested the unanimous support of the Council for the provision of cardiac facilities at University College Hospital. The facilities for cardiac surgery are vital for people living in the West of Ireland, who, at present, must travel to Dublin and as a result cause great hardship to families. He proposed that support be sought from surrounding Councils in the region, i.e. Sligo, Leitrim, Donegal, Mayo, Roscommon, Clare, etc. who would be best served by having the cardiac unit in Galway, and the Minister for Health be so informed.

Deputy McCormack seconded this proposal and added that cardiac facilities in Galway are extremely important for the future development of services within the Western Health Board region. Deputy McCormack welcomed the Minister for Health's recent decision to improve the Cancer Patient facilities in Galway.

The Members unanimously supported the motion.

Assessment - Medical Cards

Councillor Walsh proposed that the Council request the Western Health Board/Department of Health to make an adjustment, in the notional figure for medical cards assessment for farmers whose earnings are seriously affected by the BSE crisis. Councillor Finnegan seconded this motion which was agreed by the Members.

Bail Referendum

The Chairman stated that it was extremely important that everyone be encouraged to vote in favour of changing the Bail Laws. Councillor Mullins and other Members supported same.

Claremorris/Limerick Railway Line

On the proposal of Councillor Finnegan, seconded by Councillor Cunningham, the Council agreed that a letter be forwarded to Iarnrod Eireann requesting them to outline their proposals for the future of the Claremorris/Limerick Railway Line. The Council urged that this railway line would not be closed or removed as it serves as a vital link to the area and its closure would have serious implications for increased costs in road maintenance.

Notices of Motion

Councillor Gavin requested that a meeting be arranged to discuss the issues raised under Councillors' Notices of Motion. The Chairman stated that this matter should be raised at the Area Meetings.

NOTICE OF MOTIONS

N.O.M. NO. 13 - ROAD WORKS - CLLR. M. CUNNINGHAM 3999

The following written reply was given to Councillor Cunningham:-

"School flashing lights were installed at this location in 1994. There are no plans at present for any further works at this location."

N.O.M. NO. 15 - ROAD WORKS - CLLR. M. CUNNINGHAM 4000

The following written reply was given to Councillor Cunningham:-

"This is the National Secondary Route N66 and the carrying out of realignment and improvement works is dependent on funding being provided by the N.R.A."

N.O.M. NO. 16 - TRAFFIC ROUTE LIGHTING - CLLR M. FAHY 4001

The following written reply was given to Councillor Fahy:-

"An Order has been sent to E.S.B. to carry out the work."

N.O.M. NO. 17 - PLAYGROUND - CLLR. M. FAHY 4002

The following written reply was given to Councillor Fahy:-

"The original plan to provide a children's playground at Crowe Street has been re-examined and our Risk Control Officer and Insurers are not in favour of such facilities in view of the risk of claims."

N.O.M. NO. 18 - ROAD WORKS - CLLR. M. FAHY 4003

The following written reply was given to Councillor Fahy:-

"There are no funds available to carry out this work at present."

N.O.M. NO. 19 - FLOODING - CLLR. P. FINNEGAN 4004

"There are no funds available to carry out remedial work this year. It will be included in the 1997 programme."

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N.O.M. NO. 20 - WATER SUPPLY - CLLR. P. FINNEGAN 4005

The following written reply was given to Councillor Finnegan:-

"I wish to inform you that this is a private group scheme with a private source (Lough Loung) completed in 1979 serving in excess of 200 houses. The Local Authority has not received any proposals from the group scheme or the Department of the Environment."

N.O.M. NO. 21 - ROAD WORKS - CLLR. P. FINNEGAN 4006

The following written reply was given to Councillor Finnegan:-

"This road is in quite good condition. Part of the road has been improved and it is proposed to carry out further work next year subject to availability of funds."

**N.O.M. NO. 22 - SCHOOL FLASHING LIGHTS - CLLR. 4007
S. GAVIN**

The following written reply was given to Councillor Gavin:-

"This school is located within a 30 m.p.h. speed limit and it is not normal practice to provide flashing lights within such limits.

Consideration will, however, be given to the inclusion of this location in the 1997 School Flashing Lights Programme within the limits of funding available and based on other priority needs in the County."

N.O.M. NO. 23 - ROAD - CLLR. S. GAVIN 4008

The following written reply was given to Councillor Gavin:-

"Mr. Molloy's house is at a lower level than the road outside his gate. This is not a matter for the Council."

N.O.M. NO. 24 - ROAD REPAIRS - CLLR. S. GAVIN 4009

The following written reply was given to Councillor Gavin:-

"These roads will be repaired in the course of routine maintenance."

N.O.M. NO. 25 - ROAD WORKS - CLLR. M. LOUGHNANE 4010

The following written reply was given to Councillor Loughnane:

"It is hoped to complete this work in the near future."

N.O.M. NO. 26 - FLOODING - CLLR. M. LOUGHNANE 4011

The following written reply was given to Councillor Loughnane:-

"Water tables will be attended to at this location shortly and an inspection will be carried out to see if any other remedial measures are necessary."

N.O.M. NO 27 - ROAD REPAIRS - CLLR. M. LOUGHNANE 4012

The following written reply was given to Councillor Loughnane:-

"Routine maintenance work will be carried out on this road in the near future."

N.O.M. NO. 28 - BRIDGE WORKS -CLLR. J. MCCLEARN 4013

The following written reply was given to Councillor McClearn:-

"The bridge referred to is not in charge of the Council."

N.O.M. NO. 29 - ROAD SIGNING - SEN. J. MCDONAGH 4014

The following written reply was given to Senator McDonagh:-

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

N.O.M. NO. 30 - RUMBLE STRIPS - SEN. J. MCDONAGH 4015

The following written reply was given to Senator McDonagh:-

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

N.O.M. NO. 31 - ROAD SAFETY MEASURES - SEN. J. MCDONAGH 4016

The following written reply was given to Senator McDonagh:-

"The provision of low cost accident measures is under consideration. This is dependant on funding being made available from the N.R.A.

If the local community are prepared to provide the public lights the Council would take them in charge."

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

"Quotations have been sought from contractors and it is hoped to proceed with work as quickly as possible."

**N.O.M. NO. 32 - PLANNING PERMISSION - CLLR. M. 4017
MULLINS**

The following written reply was given to Councillor Mullins:-

"An Enforcement Notice and a Warning Notice has been served on Esat Digifone in accordance with the provisions of the Planning Acts. The notices require the cessation of all unauthorised development forthwith and the restoration of lands to their original state."

**N.O.M. NO. 33 - BOTHAR - AN COMH. C. NI 4018
FHATHARTA**

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

"Déanfar obair deisiuchán ar an mbóthar seo do reir mar a bheidh airgead ar fáil."

**N.O.M. NO. 34 - DROICHEAD - AN COMH. 4019
C. NI FHATHARTA**

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

"Tá muid ag scrudú an cás seo faoi láthair agus beidh freagra againn le haghaidh an chead cruinniú eile."

**N.O.M. NO. 35 - BOTHAR - AN COMH. C. NI 4020
FHATHARTA**

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

"Cuirfear tuile comharthíocht ar fáil ag an ionad seo go luath."

N.O.M. NO. 36 - LIGHTING - DEP. E. O'CUIV 4021

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

Priority for public lighting is given to towns and villages. Lighting on piers such as this do not have a high priority in the allocation of the limited resources available."

N.O.M. NO. 37 - BRIDGE - DEP. E. O'CUIV 4022

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

"Quotations have been sought from contractors and it is hoped to proceed with work as quickly as possible."

N.O.M. NO. 38 - SIGNAGE - DEP. E. O'CUIV 4023

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

"It is hoped to erect signage within the next few weeks."

**N.O.M. NO. 39 - TRAFFIC CALMING MEASURES -
CLLR S. O'NEACHTAIN 4024**

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

"Signs have been erected. It is hoped to provide additional signage or road markings in the near future. We will assess the effectiveness of these measures after they have been in place to ascertain if any other measures are necessary."

**N.O.M. NO. 40 - FOOTPATHS - CLLR. S. O'
NEACHTAIN 4025**

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

"The above works will be considered in the preparation of the 1997 Road Works Programme."

**N.O.M. NO. 41 - ROAD REPAIRS - CLLR. S.
O'NEACHTAIN 4026**

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

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

N.O.M. NO. 42 - SIGNS - CLLR. P. O'SULLIVAN 4027

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

"Signs indicating fishing areas are normally provided by the Fisheries Board or Bord Fáilte. If either of these bodies were to provide signs the Council would consider erecting them."

N.O.M. NO. 44 - LIGHTING - CLLR. E. VARLEY 4028

The following written reply was given to Councillor Varley:-

"(a) A new lantern on existing pole is being provided."

- (b) This location will be considered in 1997 proposals.
- (c) This location will be considered in 1997 proposals.
- (d) A new lantern on existing pole is being provided.

N.O.M. NO. 45 - ROAD WORKS - CLLR. E. VARLEY 4029

The following written reply was given to Councillor Varley:-

"Routine maintenance works are scheduled for these roads in the near future with the exception of Greenfield road. The latter is scheduled for maintenance in 1997."

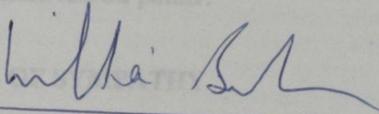
N.O.M. NO. 46 - ROAD REPAIRS - CLLR. E. VARLEY 4030

The following written reply was given to Councillor Varley:-

"It is hoped to carry out routine maintenance work on these roads in the near future."

CHRIOCHNAIGH AN CRUINNIU ANSIN

Submitted, Approved + Signed:



Chairman

16/12/96

Date

COMHAIRLE CHONTAE NA GAILLIMHE

**MINUTES OF STATUTORY ESTIMATES MEETING OF
GALWAY COUNTY COUNCIL HELD AT THE COUNTY
BUILDINGS, GALWAY ON FRIDAY, 15th NOVEMBER,
1996**

Cathaoirleach:-

Councillor W. Burke

Baill:-

Cllrs. J. Brennan, J. Burke, J. Callanan,
Deputies P. Connaughton & E. O'Cuiv, Cllrs.
M. Fahy, P. Finnegan, M. Finnerty, S. Gavin,
M. Loughnane, Deputy P. McCormack, Cllrs. P.
McHugh, M. Mullins, C. Ni Fhatharta, S. O'Neachtain,
M. O'Neill, P. O'Sullivan, K. Quinn, M. Regan, M.
Ryan, & T. Walsh.

Oifigigh:-

Messrs. D. O'Donoghue, Co. Manager, D. Nelson,
Asst. Co. Manager, T. Kavanagh, Co. Secretary, J.
Crotty, A/Co. Engineer, E. Lusby, Finance Officer, J.
Cullen & E. Power, A.O.'s, T. Connell, C. Greene &
P. Carroll, S.S.O.'s & J. Forde, S.O.

Thosnaigh an crinniú leis an paidir.

RESOLUTIONS OF SYMPATHY

3985

A Resolution of Sympathy was passed with the following:-

Mr. Peter Mahon, Corniamucklia, Ballymoe, Co. Galway.

ESTIMATES 1997

3986

At the beginning of the Meeting the County Manager summarised the main elements of the Estimates and each Programme Group which he had gone into in greater detail at the Meeting on 11th November, 1996. The Finance Officer, in reply to a query which had arisen at the meeting on Monday, 11th November, 1996, stated that the rate of inflation over the period 1977-1996 was almost 300% and if that increase was applied to the commercial rates, the rate in the pound would be £39 approx. rather than £33.29 as proposed in the Estimates.

The Chairman thanked the Manager and noted that the Council's programme of work was well laid out in the Estimates and pointed out that Galway County Council, with the second largest Council budget in the Country, was a very significant player in the overall context of Galway County.

Deputy Connaughton referred to the need to achieve value for money and the delivery of a good service to the public. Most people, he stated, who receive a service such as water are prepared to pay for it. He noted that there would be high increases in the years ahead for waste management costs and that people must get used to reducing the volume of waste produced.

Councillor Callanan, referring to housing rents, stated that the rents scheme was unfair to tenants with large families. He referred also to the need for further funding for the Aughrim-Cappataggle Road, the extension of the Ballinasloe Water Supply Scheme to serve other areas and the need to keep fees for private refuse collectors as low as possible. He stated that the proposed increases of 7% on Rates and 8% on Water Charges were too high and that a deputation should be made to the Minister on the issue of Local Government Funding.

Councillor Gavin stated that the focus at Estimates time tended to be on the various increases in charges only and there needed to be an increased public relations effort throughout the year to highlight the wide range of services provided by the Council to the public. Most people, he said, are prepared to pay for the service they receive. He stated that there was a need for greater progress in the development of sewerage schemes in villages throughout the County.

An Comhairleoir O'Neachtain referred to the significance of the three reports published on Local Government recently and stated that Local Government was underfunded and too dependant on Central Government needing department approval for virtually every project. He referred to the Connemara Environmental Project and its importance and stated that he understood it was not among the priorities for EU funding. Dúirt sé go raibh an Comhairle Chontae ag brath róthrom ar deontaisí ón Roinn Comhshaoil agus dá bhri sin go raibh an iomarca lámh an uachtar ag an Roinn. Maidir le h-úsaid na gaeilge dúirt sé gur mhaith leis, dá mbeadh an Comhairle ag úsáid an gaeilge níos fluairsigh ins na h-oifigigh freisin I seomra an Chomhairle.

Councillor Brennan stated that the Council was carrying out a high volume of work and it was important that the public was aware of it and the limited resources it had available for projects such as small sanitary service schemes which had to be co-financed. He stated that most people appreciated that water is invaluable and were prepared to pay for it. Also, the full implication of future waste disposal costs needed to be highlighted.

Councillor McHugh referred to the Fiscal Studies Report for the redistribution of the Rate Support Grant and the KPMG Study on Local Government Funding and stated that it was important to ensure that Galway County Council obtained its full share of funding. The reports on Local Government Funding needed to be pursued.

Councillor Finnegan stated that the Council was not given sufficient funding nor is it able to raise sufficient funding locally. He expected that after the Estimates had been adopted, water charges may be abolished altogether. He referred to the need for the next stage of Tuam Sewerage to proceed and would also like to see greater progress in the improvement works in lieu scheme.

Councillor Ryan enquired if the Kilclooney-Milltown Road would be completed this year and also why there was a difference in dump charge for a single and twin-axle trailer. He enquired about the rate of pay for Burial Ground Caretakers. He stated that there were concerns in some schools in rural areas served from Group Water Supply Schemes with regard to water quality and testing arrangements.

