

COMHAIRLE CHONTAE NA GAILLIMHE

MINUTES OF MONTHLY MEETING OF GALWAY COUNTY COUNCIL HELD AT MERLIN PARK, GALWAY ON MONDAY, 23rd MARCH, 1998

CATHAOIRLEACH: *An Comhairleoir M. Fimmerty*

I LATHAIR FREISIN:

Baill:

Cllrs. J. Brennan, J. Burke, W. Burke, T. Byrne, J. Callanan, Deputy P. Connaughton, Cllrs. J. Conneely, M. Cunningham, M. Fahy, P. Finnegan, S. Gavin, T. Hussey, M. Loughmane, 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, E. Varley & T. Walsh.

Oifigigh:

Messrs. D. O'Donoghue, Co. Manager, D. Nelson, J. Tierney, Asst. Co. Managers, J. Colleran, Co. Engineer, T. Kavanagh, Co. Secretary, P. McMahon, Co. Librarian, P. Carroll, C. Wallace & E. Maloney, S.S.O.'s, J. Dunne, S.E.E., E. Hourigan, A/Staff Officer & M. Moran, C.O.

Thosnaigh an crinniu leis an paidir.

RESOLUTIONS OF SYMPATHY

4769

A Resolution of Sympathy was passed with the following:-

Mrs. Mary Walker, Knocknagreine, Ballinasloe, Co. Galway.

VOTE OF CONGRATULATIONS

4770

The Members congratulated the Corofin Football Team on winning the All-Ireland Club Football Title.

The Members commiserated with the Sarsfield Hurling Team who were unsuccessful in their attempt to win the All-Ireland Club Hurling title.

MINUTES

4771

The Minutes of the Special Meeting held on 13th February, 1998 were approved by the Council and signed by the Chairman, on the proposal of Councillor Fahy, seconded by Councillor J. Burke.

On the proposal of Councillor Byrne, seconded by Councillor McClearn, the Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on the 23rd February, 1998 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

The Report of the County Galway Libraries Committee Meeting held on 4th March, 1998 was considered. It was adopted by the Council on the proposal of Councillor Quinn, seconded by Councillor Finnegan.

The Report of the Casual Trading Committee Meeting held on the 9th March, 1998 was considered. It was adopted by the Council on the proposal of Councillor Mannion, seconded by Deputy Connaughton.

The Report of the Protocol Committee Meeting held on the 9th March, 1998 was considered. The Report and recommendations therein were adopted on the proposal of An Comhairleoir Ni Fhatharta, seconded by Councillor Hussey.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Illegal Dumping of Dead Animals - Minute No. 4721

Mr. D. Nelson, Assistant County Manager informed the Members that £1,400 was spent to-date by the Council in relation to this problem. He paid tribute to the Council Workers who dealt with this difficult task.

Councillor Mullins stated that he wished to place on record his appreciation for the tremendous job carried out by both the Officials and Staff of the Council in diverting a major health hazard.

The Manager stated that this matter was raised with IFA Representatives at a recent Meeting. Councillor Quinn stated that the person involved in this incident must be made an example of and the maximum fines imposed.

Notice of Motion - Sewerage at Kinvara Bay - Minute No. 4722

Councillor Byrne asked whether sum of £20,000 is available to conduct study regarding the discharge of sewerage into Kinvara Bay. The County Engineer stated that he would examine same and forward a reply to Councillor Byrne.

The County Manager informed the Members that the Council's allocation for 1998 Sanitary Services Projects was received today from the Department of the Environment. Kinvara is not included in the Programme.

On the proposal of Deputy Connaughton, seconded by Councillor Byrne, it was agreed that this item be placed on the agenda for the next Area Meeting.

**REPORT ON SPC SUB-COMMITTEE MEETING - 4772
13TH MARCH, 1998**

Councillor Walsh asked the Chairman as to the method used to select Councillors for the various SPC Committees, where there were more than five applicants. He highlighted the Roads, Transportation and Safety Committee and stated that there is no Member from the Tuam Electoral Area on the Committee.

Councillor J. Burke stated that a representative from each Electoral Area should be on the Committee.

The Chairman outlined the procedure. He stated that Ballot Papers were issued to the Members requesting them to indicate their preference in numerical order, as to which SPC Committee they wished to participate in. Twenty three Ballot Papers were returned. In connection with the Roads, Transportation and Safety Committee, there were 13 applications for 5 places. The Chairpersons of the SPC Committees, together with Councillor Finnerty, Chairman of Galway County Council and County Secretary allocated the options in the best possible manner, having regard to all the circumstances. The Chairman acknowledged the point raised by Councillor Walsh.

Deputy McCormack stated that Councillor Walsh raised the allocation of vacancies in advance of the SPC Sub-Committee Meeting. An Comhairleoir O'Neachtain stated that he had no interest in the Committee allocated to him, and the document/report should be reviewed in interest of democracy.

Councillor McClearn, Chairperson of the Roads SPC, invited any Councillor to devise an alternative system. He stated that no Councillor was put on a committee below their third choice.

Councillor Ryan proposed that the Committees stand as they are and be reviewed in due course. Councillor Walsh said that he would accept the situation as it stands for the duration of the Council. This was agreed.

Deputy Connaughton stated that any recommendations of the SPC Committees must come before the full Council for discussion and approval.

The County Secretary advised the Members that an advertisement inviting sectors to apply for representation on the SPC Committees will appear in the local press during the coming weeks.

**PRESENTATION BY GALWAY CITY DRAFT
DEVELOPMENT PLAN**

4781

The Chairman welcomed to the meeting Mr. A. McCarthy, Executive Planner with Galway Corporation. Mr. McCarthy outlined to the Members the Draft Development Plan for the County Borough of Galway.

The Development Plan takes into account the following:-

*Sustainable Development
Population and Housing
Employment, Industry and Commerce
Recreation and Amenity
Preservation and Conservation
Transportation*

Mr. McCarthy stated that the following were taken into consideration during the preparation of the development plan:

- *Increase in population estimated to be within region of 12.3% over five years, thus making Galway the fastest growing city in Ireland and Europe.*
- *Large scale redevelopment of inner city area resulting from Urban Renewal and development of suburban housing.*
- *Increased Tourism*
- *Increased employment in manufacturing, given city has both a University and Institute of Technology.*

Galway Corporation strives to provide an improved physical environment for all of its citizens and will facilitate the development of alternative modes of transport. The Corporation's strategy to achieve sustainable development, is focused principally on the following:

1. *Land use and transportation;*
2. *National heritage, recreation and amenity;*
3. *Cultural heritage;*
4. *Promotion of renewable energy and energy conservation;*
5. *Waste Water Management and Environmental Protection;*
6. *Community Network and public participation.*

Mr. McCarthy highlighted the changes in population that have occurred in Galway City and its environs over the last ten years, together with estimated future projections to year 2016. The Galway Environs/Rural District extends for a radius of twelve miles approx. There has been a shift in population within the city with large scale suburban housing developments to the west of the city, for example in Barna Electoral District which includes Knocknacarra, with industry in the outlying eastern areas. The number of houses completed (both Private and Local Authority) has increased four-fold over a ten year period.

The Health Care and Information Technology Sectors employ the greatest number of people within the City. The number involved in building has also increased significantly. Population projections together with the following factors determine and identify lands for future development:-

- *existing natural features;*
- *diversity of uses*
- *provision of infrastructure for future development areas*
- *adequacy of infrastructure in developed areas*
- *east/west imbalance*
- *role of the city centre*
- *development of the urban fringe.*

Recreation and amenity is also an important element in the development plan. Recreation and amenity areas provide a visual break within a built-up urban environment. This may be achieved through the provision of football pitches or play areas or walking/cycling routes within the city. They also serve an important environmental/wildlife function in maintaining existing habitats.

Galway is a medieval city, with a rich history. The preservation and conservation of the city's heritage gives the city residents a sense of place and a link with the past, particularly in times of rapid growth and change. Galway Corporation's policy ensures that listed individual/group of buildings, sites and structures, together with their settings are preserved.

Mr. McCarthy outlined the Corporation's proposals to deal with transportation issues within the city. The pedestrianisation of the main shopping area commenced today. The Corporation's proposals for a Commuter Rail Service which will service outlying towns such as Athenry and Tuam was also mentioned.

In conclusion, Mr. McCarthy stated that the Draft Development Plan is currently on display to the public and submissions in relation to the plan are welcomed.

An Comhairleoir O'Neachtain thanked Mr. McCarthy for his presentation. He welcomed the Council liaison with the City Authority as it highlights how the development of the city impinges on the county. He requested the Council to proceed with the study of the City's development plan and that meaningful submissions be forwarded in relation to same.

Councillor Loughnane stated that the purpose of the current land utilisation and transportation study is to develop a strategy for the whole region. He asked whether the recommendations of this study will be incorporated into the development plan.

Deputy Connaughton stated that Galway city is also a part of the county. The current population, together with approx. 1 million tourists visiting the area, places increased pressure on existing infrastructure. The plan does not include or specify the standard of accommodation available. Deputy Connaughton asked that the provision of more

carparks at particular areas be considered. He also queried the proposed Commuter Rail Service and satellite towns on same.

Councillor J. Burke stated that he welcomed the proposed plan for the Satellite towns, which will help rejuvenate towns within a 15-30 miles radius.

Mr. McCarthy replied stating that the quality of the environment, and the price of property is now making outlying towns more attractive and an alternative to living within the city.

Galway Corporation can only plan for the city area and are required under the Planning Acts to review the development plan for the area every five years. The Land Utilisation and Transportation Study will focus on the best way of developing the city and a strategy will be put in place to facilitate same. In regard to traffic, on-site carparks are provided in the core city area. The development of a Commuter Rail Service in the region will possible alleviate the number of private cars entering the city on a daily basis.

Mr. McCarthy said that Chapter One of the plan suggests liaison with adjoining authorities. Arrangements to be made with the Town Clerk if Members wish to have a further meeting.

The Chairman, on behalf of the Members and on his own behalf, thanked Mr. McCarthy for his presentation.

The Manager welcomed and thanked Mr. McCarthy for his presentation. He informed the Members that an approved programme for review of the Town Plans has been agreed by the Members. A review of the Loughrea Town Plan will take place within the next 4/5 weeks.

The Manager informed the Members that a joint meeting of the Members of Galway Corporation and Galway County Council will take place on Monday, 27th April, 1998 commencing at 2.30 p.m. wherein the Preliminary Report on the Land Utilisation and Transport Study and the Interim Report on Waste Management will be presented to the Members. The Manager agreed that there should be an overall strategy or development of the City and County, and encouraged group meeting on a number of occasions.

PRESENTATION & ADOPTION OF INTEGRATED AREA PLAN FOR TUAM **4773**

Mr. John Tierney, Assistant County Manager informed the Members, that in accordance with the 1998 Urban Renewal Scheme, the Government decided that future designations would be placed in the context of Integrated Area Plans. Galway County Council appointed Messrs. Brady, Shipman & Martin, Planning Consultants to prepare an Integrated Area Plan for Tuam.