Councillor J. Burke stated that the Council should be commended for its work with communities and suggested that "Action Plans" should be used to challenge communities to be more actively involved in developing their own localities. He stated that the proposed 7% rate increase was too high. He referred to the need to advance Tuam Sewerage Scheme Stage II and to take more positive action on derelict sites, street litter and local improvement schemes. With regard to proposals for water improvement works in Moylough he felt it was unfair to expect the community to provide £20,000 towards the works.

Deputy O'Cuiv stated that he favoured a high proportion of central funding in the long term but that it should be made available by way of block grant with spending proposals to be at the Council's discretion. He stated if people were receiving services that they should pay for them. With regard to waivers, he stated that the cost of waivers granted should be recouped to the County Council by the Department of Social Welfare. Also the scheme itself needed to be adjusted so that a household of two pensioners receiving separate pensions would qualify for a full waiver. He stated that the deduction of housing rent from Social Welfare entitlement should be introduced and the scheme for Shared Ownership and Improvement Works in Lieu needed to be reviewed. He also stated that the E.U. criteria for approving major schemes which militated against low population-based rural areas needed to be changed. On this issue, he stressed that the Connemara Environmental Scheme is the only long-term solution for the water supply problems of the Connemara area.

An Comhairleoir Ní Fhatharta supported the need for and urgency of the Connemara Environmental Scheme. She stated that the proposed £10 increase on water charges was too high. Also the allocation for housing maintenance needed to be higher. She was pleased, she said, to see the provision for ECO-labelling which would benefit tourism and the extension of the bottle banks scheme. On the Fire Service, she referred to the large area of South Connemara which had to be served from Galway City. Dúirt an Comhairleoir Ní Fhatharta go mba mhaith léi dá mbeadh na meastacháin scríofa i ngaeilge agus i mbearla. Maidir leis an seirbhís briogáid doiteain, dúirt sí nach raibh sé ceart go raibh cúid mhór de Chonamara thiar ag brath ar seirbhís, as Gaillimh, go mór mór ós rud é go bhfuil an oiread tracht air an mbóthar o Gaillimh go Conamara thiar.

GORT RIVER (BRIDGE STREET) DRAINAGE SCHEME

3987

The County Secretary informed the Meeting of the above proposed drainage scheme by the Office of Public Works and that plans were available for inspection in the Planning Office, County Buildings and in the Library, Gort.

MINUTES OF PRELIMINARY ESTIMATES MEETING OF GALWAY COUNTY COUNCIL HELD IN COMMITTEE AT THE COUNTY BUILDINGS GALWAY ON MONDAY, 11th NOVEMBER 1996

CHRIOCHNAIGH AN CRUINNIU ANSIN

Baili:

Cllrs J. Brennan, J. J. Burke, T. Byrne, J. Callaghan, Deputys P. Conboy, John & E. O'Garra, Cllrs M. Faly, P. Flanagan, M. Finney, S. Gavin, T. Hussey, M. Loughran, J. Manning, J. McClean, Deputy Cllr M. Corry, Cllrs P. McHugh, M. Mullins, M. O'Connell, P. O'Connell, E. Vainy & M. Wall, P.

Submitted, Approved + Signed:

Willie Burd
Chairman

16/12/96
Date

Chriochnaigh an cruinniu leis an paidir.

RESOLUTIONS OF SYMPATHY

3988

A Resolution of Sympathy was passed with the following:-
Patrick & Martha Molloy, Chaddagh, Lavelly, Tuam, Co. Galway.

ESTIMATES 1997

3989

The Meeting noted that a number of Councillors would not be present for the Estimates Meeting scheduled for Friday, 15th November, 1996. It was proposed by Councillor Manning, seconded by Councillor Hussey and agreed to fix 29th November, 1996 as the date for finalising the Estimates. The Meeting on 15th November would take place as arranged.

COMHAIRLE CHONTAE NA GAILLIMHE

**MINUTES OF PRELIMINARY ESTIMATES MEETING
OF GALWAY COUNTY COUNCIL HELD IN
COMMITTEE AT THE COUNTY BUILDINGS,
GALWAY ON MONDAY, 11th NOVEMBER, 1996**

Cathaoirleach:-

Councillor W. Burke

Baill:-

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

Oifigigh:-

Messrs. D. O'Donoghue, Co. Manager, D. Nelson,
Asst. Co. Manager, T. Kavanagh, Co. Secretary, J.
Crotty, A/Co. Engineer, P. Martyn, T. Darcy, S.E.E.'s,
E. Lusby, Finance Officer, J. O'Shaughnessy, C.F.O.,
J. Cullen, E. Power & D. Barrett, A.O.'s, T. Connell
& C. Greene, S.S.O.'s.

Thosnaigh an crinniu leis an paidir.

RESOLUTIONS OF SYMPATHY

3982

A Resolution of Sympathy was passed with the following:-

Patrick & Martha Mullin, Claddagh, Lavally, Tuam, Co. Galway.

ESTIMATES 1997

3983

The Meeting noted that a number of Councillors would not be present for the Estimates Meeting scheduled for Friday, 15th November, 1996. It was proposed by Councillor Mannion, seconded by Councillor Hussey and agreed to fix 29th November, 1996 as the date for finalising the Estimates. The Meeting on 15th November would take place as arranged.

The Chairman congratulated the County Manager and his Staff on the Estimates as presented and stated that the Estimates reflected the significance of the Council's programme of work for the entire County.

The County Manager addressed the meeting and referred to the three reports which were issued during the year on the Local Government System giving a brief summary of their principal recommendations. The Manager stated that revenue expenditure for 1997 was estimated at £43,314,220 and that there was a continuing demand for more to be spent on Council services. He referred to significant cost increases arising from capital investment, the need to co-finance some grant works, funding for new headquarters, impact of superannuation commitments (etc.). Provision was being made for a 4% increase in the Rate Support Grant and an increase of 7% on commercial rates. Galway County Council had, he stated, the 4th lowest rate in the Country in 1996 and the lowest percentage rate increase between 1977-1996. This compared very favourably with counties of similar size and characteristics, such as Kerry - £45.11, Donegal - £44.78 and Mayo - £42.70. An increase of 8% in the domestic water charge to £137 was also provided for which represented a daily cost of 38p.

The County Manager stated that 1996 had been a successful year in the Housing Programme with 80 new starts. On housing maintenance he indicated that the initiative to engage private contractors in some areas, commenced in 1996, would be expanded in 1997. He also referred to the considerable progress made under the various schemes in the Plan for Social Housing. Dealing with Programme Group 2, the Manager referred to various works completed and in progress on National Primary, Secondary and Regional Roads. Provision was made in the Estimates for further community involvement in roads.

Dealing with Programme Group 3, the Manager stated that water management was an area that would require greater Council emphasis in the years ahead. Provision was included in the Estimates for the continuation of metering of water supplies as part of the water conservation programme and increased provision was also being made for improvements to water supply and sewerage schemes. In connection with Programme Group 4, Development Incentives and Control, the Manager referred to the volume of planning applications being dealt with by the Planning Department and confirmed that the Council would continue to operate the Planning Information Centres which were working well. Also Action Plans were being prepared, at present, for Bearna and Oranmore and these were nearing completion.

Referring to Programme Group 5, Environmental Protection, the Manager stated that the Council was facing considerable difficulties for the future in the whole area of waste management indicating that the actual costs of disposing of waste will have to be passed on to the waste producers. On the matter of burial grounds, he stated that the Council will be looking to develop a partnership approach with local communities for the provision and upkeep of burial grounds. In Programme Group 6, Recreation and Amenity, the Manager stated that over £1m would be spent in 1997 on the Library Service and it was important that this valuable community service was used as widely

as possible. Provision was being made for increases in Arts and Amenity Grants and the plan for Urban and Village Renewal would continue in 1997.

Dealing with Programme Groups 7 and 8, the Manager stated that provision was included in the Estimate for co-financing of a number of Pier projects and the provision of yacht moorings. On the proposed new Council Headquarters, the Manager advised that planning permission for the development was expected shortly and negotiations for alternative temporary accommodation on the Tuam Road were well advanced.

Dúirt an Bainisteoir go raibh na treoirilinte maidir le dhá theangachas, atá glactha ag an gComhairle á gcur I gcrích diaidh ar ndiaidh ag an bhfoireann agus go raibh ar a laighad duine amháin I ngach eannóg atá sasta freastál ar an bpobal tré ghaeilge, go pearsanta agus le comhfhreagras agus gurbh é aidhm an uimhir seo a leathnú. Dúirt sé freisin go mbíonn "Maidin le Gaeilge" gach Ceadaoín mar spreagadh don fhoireann gaeilge a úsáid agus eagraíonn an fhoireann "Lón Gaelach" gach Mí le na gcáirde o eagraisi eile sa gCathair.

In conclusion, the Manager thanked the present Comhairleoir and his predecessor and the staff of the Council for their assistance in carrying out the programmes of work, and recommended to the Council that the Estimate and the rate in the £ as presented be adopted. The Chairman thanked the Manager for this comprehensive report and then invited discussion from the Council Members.

Councillor Callanan enquired what the cost of the payroll increases under the Programme for Competitiveness at Work would be in 1997 and was advised that a 5% increase had been provided for. On the question of the Council's revenue balance, he was advised that the current account debit at 31.12.1995 was more than covered by outstanding credits due to be received by the Council and otherwise revenue expenditure was matched by revenue income on a year to year basis.

Councillor Hussey stated that it was difficult to identify any area in the Estimates as presented where savings could be made. The Council was, he said, losing authority and power because of its dependency on central funding and it was important that Council's like Galway with a weak funding base be supported.

Councillor J. Burke stated that a rate increase of 7% was unfair with inflation running at a much lower level. He also stated that insufficient action was being taken to deal with derelict sites.

Councillor Fahy referred to the strain that will be placed on the Council by the development of new office, although the need for new offices was very urgent. A question then arose as to the amount and use of the funds allocated for Councillors attendance at conferences and it was agreed that the Party Whips would meet on the issue and liaise with County Secretary.

An Comhairleoir O'Neachtain stated that it was becoming more difficult to run the multiplicity of Council services with the funding available and that due recognition needed to be taken of the level of dependency on central funding. He stated there was a need for an equalisation programme.

Responding to an enquiry from Deputy McCormack, the Finance Officer stated that the 5% payroll increase provided for the remaining phases of the Programme for Competitiveness at Work, together with the full-year cost of increases paid in 1996 and the local bargaining clause plus arrears which will fall due to be paid in 1997.

Councillor Finnerty stated that having the fourth lowest commercial rate in the Country was quite an achievement for Galway County Council. He enquired what the inflation rate was over the period 1977-1996.

Councillor O'Sullivan referred to the need for Galway County Council to co-operate closely with other bodies. He stated that the level of the Council's dependency on central funding was a matter of great concern. He asked when the Ballinasloe Regional Water Scheme would be commissioned.

Responding, Mr. Paul Ridge, S.E.E. advised that Stage 1 of the Tuam Regional Water Supply Scheme would become fully operational in the second quarter of 1997. He also outlined the nature, extent and source of the scheme and responded to other enquiries concerning water supplies in Ballinasloe and Portumna.

**TO CONSIDER REPORT UNDER LOCAL
GOVERNMENT (PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT)
REGULATIONS 1994 CONCERNING CONSTRUCTION
OF FIRE STATION, DRILL YARD AT GORT**

3984

The Members had been circulated with this report dated 11th November, 1996 regarding the construction of a new Fire Station, Drill Yard, Site car-parking and buried water storage tank at Gort. On the proposal of Councillor Byrne, seconded by Councillor Hussey, the Council agreed and noted the report.

CHRIOCHNAIGH AN CRUINNIU ANSIN

Submitted, Approved + Signed: _____

Willie Burke

Chairman

16/12/96

Date

COMHAIRLE CHONTAE NA GAILLIMHE

**MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING OF GALWAY
COUNTY COUNCIL HELD AT COUNTY BUILDINGS,
GALWAY ON FRIDAY, 8th NOVEMBER, 1996**

Cathaoirleach:-

Councillor W. Burke

Baill:-

Cllrs. J. Brennan, , T. Byrne, J. Callanan,
Deputies P. Connaughton & E. O'Cuiv,
Cllrs. M. Cunningham, M. Fahy, P. Finnegan, M.
Finnerty, S. Gavin, T. Hussey, M. Loughnane, Dep. P.
McCormack, Sen. J. McDonagh, Cllrs. P. McHugh,
C. Ni Fhatharta, S. O'Neachtain, M. O'Neill, P.
O'Sullivan, P. O'Tuathail, K. Quinn, M. Regan, M.
Ryan, E. Varley and T. Walsh.

Oifigigh:-

Messrs. D. O'Donoghue, Co. Manager, D. Nelson,
Asst. Co. Manager, T. Kavanagh, Co. Secretary,
E. Lusby, Finance Officer, B. Callagy & L.
Kavanagh, S.E.E.'s, T. Connell, S.S.O. &
M. O'Halloran, C.T.

Thosnaigh an crinniu leis an paidir.

RESOLUTION OF SYMPATHY

3977

A Resolution of Sympathy was passed with the following:-

The Kyne Family, Luimnagh, Corrandulla, Co. Galway.

**TO CONSIDER REPORT UNDER LOCAL
GOVERNMENT (PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT)
REGULATIONS 1994 - CONSTRUCTION OF LOCAL
AUTHORITY HOUSES**

3978

The Members had been circulated with this report dated 31st October, 1996 regarding the provision of scheme houses with services and provision of single rural houses with appropriate treatment facilities at the locations listed. On the proposal of Councillor Brennan, seconded by Councillor Ryan, the Council agreed and noted the Report.

Scheme Houses

Woodford - 2 houses
Glenamaddy - 2 houses

Single Rural Houses

Woodford
Kill, Kiltormer

Newcastle, Cappatagle
Derrigimlagh, Ballyconneely

REVIEW OF THE COUNTY DEVELOPMENT PLAN 3979

The meeting commenced with the County Secretary referring to the development control area in the environs of Galway city. He stated that clarification was required on the exact details of the planning restrictions on the west of the city. Mr. Callagy, addressing the meeting, stated that the environs boundary should continue from Lough Corrib onto Moycullen and across to Barna and the border line would correspond to the border of the amenity zoning area. Cllr. O'Neachtain required clarification on the restrictions imposed around the city environs. Mr. Callagy advised that there was an anomaly with the present proposals on the planning controls in the city environs. He stated that new controls had been introduced in the west of the city which related only to ribbon development. The County Manager stated that the only control on ribbon development was around the towns mentioned in the Draft County Development Plan. These controls now extended to the eastern environs of Galway City. It was decided that the environs boundary should be left at Lough Corrib as agreed at the previous meeting.

Cllr O'Neill referred to Submission No. 61 from Thomas Welby which dealt with residential zoning at Oughterard. This matter was previously considered by the Council and the proposal to zone the land for residential purposes was agreed by the members. The Councillor advised the meeting that a number of years ago, a contentious material contravention was dealt with on this land and he now felt that a second thought should be given to the proposed rezoning of the land. Cllr. O'Neill proposed that the land be rezoned back to agricultural zoning thus reflecting its present status in the County Development Plan. Deputy McCormack recalling the planning application, advised the meeting that the land was subject to flooding. He objected to it being zoned residential and seconded Cllr. O'Neill's proposal on the rezoning of the land to agricultural status. Cllr. O'Neachtain stated that it would be unwise to go ahead with this proposal in the absence of the members from this electoral area. Cllr. Gavin stated that this was a very important issue and that it would be a dangerous precedent to change the previous decision. Cllr. O'Neachtain proposed to leave the matter until all the councillors for that electoral area were present. Mr. Callagy advised the meeting that the land was capable of being sewered and that the flooding problem could be overcome. Cllr. O'Neachtain proposed that the zoning be left residential as in the Draft Development Plan. This proposal was seconded by Cllr. Gavin. A vote was then taken for or against An Comhairleoir O'Neachtain's proposal which resulted as follows:-

AR SON: Cllrs. J. Callanan, M. Cunningham, S. Gavin, T. Hussey, P. McHugh, S. O'Neachtain & M. Regan. (8)

IN AGHAIDH: Cllrs. W. Burke, T. Byrne, Deputy P. McCormack, Cllrs. M. O'Neill, M. Ryan, E. Varley & T. Walsh. (7)

The Chairman declared the Motion carried.

The members then considered Submission No. 96 from Mrs. Ann Casburn, Moycullen. This submission dealt with the change of agricultural zoning to residential at a site in Moycullen. The Planning Officer outlined a summary of the submission stating that the area involved was just over two acres. Permission had been granted for nine houses on the holding, most of which were family houses. They were all located in wooded areas and totally screened from view. The lower two-thirds of the site would have reasonable screening and he recommended the rezoning of this part of the property from agricultural to residential zoning. Cllr. Gavin described the location of the land, which was close to Moycullen village. The land in question was family owned and he proposed that the Planning Officer's recommendation be accepted. This proposal was seconded by Cllr. O'Neachtain and agreed by the members.

Submission No. 97 from Mr. David Heffernan, Architect, which dealt with tourism, residential development and architecture was then considered by the members. Mr. Callagy went through the details of the submission which related to tourism accommodation being properly designed and appropriately sited, the restriction on backlands development in Barna and Spiddal because of lack of detail road plan layout and the proper control on development on the Galway/Indreabhan Road. The other matters on the submission related to the pollution of streams and the architectural design of buildings. The Planning Officer stated that the writer, being an Architect/Planner, was concerned about planning in the county. The submission was a perceptive and helpful analysis of planning, Mr. Callagy stated. He stated that there was no change being recommended for the draft plan as a result of the submission. Cllr. O'Neachtain expressed his agreement with the Planning Officer's recommendation on this submission which in turn was agreed by the elected members. The County Manager advised the members that a Temporary Architect was being recruited by the County Council. It was planned that the architect would be available to assist the Council in the preparation of Village and Urban Plans for the county.

Submission No. 98 from Forum Letterfrack on the objectives for the Cleggan area and aquaculture was then considered by the members. Mr. Callagy went through the details of the submission which related to the designation of Cleggan as a fishing port. This, he stated, was a function of the Department of the Marine, but reference to Cleggan as a ferry port for Inisbofin would be included in the Development Plan. In regard to the sewerage scheme prioritisation, this was largely a matter for the Department of the Environment and depended on the availability of finance. The findings of the Cleggan Environmental Management Plan, reference to which would be included in the Development Plan, he advised the members. This submission also dealt with the burial ground at Ormev which was being considered by the County Engineer's Department. In regard to a development plan for the islands, the Planning Officer stated that a socio-economic study had been prepared on the islands of County Galway

including Inishbofin. With respect to aquaculture, Mr. Callagy stated that observations had been received on the Draft Plan from other bodies, such as the Department of the Marine and Bord Iascaigh Mhara. As a result of these objections, the section on aquaculture had been redrafted to make reference to the Departments guidelines. Mr. Callagy stated that there was no recommendation to change the Draft Plan as a result of this submission. Cllr. Gavin, referring to the islands, stated that they were a special area. The socio-economic study dealt with the economy and the infrastructure of the islands. However, there were planning difficulties in these areas which were not reflected in the mainland. He was advised that Chapter 9 would address these difficulties. The Planning Officer's recommendation was agreed acceptable.

The Council then dealt with Submission No. 73, 76 and 77. These submissions were previously considered by the members but a decision on the Planning Officer's recommendation was postponed pending the submission of revised amenity maps. Submission No. 73 was from Mr. J. Diskin and dealt with the amenity zoning of Inner Galway Bay. The Planning Officer recommended that the boundary of the zoned area be adjusted to reflect a recent survey which had been carried out on the areas amenity. Mr. Callagy stated that the area had been resurveyed and that minor adjustments had been made in the amenity plan. He then indicated the various changes to the members on a map display. Cllr. Byrne stated that this was a fine submission and that the area was located on the Stradbally Road. Cllr. Loughnane stated that the submission mentioned a number of planning permissions and requested that when these permissions come up for renewal, that permission should be granted. The County Secretary advised the councillor that the inclusion of such a statement in the Development Plan would be ultra vires. Each planning application must be considered on its merits and in accordance with planning legislation, he stated. Cllr. Byrne referring to the map display of the amenity area proposed that the black mark indicating the boundary of the zoning area be brought within 200 metres of the shoreline. This proposal was seconded by Cllr. Cunningham. It was agreed acceptable by the Members.

Submission No. 76 from Cllr. Toddie Byrne was then considered by the members. This submission dealt with the amenity zoning at the Doorus Peninsula. The Planning Officer's recommendation was to redefine the area and include important scenic views that reflected a survey carried out in 1996. The amenity map reflecting this survey was shown to the members at the meeting. Cllr. Byrne proposed acceptance of the Planning Officer's recommendation. This proposal was seconded by Cllr. Loughnane and agreed acceptable by the members.

Submission No. 77 from Pollagh and Mulrook landowners/residents on the amenity zoning of Inner Galway Bay was then considered. The Planning Officer's recommendation to reduce the boundary of the amenity area to that identified in a survey carried out in June 1996 was considered and agreed acceptable by the members.

Item No. 3 on the agenda was then considered by the members. This related to the submission received from Cllr. Regan on the rezoning of lands to residential at Moneyduff, Oranmore. Mr. Callagy went through the particulars of the submission which related to lands owned by Mr. Liam and Pat Malone at Moneyduff, Oranmore. The lands were located at both the eastern and western side of the Maree Road and

were designated as a Natural Heritage Area by the OPW in 1995/1996. For this reason, they had been zoned as agriculture/amenity in the draft development plan. The lands on the western side of the Maree Road, i.e. between the road and sea, were marshy and liable to flooding apart from a small area of high ground. On the eastern side of the Maree Road, the lands consisted of two-thirds marshy, waterlogged ground which was covered by rushes and one-third elevated rocky land. He advised the members that there were very strict European Union Environmental Requirements for Natural Heritage Areas for which the OPW Wildlife Service were responsible. The Oranmore wetlands were among the select number of areas from which the OPW were obliged to recommend as special areas for conservation. If the Planning Authority ignored the OPW recommendations, the EU could well impose sanctions on these areas in the future. He continued stating that the lands subject to flooding on the western side of the Maree Road should not be rezoned except for a field on which residential development had recently being permitted. He further advised that the lands along the shoreline were too low-lying and also too unsheltered to be suitable for residential development. In respect to the eastern side of the Maree Road, however, the elevated half of the lands could be rezoned for residential development, he stated. Cllr. Regan stated that the area on the previous County Development Plan was residential and he could not see why residential zoning could not be maintained. He proposed that all of the lands be zoned residential. This proposal was seconded by Cllr. Callanan. Deputy McCormack requested to know if the land was serviceable. He was advised that part of the land was serviceable. The County Manager advised the meeting that major decisions in relation to Oranmore were now being taken. The Council would like to see a structured and balanced development of Oranmore. Amenity facilities must be provided for the village and the Council did not want to see this village grow in a haphazard way. He emphasised that a proper and structured approach must be made to the development of Oranmore and that serious consideration must be given to a decision where land is being proposed for amenity zoning purposes. The matter was then reconsidered by the members and a proposal was made by Cllr. Regan to zone a portion of the land to the east of the Maree Road for residential purposes. This proposal was seconded by Deputy McCormack and agreed acceptable by the members.

Item No. 4 relating to the submission from Cllr. O'Neachtain was then considered by the members. The submission dealt with the rezoning of amenity lands along the promenade at Spiddal to residential zoning, the rezoning of residential lands west of the village from residential to amenity and the provision of a road layout for Udaras na Gaeltachta lands. The Planning Officer recommended that the amenity lands along the Promenade be rezoned to residential with the statement to restrict direct vehicular access and to restrict buildings within 100ft. of the road boundary fence. Rezoning of residential lands west of the village from residential to amenity was acceptable to the Planning Officer and in regard to the road layout, this was not a matter for inclusion in the County Development Plan. Cllr. O'Neachtain stated that he was satisfied with the Planning Officer's recommendation in respect to the rezoning proposals. However, in regard to the road layout, he stated that this had to be looked at and that the present road structure was unacceptable. Deputy McCormack stated that he accepted the Planning Officer's recommendation. He requested to know if this matter could be discussed with Udaras na Gaeltachta prior to the adoption of the Development Plan. The Chairman stated that the Council were not deferring a decision on the Draft

Development Plan. However, he agreed that a meeting could be held with the Udaras to discuss the road layout for the Udaras lands at Spiddal. The Planning Officer's recommendation on the submission was agreed acceptable by the members.

Item No. 5 dealt with the submission from Cllr. Cunningham. Mr. Callagy went through the details of the submission which related to a site located adjacent to the turn off from the Old Galway Road to the Claregalway road. He advised the members that the site had good access from main road network and would be capable of providing generous parking areas. He added that the area zoned in the village centre had severe development constraints, such as, inadequate access for on-site parking and inadequate land for parking needs and could only be developed in a piecemeal manner due to multiple ownership of individual premises. He advised the members that his recommendation would be to rezone the site to commercial/ residential. Cllr. Cunningham agreed with the Planning Officer's recommendation and proposed its acceptance. This proposal was seconded by Cllr. Fahy and was agreed acceptable by the members.

Item No. 6 dealt with the proposed changes in Chapter 9. Mr. Callagy referring to the changes stated that arising from discussions at recent planning meetings, the policies for Category 1 and Category 2 in the amenity area of the county were now being combined as shown on the documentation. He also stated that the section included subsections relating to development policy for the islands (residential) and the Gaeltacht (commercial, industrial and community facilities). In this regard, he referred to the proposal by the Planning Authority to give special consideration to the problems arising from the distinctive and sometimes inflexible ownership pattern of land on the Aran Islands for a site where frontage requirements could not be fully complied with. Such cases would require to be satisfactorily substantiated by applicants for planning permission. In regard to Aran and Inisbofin Islands, he stated that the Planning Authority would give special consideration to development for social, economic and cultural purposes in the these areas. He also advised that it was proposed to relocate subsection 9.3.(ii) on Views and Prospects to the objectives section 9.2 and that the definitions of Category 1 and Category 2 would be included under the definition section 9.0. Cllr. Gavin stated that the changes catered for the difficulties that exist and he expressed his agreement with the proposals. He asked that Inisbofin be included under 1(f). This was agreed acceptable by the members. Cllr. O'Neachtain referred to the definition of rural essential family housing need category and to the statement on consideration of residential development in bona fide cases from persons with actual work or employment in the local area. He stated that such people want to live in their own area and have no family lands. He hoped that this would now address present difficulties in this regard. Referring to 1(f) which dealt with the special consideration to be given to land pattern in the Aran Islands, he requested the removal of the words "distinctive and inflexible" and that these words be replaced with the word "traditional". He stated that there was a need for local people to live on the islands as the population was dwindling. Mr. Callagy stated that the word "inflexible" was intended to mean that people cannot acquire land easily. He added that the word "traditional" would not have the same meaning. It was agreed to leave the word "inflexible" in the text. Cllr. McHugh referred to the rural essential housing need category definition. He proposed that Item No. 3 in the definition be included under Item No. 2 and requested to know what was the meaning of "special consideration".

In regard to applicants with an immediate housing need, he requested that the word "immediate" be removed from this sentence. The Chairman advised the Councillor that this matter had already been dealt with and was not on the agenda for discussion. Cllr. McHugh referring to the word "local area" included under the definition of rural essential housing family need, requested the clarification of the meaning of this word. He stated that a problem would arise in the interpretation of what a local area was. Mr. Callagy stated that this word was impossible to define. Deputy O'Cuiv requested clarification on 1(f) and proposed that the word "somewhat inflexible" be removed from the sentence. He also made a proposal that Chapters 7, 8 and 10 also apply to Chapter 9. He requested clarification on 9.2.6 which dealt with Rural Tourism. Finally, he proposed that the enurement clause included in 1(d) in Chapter 9 be removed. This latter proposal was seconded by Deputy McCormack. The County Secretary advised the meeting that even if this clause was removed, it could still be included as a condition of a permission in compliance with the terms of the Planning legislation. Cllr. Callanan stated that sons and daughters of farmers who would inherit the farm should be entitled to get planning permission near the farm buildings and not have to build down a side road. Deputy McCormack expressed his support with this statement. He suggested that it could be incorporated into using the existing entrance into the farmhouse and farm buildings. The changes in Chapter 9 as outlined were agreed acceptable by the members. Cllr. Ryan stated that planners should take into consideration that moving people down a by-road will result in an increase in costs in getting electricity and water to the site. This could be very inconvenient especially for people who want to be near their own farm. Mr. Liam Kavanagh, S.E.E. stated that the Council had been flexible in previous cases and people had been allowed to build on what were otherwise restricted routes.

Item No. 7 was then considered by the members. This matter dealt with the definition of Urban Areas, Ribbon Development and Backlands Development. The amendments as outlined to the members were agreed acceptable and were as follows: -

Definition of Urban Areas

- (a) The scheduled towns of Clifden, Gort, Athenry, Tuam and Loughrea and the Environs of Tuam and Loughrea for which town plans have been prepared.
- (b) The towns and villages of Portumna, Oughterard, Oranmore, Claregalway, Barna, Moycullen and Spiddal for which zoning plans have been prepared.
- (c) The developed and serviced lands of other towns and villages which lie within the cordon of the end points of their 40mph speed limit zones (or 30 mph limits, where 40 mph limits do not apply) or which have otherwise been defined by the Planning Authority.