The Chairman, on behalf of the Members and on his own behalf welcomed Mr. Hugh Brady, from Brady, Shipman and Martin to the Meeting.

Mr. Brady thanked the Members and proceeded to outline the Integrated Area Plan for Tuam. A copy of the Plan was circulated to each Member. The objective of the IAP is to provide a planned, integrated and focused approach to urban renewal. It provides an opportunity to focus attention on those parts of an urban area in greatest need of physical and socio-economic rejuvenation and to focus appropriate priority measures on the areas in order to secure investment, development and growth. The IAP for Tuam is focused on a delineated part of the town that meets the relevant criteria, within which specific sites or sub-areas are identified for proposed measures including designation. These areas have been selected to assist Tuam in retaining its unique character as a heritage centre for the west.

The IAP for Tuam was prepared following widespread public consultation and involvement. In accordance with Guidelines issued by the Department of the Environment, every area included in the IAP must be justified, wherein the needs of the area both social and physical are highlighted together with the barriers preventing such developments.

Mr. Brady stated that seven sub-areas have been identified within the IAP area, with twelve development schemes, one such area is the Mart. He added that the importance of Tuam as a historical town has been highlighted in the report.

Mr. Brady said that this particular Urban Renewal Scheme, gives us an opportunity to give particular incentives to both existing house-owners, owner-occupiers of premises and people who wish to invest in Tuam town, to refurbish and/or rebuild areas within Tuam town.

Mr. Brady concluded his presentation stating that submissions for inclusion under 1998 Urban Renewal Scheme must be forwarded to the Department of the Environment by 31st March, 1998. The Minister will announce the successful towns in July/August, 1998.

Councillor J. Burke complimented Mr. Brady of Brady, Shipman and Martin, and the Management team of Galway County Council who were involved in preparing this report. He stated that every area of Tuam will benefit under the plan and had no doubt that it will be successful in being passed by the Council and the Department of the Environment. Councillor J. Burke proposed that the Integrated Area Plan for Tuam, together with the relevant rate remissions on a sliding scale be adopted. He added that 1998 will be an important year for Tuam town.

Councillor Walsh concurred with Councillor J. Burke's remarks and seconded the proposal, and the Members agreed to same. Councillor Hussey welcomed the plan and stated that the plan highlighted problem areas in Tuam, and the development of Tuam will have a knock-on effect for the surrounding areas.

Councillor Brennan welcomed the Integrated Plan. However, he pointed out that there is a down-side to urban development. He highlighted the case of Ballinasloe

where considerable development has taken place. This has resulted in increased prices for houses and sites in the town and surrounding areas. The prices are now outside the average persons reach, with a result that people are entering into high mortgages with large repayments which can lead to stressful relations. Councillor Brennan said that the Celtic Tiger is of benefit to only a small number of people.

The Chairman thanked Mr. Brady for his presentation.

LIBRARY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME - 1998-2000 4774

A copy of the Library Development Programme for the period 1998-2000 was circulated to each Member. On the proposal of Councillor Quinn, seconded by Councillor Loughnane, the Members welcomed and adopted the Library Development Programme.

Councillor Loughnane thanked the Assistant County Manager, the County Librarian and the Staff involved in preparing the development programme. He welcomed the forthcoming library developments, particularly, those outlined for Loughrea.

Mr. John Tierney, Assistant County Manager stated that he welcomed the Department's decision to deal with the library priorities on a phased basis.

APRIL PLANNING MEETING 4775

On the proposal of Councillor Mannion, seconded by An Comhairleoir Ni Fhatharta, the Members agreed that the Special Meeting of Galway County Council would be held on 14th April, 1998.

ISLANDS COMMITTEE MEETING 4776

Councillor Gavin proposed that the Islands Committee be held on Thursday, 2nd April, 1998. An Comhairleoir Ni Fhatharta seconded this proposal and the Members agreed to same.

REVISED LICENCE FEES UNDER COUNCIL'S CASUAL TRADING BYE-LAWS 1997 4777

A copy of report dated 16th March, 1998, outlining revised fees for Casual Trading Licenses was circulated to each Member. It was proposed by Deputy Connaughton, seconded by Councillor Quinn and resolved unanimously

"that the fees of respect of Casual Trading Licences under the Galway County Council Casual Trading Bye-Laws 1997 be as follows with effect from 1st April, 1998, and that Part II of the Schedule to the said Bye-Laws be amended accordingly.

<i>Calf Trading (Vehicle not exceeding two bays) -</i>	<i>£200 per annum</i>
<i>All Other Goods -</i>	<i>£200 per bay, per annum</i>
<i>Where trading takes place more frequently than one day per week -</i>	<i>additional £100 per annum, for each additional days trading per week</i>
<i>Specified Events: The Maam Cross-October Big Fair</i>	<i>£30 per day</i>
<i>Other Events</i>	<i>£20 per day"</i>

Deputy Connaughton complimented the Sub-Committee and Management for the time and effort involved in reviewing the Council's Casual Trading Bye-Laws. He requested that the Council consider collecting the fees involved in two instalments.

The County Secretary replied that there may be a difficulty with this but would have it examined.

EXTENSION TO ELECTORAL AREA BOUNDARY COMMITTEE 4778

The County Secretary informed the Members that submissions are sought by the Electoral Area Boundary Committee based on the attached criteria and in the absence of a report on the proposed revised Dail Constituencies. The latest date for receipt of submissions is 31st March, 1998. A copy of the letter and enclosures issued by the Electoral Area Boundary Committee dated 23rd February, 1998 were circulated to each Member.

Councillor McHugh proposed that a letter be written to the Minister requesting an extension of time to 9th April, 1998. He stated that a decision regarding the Dail Constituencies were to be published by the end of March.

Councillor Loughmane stated that the date should be extended by at least 30 days.

The Chairman stated that the Members must decide and forward a submission accordingly. He stated that this item should be discussed by the Area Committees. Upon notification being received prior to 14/4/1998 of the Galway East/West Constituencies being re-drawn, the County Secretary would notify the Chairpersons of the Area Committees to arrange appropriate meetings. The Chairman proposed that this item would be placed on the agenda for the next meeting on 14/4/1998, and the County Secretary make an application for an extension of time. Councillor Mullins seconded this proposal and the Members agreed to same.

REVISED SPEED LIMITS BYE-LAWS 1998

4779

The County Secretary referred to Report dated 13/3/1998 which had been circulated to each Member. On the proposal of Councillor Mullins, seconded by Councillor Mannion the Members agreed to the adoption of the revised Road Traffic (Speed Limits) County Galway Bye-Laws 1998, in accordance with the Roads Act 1993. The Members asked as to when the next review of the speed limits would take place. Councillor Fahy queried whether the speed limits would be reviewed in conjunction with the Town Area Plans.

The Manager replied stating that a review of the speed limits has been completed. A further review should not take place within the next two/three years.

Councillor Loughnane proposed that a review of speed limits on non-national roads would take place every year and on national roads every two years.

The County Engineer stated that the need for an annual review of the speed limits may not be as strong as first anticipated, considering the major review that has just been completed. However, it is intended that both categories of roads will be reviewed on a bi-annual basis.

1998 BURIAL GROUND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME 4780

The Members were circulated with Report outlining the Burial Grounds Programme for 1998. The Council agreed to the Burial Ground Programme on the proposal of Senator McDonagh, seconded by An Comhairleoir Ni Fhatharta.

An Comhairleoir Ni Fhatharta asked that the building of wall at Kilbricken burial ground be proceeded with as soon as possible.

Senator McDonagh stated that it is now becoming increasingly difficult for Local Authorities and Local Communities to acquire land. He called on the Government to increase the funds available to Local Authorities.

Councillor O'Neill stated that an area of confusion exists between development and maintenance of burial grounds. He asked that in future the Council should not open any burial grounds without the necessary infrastructure being in place, i.e. footpaths etc. In the case of existing burial grounds, a 50% grant should be made available to local communities to provide footpaths, and where possible assistance from FAS in regard to this work. Councillor Varley agreed with the sentiments expressed by Councillor O'Neill.

CONFERENCES

4782

On the recommendation of the Finance Committee, it was proposed by Cllr. J. Mannion, seconded by Senator McDonagh and agreed that the attendance of the

following members be approved at the conferences set out hereunder, an estimate of the cost per delegate for attendance at the conferences having been circulated to each member.

LAMA Conference - Wexford - 16/18 April, 1998

Cllr. T. Walsh

1798 - A Bicentennial Perspective - Dublin Castle - 21/23 May, 1998

Cllr. M. Loughnane

Cllr. M. Fahy

Cllr. T. Hussey

Cllr. M. Cunningham

Sen. J. McDonagh

Cllr. P. McHugh

Cllr. T. Byrne

NOMINATION OF DELEGATES TO ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF LIBRARY ASSOC OF IRELAND **4783**

On the proposal of Senator McDonagh, seconded by Councillor Mullins, it was agreed that the following delegates be approved to attend the Library Association of Ireland Annual Conference:-

Cllr. T. Walsh

Cllr. M. Fahy

Mr. Frank Donohue

MANAGER'S BUSINESS **4784**

Urban & Village Renewal Grants 1998

The County Secretary informed the Members that notification had been received from the Department of the Environment of the Council's Urban and Village Renewal Grants for 1998. The Members noted and welcomed same.

Group Water Schemes

The County Secretary stated that a Circular Letter dated 18th March 1998 regarding the upgrading and development of Group Water Schemes had been received. A copy will be circulated to each Member.

Councillor W. Burke queried the present situation regarding the Cappataggle Group Water Scheme, and estimated costs for the scheme. He stated that £200,000 subvention money has been made available for this scheme under Cohesion funds.

Mr. Nelson, Assistant County Manager stated that he would check with the Department and notify the Members accordingly. Mr. Nelson confirmed that the Sanitary Services Programme for 1998 is being prepared and will be presented to the Members at the April Meeting.

Councillor Quimm stated that the Council's Sanitary Services Office is under-staffed and proposed that the staff compliment be increased.

April Monthly Meeting

The County Secretary informed the Members that a joint meeting with the Members of Galway Corporation will be held in the Ardilaun House Hotel on Monday, 27th April, 1998. Presentations will be given in connection with the Land Use and Transportation Study and the Waste Management Strategy, for both Galway City and County.

Planning Seminar - Inis Mor

The Members were informed of a Planning Seminar to be held on Inis Mor, Aran Islands on 27th and 28th March, 1998, and advised to contact the County Secretary if interested in attending.

CHAIRMAN'S BUSINESS

4785

The Chairman reminded the Members of conference entitled - EU Structural and Cohesion Funds Post 1999 Period organised by Galway County Council, to be held on Monday 30th March, 1998 in Ballinasloe, and urged the Members to attend this conference.

Tuam Town Hall

Councillor J. Burke expressed regret that Tuam Town Hall was unsuccessful in its application for a conservation grant.

NOTICE OF MOTIONS

N.O.M. NO. 14 - ROAD IMPROVEMENTS - CLLR. T. WALSH

4786

The following written reply was given to Councillor Walsh:-

"These bends are not included for improvement in the Five Year Road Plan. Widening them would be very expensive and the work would not have high enough priority in the light of current funding and other needs.