On the R336 from Barna to Ballynahown and the R339 from the City boundary to Carnmore Cross, urban areas on these routes will be defined within the 30 mph speed limit points. In the case of national primary routes with traffic calming restrictions, the urban area is defined as the area within the 30 mph speed limit.

Ribbon Development

Ribbon development is defined as a group of "five or more" closely sited existing (or permitted) developments which have a frontage on an existing public or non public road.

Backlands Development

Backlands development is defined as development on lands which does not have a frontage onto a road with a public right of way.

Item No. 8 - Guidelines on Windfarm Development - The County Secretary advised the members that the Department of the Environment had issued guidelines on windfarm development and referred to the summary of the documentation which had been circulated to the members. He stated that a requirement of the guidelines was to include a statement in the Development Plan on the guidelines and it was proposed to include such a statement. Cllr. O'Neachtain stated that alternative energy sources should be looked at. The construction of these type of structures in scenic amenity areas would have a detrimental effect on the amenity of the location. The Chairman advised the member that all such matters relating to windfarm development proposals were covered in the Department of the Environment Guidelines circulated.

Deputy O'Cuiv stated that he had read through the Draft County Development Plan and he found that there were certain drafting changes he wished to propose. The Chairman advised the Deputy that the Council must deal with the items on the agenda. Councillor Gavin referred to a proposed rezoning at Oughterard on land which was located within the 30mph speed limit. He stated that this land was suitable for residential zoning. Mr. Callagy advised the councillor that the land could well be suitable for such zoning but that such a submission would now be too late for consideration.

The County Secretary then read out the resolution for the adoption of the amendments to the Draft County Development Plan, as follows, which was proposed by Deputy McCormack and seconded by Councillor Ryan:-

"That Galway County Council, having prepared a draft of a proposed County Development Plan, having sent copies of the prescribed documents to the prescribed authorities, having published the required notices, having considered the submissions and representations made to the Draft Plan and having complied with the provisions of the Local Government (Planning & Development) Act, 1963, as amended, and having regard to the fact that material alterations have been made to the Draft Plan, hereby resolve that the material alterations to the Draft Plan be put on public display for not less than one month in accordance with the requirements of the Planning Acts".

A vote was then taken which resulted as follows:-

AR SON:

Cllrs. J. Brennan, W. Burke, J. Callanan, Deputy P. Connaughton, Cllrs. M. Finnerty, S. Gavin, Deputy P. McCormack, Cllrs. P. O'Sullivan, M. Regan, M. Ryan, & E. Varley.(11)

IN AGHAIDH:

Deputy E. O'Cuiv, Cllrs. P. McHugh, C. Ni Fhatharta & S. O'Neachtain (4).

The Chairman declared the Resolution carried.

Cllr. O'Neachtain referred to an Udaras na Gaeltachta planning application which had recently been refused planning permission due to certain restrictions on the road access. Cllr. Ni Fhatharta stated that the Udaras have to find some way round the problems for locating industrial development. The County Manager stated that all planning applications must be considered in the context of the proper planning and development of the area. He advised the meeting that there was constant consultation and liaison with Udaras na Gaeltachta on all matters.

CONFERENCE

3980

It was proposed by Councillor Fahy, seconded by Councillor Callanan that Councillor Hussey substitute for Councillor Callanan at the L.A.M.A. Conference in Belfast on 3/5 October, 1996.

NOTICE OF MOTION

**PLANNING PERMISSION - DEP. P. McCORMACK & 3981
CLLR. S. GAVIN**

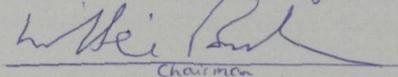
The following written reply was given to Deputy McCormack and Councillor Gavin:-

"The planning policy operated by Galway County Council in regard to major traffic routes which includes the N59 Galway/Clifden/Leenane Road is included in Chapter 8 of the County Development Plan. It provides that frontage development outside the 30 m.p.h. speed limit shall be restricted in order to preserve the design capacity and level of service of the roads and to prevent the creation of traffic hazards by the generation of extra turning movements.

The renewal of planning permissions which have expired are considered in the context of the County Development Plan and the length of time that the permissions have expired."

CHRIOCHNAIGH AN CRUINNIO ANSIN

Submitted Approved Signed



Chairman

25/11/96

Date

COMHAIRLE CHONTAE NA GAILLIMHE

**MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING OF GALWAY
COUNTY COUNCIL HELD AT COUNTY BUILDINGS,
GALWAY ON FRIDAY, 1ST NOVEMBER, 1996**

Cathaoirleach:-

Councillor W. Burke

Baill:-

Cllrs. J. Brennan, J. Burke, T. Byrne, J. Callanan, Deputies P. Connaughton & E. O'Cuiv, Cllrs. M. Cunningham, M. Fahy, P. Finnegan, M. Finnerty, S. Gavin, T. Hussey, J. McClearn, Deputy P. McCormack, Sen. J. McDonagh, Cllrs. P. McHugh, M. Mullins, C. Ni Fhatharta, S. O'Neachtain, M. O'Neill, P. O'Sullivan, P. O'Tuathail, K. Quinn, M. Regan, M. Ryan, E. Varley and T. Walsh.

Oifigigh:-

Messrs. D. O'Donoghue, Co. Manager, D. Nelson, Asst. Co. Manager, T. Kavanagh, Co. Secretary, R.C. Killeen, A/Co. Engineer, B. Callagy, L. Kavanagh, S.E.E.'s, T. Connell, S.S.O. B. McDermott, S.O., & B. Ginnelly, C.T..

Thosnaigh an crinniu leis an paidir.

RESOLUTION OF SYMPATHY

3971

A Resolution of Sympathy was passed with the following:-

Mr. Tom Kitt (Jnr), Lenagh, Castleblakeney, Co. Galway.

Mrs. D. Rooney and Family, 3 Beechmount Avenue, Highfield Park, Galway.

RÚN COMHGHAIRDIS

3972

Mhol an Comhairleoir O'Neachtain rún comhghairdis do Teilifís na Gaeilge. Cuidigh an Comhairleoir Ni Fhatharta agus na Comhairleoiri eile leis.

**TO CONSIDER REPORT UNDER LOCAL
GOVERNMENT (PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT)
REGULATIONS 1994- BULLAUN BURIAL GROUND**

3973

The Members had been circulated with this report dated 25th October, 1996 concerning Bullaun Burial Ground. On the proposal of Councillor Callanan, seconded by Councillor O'Sullivan, the report was adopted.

**TO CONSIDER REPORT UNDER LOCAL
GOVERNMENT (PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT)
REGULATIONS 1994- CONSTRUCTION OF LOCAL
AUTHORITY HOUSES**

3974

The Members had been circulated with this report dated 23rd October, 1996 regarding the provision of scheme houses with services and the provision of single rural houses with appropriate treatment facilities at the locations listed. On the proposal of Councillor Callanan, seconded by Deputy Connaughton, the Council agreed and noted the Report.

Scheme Houses

Clarinbridge - 4 houses
Ballygar - 4 houses
Portumna - 4 houses

Single Rural Houses

Ballymoneen, Cregmore	Beaghmore, Caherlistrane
Templemoyle, Moylough	Brockagh, Craughwell
Ballynakill, Kylebrack	Ballynacorra, Ballygar
Booklagh, Ballymoe	Laragh, Ballymoe
Clooniff, Moycullen	Lettertrin, Lettergesh
Leenaun	

REVIEW OF THE COUNTY DEVELOPMENT PLAN 3975

Mr. Callagy referred to a report which had been circulated to the members entitled "Changes to Boundaries of Rural Areas". In this report he stated that the 30 mile speed limit had always been recognised as the boundary of built up areas whereas the 40 mile speed limit was only intended as a warning or slow down area. It had no function in defining built up areas and, therefore, should not be used for such a purpose. It was generally located 100 metres in advance of the 30 mile speed limit. Mr. Callagy then referred to national routes and stated the location of speed limits on such routes required the approval of the National Roads Authority. He advised the members that the NRA determines the location of the 40 mile speed limit location for

the purposes of providing a slowing down or transitional zone in advance of the 30 mph speed limit. He then referred to the Spiddal Ballinahown Road, the R336, and the Airport Road, the R339 which had 40 mph speed limits. He stated that the R336, 40 mph speed limit had been defined many years ago. It was introduced because of the abnormal level of ribbon development together with the high traffic flow and inadequate road width that existed on the road. In relation to the Airport Road the speed limits were decided in the recent past and were for similar reasons to that of the R336. He added that the R339 road, unlike the R336 could be widened and this was presently taking place. Mr. Callagy advised the members that the effect of extending the urban boundaries from 30 mph speed limit to the 40 mph speed limit would result in an increase in traffic accidents. He added that this had been illustrated clearly in the research paper presented to the Council in support of the objectives and policies of Chapter 7. The research paper had been presented at the commencement of the Review of the County Development Plan and was included again in the attached documentation. In regard to development control, Mr. Callagy stated that if amenity areas and rural areas were now to be defined by the cordon of the 40 mph speed limits instead of the 30 mph speed limits as in the present plan, it would result in a bizarre situation in relation to control of frontage development especially on national routes and heavily trafficked regional routes. He then referred to the two reports carried out by An Foras Forbartha on roadside development in 1968 and 1976 and reviewed at a symposium held in 1982. The conclusions of the 1968 study stated that national roads were a major surface link for long and medium distance traffic and that situations created by development alongside such roads would interfere with this function. All forms of development on these routes had a severely adverse effect on traffic safety. It recommended that a general policy be implemented prohibiting all new accesses on these roads except those required to rationalise existing accesses, that development along these roads be strictly controlled under the Local Government (Planning and Development) Acts. In relation to town and village boundaries, Mr. Callagy advised the members that such boundaries should be related to a town plan or village plan and not necessarily connected with the speed limits.

Deputy Connaughton stated that this was a central change in policy. He added that he had asked a question on whether planning permission would be granted for proposed development within the 40 mph speed limit and he was advised that such permission would be allowed. He continued stating that there was a problem in getting land within villages and towns for use as development land, an example being Ballygar. He added that it had come to the stage that there were few places within the 30 mph speed limit for building. He stated that he wanted the towns and villages to grow in a particular order and accepted what the County Manager had advised that Galway County Council would buy land in villages and towns for building purposes. He wished to know when would such funds be available to the Council and added that there should be no problem with the building of houses within the 40 mph speed limit.

Cllr. T. Hussey expressed his agreement with Deputy Connaughton's comments. He stated that the Council had already made a decision on this matter, a decision which was difficult to go back on. However, after being made aware of problems which existed and to follow guidelines set down by the Department of the Environment and the National Roads Authority, he wished to put forward a compromise on this matter. He proposed that applications for development on the National Primary and National

Secondary Routes, the Airport Road and the Barna Road which were situated between the 30 and 40 mph speed limits, would be considered only in (a) exceptional cases, (b) substantiated housing need and (c) major developments. This proposal was seconded by Cllr. O'Neachtain.

Cllr. O'Neachtain stated that he could see the difficulty that had arisen as a result of the R336 Barna Road. He added that this highlights the overall problem in the case of this road. The 40 mph speed limit on this road was introduced to slow down traffic. He did not accept that this road could not be widened and indicated that in the last few days a major industrial development had been refused due to traffic problems adjacent to this road.

Deputy McCormack stated that the 40 mph speed limit should decrease accidents and that the figures were not present to confirm that certain roads were hazards for traffic movements. He stated that most fatal accidents occur on a stretch of road where there were no speed limits. He accepted that the 40 mph speed limit should decrease the number of accidents but he did not accept that such accidents were as a result of developments on such roads. He stated that the Council were now getting a situation where permission was being refused on minor roads. He added that if the trend continues it will not be adequate to be on a minor county road to get planning permission.

Cllr. McClearn stated that this was the third time for the Council to deal with this item. He noted the problem highlighted with two particular roads but this did not mean that other towns and villages should be included. Where people were requested to locate on the county road the difficulty of ribbon development and traffic congestion will arise. He added that he was not aware that allowing development up to the 40 mile speed limit would increase the possibility of accidents and expressed his reservation on supporting the proposed amendment. Cllr. Callanan requested further clarification on the national secondary roads in relation to speed limits. Cllr. Joe Burke stated that the Council was obliged to stay within the law and the compromise expressed by Cllr. Hussey was reasonable. He added that the National Roads Authority would not allow development up to the 40 mile speed limit on National Routes and added that Cllr. Hussey's proposal was reasonable.

Cllr. Finnegan said that the policy on village renewal should not be hampered by restricting the extension of speed limits. He requested clarification on what roads were involved in the proposed change. Cllr. Regan stated that the Council were demoting rural towns and villages and that development should be allowed out as far as the 40 mile speed limit. Deputy O'Cuiv stated that when the 40 mph speed limit was imposed, the implications to the Airport and R336 Barna Spiddal road had not been foreseen. He proposed that 40 mph speed limit apply on all roads except Class 1 and Class 11 Control Roads as set out in Chapter 8. Cllr. Byrne expressed his agreement with Deputy O' Cuiv's statement in regard to not being aware of the implications of the Airport Road and the Barna Spiddal Road being roads which had the 40 mph speed limit applied. He stated that there was a problem with towns and villages which could not develop beyond the 30 mile speed limit and which were located on national primary and national secondary routes. In particular he mentioned Kinvara whose village potential was in tourism. He added that development was important for this

village and in referring to tourism development projects, he stated that such development should be allowed within the 30 and 40 mile speed limits.

Deputy Connaughton stated that he appreciated the Airport Road and the Barna Spiddal Road should be excluded from the 40 m.p.h speed limits and requested to know what towns were involved under the Class 1 and Class 11 Control Routes. The Deputy was informed of the villages and towns situated on the roads covered by Class 1 and Class 11 Control. The County Manager stated that it would appear from the debate that no one was getting planning permission. He referred to the statistics on the number of planning applications lodged with Galway County Council in 1996. He stated that Galway received the second highest number of planning applications in the Country and that by the end of 1996 over 3,000 planning applications will be lodged with the Authority. He added that this reflected a local economy which was booming. He advised the meeting that as officials they have to implement Government policy which was quite clear in relation to national routes. It has been shown that accesses onto the national routes were dangerous and contributed to accidents. The National Roads Authority were going to be strict on planning controls on national routes. Tax payers money was being pumped into the national routes of the Country and the Council as a Planning Authority could not undermine the objective of improving such routes by allowing new accesses onto the routes. He then referred to the Barna/Spiddal/Ballinahown road which he stated was a road which had a continuous line of houses on it. The County Council must learn from the past and should not put at risk financial support for the national roads. The R336 was not capable of taking the capacity of the traffic it has on it, it could not be widened and added that the Council must look for a new road, the funding for which would not be forthcoming in the immediate future.

Cllr. Regan proposed that the 40 mile speed limit apply to all routes except the Barna Road and the Airport Road. This proposal was seconded by Cllr. Finnegan. Cllr. McHugh stated that the Council have to keep in mind that the plan is for the County of Galway and that it cannot include external bodies. He added that a lot of discussion was in the context of the Council making a submission to the NRA on speed limits and having their proposals refused by this body. He stated that there was an onus on the Council to get the development they wanted and this was done by extending development to the 40 mph speed limit. He agreed that the Barna Road and Airport Road should be excluded. Senator McDonagh stated that he accepted that Barna/Spiddal Road and the Airport Road should be excluded and proposed that with the exception of the R336 and R339, development to the 40 mph speed limit apply to towns and villages on all roads other than those situated on national primary roads with traffic calming measures. Cllr. Regan withdrew his own proposal and seconded Senator McDonagh's proposal.

Cllr. Joe Brennan stated that planning applications on sites situated between the 40 mph and the 30 mph speed limits on national primary, the R336 Barna Spiddal Road and Airport Road should be considered in the following cases: (a) exceptional cases, (b) essential housing need cases and (c) major developments, but he later withdrew the national primary route from his proposal.

Senator McDonagh stated that if traffic calming measures were sited in the 30 mph speed limit, there would be no development allowed outside of the 30 and inside of the 40 mile speed limit in such cases. The motion by Senator McDonagh was agreed by the members. Cllr. McHugh expressed his disagreement that Claregalway was excluded as a result of the proposal by Senator McDonagh.

Item No. 2 on the agenda on the deletion of the area of development control around Galway City was then considered. Mr. Callagy referred to his report on this matter stating that an area of development control exists in the present Development Plan. The Draft Plan initially proposed that only second family housing be allowed in this area and the area was reduced twice at the request of the Council members. However a resolution was passed to delete the entire area and the Draft Plan now had no development control restrictions around Galway City. Mr. Callagy stated that from a planning aspect this was a very serious omission because development in the environs of the City would now be completely uncontrolled, a situation which has been highlighted by Galway Corporation. He added that narrow roads would be developed far beyond their capacity and the character of the rural area would be destroyed. He recommended the inclusion of an area of special development control around Galway City. Mr. Callagy then referred to the ribbon development policy stating that the Council had amended the definition of ribbon development in the Draft Plan from what was contained in the existing County Development Plan. He stated that the loose definition in the Draft Plan would make the implementation of this section extremely difficult and would lead to an appalling increase in ribbon development in rural areas, especially around Galway City. Mr. Callagy referred to the submission from the IFA on the Draft Plan in which they expressed strong opposition to ribbon development. He added that ribbon development erodes the natural open character of the countryside. He stated that there was a huge investment in infrastructure to cater for population growth in urban areas and if a large settlement of this urban population decided to live outside of the urban area, then the effectiveness of the public investment would be reduced. He added that there was a huge anomaly in the Plan because by far the most serious problems created by ribbon development were located around Galway City and that it made no sense to exempt Galway City environs and to include the environs of other towns around the County. He recommended that the definition of ribbon development be clearly stated and strengthened and that a control area be imposed around Galway City.

Cllr. Joe Burke stated that by not having a green belt around Galway City, it would result in allowing urban sprawl. He believed that a control on the periphery of Galway City should be implemented. In referring to the map of Galway City environs which was circulated to the members he proposed the imposition of a development control area and suggested line no. 3 on the map within which was included Loughgeorge, Claregalway, Oranmore, Moycullen. He added that Clarinbridge was too far from the City to be included in the restricted area and that the restricted area should taper into Oranmore. He referred to the study currently being prepared on Galway City and Environs and felt as a County they had to control the development of Galway City. Deputy McCormack seconded Cllr. Burke's proposal. The Chairman stated that it was proposed to take in Oranmore rather than Clarinbridge.

Cllr. Byrne stated that the area of special development control in the present plan was causing problems. However, he now felt that it was a good idea and stated that he would have no problem with the new line around Galway City which would extend out as far as Oranmore. He added that it was important to maintain life in rural areas and that the expansion of Galway City be controlled. He agreed with line 3 on the Galway City environs map with it encompassing the village of Oranmore. Cllr. McHugh proposed that where line 3 comes in contact with line 1 that line 1 would then be the boundary of the restricted area around Galway City. This was agreed by the members.

Item 3 - Ribbon Development

Mr. Callagy stated that the problems with ribbon development only applied around towns and in particular Galway City. He stated that there has to be some form of definition of ribbon development in the Development Plan for use in development control area. He added that at the moment there was no clear definition of what ribbon development was. Deputy Connaughton stated that it was important that people living and working in rural areas be able to carry on their normal farming practice and where people come to live in an area the planners should listen to the inhabitants of that area who were already making their living from the land in that location. Cllr. O'Sullivan in referring to the definition of ribbon development stated that it was already defined and defined loosely for a purpose. Cllr. Joe Burke expressed his disagreement with Cllr. O'Sullivan. He stated that the plan should be workable and should have a definition or ribbon development. He proposed that the construction of up to 4 dwellinghouses in a row be allowed. This proposal was seconded by Cllr. Gavin. A vote was then taken for or against Cllr. Joe Burke's proposal which resulted as follows:

AR SON: Cllrs. Brennan, J. Burke, W. Burke, T. Byrne, M. Finnerty, S. Gavin, Deputy P. McCormack, Cllrs. M. O'Neill, P. O'Toole, M. Ryan, E. Varley (11).

IN AGHAIDH: Cllrs. M. Cunningham, P. Finnegan, T. Hussey, P. McHugh, P. Sullivan, K. Quinn, M. Regan (7).

GAN VOTAIL: Cllr. S. O'Neachtain (1).

The Chairman declared the motion carried.

Item 4 - Backlands Development was then debated by the members.

Mr. Callagy outlined his report stating that the original definition referred to frontage development onto a public road. The Council had decided to omit the word public and this omission had completely undermined the objective of the definition. He added that the Draft Plan allows for exceptions to be considered where a standard frontage is foregone. This provision should have stated that this would also apply to family housing needs situations. He recommended that public road be included instead of road in the definition and to include in a family housing need situation as set out in

Table 7A (1), (2) and (3) in the last paragraph. Mr. Callagy stated that if the word public is left out of the definition, this will open up areas for backlands development which would be undesirable in a rural area.

Cllr. Gavin stated that throughout the County there were a lot of roads which were in existence for generations and were not public roads, meaning roads which were not in the charge of the County Council. He added that some consideration should be given to such roads as he knows a lot of people whose lands were fronting onto this type of road. He would not like to see the situation where these roads were automatically ruled out for development. He proposed an amendment to include non private roads or roads under local improvement schemes. Cllr. Ryan expressed his agreement with Cllr. Gavin. He proposed that a public right of way be included in the definition. Cllr. O'Tuathail stated that where people were not allowed to develop backlands, the result will lead to ribbon development and he proposed that the definition stay as it was presently worded in the Draft Plan.

Cllr. O'Neachtain stated that this was discussed at length in the Draft Plan. He expressed his agreement with Cllr. Gavin and Cllr. O' Tuathail, adding that there were many areas in the County with roads which were non public. He stated that local people should be allowed build in their own locality and would be agreeable to the use of an existing road with a public right of way over it. It was agreed that an existing road with a public right of way over it be included in the definition.

Item No. 5 -Rural Tourism was then considered by the members

Mr. Callagy stated that it was proposed to put an introductory paragraph into the Plan in relation to rural tourism and he quoted the relevant paragraph as follows:

"Arising from the 1993 Forum Tourism Study of North Connemara the Planning Authority has accepted the scheme proposed in that study to assist farmers to offset falling incomes by allowing the refurbishment and rental of semi ruinous rural dwellinghouses and old farm buildings on their holdings. These buildings are to remain in the farmers ownership for rent as holiday cottages. Therefore, normal site standards would be relaxed as set out below. Should the development or site be sold it would be considered to be in breach of the objective of the policy. This means that where a common septic tank, inadequate site size or lack of road frontage have been included in the original permission then a new planning application complying with all the planning requirements will be necessary. The development will then be considered ab initio on its overall merits".

Deputy O' Cuiv stated that the definition of rural tourism should be maintained as in the Draft Plan. However, the reference to the enurement clause should be removed and this had already been agreed at a previous meeting he added. The Chairman stated that the original wording of the paragraph would be maintained in the Draft Plan.

CONFERENCES

3976

Conference of National Association of Councillors - York, England - 15/17 November, 1996

The Council agreed to the substitution of Senator J. McDonagh for Councillor M. Ryan.

CHRIOCHNAIGH AN CRUINNIU ANSIN

Submitted Approved + Signed:

Willie Bush

Chairman

25/11/96

Date

MINUTES

3932

The Minutes of the Special Meeting held on 8th September, 1996 were approved and signed by the Chairman on the proposal of Councillor Mannion, recorded by Councillor Callahan.

COMHAIRLE CHONTAE NA GAILLIMHE

MINUTES OF MONTHLY MEETING OF GALWAY COUNTY COUNCIL HELD AT THE COUNTY BUILDINGS, GALWAY ON FRIDAY, 18TH OCTOBER, 1996

CATHAOIRLEACH:

An Comhairleoir W. Burke

I LATHAIR FREISIN:

Baill:

Cllrs. J. Brennan, J. Burke, T. Byrne, J. Callanan, Deputies P. Connaughton & E. O'Cuiv, Cllrs. M. Cunningham, M. Fahy, P. Finnegan, M. Finnerty, S. Gavin, T. Hussey, M. Loughnane, J. Mannion, J. McClearn, Deputy P. McCormack, Sen. J. McDonagh, Cllrs. P. McHugh, M. Mullins, C. Ni Fhatharta, S. O'Neachtain, M. O'Neill, P. O'Sullivan, P. O'Tuathail, K. Quinn, M. Ryan, M. Regan, E. Varley & T. Walsh.

Oifigigh:

Messrs. D. O'Donoghue, Co. Manager, T. Kavanagh, A/Asst. Co. Manager, R.C. Killeen, A/Co. Engineer, D. Barrett, A/Co. Secretary, T. Murphy, C. Wallace, S.S.O.'s & C. O'Hara, S.O.

Thosnaigh an crinniu leis an paidir.

RESOLUTIONS OF SYMPATHY

3931

A Resolution of Sympathy was passed with the following:-

The Donnellan Family, Esker, Glenamaddy, Co. Galway.

MINUTES

3932

The Minutes of the Special Meeting held on 6th September, 1996 were approved and signed by the Chairman on the proposal of Councillor Mannion, seconded by Councillor Callanan.

Monthly Meeting - 18/10/1996

On the proposal of Councillor Mannion, seconded by Councillor Callanan, the Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on 20th September, 1996 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

The Report of the Ballinasloe Electoral Area Committee Meeting held on 23rd September, 1996 was considered. It was adopted on the proposal of Councillor Ryan, seconded by Councillor Regan.

The Report of the Tuam Electoral Area Committee Meeting held on 26th September, 1996 was considered. It was adopted on the proposal of Councillor Finnegan, seconded by Councillor Ryan.

MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES

Councillor Gavin proposed that his Notice of Motion on the issue of granting planning permission on national secondary roads be put on the next agenda. This was seconded by Deputy McCormack.

Councillor Cunningham observed that some properties were being metered for water consumption in the county and expressed concern about any additional cost. Mr. Kavanagh, Acting Assistant County Manager advised that metering was being carried out on some commercial and industrial properties in the county as part of a water conservation programme. Councillor Cunningham requested that information concerning the matter be furnished at the next meeting.

The I.F.A. submission on the Draft Development Plan was raised by Members. Mr. T. Kavanagh, A/Assistant County Manager agreed to have full details at next Planning Meeting.

PRESENTATION ON ECO-LABELLING PROJECT 3933

A presentation was made by Ms. Sinead Ni Mhannin on the Eco-Labeling Project after which a general discussion took place.

TO CONSIDER REPORT UNDER LOCAL GOVERNMENT (PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT) REGULATIONS 1994 - FLANNERY BRIDGE 3934

The Members had been circulated with this report concerning Flannery Bridge. It was adopted on the proposal of Councillor Mannion, seconded by Deputy O'Cuiv.

TO CONSIDER REPORT UNDER LOCAL GOVERNMENT(PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT) REGULATIONS 1994 - PROPOSED HARD SHOULDERS ALONG N6 **3935**

The report under Planning & Development Regulations 1994 concerning roadworks along the N6 from Cappataggle towards Aughrim was considered. On the proposal of Councillor Brennan, seconded by Councillor Ryan, the report was adopted.

TO CONSIDER REPORT UNDER LOCAL GOVERNMENT PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT) REGULATIONS 1994 CONCERNING CONSTRUCTION OF LOCAL AUTHORITY HOUSES **3936**

The Members had been circulated with this report dated 10th October, 1996 regarding the provision of scheme houses with services and extensions to dwelling houses with appropriate treatment facilities at the locations listed. On the proposal of Councillor Mannion, seconded by Deputy O'Cuiv, the Council agreed and noted the report.

Scheme Houses

Convent Road, Kinvara - 2 houses
Carrowmanagh, Oughterard - 2 houses

Extension to dwelling houses with appropriate treatment facilities:-

Cashleen, Renvyle	Killeany, Inishmore
Rossroe Island, Carraroe	Letterdife, Roundstone
Rossaveal, Ballinahown	Curawee, Lettermullen
Knock, Lettermullen	Russelstown, Milltown
Moyglass, Loughrea	Esker, Banagher
Ardagh, Glinsk	

Councillor Brennan congratulated the Housing Section on the good work being carried out there.

Mr. O'Donoghue, County Manager replied that 12-18 months ago the Housing Section was re-organised and restructured. The benefit of such re-organisation can be seen in all new starts for 1996 commencing in this year; and an increased allocation from the Department in 1996 which Galway County Council were able to avail of as a direct result of forward planning and vision. Councillor Brennan acknowledged and congratulated the Manager and Housing Section on the work done especially in the area of Social Planning.

ROAD TRAFFIC (SPEED LIMITS) COUNTY GALWAY 3937 BYE-LAWS 1996

The bye-laws had been circulated by Mr. T. Kavanagh, County Secretary and he explained to the Members that the bye-laws were already agreed by the Members and included the revised speed limits on National Roads which had been approved by the National Roads Authority. When the National Roads Authority approve of further revisions, new bye-laws will have to be made. Mr. Kavanagh also advised the Members that Article 7, Page 2 of the bye-laws should read as follows:-

“The Road Traffic (Speed Limits) (County Galway) Bye-Laws 1995 are hereby revoked with effect from 2 December, 1996.”