Additional signage will be put in place to highlight the bends."

N.O.M. NO. 15 - TRAFFIC CALMING MEASURES - CLLR. J. BURKE

4787

The following written reply was given to Councillor J. Burke:-

- "(a) The National Roads Authority has a five year plan for lining and signing on National Routes. The location in question is part of the N17 and it will be considered along with the rest of these routes as part of the contract which is currently being prepared. It is possible that the National Roads Authority may schedule the N17 for lining and signage next year.*
- (b) The provision of repeater signs inside the speed limit area will be examined.*
- (c) There are no funds allocated for traffic route lighting at this location this year.*
- (d) Appropriate sign will be erected."*

N.O.M. NO. 16 - SIGNS - CLLR. M. CUNNINGHAM 4788

The following written reply was given to Councillor Cunningham:-

"Signage will be augmented and improved."

N.O.M. NO. 17 - ROAD IMPROVEMENTS - CLLR. M. CUNNINGHAM 4789

The following written reply was given to Councillor Cunningham:-

"There are two Gortard junctions off the Clarinbridge Moyville Road. Signage is being improved and improvement in sight distance will be effected at the more easterly junction.

Any further improvements could only be done if Notice of Motion funding became available."

N.O.M. NO. 18 - SLIEVAUN TARAMUID G.W.S. - CLLR. M. CUNNINGHAM 4790

The following written reply was given to Councillor Cunningham:-

"The Council are in discussion with the trustees of Taramuid No. 2 Group Water Scheme, whose consent is required to allow the supply of water to the proposed Slievaun Taramuid Group Water Scheme. As the Council are awaiting funding from the Department of the Environment for the 1998 programme, no date can yet be given for the commencement of works on new group water schemes."

N.O.M. 19 - REMOVAL OF DANGEROUS WALL - CLLR. M. FAHY 4791

The following written reply was given to Councillor Fahy:-

"There are no improvement works scheduled in the 1998 Roadworks Programme for this location. The wall which retains substantial clay banks could be removed if

Notice of Motion funding was allocated. This would be subject to the landowner dedicating any land required free of charge and not requiring accommodation works."

N.O.M. NO. 20 - TRAFFIC LIGHTS - CLLR. M. FAHY 4792

The following written reply was given to Councillor Fahy:-

"The provision of traffic lights at this location is not considered appropriate."

N.O.M. NO. 21 - SIGNS - CLLR. M. FAHY 4793

The following written reply was given to Councillor Fahy:-

"The roads concerned are public roads and it would not be appropriate to erect signs restricting the type of traffic allowed to use them."

N.O.M. NO. 22 - TULLYVEALNASLEE G.W.S. - CLLR. S. GAVIN 4794

The following written reply was given to Councillor Gavin:-

"There is ongoing discussions between the County Council and the trustees design engineer as regard the scope of the Tullyvealnaslee group water supply scheme."

N.O.M. NO. 23 - ROAD IMPROVEMENTS - CLLR. S. GAVIN 4795

"The provision of traffic lights at this location is not considered appropriate."

"This road is being actively considered for improvement as part of the five year plan for National Secondary roads which is being prepared at present and will be submitted for consideration to the Area Committees of the Council in due course. In the meantime the matter of the hedge will be investigated with a view to having it cut back if possible."

N.O.M. NO. 24 - CLAUGHAUN BRIDGE - CLLR. S. GAVIN 4796

The following written reply was given to Councillor Gavin:-

"There are no works scheduled at Claughaun Bridge this year."

N.O.M. NO. 25 - ROAD IMPROVEMENTS - CLLR. M. LOUGHNANE 4797

The following written reply was given to Councillor Loughnane:-

"Grass has been cleared back and it is proposed to provide a soak pit at the location as soon as possible. This should improve the situation. There are no proposals for passing bays or surface dressing."

N.O.M. NO. 26 - TRAFFIC CALMING MEASURES - 4798
CLLR. M. LOUGHNANE

The following written reply was given to Councillor Loughnane:-

"The National Roads Authority is compiling a five year programme for lining and signage on National Routes. The Council is preparing a contract for submission to the National Roads Authority in respect of the N6. This junction will be examined along with all others on the N6 as part of this."

N.O.M. NO. 27 - ROUTE LIGHTING - CLLR. M. 4799
LOUGHNANE

The following written reply was given to Councillor Loughnane:-

"The lights have been switched on and are now operational."

N.O.M. NO. 28 - IMPROVEMENT WORKS - SEN. J. 4800
MCDONAGH

The following written reply was given to Senator McDonagh:-

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

N.O.M. NO. 29 - ROAD IMPROVEMENTS - SEN. J. 4801
MCDONAGH

The following written reply was given to Senator McDonagh:-

"The entire N17 is included in the National Roads Authority's five year plan for lining and signage on National Routes. A contract is being prepared by the Council for the portion of this route within County Galway and the provision of turning lanes will be considered for this and other junctions. There is a possibility that the N17 may be done next year."

N.O.M. NO. 30 - ROAD IMPROVEMENTS - SEN. J. 4802
MCDONAGH

The following written reply was given to Senator McDonagh:-

"No funding has been allocated for this section of road in this years programme."

N.O.M. NO. 31 - CASTLE VIEW ESTATE, HEADFORD - 4803
CLLR. P. MCHUGH

The following written reply was given to Councillor McHugh:-

"The Council does not intend to erect play equipment in the open space. Parking is prohibited at junctions but unfortunately motorists sometimes ignore the prohibition and it is up to the Gardai to enforce the law in this matter.

A Sign (sign 136) warning of children will be erected.

It is not Council policy to erect ramps or ripples in housing estates.

The wall referred to is private property."

N.O.M. NO. 32 - FLASHING LIGHTS - CLLR. P. 4804
MCHUGH

The following written reply was given to Councillor McHugh:-

"The school is not included for flashing lights in the 1998 Roadworks Programme. There are limited funds available each year for these lights and priority is given to schools on National and Regional roads where there is a large volume of fast moving traffic. This location is inside a speed limit and would have relatively low priority."

N.O.M. NO. 33 - SIGN - CLLR. P. MCHUGH 4805

The following written reply was given to Councillor McHugh:-

"The Council through its Tuam Area Office will arrange for the erection of the sign."

N.O.M. NO. 34 - BOTHAR - AN COMH. C. NI 4806
FHATHARTA

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

"Níl an bhóthar seo ar an gClár Oibre 1998. Mar sin níl airgead ar fáil chun obair feabhasacháin a dhéanamh. Déanfar gnath obair deisiuchán de réir mar a bheidh airgead ar fáil"

N.O.M. NO. 35 - BOTHAR - AN COMH. C. NI 4807
FHATHARTA

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

"Tá muid ag scrúdú an cás seo faoi láthar agus beidh freagra againn le haghaidh an chéad cruinniú eile"

N.O.M. NO. 36 - COMHARTAI SCOILE - AN COMH. C. 4808
NI FHATHARTA

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

"Tá na gnáth comharthai scoile in áit ag an scoil seo. Ceaptar nach bhfuil gá le níos mó sinithé."

N.O.M. NO. 37 - ROAD IMPROVEMENTS - CLLR. J. 4809
CONNELLY

The following written reply was given to Councillor Conneely:-

"This road is not included in the 1998 Roadworks Programme. Footpaths would cost an estimated £9,000. Lighting would cost in the region of £3,000. There are no funds available for this work."

N.O.M. NO. 38 - ROAD IMPROVEMENTS - CLLR. J. 4810
CONNELLY

The following written reply was given to Councillor Conneely:-

"This road is not included in the 1998 Roadworks Programme. One public light will be erected this year."

N.O.M. NO. 39 - PIER AT ROUNDSTONE - CLLR. J. 4811
CONNELLY

The following written reply was given to Councillor Conneely:-

"It is recommended that the Council do not get involved in the placing of power points on the Pier at Roundstone on public liability grounds."

N.O.M. NO. 40 - ROAD IMPROVEMENTS - CLLR. M. 4812
REGAN

The following written reply was given to Councillor Regan:-

"There is a school sign reading "caution children" on each approach road to the school. It was not possible to include this location in the 1998 school flashing lights programme."

N.O.M. NO. 41 - ROAD IMPROVEMENTS - CLLR. T. 4813
WALSH

The following written reply was given to Councillor Walsh:-

"This road is in reasonable condition. It is not included in the 1998 Roadworks Programme for improvement."

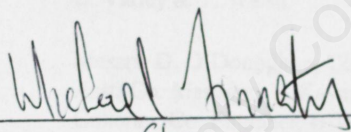
N.O.M. NO. 42 - ROAD IMPROVEMENTS - CLLR. T. WALSH 4814

The following written reply was given to Councillor Walsh:-

"It is hoped to carry out some improvement works on the road at this junction this year. The hollow will be raised which should improve the situation."

CHRIOCHNAIGH AN CRUINNIU ANSIN

Submitted, Approved + Signed: _____



Chairman

27/4/98

Date

COMHAIRLE CHONTAE NA GAILLIMHE

**MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING OF GALWAY
COUNTY COUNCIL HELD AT COUNCIL OFFICES,
TUAM ROAD, GALWAY ON FRIDAY, 13TH MARCH,
1998**

Cathaoirleach:-

Councillor M. Finnerty

Cllrs. J. Brennan, J. Burke, W. Burke, T. Byrne,
J. Callanan, J. Connelly, M. Cunningham, M. Fahy,
P. Finnegan, S. Gavin, T. Hussey, M. Loughnane,
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. Regan,
E. Varley & T. Walsh.

Oifigigh:-

Messrs. D. O'Donoghue, Co. Manager, D. Nelson,
Asst. Co. Manager, T. Kavanagh, Co. Secretary, J.
Colleran, Co. Engineer, L. Gavin, P. Ridge, J.
Eising, S.E.E.'s & P. Carroll, S.S.O.

Alan Barr of Kirk McClure & Morton
& Pat Duggan, Project Co-ordinator of Lough Derg
& Lough Ree Management System

Thosnaigh an crinniu leis an paidir.

RESOLUTION OF SYMPATHY

4761

The Members extended their deepest sympathy to Councillor T. Hussey on the death of his Brother-in Law.

A Resolution of Sympathy was also passed with:-

The family of Mr. Joe Dolan, Ardrahan

Former Councillor Nicholas O'Connor on the death of his father Nicholas O'Connor Snr.

**REPORT ON SPC SUB-COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD ON 2nd MARCH, 1998**

4762

The Chairman advised that Members had until 5.00 p.m. to indicate the SPC of their choice and to state their second, third preference, etc. on Option Forms which had been circulated to each Member.

The County Secretary confirmed that he had an advertisement drafted inviting applications for representation on SPCs from interested Groups/Organisations and that application forms would be available for completion by these Groups/Organisations. He stated that the applications received would be examined by the SPC Sub-Committee who would decide as to which group applicants may be allocated. He confirmed that where there was a number of applications from one of the fifteen sectors/groups, that sector/group must agree amongst themselves their nominee.

Deputy McCormack asked whether the establishment of SPCs would result in all of the Council's Sub-Committees being abolished. He stated that the nominee from the Arts/Heritage/Irish Language Groups to be represented on the Cultural, Corporate and General Services Committee will replace the present National Monuments Committee and that the expertise of an individual on the National Monuments Committee, if not nominated to the SPC will be lost.

Councillor Walsh stated that where there is a need to go to the second preferences of Members to determine membership of a particular SPC that there will be difficulties as there will be a sizeable number of second preferences for particular SPCs. He felt that a better method was required to avoid controversy. He stated that it would be helpful before any decision is taken to clarify the method by which the composition of the SPCs are arrived at, and that the method of selection of Members to the SPCs needs to be clearly understood by all to avoid controversy.

The Chairman stated that 8 of 13 Members who had submitted their Option Forms to-date had opted for membership of the Roads, Transportation and Safety Committee. He stated that Members now had the opportunity to decide the composition of these Committees and to develop them over time. He confirmed that the establishment of SPCs would mean that other Committees of the Council would be abolished, but that enabling legislation was not expected until September, 1998.

Councillor Hussey stated that discussion on this matter should be deferred pending the Meeting of the SPC Sub-Committee, immediately following this Special Meeting.

**CONFIRMATION OF APPOINTMENT OF
CHAIRPERSONS OF SPCs**

4763

On the proposal of Councillor Mannion, seconded by Councillor Regan, the Members confirmed the appointment of the Chairpersons of the five SPCs as set out in Report of SPC Sub-Committee Meeting of 2nd March, 1998.

**CONSIDERATION OF SUBMISSION TO THE
ELECTORAL AREA BOUNDARY COMMITTEE**

4764

The County Secretary outlined the details of a Circular Letter from the Department of the Environment and Local Government which had been circulated to the Members regarding a review of Local Electoral Area Boundaries, and which invited written submissions from Local Authorities on the matters within the terms of reference of the Electoral Area Boundary Committee. He stated that Members might consider setting up a Sub-Committee to consider any changes to local electoral areas.

He indicated that the possibility of aligning local electoral area boundaries with Dail Constituency boundaries was included in the terms of reference of the Electoral Area Boundary Committee.

Councillor W. Burke proposed that there be no change to the existing local electoral areas and this was seconded by Councillor Fahy. An Comhairleoir O'Neachtain stated that Members should examine electoral areas from the point of view of natural boundaries and agreed that a small sub-committee should be established to examine and consider any changes to local electoral areas.

The County Manager stated that the Council had examined Engineering Areas previously and that the Sub-Committee should also include a review of Engineering Areas and decentralisation of services in its deliberations.

Councillor McHugh stated that any decision on changes to local electoral areas should be postponed until the Dail Commission Report on Constituency Boundaries is published.

Councillor Hussey stated that it would be worse if Members did not make a submission and that Tuam Electoral Area could lose a Member unless its population is increased.

The County Secretary stated that the last review of Electoral Areas took place in 1985 where the Boundary Commission allowed a deviation of up to 10% from the average, but that this may not be the position for the present review.

Councillor Walsh stated that a change in one Electoral Area would affect another Electoral Area.

Following a discussion, it was agreed that Area Committee Meetings would be arranged before 20th March, 1998 and that the decision of each Electoral Area would be forwarded to the County Secretary. It was further agreed that a Meeting of all five Area Committee Chairpersons would take place on Monday, 23rd March, 1998 at 3.00 p.m. in Merlin Park to review the decision of each of the Area Committees.

**PRESENTATION ON LOUGH DERG & LOUGH REE 4765
CATCHMENT MONITORING AND MANAGEMENT
SYSTEM**

The Chairman welcomed Mr. Pat Duggan, Project Director and Dr. Alan Barr (Kirk McClure Morton Consulting Engineers).

Mr. Duggan stated that the Monitoring and Management System for Lough Derg and Lough Ree Catchment involved nine Local Authorities who were directly involved in the management of the project and each had a representative on the Management Group. He proceeded to give an overview of the project, the purpose of which is to address the problem of loss of water quality and to curb nutrient enrichment in the lakes and to return both Lough Derg and Lough Ree to a satisfactory quality, through investment of £39m by the nine Local Authorities.

He stated that while the Local Authorities lead the project, the project is supported by the Department of the Environment and Local Government and outside Agencies have been invited to participate in the project. The monitoring and Management system is in place to provide Local Authorities with a system to manage water quality on an on-going basis.

Dr. Alan Barr identified five elements of the project.

- (a) Geographical Information System - a management system to circulate and analyse data by each Local Authority in the same manner. This will necessitate the installation of a computer system in each Local Authority.
- (b) Monitoring System which it has been agreed will be established in Roscommon Town. The system will require input from Local Authorities and the E.P.A. on sampling results.
- (c) Sub Catchment Studies.
- (d) Nutrient Management Plan to be implemented by Teagasc.
- (e) Public consultation where it would be desirable to identify points of concern which could be incorporated into the initial stage of the project.

Councillor W. Burke welcomed the project and the scientific evidence which would result, thereby making a case for further improvements to the lakes. He queried as to how much pollution is going into Upper Lough Derg, and whether there would be a follow-on from the project.

Councillor J. Burke asked what percentage of improvements in the quality of water would be expected over the duration of the project.

The County Engineer stated that the project was extremely important in identifying pollution hot-spots. He queried what would be the cost of on-going maintenance for each Local Authority.

Mr. Duggan in reply stated that the percentage improvement in water quality over the period of the project was unknown, but the target was that there would be no further deterioration in water quality. He confirmed that the monitoring costs for each Local Authority would be in the region of £40,000 p.a.

The Chairman thanked Mr. Duggan and Mr. Barr for their Presentation.

COUNTY MANAGER'S BUSINESS

4766

The County Manager informed the Members of a recent Grant offer for Islands Development totalling £200,000, which had been received from the Minister of State, Department of Arts, Heritage, Gaeltacht and the Islands. However, he added that this grant offer was subject to co-financing of the works by the Council.

Councillor Gavin welcomed the allocation but expressed concern that the Council would have to come up with £200,000 that had not been budgeted for in the estimates.

The Chairman added that the time may come when grant offers may have to be refused due to co-financing stipulations.

Councillor McClearn stated that the Minister of State had been a Member of Galway County Council and should know well the difficulties that a Local Authority has in coming up with co-financing.

The County Manager stated that the Department has indicated that in future the Council would be notified of allocations before estimates are prepared in order to allow provision for co-financing in the Estimates.

CHAIRMAN'S BUSINESS

4767

It was agreed that a date for the April Planning Meeting would be agreed at the Monthly Meeting on 23rd March, 1998.

CONFERENCES

4768

On the recommendation of the Finance Committee, it was proposed by Councillor Mannion, seconded by Senator McDonagh, and agreed that the attendance of the following Members be approved at the Conferences set out hereunder, the costs of the Conferences having been circulated to each Member:-

Association of Health Boards in Ireland Conference - Talbot Hotel, Wexford -
1/2 May, 1998

Cllr. J. Conneely
Cllr. K. Quinn
Cllr. T. Byrne
Cllr. P. O'Sullivan

Cllr. M. Finnerty
Sen. J. McDonagh
Cllr. M. Mullins
Cllr. M. O'Neill

Cllr. P. Finnegan
Cllr. C. Ni Fhatharta
Cllr. M. Cunningham

CHRIOCHNAIGH AN CRUINNIU ANSIN

Submitted, Approved + Signed:

Michael Hurst

Chairman

27 April 1998

Date

RESOLUTIONS OF SYMPATHY

4705

The Members expressed their deepest sympathy to Mr. Liam Gavin, S.E.E. on the death of both of his Parents.

The Mayor on behalf of the Staff and on his own behalf wished to be associated with the Resolution of Sympathy to Mr. Gavin.

A Resolution of Sympathy was also passed with the following:-

Gonagh Mary Hyland, Birmingham House, Tuam, Co. Galway
Pat Horne, Derrymullen, Ballinasloe, Co. Galway.

COMHAIRLE CHONTAE NA GAILLIMHE

**MINUTES OF MONTHLY MEETING OF GALWAY
COUNTY COUNCIL HELD AT MERLIN PARK, GALWAY
ON MONDAY, 23rd FEBRUARY, 1998**

CATHAOIRLEACH: *An Comhairleoir M. Finnerty*

ILATHAIR FREISIN:

Baill:

Cllrs. J. Brennan, J. Burke, W. Burke, T. Byrne, J. Callanan, J. Conneely, M. Cunningham, M. Fahy, P. Finnegan, 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, K. Quim, M. Regan, M. Ryan, E. Varley & T. Walsh.

Oifigigh:

Messrs. D. O'Donoghue, Co. Manager, D. Nelson, J. Tierney, Asst. Co. Managers, J. Colleran, Co. Engineer, L. Kavanagh, S.E.E., T. Kavanagh, Co. Secretary, E. Hourigan, A/Staff Officer.

Thosnaigh an crinniu leis an paidir.

RESOLUTIONS OF SYMPATHY

4705

The Members extended their deepest sympathy to Mr. Liam Gavin, S.E.E. on the death of both of his Parents.

The Manager on behalf of the Staff and on his own behalf wished to be associated with the Resolution of Sympathy to Mr. Gavin.

A Resolution of Sympathy was also passed with the following:-

*Oonagh Mary Hyland, Birmingham House, Tuam, Co. Galway
Pat Harte, Derrymullen, Ballinasloe, Co. Galway.*

MINUTES

4706

The Minutes of the Special Meeting held on the 9th January, 1998 were approved by the Council and signed by the Chairman, on the proposal of Senator McDonagh, seconded by Councillor Ryan.

On the proposal of Councillor Finnegan, seconded by Councillor Mullins, the Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on the 26th January, 1998 were approved by the Council and signed by the Chairman.

The Report of the National Monuments Advisory Committee Meeting held on 13th January, 1998 was considered. It was adopted by the Council on the proposal of Councillor Hussey, seconded by Senator McDonagh.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Repair of Culvert - Minute No. 4667

Councillor Byrne requested a report on culvert at Kiltartan. Mr. Colleran, County Engineer confirmed that a report will be issued to Councillor Byrne shortly.

N.O.M. NO. 29 - Proposed Loughrea Sewerage Scheme - Minute No. 4679

Councillor Loughnane asked whether the Minister has provided funding for this scheme and starting date for same.

Mr. Nelson, Assistant County Manager replied stating that the Contract Documents will be forwarded to the Department for approval within the next month. The estimated cost of the scheme is £3m.

**AUDITORS REPORT FOR RIVER SUCK JOINT
DRAINAGE COMMITTEE**

4707

On the proposal of Councillor Quinn, seconded by Councillor Ryan, the Members noted the Auditors Report of the River Suck Joint Drainage Committee for year ended 31st December, 1996.

DECLARATION OF ROADS TO BE PUBLIC ROAD

4708

Having complied with the Provisions of Section 11 of the Roads Act 1993 and on the proposal of Councillor Mullins, seconded by Councillor Cunningham, the Members agreed to declare road commencing at junction with County Road 183 and extending north east for a distance of 60 metres in the townland of Frenchfort, in the Athenry Engineering area, to be a public road.