Deputy Connaughton expressed concern over whether all the Council's proposals would be approved.

The County Manager advised that he was meeting with senior officials of the N.R.A. next week and that this matter was included in the agenda for that meeting.

Deputy McCormack sought clarification of the roads classification that the bye-laws pertain to.

Mr. Kavanagh confirmed they include Local, Regional and National Roads. Deputy McCormack also expressed concern over the involvement in the making of speed limit bye-laws by the N.R.A.

The Road Traffic (Speed Limits) County Galway Bye-Laws 1996 were adopted on the proposal of Councillor Ryan, seconded by Councillor Regan.

TO CONSIDER PROPOSALS FOR E.U. NON-NATIONAL 3938 ROAD GRANTS FOR 1997

The proposals for the E.U. Non-National Road Grants for 1997 were considered by the Members. Mr. Kavanagh advised that the proposals were as agreed at Area Meetings including two amendments agreed at the Galway and Connemara Area Meetings.

Deputy O'Cuiv expressed concern that the Council's Five Year Roads Plan would appear to have been set aside by the Department. He stated that for the Five Year Roads Plan to be carried out, it would require full financial backing. The Plan did not include replacement of Flannery Bridge, which would reduce the works to be carried out in the plan and thereby make the plan redundant in the long-term. Deputy O'Cuiv was concerned that the money to implement the Five Year Roads Plan was not going to be forthcoming from the Department. He also pointed out that special projects like Flannery Bridge should be financed in a separate way to the Five Year Plan proposals.

He stressed the fact that the proposals set out in the Five Year Plan were all important and as such it was vital that the Department of the Environment support same.

A discussion ensued concerning the amount of financial assistance anticipated to be received by Galway County Council in 1997 and the role of Galway County Council in deciding the works to be carried out.

An Comhairleoir O'Neachtain proposed that Galway County Council ask the Department for the full monies required to improve the roads in 1997. This proposal was seconded by Deputy O'Cuiv. An Comhairleoir O'Neachtain expressed concern over the current condition of the roads in Galway with specific reference to the Galway-Spidal Road R336 and asked that it be included in the list of proposed works regardless of the Department's decision regarding choice of roads and amount of funds to be given.

An Comhairleoir Ni Fhatharta expressed concern about the Five Year Roads Plan becoming out of date if adequate financial backing was not forthcoming. She also pointed out that the R336 Road was becoming impassable and asked whether a Western Approach Road was fundable under EU co-financed grant. She also requested that the Council meet with the Corporation and request the Corporation to push for a Western Approach Road as the West side of the city was losing opportunities because of inadequate roads.

Councillor O'Sullivan fully supported the proposal to make the Council's Road requirements known to the Department as an expectation of receipt of 50% of the funding required to finance the proposed works on the list was unacceptable.

Councillor O'Neill confirmed that proposals made at Area Meetings were correct regarding the proposals and allocation for Connemara etc. He pointed out that Departmental involvement was intrusive on the role of local authorities and proposed that the members adopt the following resolution:-

- (a) The Department of Environment allocate the EU Co-Financed Monies en bloc to Galway County Council and that Galway County Council decide its distribution
- (b) That a specific and separate fund be established concerning the repair/replacement of bridges.

This proposal was seconded by Deputy O'Cuiv.

Councillor Mannion said that he agreed with Councillor O'Neill but that the list was due to be forwarded to the Department last week and an extension of time was given to Galway County Council. He was concerned that if the proposal was not forwarded to the Department that Galway County Council would lose funds where in fact additional funds were given prior to this. He proposed to forward the list as agreed at Area Meetings to the Department. This was seconded by Deputy Connaughton and agreed.

The County Manager advised Members that Galway County Council has a proud record of expenditure on roads. This is largely as a result of its ability to forward plan

and the Members can be proud of its record. He confirmed that it is normal practice to receive a request for a list to be submitted of suitable projects and that there are criteria set out for the selection of same. In this instance repair/replacement of bridges is clearly included. The proposals on the list to be submitted have been agreed by Members at Area Meetings and he strongly recommended that the Council adopt same.

TRAVELLER SETTLEMENT PROPOSALS FOR CAPIRA 3939

The Manager indicated that he wished to discuss the matter further with Staff and to refer back to the Members at a later stage.

CONNEMARA ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECT 3940

It was agreed to defer this item to the next meeting.

BYE-LAWS FOR BEACHES 3941

It was agreed that the Members of the Connemara and Galway Electoral Areas together with Councillors Cunningham and Byrne from the Loughrea Electoral Area would be the Members of a Committee to consider Bye-laws for Beaches.

CONFERENCES 3942

The following Members were nominated and agreed to attend the Conferences outlined below on the recommendations of the Finance Committee, on the proposal of Councillor Mannion, seconded by Councillor Ryan.

**GENERAL COUNCIL OF COUNTY COUNCIL'S SEMINAR - KILLARNEY-
4/5 OCTOBER, 1996**

Councillor Michael Fahy
Councillor Pat Finnegan

**CONFERENCE OF NATIONAL ASSOC. OF COUNCILLORS - YORK,
ENGLAND - 15/17 NOVEMBER, 1996**

Councillor T. Hussey	Councillor M. Cunningham
Councillor E. Varley	Councillor M. Ryan
Councillor T. Byrne	Councillor P. O'Tuathail

Approval was given to the attendance of Councillor Mannion at the following conferences when he was Chairman:-

- (a) Regional & County Roads Programme Launch - 5/2/1996

- (b) Strategic Management Initiative Conference - 21 & 22/3/1996
(c) Environmental Conference - 8 & 9/5/1996

CHAIRMAN'S BUSINESS

3943

Councillor Quinn expressed concern at the shortage of funds in some Engineering Areas and proposed that the Department be asked to give Galway County Council an extra allocation. This was seconded by Councillor McHugh.

PRESENTATION TO MR. P. FLOOD

3944

The Chairman, on behalf of the Members made a presentation to Mr. Pat Flood, former County Engineer and wished him well on his retirement. The Chairman mentioned many important projects which Mr. Flood was responsible for as County Engineer and which he will be remembered for. The Members joined in the tributes to Mr. Flood and thanked him for his assistance to them over the years. The County Manager on his own behalf and on behalf of the Staff joined in the tributes to Mr. Flood.

NOTICE OF MOTIONS

N.O.M. NO. 14 - ROAD - CLLR. M. LOUGHNANE

3945

The following written reply was given to Councillor Loughnane:-

"The school and bend referred to are both on the R349 Regional Road. Large vehicles have to traverse the present unbroken line with their offside wheels in order to negotiate the bend. If a continuous white line is put in place it would create a legal obstacle to this manoeuvre.

The existing school sign will be replaced with larger signs with white lettering "Slow for School" on the carriageway each side of the school and west of the bend."

N.O.M. NO. 15 - SIGNS- CLLR. M. LOUGHNANE

3946

The following written reply was given to Councillor Loughnane:-

"Due to budgetary constraints it is not possible for the Council to provide Village Signs. The cost of supplying and erecting four signs is estimated at £400. If as has happened in other areas the local community would be prepared to provide or fund the signs the Council would erect them. This would be a suitable use for N.O.M. monies."

N.O.M. NO. 16 - ROADSIDE DRAINS - SEN. J. MCDONAGH 3947

The following written reply was given to Senator McDonagh:-

"An inspection has been carried out of those open roadside drains. Due to shallow depth of the drains and road edge location reinforced concrete pipes will be required. The estimated cost of piping is in the region of £14,520 for 567 metres of pipes. There are no funds available this year to carry out the work."

N.O.M. NO. 17 - ROADWORKS - CLLR. P. O'SULLIVAN 3948

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

"The sight distance could be improved by setting back the wall to the south side of bend for a distance of 82 metres as well as improving safety at the entrance/exit to the dwelling house. The estimated cost of the work including provision of a new wall is £4,850. Funds are not available to do the work this year."

N.O.M. 18 - MOYLOUGH W.S.S. - CLLR. M. RYAN 3949

The following written reply was given to Councillor Ryan:-

"I wish to inform you that a meeting was held on 11th October with the County Manager and the Members of Galway County Council in connection with the water supply to the Moylough Area, served by the Kilkerrin/Moylough Regional Water Supply Scheme.

The estimated cost of the improvement works to be carried out is £60,000, and funding from the Department of the Environment is not available for same. The Committee were advised that in order to consider carrying out the improvement works in 1997, a local contribution would be required to cover a third of the cost. The Committee have been asked to consider same, and to inform the Council of the outcome of their discussions, in advance of the finalisation of the 1997 Estimates."

N.O.M. 18 - MOYLOUGH W.S.S. - DEPUTY P. CONNAUGHTON 3950

The following written reply was given to Councillor Ryan:-

"I wish to inform you that a meeting was held on 11th October with the County Manager and the Members of Galway County Council in connection with the water supply to the Moylough Area, served by the Kilkerrin/Moylough Regional Water Supply Scheme.

Monthly Meeting - 18/10/1996

The estimated cost of the improvement works to be carried out is £60,000, and funding from the Department of the Environment is not available for same. The Committee were advised that in order to consider carrying out the improvement works in 1997, a local contribution would be required to cover a third of the cost. The Committee have been asked to consider same, and to inform the Council of the outcome of their discussions, in advance of the finalisation of the 1997 Estimates."

N.O.M. NO. 19 - ROAD - CLLR. M. CUNNINGHAM 3951

The following written reply was given to Councillor Cunningham:-

"It is hoped to provide funding to raise the road at this location next year. The road margins will be trimmed within the next four to five weeks."

N.O.M. NO. 20 - ROAD - CLLR. M. CUNNINGHAM 3952

The following written reply was given to Councillor Cunningham:-

"A 40 m.p.h. Speed limit on each of the two approaches to the village is included in the Road Traffic (Speed Limits) County Galway Bye Laws 1996 which will come into effect on December 2, 1996.

Consideration will be given to the provision of School Flashing Lights when the programme for 1997 is being compiled."

N.O.M. NO. 21 - ROAD - CLLR. M. CUNNINGHAM 3953

The following written reply was given to Councillor Cunningham:-

"The junction is being studied by our Design Team with a view to including it for funding in our 1997 Low Cost Accident Measures submissions to the National Roads Authority. In the meantime larger signs will be erected and the junction will be hatched with yellow lines."

N.O.M. NO. 22 - FOOTPATHS - CLLR. M. FAHY 3954

The following written reply was given to Councillor Fahy:-

"It is not proposed to lower the footpaths as it is considered that doing so would not improve road safety particularly for pedestrians."

N.O.M. NO. 23 - ROAD REPAIRS - CLLR. S. GAVIN 3955

The following written reply was given to Councillor Gavin:-

"There will be no further major works carried out on this road but routine maintenance will be carried out."

N.O.M. NO. 24 - ROAD REPAIRS - CLLR. S. GAVIN 3956

The following written reply was given to Councillor Gavin:-

"Normal Junction signs No. 110 are in place on the approach to the junction. There are hard shoulders on the road. There are no proposals to erect further signage."

N.O.M. NO. 25 - POLLING STATION - CLLR. S. GAVIN 3957

The closure of Collinamuck Polling Station was approved at the Galway Electoral Area Meeting of 8th July, 1996 as part of the required overall review of the Polling Scheme.

Guidelines prepared by the Department of the Environment on the preparation/review of polling schemes recommend a minimum of 350 electors for each polling station. In many cases existing polling stations were drawn up when transport arrangements were almost non-existent. The guidelines state that the tendency to retain traditional polling places must be examined critically with particular regard to the high costs of operating a polling station in terms of man-power, packing, delivery and collection of ballot boxes, the unjustifiable demand made on Garda Personnel and the delays caused at courts due to the large number of ballot boxes to be opened.

Given that there are only 239 electors registered at Collinamuck Polling Station which is well below the minimum number of electors recommended, and that the turn out might only be 60%, the closure of the polling station and the transfer of electors to Tullyokyne and St. Annin's National School is reasonable. The Department of the Environment has indicated that it will be critically looking at the number of electors at each polling scheme before approving of the revised polling scheme."

N.O.M. NO. 26 - COUNCIL HOUSE - CLLR. M. LOUGHNANE 3958

The following written reply was given to Councillor Loughnane:-

"Appropriate arrangements will be made to have this house inspected as soon as possible."

N.O.M. NO. 27 - SPEED LIMIT - SEN. J. MCDONAGH 3959

The following written reply was given to Senator McDonagh:-

"The junction will be examined and a traffic count will be carried out to establish what measures are necessary."

N.O.M. NO. 28 - ROAD WORKS - SEN. J. MCDONAGH 3960

The following written reply was given to Senator McDonagh:-

"Signs have recently been erected at this location."

N.O.M. 29 - SIGNS - SEN. J. MCDONAGH 3961

The following written reply was given to Senator McDonagh:-

"There are no funds available to erect the sign this year. The position will be reviewed in 1997 when it is expected money will be available for the work."

The work could only be carried out this year if Notice of Motion money was made available."

N.O.M. NO. 30 - BÓTHAR - AN COMH. C. NI FHATHARTA 3962

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

"Cuirfear Bóthar Tismearn agus Bóthar Doire Choill, an Cheathru Rua san áireamh le deisiúchán i 1997.

Tá caoi réasúnta maith ar an chuid den Bóthar Búí, Indreabhán, atá faoi chúram an Chomhairle."

N.O.M. NO. 31 - REILIG - AN COMH. C. NI FHATHARTA 3963

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

"Tar éis scrúdú a dhéanamh ar an talamh atá in aice le Reilig Cuigeal, níl sé oiriúnach chun an Reilig Cuigeal a mheadú.

Tá an Comhairle Chontae tar éis talamh a cheannach chun an reilig I Sheanbhaile a mheadú. Beidh an obain draenáil ag tosnú I gceann tamaill agus beidh 350 uaigne nua ann nuair a bheidh sé críochnaithe."

N.O.M. NO. 32 -BOTHAR - AN COMH. C. NI FHATHARTA 3964

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

"Táimid ag déanamh aithbreithnú ar na scoileanna ata suite ar bóithre Náisiúnta agus Réigiúnach faoi láthair chun sabháilteacht a chur ar aghaidh.

Nuair ata toradh an aithbreithniu sin ar fáil beimid inan scéim sabháilteacht a chur I gcrích agus cuirfear S.N. Chamais san áireamh, san scéim sin."