The Members also agreed that the road, commencing at junction with County Road cul-de-sac 176 and extending south east for a distance of 109 metres in the townland of Lakeview in the Athenry area, be declared a public road, on the proposal of Senator McDonagh, seconded by Councillor Ryan, the provisions of Section 11 of the 1993 Roads Act having been complied with.

**MATERIAL CONTRAVENTION OF DEVELOPMENT PLAN 4709
FOR THE SCHEDULED TOWN OF TUAM- OUTLINE
PERMISSION TO ERECT 23 NO. SERVICED DWELLINGS-
AT GALWAY ROAD IN THE TOWNLAND OF FARRANNAMARTIN
APPLICANT: MR BARRY EGAN PLANNING REF: 97/2236**

A report dated 18th February, 1998 was circulated to each Member. Mr. J. Colleran, County Engineer outlined the nature of the development as follows:

PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT The proposed development consists of an outline planning application for 23 houses which have been reduced subsequently to 19 houses following a request for further information.

LOCATION The site is located onto the Galway Road between the 30 and 40 m.p.h. speed limits. The lands partially front onto the road and also wrap around the rear boundary of existing residential development fronting onto the Galway Road.

PLANNING HISTORY Planning reference no. 9992 - Planning refused by Galway County Council and on appeal on prematurity of the services for a dwelling.

Planning reference no. 11910 - Planning refused for dwelling.

Planning reference no. 12944 - Planning refused for dwelling.

All applications refused on the grounds of prematurity of the services.

TUAM PLAN POLICY The current Development Plan for Tuam includes a zoning objective for the lands included in the proposal. This is to provide for agricultural development. This objective does not include for the permission of housing development at the proposed density.

ASSESSMENT: The site of the proposed development is located at Farranamartin. In layout it wraps itself around four low density houses fronting onto Galway Road. Three of the sites of the proposal front directly onto the public road and are of a detached nature. The balance, reduced to 16 semi-detached are accessed off the Galway Road and serviced by a cul-de-sac road. These houses are orientated onto the rear boundaries of the existing development but separated by a bank of open space. An area to the north east of the site has been kept free from development so as to facilitate any future access to lands in the event which could otherwise be landlocked by the proposal (as indicated by a third-party). The area of the site is 3.5

acres and the development would result in a medium density development of approximately 6 houses/acre.

CONTEXT: The site of the proposal is located within the 40 m.p.h. speed limit of Tuam. Development in the vicinity is of a mixed nature - medium density housing, industrial uses, commercial uses. The part of the site fronting onto the Galway Road would effectively amount to infill along a suburban street. The lands to the rear immediately adjoin existing development both to the south and to the west.

SERVICES: The lands can connect into the town sewer and can be serviced also by the town water supply.

TRAFFIC: The development exits onto the public road at a point where a 40 m.p.h. speed limit exists. It is the policy of the Planning Authority to permit development within this speed limit on the N.17. The Road Design Section of the County Council and the Tuam area office have considered the entrance acceptable.

ZONING: The site as previously mentioned is located on lands zoned for agricultural purposes. The proposal therefore would not comply with the terms of this zoning objective which only provides for residential development at very low densities.

MERITS OF THE DEVELOPMENT: The Tuam Plan is currently under review and the present zoning may not reflect the most desired use for these lands.

Taken into context this development is located within the existing urban area of Tuam. The proposed development would be a more appropriate use for the lands than to maintain existing agricultural land use zoning. Part of the site is fronting onto a main thoroughfare and would amount to infill between existing residential/industrial use. The density proposed at this point would be similar to existing adjoining residential development and would therefore assimilate with same.

The development to the rear of this line of building would be a density similar to existing housing estate development and permitted housing estate development in the immediate vicinity. It would be of such a layout that in conjunction with an existing line of mature trees and judiciously located open space not cause injury to the amenities of the adjacent development.

The proposed lands can be easily accessed off the N.17 and can also be easily serviced by the public sewer and watermain. This therefore represents good use of public infrastructure and makes for orderly development of the town. The proposal also reserves a portion of land within the site free from development so as to afford access to lands to the south east which would be serviced and which could be re-zoned for development in future plans.

OBJECTIONS: One objection was received during the processing of this application. This was from a landowner to the south east (Frawley's) who requested that an access to their lands be provided from the proposed development so as not to

landlock their property in the interests of potential future development. The applicant has consequently amended his layout to accord for same.

A further submission was received by this third party on 3rd February 1998. This party requested that a condition be attached to any grant of planning permission to include for an obligation on the owner to provide for a right-of-way to the 3rd party lands - this is not feasible nor desirable in a planning permission. He also requested that the Planning Authority impose a condition that the Local Authority would take the access road in charge. Again this would not be desirable as it would place an obligation on the Local Authority to take the road in charge regardless of standard.

STATUTORY CONSIDERATION: A decision to grant permission cannot be made until 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 13th January 1998 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 with suitable conditions, otherwise a decision to refuse permission must issue.

The latest date for a decision on this application is 12 March 1998."

Councillor Joe Burke called for the Tuam Town Plan to be reviewed as soon as possible to reduce the number material contraventions.

The County Manager stated that the best use of the said land was for the proposed housing development and that the area of the site was quite adequate for such a development.

Deputy P. McCormack stated that the sooner the town plans were reviewed the less pressure would be on the Public Representatives to have material contraventions passed.

Councillor Joe Burke proposed that having considered the Planning Application made by Mr. Barry Egan for outline planning permission for the construction of twenty three serviced houses, subsequently reduced to 19, in the townland of Farranamartin - Planning ref. 97/2236, and having considered the Report dated 18th February, 1998 on the matter, Galway County Council in accordance with the provisions of Section 26(3) of the Local Government (Planning and Development) Act, 1976, as amended by Section 45 of the Local Government Act, 1991, hereby require that a decision to grant outline permission be made in the case of this application. Councillor Finnegan seconded this proposal. A vote was then taken which resulted as follows:

AR SON:

Cllrs. J. Burke, W. Burke, T. Byrne, J. Callanan, J. Conneely,

M. Cunningham, M. Fahy, P. Finnegan, M. Finnerty, S. Gavin, T. Hussey, M. Loughnane, J. Mannion, J. McClearn, Deputy P. McCormack, Senator J. McDonagh, Cllrs. P. McHugh, M. Mullins, C. Ni Fhatharta, S. O'Neachtain, P. O'Sullivan, K. Quinn, M. Regan, M. Ryan & E. Varley. (25)

IN AGHAIDH: -----

The Chairman declared the Motion carried.

**MATERIAL CONTRAVENTION OF DEVELOPMENT PLAN 4710
FOR THE SCHEDULED TOWN OF TUAM- OUTLINE
PERMISSION FOR 40. NO. HOUSES AND ASSOCIATED
CIVIL AND DRAINAGE WORKS -
APPLICANT: MR RIOCARD BROWNE PLANNING REF: 97/2211**

A report dated 18th February, 1998 was circulated to each Member. Mr. J. Colleran, County Engineer outlined the nature of the development as follows:

"PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT: *The proposed development consists of outline planning application for 40 houses which has subsequently been revised down to 37 houses.*

LOCATION: *The site is located on Weir Road within the plan boundary of the Scheduled town of Tuam, the lands are zoned for agriculture use.*

PLANNING HISTORY: *There has been no previous planning application on the site.*

ASSESSMENT: *The site of the proposal is located approximately 400 metres to the North East of the junction of the Weir Road and the Galway Road. The site is an open field, 3.016 hectares in area. The proposal includes for 37 houses (revised following request by Planning Authority for revisions to layout). This would result in a medium density of development i.e. between 5 - 6 houses per acre. The resultant density would allow for sufficiently large sites to facilitate single storey developments.*

The layout consists of a main access road with four spur roads broken up by usable banks of open space.

LAND USE: *The Tuam Plan has zoned these lands for agricultural purposes. The proposal therefore of a housing estate would not be acceptable within the terms of the Plan as the development would contravene the zoning which only provides for residential development at low densities (0.5 acre).*

CONTEXT: *The site is located close to the built up areas of Tuam Town and with ease of access onto the Galway Road (N17). Along this road there are a mix of uses. There are industrial, commercial and high density housing development towards the*

town and a mix of agricultural, industrial, institutional and low density housing going towards the north east (outskirts).

SERVICES: The lands can be serviced by the town water supply and can be linked into the town sewer. This has been assessed by the Sanitary Services Section and considered acceptable.

TRAFFIC: The site is located outside of the 30 m.p.h. speed limit along a County Road. The traffic implications have been assessed by the Council and there is no objection to the development subject to specific works being carried out along the road frontage to provide for future road widening, a footpath and a setback building line.

MERITS OF THE DEVELOPMENT: The Tuam Plan is currently under review and therefore the present zoning may not reflect the most desired use of these lands.

Taken into context, this development is located adjacent to the built up areas of Tuam Town and is therefore a logical extension of the urban areas. The Council has recently anticipated this by refusing an application for warehousing, planning reference no. 96/2321 which included a consideration that it would prejudice against more positive use of the available lands on the southern end of the Weir Road i.e. housing.

The lands can be serviced and access has been considered acceptable.

To maintain the existing zoning would result in more pressure for one off housing in the area which is not conducive to orderly development and which would not be the best use of serviceable land and hence most economic use of public investment.

To allow for a development as proposed would facilitate the transition from the built up area to a rural area. The proposal having a medium density and a restriction to a single storey design and landscaping requirements.

No objections have been received during the course of the application or subsequent to public advertisement of the intention by the Council to consider granting an outline planning permission for the development.

STATUTORY CONSIDERATION: A decision to grant permission cannot be made until 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 16th January 1998 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 with suitable conditions, otherwise a decision to refuse permission must issue.

The latest date for a decision on this application is 15th March 1998."

Councillor Joe Burke proposed that having considered the Planning Application made by Mr. Riocard Browne for outline planning permission for the construction of 40 serviced houses subsequently reduced to 37 at Weir Road, Tuam, in the townland of Killaloonty - Planning ref. 97/2211, and having considered the Report dated 18th February, 1998 on the matter, Galway County Council in accordance with the provisions of Section 26(3) of the Local Government (Planning and Development) Act, 1976, as amended by Section 45 of the Local Government Act, 1991, hereby require that a decision to grant outline permission be made in the case of this application. Councillor Kathleen Quinn seconded this proposal. A vote was then taken which resulted as follows:

AR SON:

Cllrs. J. Brennan, J. Burke, W. Burke, T. Byrne, J. Callanan, J. Conneely, M. Cunningham, M. Fahy, P. Finnegan, M. Finnerty, S. Gavin, T. Hussey, M. Loughnane, J. Mannion, J. McClearn, Deputy P. McCormack, Senator J. McDonagh, P. McHugh, M. Mullins, C. Ni Fhatharta, S. O'Neachtain, P. O'Sullivan, K. Quinn, M. Regan, M. Ryan & E. Varley. (26)

IN AGHAIDH: -----

The Chairman declared the Motion carried.