N.O.M. NO. 33 - PUBLIC LIGHTING - DEPUTY E. O'CUIV 3965

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

"Maam Village will be considered when the 1997 Public Lighting Programme is being compiled."

N.O.M. NO. 34 - COUNCIL ESTATE - DEPUTY E. O'CUIV 3966

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

"The estate has now been remapped following a check using electronic surveying equipment. The discrepancy has been corrected and the County Council is proceeding with a view to the registration of the revised map in the Land Registry."

N.O.M. NO. 35 - ROAD REPAIRS - DEPUTY E. O'CUIV 3967

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

"Funds are very limited particularly at this time of year. However, some maintenance work will be carried out at this location in the near future."

N.O.M. NO. 36 - WARNING LIGHTS - CLLR. S. O' NEAHTAIN 3968

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

"These schools are located inside the 30 m.p.h. speed limit zone and flashing lights are not provided in such areas."

**N.O.M. NO. 37 - VERGE TRIMMING - AN COMH. S. 3969
O'NEACHTAIN**

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

"Verge trimming will be carried out according as resources permit. In the climate of scarce resources priority is given to maintaining the carriageway when funds are being allocated."

**N.O.M. NO. 38 - SOILSE POIBLI - AN COMH. S. 3970
O'NEACHTAIN**

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

"Nil aon airgead ar fáil faoi láthair chun breis soilsí poiblí a chur ar fáil ar Oileáin Árainn.

Cuirfear oileáin Árainn san áireamh nuair a mbeidh Clár na Soilsí Poiblí á chur le céile I 1997, de réir mar a mbeidh airgead ar fáil."

CHRIOCHNAIGH AN CRUINNIU ANSIN

Submitted _____ Approved + Signed: _____

Wilko Bush

Chairman

25/11/96
Date

COMHAIRLE CHONTAE NA GAILLIMHE

MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING OF GALWAY COUNTY COUNCIL HELD AT COUNTY BUILDINGS, GALWAY ON FRIDAY, 11th OCTOBER 1996

Cathaoirleach:-

Councillor W. Burke

Baill:-

Cllrs. J. Brennan, J. Burke, T. Byrne, J. Callanan, Cllrs. M. Cunningham, M. Fahy, P. Finnegan, S. Gavin, T. Hussey, J. Mannion, J. McClearn, Deputy P. McCormack, Senator J. McDonagh, Cllrs. P. McHugh, M. Mullins, C. Ni Fhatharta, S. O'Neachtain, M. O'Neill, P. O'Sullivan, P. O'Tuathail, K. Quinn, M. Ryan, E. Varley and T. Walsh.

Oifigigh:-

Messrs. D. O'Donoghue, Co. Manager, D. Nelson, Asst. Co. Manager, T. Kavanagh, Co. Secretary, B. Callagy, S.E.E., T. Connell, S.S.O. & A. Whelan, C.T.

Thosnaigh an crinniu leis an paidir.

RESOLUTION OF SYMPATHY

3928

A Resolution of Sympathy was passed with the following:-

Mr. Thomas Reynolds, Arda, Glinsk, Ballymoe, Co. Galway.

RÚN COMHGHAIRDIS

3929

Mhol an Comhleoír Ní Fhatharta rún comhghairdis do fhoireann peile an Cheathrú Rua as ucht an bua a bhí acu i gCraobh peile sinnsear an Chontae. . Fuair an foireann an thacaíocht o mhuintear Connamara uilig agus bhí gach éinne an bhrodúil astu. Chuidigh an Comhairleoir O Neachtain agus Comhleoirí eile leis an Rún.

Congratulations were also extended to the Galway U-21 Hurling Team, Galway Junior Hurling Team and Senior Camogie Teams on their All-Ireland successes.

REVIEW OF THE COUNTY DEVELOPMENT PLAN 3930

The Council commenced dealing with the submissions received in respect of the Draft County Development Plan. Submission No. 63 from Coiste Pobail Moycullen on the zoning of Killarainey Wood for Amenity Purposes was considered by the elected members. Mr. Brian Callagy outlined a summary of the submission which related to the future increase of the population in Moycullen with consequent demand for amenity development, the tourism potential of Moycullen and the requirement for amenity development to enhance its role. The Coiste stated that they had already bought land from Coillte for development as a forestry park. The forest in question is about 40 years old and has a significant wildlife population which would be preserved by retention of the wood for amenity purposes. The Planning Officer proposed to retain the status quo pending agreement between Coillte and An Coiste Pobail and this matter would be reconsidered when a action plan is being prepared for Moycullen. Councillor Gavin stated that there was a desire to protect the important amenity areas and he proposed that the planning officer's recommendation be accepted. This was agreed acceptable by the members. Submission No. 64 from Tom Maloney on the Rezoning of land from Agricultural use to Residential in the Moycullen Zoning Plan was considered by the members. The Planning Officer referring to the submission stated that the land proposed for rezoning adjoins existing residential zoned land and was physically suitable for development. He recommended that the rezoning be accepted. This was agreed acceptable by the elected members. Submission No. 65 from the Diocesan Trustees on the rezoning of land from Agricultural to residential use at Kylebroughlan, Moycullen was then considered by the members. Mr. Callagy outlined his comments on the submission and recommended to rezone the proposed lands together with adjoining lands. This proposal was agreed acceptable by the members. Submission No. 66 from the Residents of Woodland Park, Moycullen was then considered. This submission was in support of Submission No. 63 from An Coiste Pobail, Moycullen and the Planning Officer proposed a similar recommendation as what was stated in the Coiste Pobail Moycullen submission. This was agreed acceptable by the members. Submission No. 67 from Coiste Pobail Moycullen on the rezoning of Residential land to Amenity at Moycullen was then considered by the members.

The Planning Officer proposed to rezone County Council lands other than that being transferred in an exchange with an adjoining landowner from residential to amenity zoning. This was agreed acceptable by the members. Submission No. 68 from Tomas O Cadhain which related to the deficiencies in the present plan was then considered by the members. The Planning Officer recommended no amendments to the Draft Plan as a result of the submission and this was considered acceptable by the elected members. Councillor Gavin agreed with the Planning Officer's recommendation in each of the submissions from 64 to 68. He said that proposals were being made for residential zoning in Moycullen. To meet with these zoning proposals services must be available for the area. He added that local people could not get a site in the village because of the cost factor. He requested that a land bank be purchased by the County Council in villages like Moycullen. Deputy McCormack stated that it was essential that services be provided at locations such as Moycullen. This village is in close proximity to a lake which in turn leads onto Lough Corrib, a source of water supply to Galway City and surrounding area. He added that Moycullen should have a first class sewerage system.

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Councillor O'Neachtain stated that the importance of having proper planning in such an area is greater than ever. He added that there was a basic lack of planning in not having the services in place. In this regard he referred to Knocknacarra which was developed without the necessary facilities being installed and added that no developments should be allowed in towns without proper services. Submission No. 69 from John Kenny on the rezoning of land from Agricultural to Residential in Oughterard was then considered by the members. Mr. Callagy outlined the details of the submission which related to lands adjoining the Owenriff River. He stated that the river bank should be preserved for amenity purposes and that there was a footpath through the field in question and along the river bank as far as the bridge on the Glann Road. His recommendation was to rezone the land residential and reserve a strip of land for amenity purposes along the river bank. The strip of land should follow the line of the footpath shown on the 1/2500 O.S. sheet and should not be less than fifty feet from the waters edge. Secondly he recommended that a similar fifty foot wide strip should be reserved along the remainder of the riverbank as far as the Glann Road. Councillor Gavin stated that a meeting had taken place with the Planning Officer in respect of this submission. He proposed acceptance of the Planning Officer's recommendation in this instance. This proposal was adopted by the members.

Submission No. 70 from the Aran Islands Co-Op was then considered by the members. Mr. Callagy summarised the submission which dealt with the consideration of economic aspects of development in scenic areas, the change of amenity zoning from Category 1 to Category 2, to have regard to the existing linear pattern of development on the islands, to have regard to occasional special constraints where persons are unable to provide a full half acre site for a house development and require that front boundary walls for new houses be constructed in natural stone. The Planning Officer's recommendation was to include in Chapter 7 and 9 the following sub-sections:- "(a) To have special regard to the importance of socio-economic and cultural development on the islands particularly to proposed development which are on Government or community development programmes; (b) To have regard to the serious difficulty in obtaining alternative island locations for the above development." Mr Callagy added that it was proposed to alter the amenity zoning from Category 1 to Category 2 on the developable areas on the islands and in regard to the existing linear pattern of development and to the provision of front boundary walls for new houses in natural stone he stated that these matters will be considered on their merits for each planning application where the policies for amenity zoning are considered. Councillor O Neachtain stated that there were difficulties in relation to planning of the Aran Islands. He felt that more thought should be put into the islands development and stated that without economic development on the islands the population would not be maintained. The proposal to zone from Category 1 to Category 2 deserves more thought because of the characteristics present in the Aran Islands and with its unique beauty. He expressed his apprehension on the change of zoning. He then referred to the house types and to the traditional type of house that applies to the Islands and added that people were being refused permission because of the design of their particular house. Mr. Callagy advised the Council that a socio-economic plan had been prepared for the Islands off County Galway and this plan addresses Island life and other matters. He added that the existing development plan has objectives and policies to preserve the Island landscape together with guidelines on house design. The difficulty to obtain adequate site sizes for dwellinghouses will be acknowledged in the development plan.

Councillor Gavin expressed agreement with the Planning Officer's comments. He stated that the Islands Committee will examine the proposals. The County Manager advised the meeting that the design guidelines for dwellinghouses were presently being examined and an update of the guidelines will be issued at a later date. The recommendation of the Planning Officer was agreed acceptable by the members. Submission No. 71 from Walter Meissner, Cleggan, Co. Galway on the development in amenity areas in Connemara was then examined. Mr. Callagy advised the meeting of the details of the submission which related to amenity zoning in Cleggan, natural heritage areas, local tourism and housing need. The Planning Officer's recommendation was to retain the existing amenity and heritage area zoning. In regard to the rural tourism policy he stated that the following clause should be included: "(1) restored/reconstructed building shall not exceed 1000 sq. feet including any future extension, (2) the development shall as far as possible be located close to existing farmhouses and farm buildings." Mr Callagy added that Clause (b) of this provision should be amended as follows; "semi-ruinous means those where roof and external walls are intact." Councillor O'Neill stated that this submission had far reaching proposals and requested to know who had a right to make a submission on the County Development Plan. The County Secretary advised the meeting that every member of the public was entitled to make a submission on the Draft Plan. Councillor O'Tuathail proposed that this submission be rejected, this was seconded by Deputy McCormack. Deputy McCormack stated that he found it a strange submission. The Deputy added that the Council spent a considerable length of time dealing with the Draft Development Plan. He had a suspicion of people who moved into an area and then wanted the native people to abide by their rules. Submission No. 71 was rejected by the members. Submission No. 72 from Padraic O Cinneide dealt with the provision on rural tourism and the publication of the Plan in bilingual form. Mr. Callagy advised the members of the details of the submission which stated that the description of farmhouse building would lead to difficulty in regard to interpretation and the submission suggested that "rural house" be used instead. The Planning Officer advised to retain the present definition used in the Draft Plan and to prepare an Irish version of the entire Plan. The Planning Officer's recommendation was agreed acceptable by the members. Submission No. 73 from J. Diskin related to the amenity zoning in the inner Galway Bay area. Mr. Callagy summarised this submission which related to a proposal to exclude the inner Galway shoreline at Stradbally North, Ballynagamanagh and Cave Village from the amenity zoning because of some existing planning permission at Stradbally North and the amenity value being insufficiently high. The Planning Officer stated that the area had been re-surveyed in greater detail in June of 1996 and stricter boundaries were proposed for the zoned area. He proposed to adjust the boundary of the zoning area to reflect the survey that had taken place. Councillor McHugh proposed the adoption of the recommendation adding that the land in question was low lying and out of view and was of no great amenity value. He added that a lot of the land had already been developed. This proposal was seconded by Councillor Cunningham. Councillor Byrne stated that it was difficult to make a decision on this submission until the revised site map was in front of the Council. The Council then decided to defer the adoption of the submission until a site map was produced reflecting the revised zoning area. Submission No. 74 from Councillor Paddy McHugh on the rezoning of land at Claregalway from agricultural to residential use was then considered by the members. Mr. Callagy referring to the submission stated the land adjoined lands already zoned residential and was physically suitable for development.

He recommended that the land be zoned residential. The Planning Officer's recommendation was agreed acceptable by the members. The rezoning of lands at Claregalway proposed by Mr. Martin Murphy was the subject of Submission No. 75. Mr. Callagy stated that this submission was similar to that of Submission No. 74 and the proposed rezoning was recommended. This was agreed acceptable by the members. Submission No. 76 from Councillor Toddy Byrne dealt with the amenity zoning at Dooras Peninsula. Mr Callagy summarised the submission which dealt with areas excluded from the amenity zoning in the Dooras Peninsula. The area in question includes a community with basic facilities in place such as Church, school, shops and pub and also has a migrant artistic community. The submission also dealt with the requirement of extra land for new housing. The Planning Officer stated that the points made in the submission were valid and that two detailed surveys had been carried out taking into account local opinions and submissions concerning the area zoned for amenity. He recommended that the area be redefined and the important scenic views be included as per a recent survey carried out in June 1996. Councillor Toddy Byrne declared that he had no personal interest in the submission. He added that meetings had been held with people of the Doorus Peninsula who expressed their dissatisfaction with the zoning of total areas as outstanding scenic amenity. He said that the area in question has its own facilities and acknowledged that there are particular parts of the Doorus Peninsula which should be preserved. He added that there were other parts which should not be zoned high amenity. He requested the deferring of the acceptance of this submission subject to the production of the revised maps.