**MATERIAL CONTRAVENTION OF DEVELOPMENT PLAN 4711
FOR THE SCHEDULED TOWN OF GORT- APPLICATION
FOR PLANNING PERMISSION FOR HOUSING
DEVELOPMENT (22 NO. HOUSES AND ASSOCIATED
SERVICES) AT BALLYHUGH, GORT
APPLICANT: MAGHERALAND LTD. PLANNING REF: 97/2075**

A report dated 18th February, 1998 was circulated to each Member. Mr. J. Colleran, County Engineer outlined the nature of the development as follows:

"PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT: The proposed development is for the construction of 18 houses (reduced from 22 following a request for further information) on a site adjacent to Church Street, Gort.

GORT DEVELOPMENT PLAN: The current development plan for Gort has zoned the lands on which the proposal is located for agricultural purposes. The proposal a housing development of medium density would not comply with this zoning objective which only facilitates residential development of a low density nature i.e. 0.5 acre per house.

PLANNING HISTORY: *There has been no previous planning application on the lands.*

ASSESSMENT:

DESCRIPTION: *The site of the proposal is located on lands to the rear of Church Street, Gort and with provision for a pedestrian access onto same. The site is 1.36 ha. and the original submission included for a development of 22 houses. This has been revised to 18 no. detached houses distributed on both sides of a cul-de-sac access road with provision for 2 pockets of open space. The development is of medium density at approximately 6 houses/acre. The house types are dormer bungalows, 100m² in floor area with stone finish.*

CONTEXT: *The site is located to the rear of development along Church Street and to the south east of a housing development under consideration (O'Grady Development) and sharing an access road with same. To the east and south are unused lands.*

SERVICES: *The lands can be linked into the public sewers via the development to the north and can avail of a water supply through these lands also.*

ACCESS: *The access to the site is not ideal as it is through a residential site resulting in a 460 metre cul-de-sac. The possibility of forming a more direct access onto the public road was investigated but did not result in any suitable alternative.*

MERITS OF THE DEVELOPMENT: *The Gort Plan is currently under review and therefore the present zoning may not reflect the most desirable use for the lands.*

Taken in context the development is located adjoining the built up areas of Gort and to the north adjoining a new housing development. The lands therefore are located between urban type development and lend themselves suitably to similar uses - in particular residential, being to the rear of the commercial frontage and with a pedestrian link available to same. Such use at this location would be of such a remove from rear boundaries of existing properties and so located as to not cause any conflict between uses or reduction in amenity. The lands are easily serviced and therefore form a logical expansion of the urban area.

The density of the development would be appropriate in the context of the scale of Gort and the prevailing density in the development to the north. The layout includes for the re-use of existing stone wall materials thereby continuing a link with previous walled garden areas. The pedestrian link to Church Street would prove an advantageous link to shops, schools, etc., thereby avoiding unnecessary car travel within the town.

OBJECTIONS: *No objections to the development have been received.*

STATUTORY CONSIDERATION: *A decision to grant permission cannot be made until 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 13th January 1998 and the notice invited members of the public to submit representations or objections if they so wished. No objections were received.

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

The latest date for a decision on this application is 12 March 1998."

Councillor Michael Regan proposed that having considered the Planning Application made by Magheraland Ltd. for planning permission for the construction of twenty two houses, subsequently reduced to 18, and associated services at Ballyhugh, Gort - Planning Ref. 2075, and having considered the Report dated 18th February, 1998 on the matter, Galway County Council in accordance with the provisions of Section 26(3) of the Local Government (Planning and Development) Act, 1976, as amended by Section 45 of the Local Government Act, 1991, hereby require that a decision to grant permission be made in the case of this application. Councillor Michael Cunningham seconded this proposal. A vote was then taken which resulted as follows:

ARSON:

Cllrs. J. Brennan, J. Burke, W. Burke, T. Byrne, J. Callanan, J. Conneely, M. Cunningham, M. Fahy, P. Finnegan, M. Finnerty, S. Gavin, T. Hussey, M. Loughnane, J. Mannion, J. McClearn, Deputy P. McCormack, Senator J. McDonagh, P. McHugh, M. Mullins, C. Ni Fhatharta, S. O'Neachtain, P. O'Sullivan, K. Quinn, M. Regan, M. Ryan & E. Varley. (26)

IN AGHAIDH: -----

The Chairman declared the Motion carried.

**REVIEW OF DEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR
GALWAY CITY**

4712

Deputy McCormack stated that Galway Corporation are currently reviewing the Development Plan for the City. Various meetings have been arranged throughout the city to discuss the plan with the general public, and make submissions in relation to same.

Councillor J. Burke stated that the review of the City's Development Plan is highly relevant to Galway County Council, and has serious implications for the County. He said that at present Galway City is developing at the expense of the County.

Councillor J. Burke requested that the County Engineer arrange for an examination of the Draft City Plan in order to see how it effects the County.

An Comhairleoir O'Neachtain stated that he agreed with the sentiments expressed by Councillor J. Burke. He said that the City's Draft Development Plan should be presented to this Council.

Councillor W. Burke raised the issue of developments which materially contravene the Development Plan.

The Manager replied stating that planning applications made to a local authority must conform to the proper planning and development of the area and provisions of the Development Plan. A development which materially contravenes the Development Plan can only be granted by resolution of the Council. The Manager confirmed that the Council is currently examining the City's Draft Development Plan, and if the Members wish, the matter would be placed on the agenda for further discussion.

Councillor J. Burke proposed that Corporation Officials be asked to attend the next Council Meeting to discuss the Draft City Plan. An Comhairleoir O'Neachtain seconded this proposal and the Members agreed to same.

REVIEW OF LOCAL ELECTORAL AREAS

4713

Councillor Fahy requested the County Secretary to write to the Department of the Environment in regard to the planned revision of the electoral areas, which is extremely important to the current and future elected Members.

An Comhairleoir O'Neachtain stated that this local authority should review the electoral areas and make submissions to the appropriate body. He highlighted the situation in the Galway Rural Electoral Area, which is greatly influenced by the increased population in the city area.

The Manager replied stating that according to media reports, the Minister for the Environment has established two committees to review the electoral areas, (a) in the Dublin area and (b) in other local authority areas, written submissions to be made to the Committees by 31st March, 1998.

Deputy McCormack said that the changes will occur whether the Council makes submissions or not. The Committees findings are to be furnished to the Minister by the 1st July, 1998 and the local authorities notified accordingly.

**CONSIDERATION OF REPORT UNDER LOCAL
GOVERNMENT (PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT)
REGULATIONS 1994**

4714

The Members were circulated with Report dated 17th February, 1998, regarding the refurbishment of houses at Cosmona, Gortbride, Loughrea, Co. Galway as follows:-

Demolition of House No. 8; extension to House No. 2; refurbishment of 7 no. houses, and construction of storage sheds; construction of service road at rear of existing houses; upgrading of existing road to include footpaths; upgrading of all boundaries and open spaces.

The Council agreed to the development on the proposal of Councillor Regan, seconded by Councillor Fahy.

**WASTE MANAGEMENT STRATEGY FOR CITY AND
COUNTY**

4715

Mr. D. Nelson, Assistant County Manager, informed the members that in accordance with the Waste Act, 1996, a Waste Management Plan for the County must be prepared. Galway County Council and Galway Corporation have appointed M. C. O'Sullivan, Consultant Engineers, in association with COVI, Consulting Engineers and Planners in Copenhagen, to undertake a Waste Management Study for both Galway City and County. M. C. O'Sullivan and Associates have national and international experience in preparing integrated Waste Management Strategies for managing solid wastes in urban and rural environments. The study will be conducted over a six month period and will involve consultations with local people, individuals and organisations.

Mr. P. J. Rudden, from M. C. O'Sullivan, and Ms. Mary Murphy, Public Relations Officer, with Mary Murphy Associates, were welcomed by the Chairman and introduced to the members.

Mr. P. J. Rudden thanked the members for their welcome and proceeded to outline the purpose and aims of the Waste Management Strategy Study.

He said that Galway City and County has a combined population of approx. 190,000 people. At present, the people of Galway City and County are generating 130,000 tonnes of waste, nearly all of which ends up in one of the landfill sites in the county, namely, Carrowbrowne, Ballinasloe and Tuam. The landfill at Carrowbrowne is due to close next year, the landfill in Tuam is almost full and the current site in Ballinasloe will be full within two years. In accordance with EU and new Irish Waste Regulations, disposal of waste to landfill sites must now become our last option.

Mr. Rudden stated that in relation to Waste Management, Galway City and County has a capacity problem, which is estimated to be worse than any other part of the

country. He said that over the next few months, the members will have some serious and difficult decisions to make in relation to Waste Management.

Local Authorities must now consider alternatives to disposal of waste to landfill such as waste reduction, recycling, and energy recovery. It was stated that existing and closed landfill sites must be improved and maintained on an on-going basis. Galway County Council is responsible for all non-hazardous wastes in the County, which include Household, Commercial, Non-Hazardous Industrial, Agricultural Wastes and Water and Sewerage Sludges. The disposal of hazardous waste is a function of the Environmental Protection Agency.

Mr. Rudden stated that the purpose of the Study is to investigate all aspects of Galway Waste, and prepare various options for consideration. The following essential features must be taken into consideration:-

- Waste Act, 1996 and Waste Regulations 1997
- City and County Development Plans
- National Recycling Strategy Plan
- EU Waste Packaging Directive

together with the following Guidelines:-

- Draft EU Directive on Landfills
- Principle of "Best Available Technology not exceeding excessive cost" (BATNEEC)
- EU Proximity Principle
- EU Polluter Pays Principle
- Best Practicable Environmental Option

Mr. Rudden said that there are three key issues, i.e Technical, Organisational and Financial.

Technical:

The Consultants will examine more complex ways and options of managing waste. It is imperative that every effort is taken to ensure that the amount of waste generated is reduced. Where possible, we must re-cycle and re-use waste. We must also generate energy from waste and pretreat the remainder before sending it to a landfill site.

It was stated that a target of 20% of all waste in Ireland is to be recycled by 1999. At present, 0.3% of waste generated in Galway is recycled.

Organisational:

Mr. Rudden compared the Local Authorities role pre and post the introduction of the Waste Act 1996. Local Authorities must now plan and regulate all waste collection, treatment and disposal within its functional area. This has serious staffing and financial implications which must be addressed.

Financial:

The "Polluter Pays" Principle must be applied. The provision and maintenance of Landfill sites in line with EU directives will result in double/treble costs to Local Authorities in the next few years. The consultants will advise of the best options, however, the final decisions will rest with the members.

Finally, Mr. Rudden outlined the public consultation process. Public Information seminars will be held in Tuam, Ballinasloe, Clifden and Galway during the month of March, and any suggestions or submissions the public wish to make will be welcomed. A Short-term Strategy Report which will address the area of waste reduction and recycling will be presented to the members in April. The final Long-term Report will be presented in September, 1998. This will examine existing landfill sites and indicate possible locations for new landfill sites.

Cllr. W. Burke stated that the location of the new landfill site is of major concern to everyone. He said that the new landfill site must be close to the City area, and queried whether one of the existing sites will fulfil the requirements in the short-term.

Deputy McCormack welcomed the public consultation approach to be taken in relation to this matter. He stated that this is a major problem for both Galway City and County. Deputy McCormack stated that he was surprised this had not advanced further given the current situation with Carrowbrowne Landfill site.

Cllr. J. Burke stated that Galway County is ten times behind the national average in relation to recycling. He asked what the Council was doing to redress same. Cllr. O' Neachtain agreed with sentiments expressed by Cllr. Burke. He stated that this was further highlighted by an incident of indiscriminate illegal dumping of animals highlighted by Cllr. Mullins. Cllr. O' Neachtain said that people needed to be re-educated in relation to disposal of litter and Waste within the county.

An Comhairleoir Ni Fhatharta stated that consideration must also be given to the treatments of waste from the four large islands. She indicated that areas within the County have been awarded the ECU Lipéad symbol and consultation should also take place with the Udaras regarding the siting of the proposed landfill.

Cllr. Mullins highlighted problems which his company has experienced regarding the disposal of cardboard boxes. Cllr. Cunningham referred to reports of farmers using the side of road for the storing of plastic coverings and various instances have been reported to the Area Engineer concerned.

Mr. Rudden replied to the queries raised stating that the location of the proposed new landfill site may not be possible within 15/20 mile radius of the city, but all options will be considered, including the extension of existing sites on a short-term basis. The estimated size of landfill site will be 50/60 acres, minimum. The landfill site may be located on the boundary between two local authorities, and will be subject to an Environment Impact Assessment Study.

Mr. Rudden agreed to discuss with Cllr. Mullins other options for the disposal of cardboard boxes.

The County Manager said that two years ago, Galway County Council adopted a Waste Management Strategy discussion document. In the interim, more responsibility has been delegated to Local Authorities under the Waste Act, 1996 and forthcoming EU directives and regulations. In co-operation with Galway Corporation, it was agreed that M. C. O'Sullivan and Associates would prepare a Waste Management Strategy Study for the City and County. Messrs. M. C. O'Sullivan and Associates were involved in preparing Waste Plans for Dublin, Wicklow and Meath and are aware of the difficulties associated with same. The County Manager stated that the costs involved in the employment of the Consultants will be shared on a fifty/fifty basis with Galway Corporation.

The Chairman, on behalf of the members and on his own behalf thanked Mr. Rudden for his presentation.

**ADDRESS BY MEMBER OF COUNCILS 4716
NATIONAL MONUMENTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE.**

The Chairman welcomed Ms. Jackie Ui Cionna, Chairperson of the Council's National Monuments Advisory Committee.

Ms. Ui Cionna thanked the Chairman and members for the opportunity to address the Council. She stated that Galway has a rich heritage and culture which is acknowledged by the Council having a National Monuments committee in place for a number of years.

The Committee addresses issues referred to them by Councillors and/or ordinary Committee members, and on occasion have prevented destruction of historical areas. It was pointed out to the members that this has become increasingly difficult considering the scope of development currently taking place. The Committee, has within its ranks, various expertise and to this end, request a greater involvement with the Council in the areas such as Engineering, planning and areas of National heritage. Ms. Ui Cionna stated that there have been difficulties at times in getting prompt action to queries raised. She requested that the National Monument's Advisory Committee be given a pro-active role, with a right to become involved in practical projects on the ground, which will help identifying areas of concern before they become serious problems.

Finally Ms. Ui Cionna asked the members to consider when preparing the Estimates, allocating a small discretionary budget to the National Monuments Committee.

The Chairman thanked Ms. Ui Cionna and acknowledged the work carried out by the National Monuments Advisory Committee to date. He stated that a report of the Committee's meetings outlining its activities is presented to the Council for consideration.

The Chairman informed Ms. Ui Cionna of the forthcoming Strategic Policy Committees which are currently being established. He stated that in line with other

Committees, the National Monuments Advisory Committee will cease to exist in its current form. Nominations will be sought from various organisations for people to work on the Strategic Policy Committees, in due course.

The Manager welcomed Ms. Ui Cionna's contribution and stated that the recommendations of the Committee are taken seriously by the Council. In regard to replies, he would endeavour to have the process speeded up.

Ms. Ui Cionna thanked the members again for their time, and duly left the meeting.

EPA REPORT FOR 1996 ON QUALITY OF DRINKING WATER 4717

A copy of report dated 18th February 1998 enclosing an extract from the Environmental Protection Agency's report on the quality of drinking water for 1996 was circulated to each member. Mr. D. Nelson, Assistant County Manager stated that the major difficulties noted in the report were in relation to the Inishboffin and Roundstone Water Supply Schemes, wherein planned remedial works have taken place. He stated that the area of Group Water Schemes must be addressed. At present, the Council has a core policy for the provision of Regional Water Supply Schemes. It is imperative that Group Water Schemes are connected into such systems. Payment to Group Water Schemes are dependant on action plans being put in place where the water supply is below the drinking water standard. Mr. Nelson said that improvement works are on-going at present. A three year plan is being prepared outlining the small schemes where monies will be spent.

Cllr. O'Sullivan stated there is an anomaly in relation to Group Water Schemes. He said that it was not always feasible for Group Schemes to prepare action plans etc and where surplus monies was available it was held to resolve situations that may occur from time to time.

Cllr. O'Neachtain agreed with Mr. Nelson, wherein Group Water Schemes must be re-addressed. He highlighted the recent changes made by the Minister for the Environment and Local Government. He stated that water is a very important commodity and should be a Local Authority function and should not have intermediate players on the scheme, as exists at present.

Cllr. Finnegan queried the Councils role in ensuring water is of required drinking water standard, where supply is not a public water supply and the Council's long term plans in relation to Group Water Schemes. He stated that private schemes want to have a good water supply.

Cllr. T. Byrne sought clarification as to whether the Council has a responsibility for a Group Water Scheme whose source is a Council bore-hole, wherein complaints have been received that there is too much chlorine in the water.

Mr. D. Nelson replied stating that in accordance with the EU directive on the supply of drinking water, the Council takes samples and advises the Trustees of the Group

Scheme, and same is carried out at considerable cost to the Council. The Council's legal obligation ceases once the Trustees are notified. In regard to query raised by Cllr. Byrne, the Council does not have a specific responsibility in this case.

Mr. Nelson stated that an up-to-date report on the Councils action plan will be presented to the members at the March Meeting.

Cllr. M. Mullins queried the implication of Mr. B. Keely's statement on Group Water Schemes.

The Manager stated that no official communication on Group Water Schemes had been received. He said that a three year action plan for Group Water Schemes is being prepared on a similar basis as the five year road plan. He confirmed that additional staff was allocated to the Group Schemes Office.

The Manager said that the EPA report, indicates that the public water supplies are good and complimented all involved. In regard to Group Schemes, the responsibility rests with the Trustees.

Cllr. M. Ryan requested that the members be forwarded a copy of changes in relation to Group Water Schemes, issued by the Department of the Environment.

SUBMISSION TO DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT ON HOUSE IMPROVEMENT GRANTS FOR CONSIDERATION. 4718

A Draft Scheme was circulated to members.

Cllr. Gavin queried the income limit of £50,000 for eligibility - Page 3 of Draft Scheme. Mr. J. Tierney, Assistant County Manager stated that the income limit is based on a formula, and should only be considered in a social housing context. He said that it must be borne in mind that applicants may also be entitled to reconstruction loans which are available to families at reasonable rates.

Mr. Tierney confirmed that under heading Improvement of Houses owned by the Council on Page 7, categories 2(a) and 2(b) should be omitted.

The Chairman thanked the Assistant County Manager for the report and complimented the staff involved in the preparation of the scheme, which the Council approved.

CONFERENCES 4719

On the recommendation of the Finance Committee, it was proposed by Cllr. J. Mannion, seconded by Cllr. M. Fahy and agreed that the attendance of the following members be approved at the conferences set out hereunder, an estimate of the cost

per delegate for attendance at the conferences having been circulated to each member.

L.A.M.A. Conference - Great Southern Hotel, Rosslare Harbour - 16/18 April, 1998

Cllr. C. Ni Fhatharta	Cllr. J. Mannion	Cllr. S. O'Neachtain
Sen. J. McDonagh	Cllr. T. Walsh	Cllr. P. O'Tuathail
Cllr. P. O'Sullivan	Cllr. T. Hussey	

NASC Conference - Gleneagle Hotel, Killarney -3 April, 1998

Cllr. P. O'Tuathail	Cllr. J. Mannion	Cllr. C. Ni Fhatharta
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Colmcille Heritage Trust - Letterkenny, Co. Donegal - 27 February/1 March, 1998

Cllr. J. McClearn

Progress & Polarisation Conference - Morans Hotel, Dublin - 24 March 1998

Cllr. T. Hussey	Cllr. M. Fahy	Cllr. M. Cunningham
Sen. J. McDonagh	Cllr. M. Regan	

1798 Insurrection in Co. Carlow - St. Patrick's College, Carlow - 14 March 1998

Cllr. C. Ni Fhatharta	Cllr. P. O'Tuathail	Cllr. M. Regan
Cllr. J. Mannion	Cllr. P. O'Sullivan	Cllr. M. Mullins

MANAGERS BUSINESS

4720

The County Manager stated that the Chairman will officially open the Glenamaddy Branch Library on Wednesday next, 4th March, 1998.

CHAIRMAN'S BUSINESS

4721

1997 Arts Awards

The Chairman reminded the Members that the 1997 Arts Awards, in association with Bank of Ireland would take place that evening in the Town Hall Theatre, and the Members were invited to attend.

Councillor Mullins extended his apologies as he was unable to attend same.

Illegal Dumping of Dead Animals

Councillor Mullins wished to bring to the urgent attention of the Council a case of illegal dumping of dead animals in Fairfield Bog in the Fohenagh/Ahascragh area.

There were a large number of dead animals, in various stages of decay, which poses a major health risk for the area. He stated that some animals are lying in bog drains, which are a source of water supply. Councillor Mullins urgently requested that the Council clean up the area, and investigate into the ownership of animals, cause of death, and take the necessary prosecutions. He appealed for the Council to make the necessary resources available in order to deal with the problem.

The Chairman stated that whoever is responsible for this problem should have appropriate fines and penalties imposed on them.

Councillor J. Burke appealed for co-operation from the public in identifying the persons responsible.

The Manager in reply agreed that action was necessary and appealed for public support in relation to this matter.

Refuse Collection

Councillor Brennan asked that refuse collection be placed as an item on the next agenda. The Chairman agreed that Councillor Brennan's query would be raised at the next meeting under Chairman's Business.

Commuter Train Service

Councillor Loughnane raised the issue of the proposed commuter train service for Oranmore and Athenry areas. He asked for the Council's view in relation to same and also requested that this item be placed on the next agenda for further discussion.

The County Manager replied stating that the Consultants on the Land Use Transportation Study will be making an interim presentation to the Members in March, wherein this item may be addressed.