Submission No. 77 from Pollagh and Mulrook Landowners/Residents on the amenity zoning of Inner Galway Bay. Mr. Callagy outlining the submission stated the landowners of these townlands object to amenity zoning of their lands because they would be prevented from selling sites to non family members or relations. He added that residents of the area who had bought sites and built houses were objecting to amenity zoning in the area because their children would not be able to buy sites in the locality. The Planning Officer recommended that the amenity area be reduced and that it correspond to a recent survey carried out on the lands in question. The Council decided to defer consideration of the submission pending the production of the revised amenity map. The Clarenbridge by-pass and sewage treatment system submitted by Clarenbridge Oyster Festival Committee was then considered by the members as part of Submission No. 78. Mr. Callagy outlined this submission which dealt with the location of the by-pass route between the village and the sea. This location cut the village off from its main orientation and natural affinity towards the sea. The submission added that the new road would create a most unattractive view of the rear elevation of the Main Street. The Committee urged that a sewage treatment system, which was not included in the terms of the Draft Plan be provided for the village. It felt that the absence of a treatment system and the possibility of pollution would be disastrous for the "pure oyster" image of the village. The Planning Officer recommended that an alternative route for the by-pass on the eastern side of the village be included in order to fully consider all options. He added that the design at present was only at a preliminary stage. The question of the sewage treatment system would be referred to sanitary services for further consideration. Councillor Byrne stated that this was a worthwhile submission. In referring to the two main points raised he supported the contents of the submission and welcomed the Planning Officer's recommendation. This was seconded by Councillor Cunningham. Deputy

McCormack stated that it was logical not to cut the village off from the sea and referring to the sewage treatment system he stated that it was essential that all of these villages be provided with adequate sewage treatment provisions. Mr. Callagy stated that it could be argued that there should only be one route for the by-pass but felt that all options should be considered. The Planning Officer's recommendation was accepted by the Members. Submission No. 79 from the Industrial Development Authority on zoning of land at Brockagh, Galway for Industrial use was then considered by the members. Mr. Callagy stated that the lands adjoined the existing I.D.A. estate at Parkmore, Galway and was a logical extension to the existing industrial estates in the area. He proposed the zoning of the land for industrial use. This was agreed acceptable by the members. The rezoning of lands to residential use at Portumna submitted by Michael Regan was dealt with in Submission No. 80. The Planning Officer advised the members that the rezoning had already been included in the Draft Plan. The proposal was agreed acceptable by the members. Submission No. 81 from Mr. Albert Clasby on the rezoning of lands from Agriculture to Commercial at Portumna was then considered by the members. The Planning Officer advised the meeting that the proposed land adjoined existing industrial zoned land which in turn adjoined a commercially zoned area to the Southwest. All of these lands were located beside the Marina at Portumna Bridge. He recommended the change of zoning to commercial be accepted and also to include the adjoining lands. This was agreed acceptable by the members. Submission No. 82 from Renville and District Residents Association on the scale of amenity zoning maps was then considered. In summarising this submission Mr. Callagy advised the members that the scale of maps was too small to enable border areas to be specifically identified. He recommended that the present half inch to one mile scale be retained for the purpose of adopting the plan. The Plan would include an objective to prepare a larger scale either one inch or six inches to the mile as soon as possible after adoption of the plan. This was agreed acceptable by the members. The residential open space standards from P.J. O'Driscoll was included in Submission No. 83. Mr. Callagy outlined a summary of the submission which dealt with the requirement of providing 10% open space for housing estate development. The submission stated that this requirement should not apply to a low density development of one house to two acres in an area which was unzoned. The Planning Officer recommended that a clause be included in the Plan excluding the 10% open space requirement for development of density of 2 houses per acre and less on zoned and unzoned land. This recommendation was agreed acceptable by the members. Submission No. 84 from the Office of Public Works on the Archaeological Policies included in Chapter 10 was then considered by the members. The Planning Officer advised the members of the details of the submission which related to an inclusion of a reference to the Urban Archaeological Survey of County Galway, the updating of Appendix D with the general archaeological policy, updating lists of national monuments for the County in accordance with the National Monuments (Amendment) Act 1994 and the submission put forward recommended policies in respect of (a) facilitating public access to national monuments (b) preservation of listed sites and monuments and (c) referral of planning applications and regard to OPW recommendations. The Planning Officer recommended the inclusion of a reference to Urban Archaeological Survey, the removal of Appendix C from the Plan, the revision of 10.2.1 in Chapter 10 to include reference to National Monuments (Amendment) Act 1994, the deletion of the last paragraph 10.2.1(ii) and all of 10.2.1 (iii), the amendment of 10.2.1. (iv) to include requirement to refer details of planning applications which

were located close to sites of archaeological importance to the National Monuments Department and the requirement for possible archaeological impact statement on certain applications. The Planning Officer's recommendation was agreed acceptable by the members. Tree preservation at Ahascragh/Castlegar by Martin Gavin, Ahascragh East was Submission No. 85. The Planning Officer recommended the contents of the submission as acceptable and proposed a variation of the format of the objective in the Plan as follows: Delete 2.2.8 (viii) and include as follows 2.3.6. Trees & Other Flora. "(i) To provide on a priority basis and as resources permit for the preservation and protection of important woods, trees, shrubs, plants and flowers. (ii) To prepare a tree and woodlands survey and to formulate specific objectives for Tree Preservation Orders in accordance with the Tree Preservation - Guidelines for Planning Authorities published by the Department of the Environment." 6.5.3. Tree Preservation. "To prepare a priority list for Tree Preservation Orders in the county including Ahascragh East as first priority." This recommendations was agreed acceptable by the members. The Submission by Power Supermarkets on out-of-town Shopping Centres was then considered as part of Submission No. 86. The Planning Officer outlined the details of the submission to the members which requested the Planning Authority to adopt the Department of Environment Retail Directive 1982 which excludes out-of-town retail shopping centres, to exclude large shopping centres from 2.2.4 (ii) which refers to "starter" commercial and industrial developments, and required the removal of Section 11.3.4 from the Chapter. The Planning Officer recommended the inclusion of the Department of the Environment Directive 1982 as Planning Authority's policy. He recommended the exclusion of the large shopping centres from 2.2.4 (ii) and in regard to section 11.3.4 he stated that this section should be retained but should include a restriction on out-of-town shopping centres. Councillor Byrne requested clarification on the meaning of out-of-town shopping centres and requested to know would this be a greenfield site. Councillor McHugh expressed the view that the submission should be rejected. Councillor Burke stated that the population would not sustain this type of out-of-town shopping centre. Mr. Callagy stated that his interpretation was that an out-of-town shopping centre would be away from the town centre and such development would undermine urban village renewal and town development. It was agreed by the Council members to reject the contents of this submission. Councillor Cunningham then raised the matter of his submission on Oranmore which had been highlighted at a previous meeting and requested clarification on its consideration. He was advised by the County Secretary that he could raise the details of the submission on his own behalf but that a formal submission by a member of the public must be received within the statutory three month public display period. Submission No. 87 from the Western Health Board on Public Health Matters was then considered by the members. Mr. Callagy outlined the details of the submission which related to the limestone areas with high aquifer vulnerability and the requirement that they be more clearly defined, the restriction of slurry spreading from November to March, the requirement of the Planning Authority to carry out independent septic tank tests at its own discretion and the exclusion of the section on over concentration of septic tanks and replacement by a clause requiring minimum site requirement of 0.75 acres. The Planning Officer stated that the requirement for more defined area of the high aquifer areas in limestone land was accepted. In regard to the prohibition of slurry spreading from November to March he said that the Environment Section had advised that this requirement was too restrictive. In regard to site size for septic tank requirements he stated that section

7.2.7 should be deleted and referred to as 12.2 in Chapter 12. Councillor Callanan stated that prevention of slurry spreading between November and March would create more problems than it would solve. Councillor Gavin stated that the Western Health Board submission should be considered by the Council as the Board had put a lot of thought into this document. He accepted that there was a reason for controlling the spreading of slurry particularly in limestone areas with spring waters. Councillor Callanan stated that farmers were now more in control of farm activities and that if the slurry tank was full in March and you were not allowed spread the slurry on the land this would create further pollution problems. Councillor Gavin stated that there were problems in limestone areas with springs and where a body like the Health Board see reasons for the restriction of slurry spreading this must be acknowledged. Councillor Callanan proposed the exclusion of the submission from the Draft Plan and this was seconded by Councillor Cunningham. This was agreed by the Members.

Submission No. 88 from the Heritage Council and Monivea Community Development Society relating to the listing for preserving the entire Monivea main street including the Linen Bleaching Greens was then considered by the Council. The Planning Officer stated that the listing of the entire street of Monivea would be unnecessary. However, the Greens are an unique feature in an Irish village particularly in County Galway and he recommended that the preservation of the Greens be listed in the Plan for "Preservation to be secured". This recommendation was agreed acceptable by the members. Submission No. 89 from Councillor Matt Loughnane dealt with the Tree Preservation Order at Carrowrevagh and Dunsandle, Loughrea. The Planning Officer recommend the inclusion of such an Order as an objective under Section 6.5.3 (iii) Chapter 6 in relation to Tree Preservation Orders. This recommendation was deemed acceptable by the members. Details of Submission No. 90 from Councillor Paddy McHugh was outlined by Mr. Callagy. This submission required that Section 7.2.8 (i) included in Chapter in 7 be excluded from the Plan. It also dealt with having an area of special control within five miles of the city boundary which would have the following requirements, minimum site of 0.75 acres, minimum road frontage 150 feet, site suitable for septic tank or package plant, general requirements to be applied to family housing need cases, for non family housing site, an additional area of 3 acres with 300 ft frontage shall be sterilised from further development, where 300 ft. frontage (including site frontage) is not available, a 3 acre area without the full 300 ft. will be acceptable. The Planning Officer stated that an area of special development control was removed from the Draft Plan by the County Council contrary to strong advise from the Planners. The details of this submission is recommended for re-inclusion in the Plan. He advised that this was also supported by a submission from Galway Corporation. Councillor Byrne stated that the original control area was within 10 miles of the city. This area was reduced and then removed from the Draft Plan. He requested to know if it could be reconsidered with relevance to a map of the area. It was decided to defer this submission to the next meeting. Submission No. 91 from the Western Regional Fisheries Board was then dealt with by the members. Mr. Callagy outlined details of the submission which related to the overgrazing of land west of the Corrib which affected angling water quality and erosion of river banks, the upgrading of Sewage Treatment Works near lake catchments to include phosphorus removal in catchment areas of angling lakes especially at Moycullen, Oughterard, Dunmore and Clonbur, the inclusion of the reference to £3m Corrib development programme, the requirement of a Water Quality Management Plan for the Corrib and the improvement

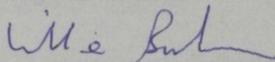
of access to inland angling areas and to seashore areas and provision of facilities at these sites. The Planning Officer recommended the inclusion of these objectives in the Draft Plan, however he added that the reference to the overgrazing of land west of the Corrib was a matter which was exempted *development and reference could not be made to it in the Plan*. The Planning Officer's recommendation was agreed acceptable by the members. Submission No. 92 from the Department of the Marine considered that the water pollution from aquaculture as set out in Subsection 12.2.3. of Chapter 12. Mr. Callagy advised the members of the details of the submission which related to the Department taking issue with several statements made in the preamble to the policy set out in the Draft Plan. He advised that these statements were based on an environmental impact study carried out by the County Council when fish farming commenced approximately 8 years ago and at a time when there was little guidance and experience available. The Planning Officer recommended the omission of existing preamble and to include the following replacement subsection. "12.2.3. Water Pollution From Aquaculture. The threats to water quality from aquaculture arise from organic or inorganic pollution from fish culture in cages. The Department of the Marine is the licensing authority for aquaculture development both on land and at sea. An effluent discharge licence will also be required from Galway County Council."

Development Control Policies: "(i) To liaise with the Department of the Marine, as Licensing Authority, in relation to all applications for fish culture development. (ii) To require that applications for fish culture development obtain a discharge licence from Galway County Council. Proposed locations upstream of, or adjacent to, intake points for domestic water supplies will require rigorous assessment in the interest of public health. (iii) Fish culture development shall not be permitted on lakes or rivers particularly in Areas of Outstanding or High Scenic Amenity, as defined in Chapter 9 where serious injury to visual amenity would be caused." The recommendation was agreed acceptable by the members. Submission No. 93 from Bord Iascaigh Mhara considered water pollution from aquaculture set out in sub-section 12.2.3 of Chapter 12. Mr. Callagy outlined a summary of the submission and advised members that the Bord considered that sub-section 12.2.3 was overstating the environmental dangers to water quality while admitting that the threats mentioned are possibilities which were remote in many instances. The Bord would like a discussion with the County Council on the subject. The Planning Officer recommended the changes outlined in the submission No. 92 be included for submission No. 93. This recommendation was agreed acceptable by the members. Submission No. 94 from the Irish Salmon Growers Association also considered the water pollution aspect from aquaculture under Section 12.2.3 of Chapter 12. The Planning Officer summarised the details of the submission and this recommendation which was similar to that included in Submission No. 92, this was agreed acceptable by the members. Submission No. 95 from the Irish Farmers Association was then considered by the members. Mr. Callagy outlined a summary of the submission which dealt with the I.F.A.'s objection to certain housing development in rural areas. They were opposed to semi-detached and "cluster developments" i.e. ribbon development consisting of three or more houses in a group. The problems created for working farmers from such development were (i) objections to normal farming practice, such as, slurry spreading; (ii) new houses being built on sites which are too near to neighbouring farmyards; (iii) many county roads are too narrow to compete with extra traffic and non farming traffic objecting to wide farm machinery and animals; (iv) trespass on adjoining farms; and (v) cultural conflict in old established

rural communities. The Planning Officer stated that the points made were valid and added that the objections of the I.F.A. conform to development control objectives of the Plan, especially as in relation to traffic hazard. He recommended to retain restrictions on ribbon development as in current development plan which had been deleted in the Draft and to introduce an area of special development control around Galway City and some commuter towns, such as Tuam, Athenry, Headford. Only rural family housing should be permitted in these areas. It has been repeatedly emphasised to the Council that urban sprawl is seriously in conflict with the principles of proper planning and development. Councillor Byrne stated that he found this an extraordinary submission. He stated that to be objecting to urban people building in rural areas should be rejected out of hand. He added that there were probably some valid points in the submission but overall it should be rejected. Councillor Callanan agreed with Councillor Byrne and stated he was a farmer himself. However he was opposed to the principle of the submission which was badly thought out. Councillor McHugh proposed that the Council reject the whole submission. He added that the objective was to keep rural areas alive and added that anyone who moves from an urban to rural area has to accept farming practices. Councillor O'Sullivan stated that he teaches in a rural area, an area which they are trying to develop. The County Secretary advised the members that an oral hearing was requested by the I.F.A. and this hearing had taken place. Copies of a Report of this hearing had already been circulated to the members. Councillor Gavin stated that he found this submission vague, in particular to the definition of a rural area. He said that he saw the spirit of what they were trying to do but it would be disastrous to implement it. Councillor Burke stated that the Council was unified in its objective to preserve the rural countryside. He requested that the submission be rejected in totality. This proposal was seconded by Councillor O'Neachtain. Councillor O'Neachtain stated that he was amazed with the submission and proposed that it be rejected in total. Councillor Callanan acknowledged that there was a problem with spreading of slurry, details of which were set out in the submission. The Members rejected the submission.

CHRIOCHNAIGH AN CRUINNIU ANSIN

Submitted Approved + Signed:



Chairman

25th Nov. 1996
Date