Objective One Status Meeting

Councillor Gavin stated that the Objective One Status Seminar is scheduled to be held on 30th March, 1998. He proposed the time of 2/2.30 p.m. for the convenience of Members of adjoining Local Authorities, so that topics would be agreed prior to Minister/Junior Minister's Address at 5/5.30 p.m. The County Secretary to confirm time and venue and inform Members accordingly.

The County Manager informed the Members that the West Regional Authority received notification from the Department of Finance regarding the making of submissions for inclusion in the next round of Structural Funds. The deadline for submissions is 1st May, 1998. The West Regional Authority will be appointing Consultants in regard to finalising submission.

Islands Committee Meeting

Councillor Gavin informed the Members that the next Meeting of the Islands Committee will be held on 2nd April, 1998. A Notice of same will be circulated accordingly.

NOTICE OF MOTIONS

**N.O.M. NO. 15 - SEWERAGE - KINVARA BAY - CLLR. 4722
T. BYRNE**

The following written reply was given to Councillor Byrne:-

"It will be necessary to assess the Kinvara Sewerage Outfall System and to provide an effluent dispersion model for Kinvara Bay. The Study would comprise of a hydrodynamic dispersion and fate models and would cost in the region of £20,000."

**N.O.M. NO. 16 - ROAD - DEPUTY MCCORMACK & 4723
SEN. J. MCDONAGH**

The following written reply was given to Deputy McCormack and Senator McDonagh:-

"The estimated cost of removing the bend at Loftus Corner would be £30,000 to £35,000. Removing the bend at Kevilles corner would cost approximately £70,000. These locations do not have a high enough priority to be included in the 1998 Roadworks Programme."

N.O.M. NO. 17 - SIGNS - CLLR. M. CUNNINGHAM 4724

The following written reply was given to Councillor Cunningham:-

"The junction will be examined by our Road Design Team to see what action would improve the situation".

N.O.M. NO. 18 - KERBING - CLLR. M. CUNNINGHAM 4725

The following written reply was given to Councillor Cunningham:-

"The kerbing is part of the Low Cost Accident Prevention Measures. It has been laid according to the approved design and is not considered to be dangerous."

N.O.M. NO. 19 - LIGHTING - CLLR. M. CUNNINGHAM 4726

The following written reply was given to Councillor Cunningham:-

"The estimated cost of providing four public lights would be £2,700 which is 75% of the budget available for the Gort Area this year. This location is not included in the 1998 Public Lighting Programme. If Duffy Meats were prepared to meet the cost of installing the lights the Council would take responsibility for maintenance and running costs."

N.O.M. NO. 20 - REPAIRING OF WALLS - CLLR. M. FAHY 4727

The following written reply was given to Councillor Fahy:-

"These walls are the responsibility of the relevant landowners. The Council's FAS scheme is committed to a full programme of other work and it is unlikely there would be any time before the scheme ends to carry out this work."

N.O.M. NO. 21 - ROAD REPAIRS - CLLR. M. FAHY 4728

The following written reply was given to Councillor Fahy:-

"The Social Employment Scheme in Ballinderreen is a private scheme under the control of a local group. If they wish to carry out this work in co-operation with the Council they would be facilitated."

N.O.M. NO. 22 - LIGHTING - CLLR. M. FAHY 4729

The following written reply was given to Councillor Fahy:-

"Labane Village has not been included in the 1998 draft Public Lighting Programme. If the local community were to have the lighting erected the Council would consider taking responsibility for maintenance and running costs."

N.O.M. NO. 23 - FLOODING - CLLR. P. FINNEGAN 4730

The following written reply was given to Councillor Finnegan:-

"It is hoped to carry out remedial work in late April or early May of this year."

N.O.M. NO. 24 - WANDERING HORSES - CLLR. P. FINNEGAN 4731

The following written reply was given to Councillor Finnegan:-

"The County Council approved Draft Bye-Laws under the Control of Horses Act 1996, for publication, at its meeting on 13/2/98. The Draft Bye-Laws must be made available for public inspection for a period of at least a month during which members of the public may make submissions relating to them. After that period has expired the matter will come before the Council again for consideration of any submissions

received and the Council will then be in a position to make the Bye-Laws for the purposes of implementing the controls provided for in the Act.

In the interim the Council has been and will continue to impound any animals found wandering in housing estates and, in co-operation with the Gardai any animals found wandering on the public road."

N.O.M. NO. 25 - TAKING SERVICES IN CHARGE - 4732
CLLR. P. FINNEGAN

The following written reply was given to Councillor Finnegan:-

"An estimate of the cost of bringing the roads and footpaths up to the required standard is being prepared at present with a view to taking these services in charge."

N.O.M. NO. 26 - ROAD REPAIRS - CLLR. S. GAVIN 4733

The following written reply was given to Councillor Gavin:-

"The road from Sleveaneena to Tullnahoone will be improved under the Road Restoration Programme. The Home Farm/Leagaun road will be repaired as part of routine maintenance."

N.O.M. NO. 27 - ROAD REPAIRS - CLLR. S. GAVIN 4734

The following written reply was given to Councillor Gavin:-

"This road will be repaired as soon as the roadworks programme commences."

N.O.M. NO. 28 - ROAD REPAIRS - CLLR. S. GAVIN 4735

The following written reply was given to Councillor Gavin:-

"This road will be repaired as part of routine road maintenance."

N.O.M. NO. 29 - LIGHTING - CLLR. M. LOUGHNANE 4736

The following written reply was given to Councillor Loughnane:-

"The 1998 draft Public Lighting Programme includes four lights for Ballinderreen village."

N.O.M. 30 - SIGNAGE - CLLR. M. LOUGHNANE 4737

The following written reply was given to Councillor Loughnane:-

"Two school signs are now in place at this location."

N.O.M. NO. 31 - ROAD WORKS - CLLR. M. LOUGHNANE 4738

The following written reply was given to Councillor Loughnane:-

"This road will be surface dressed using the Notice of Motion funding which has been allocated."

N.O.M. NO. 32 - SURFACE DRESSING - DEPUTY P. MCCORMACK 4739

The following written reply was given to Deputy McCormack:-

"An allocation will be made available for this work."

N.O.M. NO. 33 - SIGNAGE/DRAINAGE - SEN. J. MCDONAGH 4740

The following written reply was given to Senator McDonagh:-

- 1. Signage will be improved at this location.*
- 2. This work could be done if Notice of Motion funding were allocated.*
- 3 Drainage will be improved at this location."*

N.O.M. NO. 34 - ROAD WORKS - SEN. J. MCDONAGH 4741

The following written reply was given to Senator McDonagh:-

"This would be a suitable project on which to expend Notice of Motion funds. If such funding is forthcoming the work will be carried out."

N.O.M. NO. 35 - ROAD WORKS - SEN. J. MCDONAGH 4742

The following written reply was given to Senator McDonagh:-

"It is not proposed to raise the road at this location. It would be very costly and difficult to do in proportion to the effect doing so would have on road safety."

N.O.M. NO. 36 - WALLS - CLLR. P. MCHUGH 4743

The following written reply was given to Councillor McHugh:-

"The Council is aware of the problem at this location and have had discussions with the landowner. The possibility of acquiring the land for further road widening is under active consideration and it is expected that the matter will be resolved shortly."

N.O.M. NO. 37 - SURFACE DRESSING - CLLR. P. MCHUGH 4744

The following written reply was given to Councillor McHugh:-

"Surface dressing and repairs will be carried out where damage was caused to the road arising from the construction of the reservoir."

N.O.M. NO. 38 - HOUSE REPAIRS - CLLR. P. MCHUGH 4745

The following written reply was given to Councillor McHugh:-

"Repair work on this house will be undertaken next week."

N.O.M. NO. 39 - COMHARTHAÍ - AN COMH. C. NI FHATHARTA 4746

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

"Is leor iad na comharthaí scoile atá in ait ag an scoil seo. Níl gá le níos mó comharthaí faoi láthair."

N.O.M. NO. 40 - BOTHAR - AN COMH. C. NI FHATHARTA 4747

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

"Tá obair dheisiúcháin ag dul ar aghaidh chun feabhas a chur ar an mbóthar seo faoi láthair".

N.O.M. NO. 41 - TREOR LUAS - AN COMH. C. NI FHATHARTA 4748

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

"Ní mheasan an Comhairle go bhfuil gá le treor luas ag an láthar seo. Tá an dualgas ar tiománaithe tiomáint go cúramach I gcónaí."

N.O.M. NO. 42 - ROAD REPAIRS - CLLR. S. O'NEACHTAIN 4749

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

"This road will be repaired in the course of routine road maintenance."

N.O.M. NO. 43 - ROAD REPAIRS - AN COMH. S. O' NEACHTAIN 4750

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

"Routine road maintenance will be carried out on this road."

N.O.M. NO. 44 - ROAD REPAIRS - AN COMH. S. O'NEACHTAIN 4751

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

"This section of road is not in charge of the Council."

N.O.M. NO. 45 - REMOVAL OF BEND - CLLR. P. O'SULLIVAN 4752

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

"This would be a suitable project on which to expend Notice of Motion funds and work can be carried out if such funds are forthcoming."

N.O.M. NO. 46 - ROAD IMPROVEMENTS - CLLR. P. O'SULLIVAN 4753

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

"This road is included for improvement in the 1998 Roadworks Programme."

N.O.M. NO. 47 - ROAD IMPROVEMENTS - CLLR. P. O'SULLIVAN 4754

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

"This road is not included in the 1998 Roadworks Programme. Routine maintenance will be carried out."

N.O.M. NO. 48 - LIGHTING - CLLR. K. QUINN 4755

The following written reply was given to Councillor Quinn:-

"Moyleough N.S. is not included in the 1998 Programme for flashing lights".

N.O.M. NO. 49 - LIGHTING - CLLR. K. QUINN 4756

The following written reply was given to Councillor Quinn:-

"Brierfield National School is included in the 1998 Programme for flashing lights."

N.O.M. NO. 50 - ROAD IMPROVEMENTS - CLLR. E. VARLEY 4757
VARLEY

The following written reply was given to Councillor Varley:-

"The improvements concerned will be discussed in the draft 5 Year National Secondary Road Development Plan which will be presented at the forthcoming Area Roads Meetings."

N.O.M. NO. 51 - ROAD WIDENING - CLLR. E. VARLEY 4758

The following written reply was given to Councillor Varley:-

"The improvements concerned will be discussed in the draft 5 Year National Secondary Road Development Plan which will be presented at the forthcoming Area Roads Meetings."

N.O.M. NO. 52 - FLOODING - CLLR. E. VARLEY 4759

The following written reply was given to Councillor Varley:-

"This location has been inspected a few times but no evidence of flooding was found. The people concerned should contact the Tuam Area office next time the flood is there so that the extent and cause of the flooding can be ascertained."

N.O.M. NO. 53 - ROAD IMPROVEMENTS - CLLR. T. WALSH 4760

The following written reply was given to Councillor Walsh:-

"This stretch of road will be examined and a report will be made available at next month's meeting."

CHRIOCHNAIGH AN CRUINNIU ANSIN

Submitted Approved + Signed:

Michael Finerty
Chairman

23rd March 1998
Date